

**UNAHA SUMMER BUSINESS MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2024  
KWATAQNUK RESORT, POLSON MONTANA**

MINUTES FOR UNAHA SUMMER MEETING AT SALISH AND KOOTENAI AUGUST 2024

Opening prayer was given by Gene Sorrell, SKHA Board Chairman

Welcome was given by Carole Lankford, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council Member.

The meeting was called to order by UNAHA Chairwoman, Sharon Vogel at 8:59 a.m.

Roll call by UNAHA Chairwoman, Sharon Vogel. 19 present. Quorum established.

Motion by Jeanie Thompson from Lower Brule, Second by Patrick Goggles, Northern Arapaho to approve the agenda. Call for vote by Ms. Vogel. Approved unanimously

Motion by Jeanie Thompson, Lower Brule to approve the minutes of the April, 2024 Minutes held in Lakewood, Colorado, Second by Patrick Goggles. Call for vote by Ms. Vogel. Approved unanimously.

CHAIR REPORT – Sharon Vogel welcomed all in attendance, recognizing Tribal leaders, new attendees and new directors. Reminder that Congress is in session and we need to do our advocacy to let them know what you have done and how money received was spent. Dave Heisterkamp will give an update on authorizations. Chairwoman stated that homeownership is gaining momentum. Along with rentals we need homeownership units for those ready to own a home. Need to include down payment or other assistance. This will get renters out of rental and free them up for lower income recipients.

Jason Adams acknowledged and thanked Myrna Gauthier and Sharon for all their work in putting this meeting together.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Joey Nathan, UNAHA Treasurer presented the UNAHA Profit and Loss Statement.

As of August 9, 2024 we have \$43,940.65 in checking and \$120,323.19 in savings, with an overall net amount of \$164,263.84.

Motion by Rod Trahan, Northern Cheyenne to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Second by Patrick Goggles, Lower Brule. Call for vote by Ms. Vogel. Approved unanimously.

Jackie Spade was unable to attend the meeting. Sylvia Wira, Wagenlander and Heisterkamp, LLC offered to give an update on TIAC later in the agenda.

HUD MESSAGE – Dominique Jackson, Regional Administrator gave a report on current activities. She has visited many tribes in our region. She discussed the many different needs and how her

office can collaborate to assist. Discussion on Technical Assistance and how important it is to all. There will be more collaboration between offices and programs. She stated HUD is Committed to improve communication and their trust responsibilities. She said to reach out to any of the members and let them know your

Randy Akers, NPONAP Administrator – Randy asked the question, how are we doing and how can we help? If you have questions on what we can do for you let us know. Discussion on grant recipients and due dates for current and upcoming grants. Requested volunteers for GEMS contact Lori Roget or Elisabeth Altazan, NPONAP. BABA update from ONAP will be coming soon. Not effective for grants prior to October. Randy went over due dates for grant submissions and deadlines for all reporting on current grants. Randy reported two new staff Amber Hunter and Kevin Turner on 120 assignment and are filling in for Grants Evaluation. Discussion on Technical Assistance and training opportunities. We are looking to provide training this coming year. Always look for training that is housing related. We have one new partner this year. Americore can send our a team to provide direct services to provide community service activities. Need to house the team. Let us know what is going on at your local level and send to ONAP. Things such as ribbon cutting ceremonies on special projects, etc. They go a long way in telling how the money is spent and what the continued need is.

CHAIRWOMAN VOGEL – Announced the departure of Iva Zimmerman as UNAHA Secretary and acknowledged her for the work she provided to UNAHA. Chairwoman Vogel opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Patrick Goggles nominated Joane Rowland, Apsaalooke Nation Housing Authority, Second by Grace Pipe, Fort Peck. No other nominations received. All in favor with no opposing. Carried unanimously.

RECORDING OF MINUTES TURNED OVER TO JOANIE

The following resolutions were introduced for consideration:

**RESOLUTION 2024-02** - *A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RE-AUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT.*

David Heisterkamp reported 2008 was the last re-authorization of NAHASDA. A standalone bill would not get attention so a strategy was formed to attach the bill to the Defense Bill. However, this strategy did not work. The house financial services capped the appropriation and there never has been a cap on NAHASDA.

David H recommended passing this resolution to approve SA 2240.

Sharon Vogel asked for a motion to approve or disapprove Resolution 2024-02:

Patrick Goggles, Northern Arapaho made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-02;

Rod Trahan, Northern Cheyenne Seconded the motion

The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2024-03** – *A RESOLUTION REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION FROM THE BUILD AMERICA BUY AMERICA (BABA) ACT*

David H reported BABA applies to all Federal funding after October 1, 2024 and OMB is not inclined to any further waivers or extensions. Discussion was held by the members regarding the detrimental impacts of BABA.

Sharon Vogel asked for a motion to approve or disapprove resolution 2024-03:

Jeanie Thompson, made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-03;

Jody Perez, Salish Kootenai seconded the motion

The vote was unanimous, Motion carried

**RESOLUTION 2024-04** – *A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FIRE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS ACT, S. 4654*

A disaster has to be declared by the State & Federal Government before FEMA can assist the Tribes. The bill allows Tribes to directly access federal fire management assistance.

Senator Rounds is sponsoring this bill as a standalone bill.

Sharon Vogel requested a motion to approve or disapprove this resolution:

Jeanie Thompson, Lower Brule made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-04;

Pam Noyes, Northern Ponca seconded the motion.

The vote was unanimous, Motion carried

**RESOLUTION 2024-05** – *A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING VETERANS' HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES*

This bill requests Congressional reps to co-sponsor and support H.R. 8371, Request the VA secretary to extend the 2.5% NADL interest rate pilot for another two years, and request HUD-ONAP to pilot a Northern Plains Regional Tribal HUD VASH Program.

Sharon Vogel asked for a motion to approve or disapprove Resolution 2024-05:

Jeanie Thompson, Lower Brule, made the motion to approve Resolution 2024-05;

James Emery, Seconded the motion

The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Other Announcements:

TIAC Committee meetings will be held in Washington DC and duly elected officials are on the TIAC Committee.

Joseph Biden passed an executive order to assist Indian Tribes.

PDR Policy Development & Research-we are collecting Tribal data regarding the Census, Tax Credit-how much IHBG funds are used to fund the Tax credit projects, and Tribal Building Codes.

A report was made by the representatives of Fanny Mae.

At 11:30 am on August 15th the meeting was adjourned:

Motion by Joey Nation Northern Ponca

Seconded by Joanie Rowland, Apsaalooke

Motion carried.

Minutes approved on December 9, 2024:

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Sharon Vogel, Chairwoman

Attest:

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Joanie Rowland, Secretary

