



Native American Heritage Fund Board (NAHFB) Meeting

August 10, 2023

1. Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call

Chairperson Jamie Stuck called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

A. Native American Heritage Fund Board Members present:

Jamie Stuck, Chairperson
Dorie Rios, Vice Chair
Melissa Kiesewetter, Treasurer
Liz Kinnart, Secretary
Kimberly McClellan

Others present:

Kelli Scott, Calhoun County Administrator/Controller
Susan Connolly, Calhoun County Executive Administrative & Legal Assistant
Robyn Burlingham, Nottawaseppi Huron Band Of The Potawatomi Tribal Council
Coordinator

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda for Thursday, August 10, 2023

Approved without objection.

3. Approval of NAHFB Meeting Minutes from Friday, April 14, 2023

Approved without objection.

4. Public Comment

There was none.

5. Old Business Items:

There were none.

6. Correspondence:

A. Northport Schools email re 2021 NAHF grant progress.

Kelli Scott shared that Northport Schools sent this email to update the NAHF Board on what they've accomplished from their 2021 grant, including recent news coverage and photos of new signage.



B. Sandusky Schools email re new Superintendent.

Ms. Scott noted recent email correspondence from a trustee of the Sandusky School Board, received after the current meeting agenda packet was posted, indicating that the school is in the process of hiring a new superintendent. The board member also inquired as to whether their grant acceptance would be impacted by this transition in leadership. Jamie Stuck and Melissa Kiesewetter indicated they would contact members of the Board to discuss their email and receive updates.

7. New Business Items:

A. Acceptance of 2022 Audit

Ms. Scott highlighted the audit report received from Gabridge & Co. and explained that the firm's opinion was a clean opinion, the highest form of opinion, meaning that the financial statements presented fairly the finances of the NAHF.

Dorie Rios **motioned** to accept the 2022 Audit as presented.
Kimberly McClellan – **Seconded**

On a Voice Vote, **Motion Passed**

B. Approval to Disburse Funds, Gabridge & Co., PLC., 2022 Audit, \$4,400 approved April 14, 2023

Liz Kinnart **motioned** to approve the check disbursement for 2022 Audit, Gabridge & Co., PLC., in the amount of \$4,400.00.

Melissa Kiesewetter – **Seconded**

VOTE:

Kimberly McClellan – Yes
Jamie Stuck – Yes
Dorie Rios – Yes
Liz Kinnart – Yes
Melissa Kiesewetter – Yes

Motion Passed



C. Acceptance of Financial Report for June 30, 2023

Kelli Scott reviewed the financial report for year-to-date ended June 30, 2023, and noted the only activity was interest income. Ms. Scott added that there was an unbudgeted increased cost for QuickBooks from \$590 to \$645, and that the corrected amount will show on the next financial report. Ms. Scott noted that after the expected administrative expenses there would be approximately \$480,000.00 to be used for grant allocations, consistent with past years.

Melissa Kieswetter **motioned** to accept the Financial Report for June 30, 2023, as presented.
Liz Kinnart – **Seconded**

On a Voice Vote, **Motion Passed**

D. Consideration of 2023 Grant Applications (20 received, total request=\$1,851,836.16):

Dorie Rios proposed the board focus on applications related to mascot rebranding and those organizations that hadn't received previous grants.

Jamie Stuck added that the expectation is that a focus is on helping school district mascot rebranding initiatives which will result in future opportunities for different types of projects to receive funding.

1. Baraga Area Schools, \$12,000.00

Ms. Scott noted this application relates to education initiatives, such as signage, hosting a pow wow and other activities.

Melissa Kieswetter noted she will work with Baraga to discuss potential alternative funding for this project.

2. Central Michigan University, \$10,090.00

Dorie Rios noted she will discuss this application directly with Firekeepers.

This application was removed from consideration.

3. Central Michigan University #2, \$78,522.00

Dorie Rios noted she will discuss this application directly with Firekeepers.

This application was removed from consideration.



4. Chippewa Hills School District, \$132,892.00

Kelli Scott stated that the application is related to grades K-12 rebranding to replace the current school mascot to the new Golden Knight image.

5. Grand Ledge Public Schools, \$3,200.00

Jamie Stuck shared he and Melissa Kieswetter will contact the school to have further discussions about potential in-kind support for this project.

This application was removed from consideration.

6. Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College, \$27,500.00

This application was removed from consideration.

7. Lansing School District, \$66,500.00

This application was removed from consideration.

8. Manistee Area Public Schools, \$285,170.00

Kelli Scott highlighted the request is related to complete rebranding of the schools.

9. Meridian Charter Township, \$15,000.00

Ms. Scott informed the application is for a new municipal sign.

10. Michigan State University, \$205,000.00

This application was removed from consideration.

11. Pellston Public Schools, \$6,000.00

Kelli Scott shared the application is for a new bilingual website.



12. Petoskey Schools, \$2,925.20

Kelli Scott noted that the application relates to the replacement of track uniforms to replace the logo.

13. Port Huron Area Schools, \$325,887.80

Ms. Scott noted this is a new application for three schools to replace the school mascot.

14. MCAN/Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, \$55,000.00

This application was removed from consideration.

15. Moran Township, \$375,000.00

This application was removed from consideration.

16. Okemos Public Schools, \$16,000.00

This application was removed from consideration.

17. Sandusky Community Schools, \$149,208.16

Kelli Scott highlighted the application related to the replacement of the school mascot.

18. UM-Flint Center for Gender and Sexuality, \$63,000.00

This application was removed from consideration.

19. Watersmeet Township School District, \$3,845.00

Ms. Scott noted this application is for a teaching pow wow event.

20. Western Michigan University, \$19,096.00

This application was removed from consideration.



After discussion within the Board, there was unanimous consent **not** to award funds to the following applications:

- Central Michigan University
- Central Michigan University #2
- Grand Ledge Public Schools
- Keweenaw Bay Obijwa Community College
- Lansing Public Schools
- Michigan State University
- MCAN/Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
- Moran Township
- Okemos Public Schools
- UM-Flint Center for Gender and Sexuality
- Western Michigan University

For the remaining applications, the Board reached unanimous consent to award the following requests based on available funds:

Liz Kinnart **motioned** to grant awards as follows:

- Baraga Area Schools, \$6,000 (50%)
- Chippewa Hills School District, \$66,446.00 (50%)
- Manistee Area Public Schools, \$142,585.00 (50%)
- Meridian Charter Township, \$15,000 (100%)
- Pellston Public Schools, \$6,000 (100%)
- Petoskey Schools, \$2,925.20 (100%)
- Port Huron Area Schools, \$162,943.90 (50%)
- Sandusky Community Schools, \$74,604.08 (50%)
- Watersmeet Township School District, \$3,845.00 (100%)

Kimberly McClellan – **Seconded**

VOTE:

- Dorie Rios-Yes
- Liz Kinnart -Yes
- Melissa Kiesewetter-Yes
- Kimberly McClellan-Yes
- Jamie Stuck-Yes

Motion Passed



Ms. Scott noted she would email the grant award spreadsheet to Amber Ballard for the press release and would also email each applicant to notify them of either the award, or the decision not to award their applications.

E. Approval to Disburse funds:

1. Administrative Services Agreement, Calhoun County, approved Apr. 15, 2022, \$15,000.00
2. 2022 Audit, Gabridge & Co., approved Apr. 14, 2023, \$4,400.00

Dorie Rios **motioned** to approve the check disbursement for Administrative Costs, 2022 Administrative Services to Calhoun County in the amount of \$15,000.00 and 2022 Audit, Gabridge & Co., approved Apr. 14, 2023, \$4,400.00.

Jamie Stuck – **Seconded**

VOTE:

Liz Kinnart – Yes
Melissa Kiesewetter – Yes
Kimberly McClellan – Yes
Jamie Stuck – Yes
Dorie Rios – Yes

Motion Passed

8. Open Discussion

Melissa Kiesewetter provided an update on the NHBP internship position and the proposed toolkit for schools related to education and government.

Jamie Stuck provided an update related to the civil rights department for the investor's boarding school report.

Chair Stuck informed Governor Whitmer provided \$3 million to redo software system for how school districts account for Native American students, which should happen within six months.

9. Next Meeting

Friday, August 25, 2023, 11:00 a.m.



10. Adjournment of the Meeting

Meeting adjourned by Jamie Stuck, NAHFB Chairperson, at 11:13a.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY _____
Susan Connolly, Executive Administrative & Legal Assistant