PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
TRIBAL COUNCIL

MARCH 18, 2012

CALL TO ORDER Minutes of the Ponca Tribal Council meeting held on March 18, 2012 at the Tribal Office in Sioux City, Iowa. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM by Chairwoman Rebecca White. Invocation was said by Councilwoman Deb Robinette. Roll Call: Present – Rebecca White, Bill Wright, Jeremy Wright, Judy Allen, Brenda Bogacz, James LaPointe, Deb Robinette, Alex Taylor, and Phil Wendzillo. Also present was Chessie Vesely, Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Motion by Judy Allen to approve the 3/18/12 agenda with additions of Law & Order Committee items and Sgt. Jordan Bear discussion. Second by Deb Robinette. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright, J. Wright, Allen, Bogacz, LaPointe, Robinette, Taylor, Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Motion by Judy Allen to rescind the motion made on March 5, 2012 approving the Gaming Enterprise Board to attend the National Indian Gaming Association Convention in San Diego. Second by Brenda Bogacz. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright, Allen, Bogacz, LaPointe, Robinette, Taylor, Wendzillo. Nays – None. Abstained – J. Wright. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

There is a free National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) training to be held in Wisconsin. There were no objections to have Jan Colwell get the information together on the cost, etc. and send to Tribal Council for an e-mail vote to consider authorizing the Gaming Enterprise to attend.

An update was given by Chairwoman White regarding the Knox County Law Enforcement matter and the meeting held with Danelle Smith, Attorney and Jeremiah Lonewolf, BIA Law Enforcement. The consensus of the Tribal Council is to schedule a meeting with Mr. Lonewolf and Ms. Smith for the April 14/15 meeting to discuss the Knox County Law Enforcement issues and PL 280.

NEW BUSINESS An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to deal with the vacant buildings (Arts & Crafts and former Culture offices all in Niobrara). Deb Robinette will Chair. Also on this committee will be Chuck Hooley, Bill Wright, someone from Administration, PEDCO and Housing.

The consensus of the Tribal Council is to interview all four applicants for the PEDCO/OSNI Ponca Board at the April 14/15 meeting. Interviews via lifesize will be acceptable, but no telephone interviews.

The consensus of the Tribal Council was to continue to advertise for the Gaming Enterprise Board vacancy in order to obtain more than 1 applicant.

Motion by Alex Taylor and second by Judy Allen to appoint Mark Peniska to the Law & Order Committee. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright. J. Wright. Allen. Bogacz. LaPointe. Robinette. Taylor. Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Alex Taylor and second by Phil Wendzillo to approve to pay $200 dues from the General Fund to the Shannon Trail. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright. J. Wright. Allen. Bogacz. LaPointe. Robinette. Taylor. Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Bill Wright and second by Deb Robinette to donate a flag to the Institute of American Indian Arts. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright. J. Wright. Allen. Bogacz. LaPointe. Robinette. Taylor. Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

Councilman Wendzillo brought forth information regarding government contracting. Council agreed that they need to discuss government contracting with PEDCO sometime when they are on a Tribal Council agenda.

Motion by Phil Wendzillo and second by Judy Allen to purchase a folding chair cart and folding table cart for the community building and expend from the BIA budget under supplies. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright. J. Wright. Allen. Bogacz. LaPointe. Robinette. Taylor. Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

It was suggested to have something in place for when an employee retires. Would a plaque be appropriate or some type of gift? Ms. Vesely was requested to let the Human Resource Director know to come up with a plan. Tribal Council requested the Chairwoman move forward on a gift basket for Gary Robinette who recently retired.

A request was received from tribal members Elvis and Joyce Grubbs for burial assistance for Edward Grubbs who passed away. They had provided information that was reviewed by Tribal Council. Regarding burial assistance, the tribe needs written verification from the BIA whether or not we can change our policy to go outside the service area to receive this assistance. According to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) a member must live in the service area for six consecutive months. Per that information, the Tribal Council could not approve the burial assistance for Edward Grubbs. Chairwoman White will contact his family members and then follow-up with a letter. It was agreed that information on the burial assistance be put in the newsletter as it has probably been some time since that information has been in the newsletter. The policy probably needs to be reviewed also and an Ad Hoc Committee was formed for this consisting of Judy Allen as the Chair, Brenda Bogacz, Chessie Vesely and/or Jerry Corner.

OTHER BUSINESS Councilwoman Robinette reviewed some Law & Order Committee items with the Tribal Council. Tribal Council will give a directive to NPHA, PEDCO, Election Board and Administration regarding the Law & Order Code amendments, proposed changes they may have and the need for a representative to attend on the date those sections will be reviewed by the

Law & Order Committee. All proposed recommendations need to be e-mailed to Council members Bogacz, Robinette and Jeremy Wright by April 13.

Regarding Sgt. Jordan Bear and the Tribe wanting to do something to honor him with a plaque and at the Ponca pow wow was discussed. The Chairwoman will talk to the Pow Wow Committee about honoring him at that time. She will also follow up on a Fallen Warriors Memorial or the Soldiers Cross and/or a plaque to be placed at the Community grounds, Ponca Trail, or Ponca Cemetery.

Councilman Wendzillo suggested that administration check out the utility trucks for sale at Moody Motors.

The meeting recessed at 11:22 AM and reconvened at 11:39 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Motion by Deb Robinette and second by Brenda Bogacz to enter into Executive Session per Councilwoman Judy Allen's request. RCV: Ayes – B. Wright, J. Wright, Allen, Bogacz, LaPointe, Robinette, Taylor, Wendzillo. Nays – None. Chair not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Deb Robinette to come out of Executive Session at 12:05 PM and second by Bill Wright. All in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURN Motion by Phil Wendzillo to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 PM and second by Deb Robinette. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jan Colwell, Recording Secretary

Alex Taylor, Councilman/Secretary