TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE NORTHERN CHEYENNE RESERVATION LAME DEER, MONTANA

REGULAR SESSION

MINUTES

June 19, 2024 *Rescheduled from June 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: President Wetherelt called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

INVOCATION: Councilwoman Eva Foote

ROLL CALL:

Allana na 1970/	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Melissa Lonebear	X	6.	
Debra Charette	X	-34	
Norma Gourneau	X	Salt I	
Eva Foote	X	33	
Torrey Davie	Maria Salah	X	Travel
Serena Wetherelt, President	X	10-	
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President	FAU /	X	Court
Silver Little Eagle	POWE U	X	Medical
Nizhoni Friesz	X	全工程序	
Donavin Limberhand	X		
Gwen Spottedhorse	X	W10	
Melissa Fisher	X	4-1/1-4	
Total:	9	3	

Quorum Established

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Today is Lame Deer Districts trash pick up day. Thursday is the block party.
- Meeting with Brian on Thursday @ 10 a.m.
- For the Lidar Project, would like to invite KR Bixby to come down and meet with the Tribal Council. USGS denied us. We need to give them permission to come on if they are going to use our information. KR stated if they declined us, we could probably 638 it so that is what needs to discussed. They were going to pay for it but they wanted to be able to meet with all the other entities that they partner with. Add to the agenda.

- Need to schedule a day to go over all the Tribal Ed stuff. Was scheduled for today but the Tribal Council meeting was rescheduled for today. 6/26/24 @ 10 a.m.
- At the Housing board meeting they were asking about the Ordinance. Will talk to Brian about it tomorrow.
- Payroll to release paper checks today due to the oversight of the Juneteeth holiday and the banks being closed otherwise direct deposit would be on Friday.
- Number 11 needs to be stricken from the agenda.
- Call back on Wednesday the 3rd. Fireworks on the 4th. Rodeo on the 4th.

MOTION TO ADD ON SIGNATORIES

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No Abstentions Motion Carried

ITEM #1 – ENROLLMENT

AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH ADOPTION OF FOURTEEN (14) INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Norma Gourneau.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			

Debra Charette	X	
Norma Gourneau	X	
Eva Foote	X	
Nizhoni Friesz	X	
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President		X
Torrey Davie		X
Donavin Limberhand	X	
Silver Little Eagle		X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X	
Melissa Fisher	X	

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried
0 1000	0 10003 110	Abstentions	Motion Carried

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING THE REQUEST FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP THROUGH AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT OF ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE APPROPRIATE SECTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette. **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING NAME CHANGES FOR FOUR (4) MEMBERS ON THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Melissa Fisher

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			

Eva Foote	X	
Nizhoni Friesz	X	
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President		X
Torrey Davie		X
Donavin Limberhand	X	
Silver Little Eagle		X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X	
Melissa Fisher	X	

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No Abstentions	Motion Carried
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A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AND GRANTING BLOOD QUANTUM CHANGES FOR THIRTEEN (13) TRIBAL MEMBERS ON THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Melissa Lonebear.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

80.5	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X	-		
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			:
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

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8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried

AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL RELATING TO THE RELINQUISHMENT OF FOUR (4) INDIVIDUALS FROM THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE.

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			

Silver Little Eagle			X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X		
Melissa Fisher	X		

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No Abstentions Motion Carried	s 0 votes No Abstentions Motion Carried	0 votes No	8 vote(s) Yes
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ITEM #2 - MINUTES

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE:

MOTION TO APPROVED MINUTES FROM REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING ON APRIL 15, 2024.

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

1 R - 1 R -	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No A	Abstentions Mo	otion Carried
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COUNCILWOMAN FISHER: I'll make a motion to approve April 8th minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVED MINUTES FROM SPECIAL SESSION MEETING ON APRIL 24, 2024

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	
Melissa Lonebear	X				
Debra Charette	X				
Norma Gourneau	X				
Eva Foote	X				
Nizhoni Friesz	X				
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X	
Torrey Davie				X	
Donavin Limberhand	X				

Silver Little Eagle			X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X		
Melissa Fisher	X		

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstention(s) Motion Carried	
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MOTION TO AMEND MINUTES FROM JANUARY 18, 2024 TO REFLECT CHANGES MADE

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Norma Gourneau.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstention(s) Motion Carried	
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ITEM #3 – BIGFORN NATIONAL FOREST INTRODUCTIONS

- Will come back to #3 when they arrive.

ITEM #4 - MT. DPHHS OFFICE OF INDIAN HEALTH BI-ANNUAL PRESENTATION

STEPHANIE IRONSHOOTER: Office of American India Health Director for DPHHS. Bi-Annual visit.

- Office of American Indian Health was created in 2013 because of the high health disparities of American Indians in Montana.
- My Supervisor is David Gerard. He was the Deputy Director but he got moved to the Public Health and Safety area. Flow of information still is direct to him even though he is not my direct supervisor. We still obtain that government to government relationship with Tribes.
- Opened up 2 job positions on Friday. They are actually live now. Emailed all Tribes. Whoever applies for it will be able to work out of their area. Will have flexibility.
- If there are any major changes to the Org chart, Tribal Council would like to be notified. Usually notified after the fact.

- Tribal single point of contact Edina.
- Medicaid Expansion The Tribe is on tract so far to match last year. Right now, it is what it is until next year. It's going to stay the same. It'll keep generating this kind of revenue until a decision is made by legislation. We don't know if it's going to be taken away or stay. The Tribe hasn't received as much so it is making an impact on our revenue for Tribal Health. Also, the number of Tribal members seeking medical care is dropping because of I.H.S. billing system. If they didn't re-certify and they're not on Medicaid anymore then there's no resources for them other than I.H.S.
- OPA Open House in February or March. Based on a request from the Council, we coordinated with the Regional in Billings plus the one here in Lame Deer. Two ladies from Hardin came here and we had office hours across the reservation. We didn't get as many as we hoped for. The ladies are very knowledgeable about what they do. It was a good effort. I can go back to the drawing table with Gina. People wait for hours on hold just to do a simple snap application or Medicaid application. It would be so much simpler if they would open their doors and operate like they used to. A lot of our people don't have phones and have to borrow phones. It's like an 8 hour wait just for a response. Only on Thursday people could go in and get service. It would be great if they could be available to come visit with us or have a contact person because we answer to the membership. There is not enough outreach to the membership. Recommendation to Sable: at the time of triage ask if they are signed up for Medicaid. The outreach and the education need to happen. Determination Medicaid Specialist recently changed jobs.
- Trial Consultation and how impactful is it to you. Want to make it better for the Tribes. Don't want you to travel a long way to just be talked to. Will talk more about.
- We had funding to do a project Contract with Montana Office of Rural Health Education Center to create a caring series called Caring for Indigenous Montanans. We interviewed tribal members. Trailer will be sent. You will get the Northern Cheyenne module once it's complete. Hoping it'll be launched by the end of July.
- WIC funding is going down decrease in participation across all tribes. Interesting to see how many denial letters have gone out. Education and the outreach isn't there. We can offer TA also to kind of brainstorm how to increase the participation.
- Foster care Not sure where it's at right now for all the tribes. They mentioned a couple programs that were interested in coming to the reservation and helping with foster care reduction and foster care placements. Don't know where that's at right now. Thinking that Northern Cheyenne would be the pilot for these 2 programs. It's still on our radar of how are we going to address the foster care placement issue. With those 2 positions that are out there, one of them is the American Indian Child and Family Program Specialist. So, formally the Statewide ICWA Specialist. The Tribe's asked for specifically child welfare systems improvement between the State and the Tribes. That person will be point of contact.
- APC/CPS Adult Protective Services and Child Protective Services. BIA has the interview portion when a child or adult is abused, neglected or exploited. There is no capacity for the BIA. They reached out to the State and requested help. Because there is no MOU in place between the State and the tribe to be the lead on those interviews and investigations, we can be second but we can't be first. We have adult cases that aren't being investigated. Because of jurisdictional issues, we can't step

over and take the lead on this. Asking for your help. Need to schedule a meeting with the State and tribes. Send MOU so we can read it. Will visit with the Division Administrator for the CPS and APS. Legally cannot come on the reservation to do investigations. No correspondence received from the BIA that they don't have the capacity to these investigations. Could do a letter of support on behalf of the Tribe. Do a request to Stephanie to look into it. There are people falling through the cracks.

- House Bill 872 Had a meeting with the commission on May 20th. They approved all the Tribe's, any proposal that they put in but now it's on Governor's desk for final approval. Recommendation: FTE is probably the hardest thing that can go through. It's expansion of behavioral health services for the school-based clinics. It's actual positions like clinicians, LCSU's. Not that there's a need for it. Once we put it into the RFP then just make it really, super strong that after 18 months, it will start billing at a year and keep going from there. Will help with TA. Other tribes are doing construction for their expansion of their behavioral health services.
- Institutional Review Board Several things that come out of the department that I think should be approved through the tribal government whether it's through IRB or tribal government resolution. Things that assess your health. I think they should go through the IRB or some other mechanism so that you are all aware of what's going on and that's there's an assessment going on.

ITEM #5 - YOUTH VOICE PROJECT

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING AND APPROVING THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL HEALTH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH YOUTH VOICE PROJECT

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette. **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes 0 votes No 1 Abstention(s) Motion Carried	
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ITEM #6 – REQUEST & ACCEPT BUFFALO THROUGH ITBC

COUNCILWOMAN CHARETTE:

WHEREAS, the Tribe is requesting 85 head of buffalo through the Intertribal Buffalo Council; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe acknowledges it will comply with any stipulations on selling or harvesting buffalo, if required, by any of the source herds; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council approves requesting and accepting these surplus buffalo to augment our existing Tribally-managed buffalo herd.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL REQUESTING AND ACCEPTING BUFFALO THROUGH INTERTRIBAL BUFFALO COUNCIL.

Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Donavin Limberhand.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried
			1007

ITEM #7 - RE-CONTRACTING PROGRAMS FY'25

PRESIDENT WETHERELT: WHEREAS, the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council has contracted through the authorities of P.L. 93-638, as amended, various programs and functions (listed below) from the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council hereby authorizes the submission of scopes of work, budgetary information, and other pertinent documents to re-contract the following programs and functions from the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs and that said agreements or contracts authorized under P.L. 93-638, as amended, shall be entered into. Said listing includes, but is not limited to the following:

Prosecution, Tribal Court, Fire Protection, Job Placement, Johnson O'Malley, Scholarships, Natural Resources, Wildlife & Parks, Youth Work Learn, Water Resources, Tribal Management & Development, Housing Improvement Program, Forest Development, Rosebud Lodge, Tribal

Services, Indian Child Welfare Act, Road Maintenance and Agriculture, Northern Cheyenne Investigative Services, Tribal Services and Tribal Enrollment.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE RE-CONTRACTING OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS FROM THE DOI-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Melissa Fisher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

8 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	1 Abstention(s)	Motion Carried

ITEM #8 - CONTRACT W/ PROTOGEN - FEMA-BRICK GRANT

OTTO BRAIDEDHAIR III:

- Resolution went into effect November 9, 2023.
- No need to approve resolution.
- Focus will shift towards ensuring clear communication enhancing our metrics such as data base refinement organization to support the progress affectively.
- Historical data for this office kind of came in chunks from previous management.
- Accountant who is overseeing the grant was not aware of this resolution.
- Resolution on the agenda does not need approval today.

ITEM #9 – FREEDOM FOREVER

OTTO BRAIDEDHAIR III:

- Freedom Forever completed phase I of the DOE WRC project which was a pilot project to include utilities project in Busby; 3 commercial projects and 15 residential.
- Residential Phase I has been completed in year 2023.
- The resolution as it's needed is:

WHEREAS, the Tribe plans to build a solar energy project on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, which is funded by a Department of Energy grant;

WHEREAS, the project, called the "White River Community Solar Project," includes the installation of solar energy systems at homes across the Reservation and three commercial sites; and

WHEREAS, Freedom Forever has assisted the Tribe with Phase One of the Project (installation of solar energy systems at 15 residential homes) and has proposed to assist the Tribe in Phase Two (installation of solar energy systems at three commercial sites) pursuant to the terms of the attached Supply and Installation Agreement for Phase Two; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to the extent necessary the Tribal Council hereby deviates from the regular procurement policies to authorize the attached Supply and Installation Agreement for Phase Two with Freedom Forever because it determines that it is in the best interest of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe to do so and time is of the essence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council approves of the attached Supply and Installation Agreement for Phase Two with Freedom Forever; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Tribal President sign any documents or take any other actions necessary to carry out this Resolution consistent with its terms.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH FREEDOM FOREVER TO COMPLETE PHASE TWO OF THE WHITE RIVER COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT

Motion made by Melissa Lonebear. Second by Norma Gourneau.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X			
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

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ITEM #10 – AMENDMENT TO HOLIDAY LIST

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:

- Amendment to the holiday list.
- Cheyenne Victory Day adding June 25th to the holiday. We have Monday off already so we are just adding Tuesday.
- Reason for change. Tribal employees would like to attend the activities but they would have to take leave. Historical event. Honoring the Great Plains Tribes at the Battlefield at 3 p.m.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL MODIFYING AND APPROVING THE HOLIDAY LIST FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2024 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Motion made by Debra Charette. Second by Torrey Davie.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X			
X			
X			
X			
X			
			X
			X
X			
			X
X			
X			
	X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

11 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried

ITEM #12 – SIGNATORIES

COUNCILWOMAN FISHER:

- All of the signatories will remain the same.
- Took Kyla off as the Director of Finance.
- Terrance Limpy is the acting Director of Finance so he'll be added on. That is the only change to this.

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL SIGNATURES FOR THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS TAKING KYLA TWOBULLS OFF AND ADDING TERRANCE LIMPY.

Motion made by Norma Gourneau. Second by Debra Charette.

YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT

Melissa Lonebear	X	
Debra Charette	X	
Norma Gourneau	X	
Eva Foote	X	
Nizhoni Friesz	X	
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice President		X
Torrey Davie		X
Donavin Limberhand	X	
Silver Little Eagle		X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X	
Melissa Fisher	X	

11 vote(s) Yes	0 votes No	Abstentions	Motion Carried
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MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion made by Melissa Fisher. Second by Debra Charette.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Melissa Lonebear	X	110	TIBOTALIN	ADDENT
Debra Charette	X			
Norma Gourneau	X			
Eva Foote	X			
Nizhoni Friesz	X			
Ernest Littlemouth, Sr., Vice-President				X
Torrey Davie				X
Donavin Limberhand	X			
Silver Little Eagle				X
Gwen Spottedhorse	X			
Melissa Fisher	X			

11 votes Yes 0 votes No 0 Abstentions Motion Carried
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MEETING ADJOURNED @ 10:40 A.M.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council with 8 votes for passage and adoption, 0 votes against passage and adoption, and 2 abstention on this 16th day of September 2024.

Edina Redstar, Secretary Northern Cheyenne Tribe