

**SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
January 25th, 2022**



Present: Douglas Yankton Sr., Tribal Chairman
ReNa Lohnes, Vice-Chair/ Mission District Representative
Charmayne Bohanon, Secretary Treasurer
Lisa Georgeson, Woodlake District Representative
Kimberly Three Irons, Fort Totten District Representative
Waynita Chaske, Crow Hill District Representative

Guests: Jessica Alberts, Chief Financial Officer
Elton Greywater, COVID-19 Incident Commander

Location: Cankdeska Cikana Community College Amphitheater

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.,
Prayer by Josie Lawrence

1. CARES Funds Report

Jessica Alberts, CFO presents CARES expenditures by categories as listed below:

Expenditure Category	Budgeted Allocation	Percentage
Financial Assistance to Tribal Members	\$9,295,225.93	49%
Public Health and Safety	\$3,046,681.23	16%
Payroll and Benefits	\$2,215,867.04	12%
Small Business Assistance	\$929,991.53	12%
Care Packages	\$770,499.08	5%
Food Assistance	\$685,941.27	4%
COVID-19 Testing	\$512,611.28	3%
Distance Learning & Technology	\$177,988.00	
Other	\$506,607.10	3%

Total awarded funding \$18,895,157.00 and has to be depleted by December 31, 2021.

Secretary Treasurer Bohanon presents a detailed description of the various programs approved by resolution from the CARES funds. See attachment.

Jessica Alberts, CFO informs the community members American Rescue Plan: Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) the federal guidance requires recipients to use these funds for the following purposes:

1. To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel and hospitality.
2. To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;

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3. For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency; and
4. To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broad band infrastructure.

The deadline to obligate funding is 12/31/2024 and the deadline to expend the funding is 12/31/2026. The total amount received is \$53,946,789.00 and currently there is \$15,727,828.00 of unallocated funding.

The Tribe has given direct assistance to enrolled members by providing hardship assistance, supporting the Beef & Bison Program, funding the Septic and Home Repairs program, providing Safety & Disinfecting Packages, and providing Quarantine assistance.

Jessica Alberts, CFO presents ARPA Fiscal Recovery Funds preliminary allocations as listed below:

Expenditure Category	Budgeted Allocation
Personnel	\$442,461.00
Public Health	\$346,700.00
Wastewater Treatment Facility	\$5,000,000.00
Wellness Center Improvements	\$2,800,000.00
Operations	\$170,000.00
Direct Tribal Member Assistance	\$9,450,000.00
Tourism & Hospitality	\$2,735,000.00
Drug Task Force	\$5,000,000.00
Addressing Homelessness	\$100,000.00
Food Pantry	\$574,800.00
Health Center Facility	\$10,000,000.00
Housing Assistance	\$1,000,000.00
Parks and Recreation	\$600,000.00

2. COVID-19 Update

Elton Greywater Sr., COVID-19 Incident Commander, informs the community that there are currently forty-one (41) active cases of COVID and forty-two (42) close contacts of the COVID cases. The COVID-19 Team held a testing event at the old ambulance building and there were three hundred (300) rapid tests. The COVID team is currently waiting for more tests to come in.

The Financial Assistance Program, which provides a \$500 incentive for any enrolled member ages 5 on up, who is fully vaccinated ends May 31, 2022.

According to the CDC guidelines people who have had close contact with a positive case of COVID-19 only have to quarantine/isolate five (5) days if they are not showing any

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symptoms and if they are fully vaccinated. Currently the COVID team is providing educational information to help mitigate COVID-19 and have also had this information sent to KABU to reach a further demographic. A community member suggestion to the COVID-19 team provide phone cards to quarantined individuals.

Elton Greywater Sr., COVID-19 Incident Commander informs the public there are currently thirteen (13) members of the COVID team; four (4) delivery staff, three (3) C.N.A's, one (1) paramedic, two (2) nurses, and two (2) administrative assistants.

Elton states the COVID-19 team has held meetings to coordinate with tribal health, CHR and security to help in case a surge of cases occurs on the Reservation. Elton also shares that he has visited with the Tribal Prosecutor because people will not stay quarantined and will not wear their mask. No action was taken on this matter.

A community member shares concerns about an Elder being neglected and no services were offered to him/her; Chairman Yankton directs Elton Greywater Sr., and the Acting Chief of Police to contact the individual and check on his/her welfare.

Elton Greywater Sr., COVID-19 Incident Commander gives the community an update on the Homeless Shelter and currently there are seven adults and two children using the services offered. If anyone needs to contact the shelter to use the services people can contact Penny Yankton at 701-230-9734 and she can also assist.

COVID-19 Incident Commander states that he is ordering N-95 masks and will provide them to the public when they receive the masks.

Anthony Longie, Spirit Lake Housing Corporation Director, was awarded a \$1.7 million grant to renovation the old head start building in St. Michaels for a homeless shelter.

3. Community Discussion

Community members inquire about the activities the Wellness Center Staff are conducting and when the Wellness Centers will be open to the children.

Community members share concerns about BIA Law Enforcement not patrolling the old housing and the shortage of law enforcement officers. Discussion begins regarding the drug problem on the Spirit Lake Reservation.

Lieutenant Lawson informs the public that investigations are taking place regarding drugs however law enforcement is not able to make this information public. Mr. Lawson explains the BIA Law Enforcement is experiencing a staffing shortage of police officers which is why patrol units are not able to cover each area on a regular basis.

Chairman Yankton informs the community the Tribe is working on completing Memorandum of Understandings with the local law enforcement agencies such as Lake Region Narcotics Task

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force, Benson County Sheriff's Office, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office, Eddy County Sheriff's Office, Devils Lake Police Department, and ND Bureau of Criminal Investigations to help the BIA Law Enforcement on the Spirit Lake Reservation.


Community members begin discussion regarding the Spirit Lake Housing Corporation and the policy regarding owed debt due to unpaid rent or damages done to a rental property.

Discussion begins regarding Spirit Lake Tribal Social Services Program and lack of services provided to children. Allyson Bartlett, Tribal Social Services Director, addresses concerns about the program and informs the community members due to confidentiality the caseworkers are not able to disclose any information to the public regarding cases.

Chairman Yankton adjourns the meeting at 7:45 p.m.,
Closing Prayer by Josie Lawrence

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned as Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of six (6) members of whom six (6) were present, constituting a quorum for a General Assembly meeting duly called and convened on this 25th day of January, 2022 and approved these General Assembly meeting minutes by certification of signature of the Spirit Lake Tribal Chairman and Secretary Treasurer.


Charmayne Bohanon
Secretary Treasurer




Douglas Yankton Sr.
Tribal Chairman