

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED
HOUSING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Wednesday, February 26, 2025
LCO Gaming Commission Building
(LCO Conference room septic issues)**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m.

PRESENT: Daniel Grover, Chair Patricia Kakazu, Vice Chair
Chad Martin, Board Member Jamie Fleming, Secretary
Tanya Manuelito, Board Member
Leslie Ramczyk, Board Member (entered meeting at 9:20 a.m.)

ABSENT: Carole DeMain, Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: Marcy Gouge, Interim Executive Director
Shauna Coons, Attorney
Officer Sean Anderson, LCOPD

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Patricia Kakazu, seconded by Tanya Manuelito to approve the February 26, 2025, agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0-0.

**Patricia Kakazu stepped out at 9:13 a.m. - returned at 9:14 a.m.*

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2025

A motion was made by Tanya Manuelito, seconded by Chad Martin to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2025. Motion carried 4-0-0.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT – OFFICER SEAN ANDERSON, LCOPD

- Charges filed from gunshot incident.
- Ongoing issues with narcotics.
- LP Cameras are in communities – having been assisting PD. More will be coming soon.
- Staffing issues – still short about 7 officers.
- New Animal Control officer has been hired and is currently being trained.
- The animal control ordinance is up to date and on the tribe's website in the law library.

**Leslie Ramczyk entered meeting at 9:20 a.m.*

- Officer Anderson was asked if there was less crime on the area after the last two evictions. Officer replied that he believed there was.
- Reported the new Chief of Police, Susie Taylor, is going on her second month, she has great ideas and will be a positive change.

ATTORNEY – SHAUNA COONS, DISCUSSION & UPDATES

- Tax Credit VI – Alta survey contract has been signed; the contractor can now start the work.
- Gave an update on the Presidents Executive Orders that came out in January that cause a temporary pause in our ability to draw down funds. The order was rescinded, and we were able to draw down funds. This is still an ongoing issue with a lot of potential negative impacts for Indian Country.
- Legislative Conference – It worked out well that we happened to be in Washington DC right after this all happened. We were able to remind those that we met with that tribes are sovereign entities that have a trust relationship with the federal government, they are obligated by treaties. We prepared a one-page flyer that we handed out those we met with, highlighting what housing has been able to do with the funds we received. We met with Representative Gwen Moore, Tina Smith's office, Tammy Baldwin's office, and Thomas Tiffany's office. We went to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hearing on Native CDFI's and Homeownership. Marcy was asked to introduce herself and talked about our newly formed Wisconsin Native Homeownership Coalition.
- Drafting an Investment Policy, once approved by the board it will go to the Tribal Governing Board for final approval. We will also need to check to see if it also has to be approved by HUD.

TRIBAL COUNCIL

None present.

(10:00 a.m. – Walk-in request of tenants)

None present.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – MARCY GOUGE, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Provided more updates on Legislative Conference. The conference and all our meetings with congressional staff/staffers went well.
- Dates for the retreat will be May 20, 21, and 22nd. Retreat is intended for board, TGB training and policy review. Check to see if we are able to hold this training in Hinckley, MN.
- Met with Kip and Chris, and asked them to provide issues in housing such as which homes still need rehabs, number of septic's that might be failing, bigger roofs that need to be replaced, furnaces, etc. They are working on the list.
- HMS staff are working on the New Path program. Discussed the MOU's that will have to be put into place.

Financial

Reviewed

Marcy informed the board that our audit is scheduled for April. The staff have begun working on getting ready for that.

Waiting list

Reviewed

**Jamie left meeting at 10:27 a.m. – returned at 10:28 a.m.*

Housing Management Services

Reviewed

PROJECT REPORT - CHRIS RUSK, PROJECT MANAGER

Reviewed

NEW BUSINESS

2024 APR's (Annual Performance Reports):

Cares Act-20BV55341

A motion was made by Patricia Kakazu, seconded by Chad Martin to approve and forward to TGB for final approval. Motion carried 5-0-0.

American Rescue Plan-21AH5534180

A motion was made by Chad Martin, seconded by Leslie Ramczyk to approve and forward to TGB for final approval. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Indian Housing Block Grant-55IH534180

A motion was made by Tanya Manuelito, seconded by Chad Martin to approve and forward to TGB for final approval. Motion carried 5-0-0.

2025 NAIHC Annual Convention & Trade Show

Patricia Kakazu is interested in attending, will get back after checking her schedule.

OLD BUSINESS

Board retreat is scheduled for May 20, 21, & 22, 2025. Will keep the board updated.

INFORMATION SHARING

Leslie shared that March 7th there are two (2) GOTV events. Susan Crawley, Supreme Court of WI will be at the LCO Elder Center via video from 10-2:00 pm, and there will be a booth at the LCO Round Dance at the Sevenwinds casino Friday night.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE March 21, 2025

Re-scheduled from Wednesday, March 19 to Friday March 21, 2025, due the conflict with the GLIHA meeting in Michigan.

Noted

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Tanya Manuelito and seconded by Jamie Fleming to adjourn at the meeting at 11:09 a.m. Motion carried 5-0-0

Jamie Fleming, Secretary

Lac Courte Oreilles Housing Authority Board of Commissioners