



Two-Spirit Group celebrates Pride Month!

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Summer 2026 HCI Interns Spotlight!

page: 10-11

Volume 55, Number 12

Mā hina'u wira  
Earth Cultivating Moon

Saturday, June 20, 2026



In Honor of Neola Walker

Our masthead scene for this edition of the Winnebago Indian News features dancing during the Homecoming Celebration Powwow Princess Special from the 159<sup>th</sup> Annual Winnebago Homecoming Celebration Powwow at Veteran's Memorial Park in Winnebago, NE. The 159<sup>th</sup> annual was held from Thursday July 24<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. You can still watch the replay video available on the KWTN The Big Voice YouTube channel!

Special Election Brings New Faces to Tribal Council



By Bethani Redhorn  
Photography by Bethani Redhorn

[Winnebago, NE] The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska entered a new chapter of governance following the special election held on Wednesday, June 10, 2026. On Friday, June 12, the community gathered in the Tribal Chambers for the Swearing-In Ceremony of the newly elected councilwomen. The special election was called to fill two vacant seats on our governing body. When the final ballots were counted on June 10, Margaret "Emmy" Scott secured the highest number of votes, earning her a council seat through October 2027. Keely Purscell received the second-highest vote count, securing her spot on the council through October 2026.

Beginning the ceremony, Winnebago Veterans Kevin Ebert and Anthony Bassette carried in the flags, while local singers Les Painter, Quince Bass, and Garan Coons filled the chambers with Winnebago songs. Pastor Ricky Jacobs then stepped up to give a moving invocation and blessing. Sharing words from scripture, Pastor Jacobs prayed for wisdom, clear minds, and unity for all our leaders. He also took a moment to share a heartfelt thank you to outgoing council members Lorelei DeCora and Isaac Smith for their years of hard work and personal sacrifices.

Chairman Coly Brown officially called the meeting to order at 4:09 PM. Councilwoman

Teresa Littlegeorge made a motion to officially seat our newly elected leaders, which was seconded by Councilman Trey Blackhawk and passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote. With that, Chief Judge Jordan Zendejas stepped forward to administer the constitutional oaths; Margaret "Emmy" Scott went first, and Keely Purscell followed right after.

With the new seats filled, Chairman Brown opened the floor to fill the vacant Vice-Chairman position. Councilman Blackhawk nominated Eugene DeCora Sr., while Councilwoman Rona Stealer put Victoria Kitcheyan's name forward. Secretary Littlegeorge made a motion to close the nominations, and the council members cast their votes. The initial vote ended in a deadlocked 4-4 tie between DeCora and Kitcheyan. To break the tie, Chairman Brown cast the deciding vote for Eugene DeCora Sr., and he was immediately sworn in by Chief Judge Zendejas, followed by the Honor Song.

Once everyone was seated, the new council took turns sharing positive messages of unity, looking out for our community's mental health, and planning for the future. The historic afternoon adjourned once the veterans retired the tribal colors and a final verse of the Flag Song was rendered. In case you missed the event, you can find the archived livestream available on the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's YouTube channel.

A Winnebago Son Receives National Recognition



By Bethani Redhorn  
Photography from Winnebago Academy

[Winnebago, NE] It was a "moonshot bet," but recent Winnebago Public School graduate Ayden Littlegeorge-Cloud took the shot anyway. Breaking a six-year streak dominated by big-city schools like Omaha and Lincoln, Ayden has been named the sole student leader to represent the entire state of Nebraska for the National Billy Michal Student Leadership Award. The award, presented annually by the National WWII Museum, recognizes one young person per state who demonstrates leadership, teamwork, tolerance, and perseverance. For Ayden, the honor meant packing up the family and driving down to New Orleans to represent the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska on a national stage.

Ayden, whose Ho-Chunk name means Flash of Lightning, is enrolled in the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, a member of the Thunder Clan, and is the son of Viola Velasco and Tyrone Cloud. His senior year was anything but typical. While most students were arriving for first period, Ayden spent his mornings taking dual-credit college courses at Little Priest Tribal College. Between speech competitions, one-act plays, and scholastic quizzes, Ayden's deep love for tribal and world history caught the eye of his history teacher, Andrew Halsey, who nominated him for the award.

To get to Louisiana, Ayden fundraised by baking and selling tres leches cakes, while the Tribal Council assisted with a donation to help with the traveling expenses, including steep gas prices. Armed with custom pins and a tribal flag from Ho-Chunk Renaissance, Ayden was able to bring a piece of home with him to the Big Easy. The trip was a whirlwind of history, rich food (including Ayden's first taste of deep-fried alligator), and national recognition.

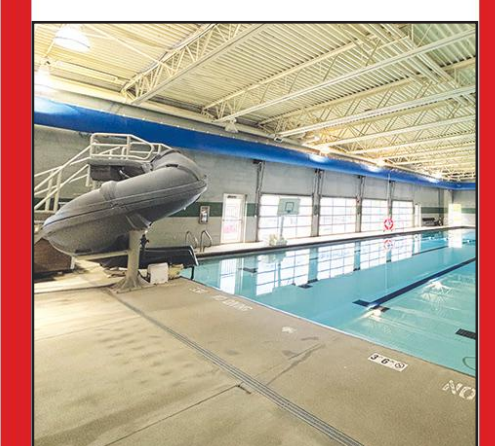
Out of all the state representatives present, Ayden was one of just five students chosen to speak on stage. He delivered a powerful speech honoring nearly 100-year-old Iris Hearst, a Nebraska "Rosie the Riveter" who mixed gunpowder for bombs during WWII. His words even brought Ms. Hearst to tears. The head of the museum presented Ayden with a solid silver medal.

With high school behind him, Ayden is headed to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) on a full ride through the Nebraska College Preparatory Academy (NCPA), where he will major in History and Political Science and minor in German. He has his eyes locked on a

Nī šoc Nigešana  
By: Tyler Snake



On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, HoChunk Renaissance held a lunch & learn about HoCak clans. Attendees were able to explore the meaning and importance of clans, their duties, and about kinship clans.



The Whirling Thunder Wellness Program opened their pool on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Monday-Friday hours: Adult open swim (no lifeguard on duty) is open 8am-12pm. Open swim (lifeguard on duty) is open 1-3pm and 3:30-7pm. Saturday-Sunday hours: Open Swim (lifeguard on duty) is open 12-3pm and 3:30-6pm. Please note youth 10 years and under need an adult present unless in a youth group.



On June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Winnebago Tribe of NE met with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to tour environmental projects happening across the Winnebago Reservation. The tour covered work being done to protect natural resources, restore habitats, and maintain the land and waterways.

Connecting Winnebago, One Screen at a Time



By Bethani Redhorn  
Photography by Communications

[Winnebago, NE] The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's Communications Department has launched the Mini Big Screen Project across town. The project includes installing 75-inch monitors in high-traffic community locations to provide continuous updates and public safety announcements and notices. Spearheaded by Multi-Media Coordinator Kevin Ebert and Communications Officer Garan Coons.

The project builds upon the success of the big LED screen located in downtown Winnebago, which originally went up during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep everyone safe and informed during the social distancing ordinances. New ideas were discussed and listening to feedback from the community, the team realized a secondary phase was needed. These indoor screens are the natural next step for a downtown landmark that has

Con't. on page 2...

Con't. on page 2...

"Hakīš'ak hīwa'uajawi na. – We respect each other"



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## ...Con't from front page: A Winnebago Son Receives National Recognition...

future in public service. "One dream I do have is eventually become legislator of the 17<sup>th</sup> district," Ayden said. "I want to work my way up to eventually become Governor of Nebraska," and jokingly added, "mostly because I heard the governor's mansion is pretty nice!" He credited his success to his mother Viola, his grandmother Sandra Olivares, his teachers' Mr. Halsey, Ms. Pixler, and his finance mentor Mr. Bonneau.

\*Editor's Note: The entire WIN staff extends our warmest congratulations to Ayden Littlegeorge-Cloud. To break barriers on a national level while keeping your tribal heritage, identity, and community close to your heart is the true definition of a leader. You have made us incredibly proud! We are rooting for you all the way to Lincoln, and we look forward to interviewing you again one day on the steps of the Governor's Mansion.



## ...Con't from front page: Connecting Winnebago, One Screen at a Time...

truly brought the community together. Looking back at how the original big screen changed Winnebago, Coons highlighted how the outdoor display successfully transformed our downtown area into a lively hub for everyone to gather.

Over the years, the downtown Big Screen has hosted everything from relaxed family movie nights to major broadcasts like the Carlos Trinidad-Snake fights, along with other live sports events. It has served as a powerful tool for civic and social gatherings, hosting suicide prevention events, awareness events, round dance events, trunk-or-treats, and even family bonfire nights. Garan reflected on the project's growth, sharing, "it makes us, as a community, come together more."

The primary goal of the initiative was to simply place information exactly where our people naturally gather. Right now, the 75-inch screens are fully operational in several key spots with high visibility. These locations include the main dining area at the Senior Citizen Center; the lobby area by security and the post office at Blackhawk Community Center; two screens at Twelve Clans Unity Hospital/Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System, one on the first floor by Public Health Nursing, and another on the second/main floor by the clinic and pharmacy.

Demonstrating the community's need, the project received support from Tribal Council and took almost two years of hard work and budget planning to complete; a huge step forward but far from finished. More expansion plans and phases are to come once the remaining infrastructure is finalized which includes an install at Little Priest Tribal College. The team plans to expand the project into other high-traffic areas such as the Whirling Thunder Wellness Center Gym, Sweetwater Café, and

Village Pointe. Down the road, the team plans to individualize the screens so the hospital or college can display localized slide updates, such as specific class or clinic schedules.

Currently, the system simulcasts everything that is featured on the big screen downtown, ensuring maximum visibility for tribal notices, updates, and upcoming event announcements. Each of the mini screens have the same capability as the big screen downtown, which broadcasts audio as well. The content featured offers a balanced mix of cultural pride, daily utility, and critical safety. These Mini Big Screens are also a vital safety tool. The system is fully integrated with the federal IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System). If a crisis hits, the screens will immediately flash real-time alerts for tornado warnings, flash floods, Amber Alerts, or civil emergencies. On any given day, you will see various community events, family fun events, and important reminders from tribal programs and local businesses.

In an effort towards community pride, the Communications department offers various options for shoutout graphics for a birthday or anniversary. Community members, tribal programs, and local businesses can share family milestones, congratulatory shoutouts, and upcoming events for free! Send an email to: [wtn-communications@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:wtn-communications@winnebagotribe.com) with your request; be sure to include your name and contact information so the communications team can verify the details before your graphic goes live across the big screens. "Stay tuned because we have more huge updates coming up! This is just the start of what we're really focusing on in trying to get the community more informed of what's going on in Winnebago," shared by Kevin.

## Ho-Chunk, Inc. TOUR

Thursday, July 16, 2026  
10:00AM - 2:00PM

Open to all Winnebago community members!

Lunch, door prizes & transportation provided.

### TOUR STOPS:

- Ho-Chunk, Inc. Corporate Office
- Village Pointe
- Ho-Chunk Distribution
- Rock River Manufacturing
- Ho-Chunk Capital Properties

Register Here  
Limited spots.



Questions?  
Contact Willy Bass  
@ 402.878.2809



## Call for Media:

### Ho-Chunk Center

The Ho-Chunk Center has held a lot of life over the years.

BIRTHDAYS

REUNIONS

MEMORIALS

CELEBRATIONS



Scan the QR Code to directly access the upload portal!

We need your help to honor that.

We're collecting photos and videos from community members who have used the space for an upcoming project we can't wait to share with you. If you have a special moment or memory captured on camera that you feel sharing publicly, please send it our way.

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/vdvty4fg5io4m4mojeq1>



## MAY 2026 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mark Stout





# Wāgax hūk ra wāgax hokik'una

## Letter to the Editor



### LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

**Little Priest Tribal College is now taking applications for the following positions:**

- **Academic Advisor**
- **Administrative Assistant-Academics**
- **Math Faculty**
- **Marketing Specialist**
- **Project Manager**
- **Recruitment Specialist**
- **Resident Assistant (1 Male)**
- **Student Equity Intern**
- **Student Extension Intern**

For more information, visit us on the web at:  
<https://www.littlepriest.edu/human-resources/>  
 LPTC is an equal-opportunity employer.  
**LPTC 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE**

### JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH



By: Pastor Ricky Jacob

**'Guidance for sending up prayers'**

Last week, I was asked to offer up the opening prayer at the oath of office at the Winnebago Tribal Council Special Election gathering.

I began by reading from God's Sacred Scriptures. God's Spirit moved me to read from the apostle Paul's letter to a young pastor (under-shepherd of the Good Shepherd) named Timothy.

I read: 'First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth' [1st Timothy 2:1-4 (ESV)].

Paul urged Timothy to pray for all people. All people includes you too! Paul went on to include kings and all who are in high positions. Paul used the word 'king' for the title of the ruler of his day. Here and now this would include Coly Brown, Winnebago's Tribal Chairman, as well as all the Winnebago Tribal Council's officers and members.

I thanked Mauna for the service of Councilwoman Lorelei DeCora and Vice-Chairman Isaac Smith. I went on to ask Mauna's blessings of wisdom, patience, courage on the newly elected Margaret "Emmy" Scott and Keely Purscell. I continued to ask Mauna's ongoing blessings on Victoria, Trey, Eugene, Coly, Teresa, Rona and Ireta as they all have been placed in their positions of leadership by Him.

I urge you to send your voice to Mauna on behalf of these leaders as they serve Him by

servicing their tribal members. Please pray for their families as well, as they also sacrifice their time apart and sadly often have to endure the harsh words and disrespect of their loved ones.

I thought that it might be good to also share with you the above words of Sacred Scripture from a paraphrase version of Paul's writing to Timothy:

'First of all, I call on you to send your voice to the Great Spirit with many kinds of prayer. Give thanks as you ask him to bless all people everywhere with the things they need. Send up prayers for rulers and all governing authorities, so we may live our lives in a peaceful and sacred way, walking together with harmony and respect. This will make Creator's heart glad and will be seen as a good thing by the one who sets us free and makes us whole. Our Creator longs to set all people free and guide them into the full understanding of the truth' [1st Timothy 2:1-4 An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament, slightly altered].

Our Creator indeed wants to set all people free. His Spirit is more than willing to guide you and me into the full understanding of the truth regarding how people are set free.

Please allow me to continue from Paul's letter: 'For there is only one Great Spirit, and only one who can bring the Great Spirit and human beings together in peace. That one is Jesus the Anointed One [Christ], who is himself human. He gave up his own life to set all people free, so that, when the time was right, this truth would be made clear to all humankind' [1st Timothy 2:5-6 An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament, slightly altered].

### Notice of Public Hearing: Social Services Program P.L. 102-477

The Winnebago Human Services Department invites all members of Federally Recognized Tribes residing within Thurston County (excluding the Omaha Reservation), Dakota County, and Woodbury County to a Public Hearing focused on the Social Services Program P.L. 102-477.

**Date: June 29th, 2026**

**Time: 11:30 am**

**Location: Nīkjak Wakāçak anağa Wagijire Hoci  
199 HWY 77/75  
Winnebago Ne, 68071**

The purpose of this hearing is to share information about the Social Services Program P.L. 107-477, gather feedback, and hear suggestions or concerns from clients and community members within our service area (Thurston, Dakota, Woodbury). Your input will help shape the future of our community.

All are encouraged to attend and participate. Your voice matters!

**For more information, contact:  
Kumiko Masquat  
Social Service Program Manager  
402-257-5586 ext:1203**



## HVAC BIDS NEEDED

**Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska-Facilities is seeking bids for the Preventative Maintenance contract for its main office building, the Blackhawk Community Center at 205 Bluff St., Winnebago, NE.**

**Bids will be accepted from June 18 through July 1, 2026.**

**If you would like to bid, please request further information by stopping at Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska-Facilities at 224 Industrial Drive, Winnebago, Nebraska, 68071, emailing Natalie Sawyer Davis, [natalie.davis@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:natalie.davis@winnebagotribe.com) or Jonna Price, [jonna.price@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:jonna.price@winnebagotribe.com), or by calling 402-878-2203.**

**Your bid proposal to James Price Sr., Facilities Manager, should include:**

- 1. Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska as the client**
- 2. Your contractor information**
- 3. HVAC Preventative Maintenance contract for the Blackhawk Community Center, 205 Bluff St., Winnebago, NE, the contract budget, and the terms and conditions**

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV26-103

In the Matter of the  
Adult Guardianship Petition of:  
ALYSSA WOLFE

In Re:  
ALEC WOLFE

To: JOSEPH KEMP

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Adult Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV26-103 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 2026 at the hour of 1:00 0 P.M.



The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on July 4, 2026. DEADLINE for this issue will be June 30, 2026.



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The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view. LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebago Tribal Council.

The WIN encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor; however, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length.

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Tyler Snake.....Office Manager  
Christina Parker.....Desktop Publisher

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Gayla Whitewater.....Comm. Office Manger  
Christina Parker.....Web Master  
Kevin Ebert.....Multimedia Coordinator

**Winnebago Tribal Council**  
Coly Brown.....Chairman  
Eugene DeCora.....Vice Chairman  
Teresa Littlegeorge.....Secretary  
Rona Stealer.....Treasurer  
Victoria Kitcheyan.....Member  
Ireta Frazier.....Member  
Trey Blackhawk.....Member  
Keely Purscell.....Member  
Margaret Scott.....Member



# TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

...Con't. from last issue...

Tyresha Romero (v)  
Bethani Redhorn (v)  
Ramona Sheridan (v)  
Anna Bess Preston (v)  
William Bass (v)  
Tiffany Buchanan  
Sue McLaughlin (v)  
Maggie Miller (v)  
Darla LaPointe  
Keely Bassette (v)  
John Blackhawk  
Jarold Mc Williams  
Terri Lee Medina (v)  
Jewel Parker (v)  
Nicholas Naujokas (v)  
Janelle DeCora (v)  
Brittany Thomas  
Anthony Bassette (v)  
Jennifer Berridge (v)  
Amy LaPointe (v)  
Aaron LaPointe (v)  
Tatanka Petite (v)  
Tara Hernandez  
Garan Coons (v)  
Billie Kitcheyan (v)  
Mark Stout  
Junius Snowball  
Lynelle Blackhawk (v)  
Daryl LaPointe, Jr.  
Jeremiah Lonewolf  
Christa Spears (v)  
Christi Freemont (v)  
Sabrina Renteria  
Mike Myhre  
Adam Kuehl  
Scott Medina  
Tylan Bear  
Desire Kitcheyan (v)  
Miskoo Petite (v)  
Dulcie Paiva (v)  
Leap Cear (v)  
James Vanwesten (v)  
Charlie Holm (v)  
Ron Nohr  
Mike Myhre (FSA) (v)  
Jennie Kozal (v)  
Geraldene Blackgoat (v)  
Fannie LaTray (v)  
Wayne Carroll (v)  
David Russell (v)  
Crystal White  
**TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:**  
Vacant seat  
Vacant seat

*\*(v) indicates virtual attendance.*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Brown called to order at 9:11 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYER:** CEO Darla LaPointe offered the opening prayer.

**AGENDA:**

Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the agenda with additions. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain  
Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

CEO APRIL REPORT – Presented by Darla LaPointe, CEO

Updates on tribal programs.

HoChunk Renaissance

Human Resources

Planning and Development

Tribal Court

Communications

Human Services

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the April 2026 CEO Report. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain  
Motion carried.

CAO APRIL REPORT – Presented by

Tiffany Buchanan, CAO

Updates on tribal programs.

Wake & Burial Program

Food Distribution

Cultural Preservation/Angel DeCora Museum

Veteran's Service Officer

Education Department

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the April 2026 CAO Report. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain  
Motion carried.

*[Victoria out at 10:11 a.m. for another meeting]*

BREAK: 10:11 a.m., reconvene at 10:24 a.m.

*[Eugene out at 10:25 a.m.]*

IN-HOUSE LEGAL

Presented by Chad Smith, In-House Legal Counsel

Rona Stealer motioned to accept the In-house legal report as presented. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain  
Motion carried.

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**

Tribal Housing Re-advertise vacancy

Rona Stealer motioned to re-advertise Tribal Housing Committee until filled. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Food Sovereignty Update

Presented by Janelle DeCora.

*[Rona out at 10:33 a.m., in at 10:35 a.m.]*

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to accept the resignation from Janelle DeCora from the Food Sovereignty Task Force. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Approve Boards and Committees Policy Update

Presented by Darla LaPointe and Chad Smith.

*[Rona out at 11:19 a.m., loss of quorum]*

*[Rona in at 11:24 a.m., regain quorum]*

Trey Blackhawk motioned to table the Administration: Policies and Procedures, section 6: Committee Policies & Procedures. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT:**

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska FY25 & FY26 FTA Tribal Transit Sec 5311 Tribal Operating Assistance Formula Grant

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-130: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska FY25 & FY26 FTA Tribal Transit Sec 5311 Tribal Operating Assistance Formula Grant. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**ENROLLMENT:**

Tribal Member Applicants

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-131: Tribal Member Applicants [A4405, A4685, A4803, A4824, A4849, A4851, A4855, A4865, A4866, A4867, A4869, A4870, A4874, A4875, A4876, A4878, A4879, A4882, A4883, A4884, A4885, A4886, A4889]. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**Blood Quantum Correction**

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-132: Blood Quantum Correction (383-U05726). Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**TRIBAL COURT/LAW ENFORCEMENT:**

Presentation on Justice Center – Presented by Olsson and FSA

*[Trey out at 11:57 a.m.]*

*[Ireta out at 11:58 a.m.]*

*[Ireta and Trey in at 12:00 p.m.]*

*[Victoria in at 12:30 p.m.]*

*[Victoria out at 12:57 p.m., in at 12:58 p.m.]*

*[Teresa out at 1:26 p.m., in at 1:36 p.m.]*

*[Trey out at 1:47 p.m., in at 1:49 p.m.]*

BREAK: 1:56 p.m., reconvene at 2:05 p.m.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:**

Drug Testing MOA – presented by Tara Hernandez.

No action.

Uninsured Drivers Policy – presented by Wayne Carroll

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to have Tribal Administration bring back a Motor Vehicle Policy within 60 days to address the uninsured drivers. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:**

Resolution: Boys & Girls Club of Hocak Nisoc Haci Amended Memorandum of Agreement Amending Resolution #25-153 A.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-133: Resolution: Boys & Girls Club of Hocak Nisoc Haci Amended Memorandum of Agreement Amending Resolution #25-153 A.

Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Trey Blackhawk motioned to enter the Executive Session at 2:47 p.m. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to exit Executive Session at 3:21 p.m. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:**

Trey Blackhawk motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:27 p.m. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary*

*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA MID-MONTHLY TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING May 28, 2026

**TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Coly Brown

Rona Stealer

Teresa Littlegeorge

Eugene DeCora

Trey Blackhawk

Ireta Frazier

Victoria Kitcheyan (in at 9:09 a.m.)

Vacant position

Vacant position

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Christina Parker

Anna Bess Preston (v)

Parish Jacobs

Tiffany Buchanan (v)

Maggie Miller (v)

Jarold McWilliams (v)

Danelle Smith (v)

Darla LaPointe (v)

Josh Pitre (v)

Jason Searle (v)

Beth Wright (v)

*\*(v) indicates virtual attendance*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Brown called to order at 9:06 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Councilman Eugene DeCora offered the opening prayer.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

May 4, 2026 – Regular Tribal Council meeting minutes

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve May 4, 2026, Regular Tribal Council meeting minutes. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Victoria request that the travel a council member is attending be listed out on the minutes.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

May 11, 2026 – Physical Resources

Report meeting minutes

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve May 11, 2026, Physical Resources meeting minutes. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**RATIFY FIVE SIGNATURES:**

Approval of request for WinnaVegas to sponsor the evening meal on 5/13/26 for Matthew Painter Sr.'s wake service being held in Winnebago, NE.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to ratify the five-signature approval of request for WinnaVegas to sponsor the evening meal on 5/13/26 for Matthew Painter Sr.'s wake service being held in Winnebago, NE. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Eugene DeCora

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (1) abstain, ED  
Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #26-125: Approving Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation for Maintenance of Winnebago Childcare/HCV2Trail and Roundabout Project.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to ratify the five-signature Approval of Resolution #26-125: Approving Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation for Maintenance of Winnebago Childcare/HCV2Trail and Roundabout Project. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Approve Travel: GPTLHB Board of Directors meeting, June 18, 2026, Niobrara, NE

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the Travel for the GPTLHB Board of Directors meeting, June 18 & 19, 2026, Niobrara, NE. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:**

Retirement of R. Jacob – Discussion only.

Donation requests

P.J. – Annual Native American Junior Nationals, June 25-28, 2026.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve \$370.00 paid from Tribal Council donations to P.J. for the Annual Native American Junior Nationals, June 25-28, 2026. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Ireta Frazier

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

G.N. – 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade summer basketball team (KINGS)

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve \$375.00 paid from Tribal Council donations to G.N. for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade summer basketball team (KINGS). Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Eugene DeCora and Trey Blackhawk

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (2) abstain, ED, TBH  
Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Rona Stealer motioned to enter Executive Session at 9:31 a.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to exit Executive Session at 11:12 a.m. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**ADJOURN:**

Eugene DeCora motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary*

*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA REGULAR TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING June 1, 2026

**TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Coly Brown

Teresa Littlegeorge

Ireta Frazier

Trey Blackhawk

Eugene DeCora

Rona Stealer (in at 9:30 a.m.)

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Amber Sorenson

Linda Santi

Viola Velasco

Ayden Littlegeorge

Christina Parker

Danelle Smith (v)

Chad Smith (v)

Tiffany Buchanan (v)

Kiana Lewis (v)

Brittany Thomas

Jarold McWilliams (v)

Darla LaPointe (v)

Lynelle Blackhawk (v)

Maggie Miller (v)

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:**

Victoria Kitcheyan (travel)

(46<sup>th</sup> National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference, Sacramento, CA)

Vacant seat

Vacant seat

*\*(v) indicates virtual attendance*

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Coly Brown called to order at 9:04 a.m.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Councilwoman Ireta Frazier offered the opening prayer.

**APPROVE AGENDA:**

Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the Regular Tribal Council meeting agenda. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:**

May 20, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the May 20, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

May 21, 2026, Treasurer's Report meeting minutes

Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the May 21, 2026, Treasurer's Report meeting minutes. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.

May 26, 2026, Law Enforcement/Fire Department/BIA Report meeting minutes

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the Law Enforcement/Fire Department/BIA Report meeting minutes. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain

Motion carried.



# TRIBAL PROGRAM UPDATES



## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA HUMAN RESOURCES:

We are respectfully requesting the community's assistance in locating next of kin for individuals who have recently passed away. Despite thorough efforts, we have been unable to identify or contact family members or legal representatives for the individuals listed below. Notifying next of kin is an important step to ensure proper arrangements and to provide closure with dignity and respect.

If you recognize any of the names listed or believe you may have information that could help us identify or locate a relative, please reach out as soon as possible. All information will be handled with care and confidentiality.

### PLEASE CONTACT:

Ofelia Cordova at Winnebago Tribe Human Resources  
 Phone: 402-878-2272 Ext 2301  
 Email: [ofelia.cordova@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:ofelia.cordova@winnebagotribe.com)

Your assistance can make a meaningful difference during a difficult time. Thank you for helping us ensure these individuals are treated with the respect they deserve.

| Full Name | DOB |
|-----------|-----|
|-----------|-----|

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Archambeau Jr., Joaquin P | 11/9/2024  |
| Archer, Justine           | 2/1/1951   |
| Bigbear, Ann              | 1/13/1941  |
| Bird, Colleen A           | 10/31/1978 |
| Bird, Michael Alfred      | 1/31/1967  |
| Bird, William             | 12/11/1939 |
| Cabrera, Amalia           | 1/27/1999  |
| Campbell, James           | 4/28/1958  |
| Cortez, Delia G           | 8/1/1964   |
| Crow, Andrew              | 12/9/1982  |
| Crowe, Fonda L            | 3/5/1975   |
| Decora Jr, Matthew Mark   | 3/18/1963  |
| Decora, Edward L          | 1/9/1959   |
| Earth, Daniel             | 9/3/1985   |
| Elbert, Jessica           | 2/10/1987  |
| Essau, Daniel A           | 2/7/1948   |
| Feekes, Elisabeth         | 10/13/1997 |
| Gonzales, Elias Michael   | 4/25/1997  |
| Grasty, He-Nu             | 1/6/1963   |
| Greene, Leroy             | 5/19/1953  |
| Guerrero, Leisa A         | 3/19/1961  |
| Hansen, Dale              | 7/20/1988  |
| Horton, Mary              | 3/15/1947  |
| Korbelik, Darrell A.      | 4/2/1965   |
| Lake, Miriam              | 10/6/1961  |
| Levering, Leon            | 8/16/1983  |
| Littlewalker, Ernest J    | 8/4/1956   |
| McAdams, Marianne         | 11/26/1955 |
| McGuire, Dorthy A         | 8/26/1933  |
| McLaughlin, Michael       | 2/12/1951  |
| Medina, Anthony Terrance  | 8/26/1980  |
| Michell, Leo              | 1/29/1958  |
| Morris, Sheryl L          | 2/17/1958  |
| Parker, Jamie             | 12/25/1962 |
| Parker, Jean              | 7/25/1967  |
| Payer, Anthony            | 2/19/1964  |
| Payer, Deborah            | 1/2/1966   |
| Reynolds, Raphael C       | 8/12/1956  |
| Ricehill, Terrin Michael  | 12/25/1974 |
| Rivera, Yvette            | 5/19/1954  |
| Ross, Christopher         | 10/13/1950 |
| Snake, Rosa               | 5/5/1991   |
| Snow Sr., Timothy J       | 11/3/1970  |
| Snow, Linda L             | 12/11/1952 |
| Snowball II, Edward       | 5/18/1979  |
| Snowball, Paul Donald     | 8/24/1937  |
| Tecumseh Sr., John Thomas | 5/2/1951   |
| Thomas, Louise            | 2/24/1958  |
| Thomas, Rhonda            | 6/24/1970  |
| Walker, Alma              | 3/4/1958   |
| Walker, Jeffery           | 4/11/1949  |
| Walker, Terrance V        | 7/26/1956  |
| Warner, Ronald            | 3/16/1978  |
| Wolf, Lili L              | 4/9/1974   |

| Newly Added        | DOB      |
|--------------------|----------|
| Walker II, Richard | 4/2/1993 |
| Eichmann Gina      | 7/6/1964 |

## Winnebago Tribe Reviews 2024–2025 Mercury Levels in Rainwater

Understanding trends to protect our land, water, and traditional ways

Winnebago Environmental Protection Department

The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's Environmental Protection Department has completed its annual review of mercury levels measured in rainwater and snow at the Mercury Deposition Network (MDN) monitoring site NE25 for calendar years 2024 and 2025.

Samples collected at the site are sent to the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) laboratory for detailed analysis. Because of laboratory processing and quality assurance requirements, there is typically a three- to five-month lag between when precipitation falls and when results are available. This is why the Tribe reviews complete previous years once the data is finalized and validated.

### What the 2024–2025 Data Shows

Recent data from the Winnebago Tribe's Mercury Deposition Network site (NE25) shows that mercury concentrations in rainwater remained relatively stable between 2024 and 2025. In 2024, the average mercury concentration in precipitation was 17.0 nanograms per liter (ng/L), based on 32 valid samples. In 2025, the average increased slightly to 18.0 ng/L, based on 38 valid samples.

While the concentration of mercury in each rain or snow event stayed within a similar range, the total amount of mercury reaching the ground (called wet deposition) was higher in 2025. This increase was largely driven by greater overall precipitation. In 2025, the site recorded approximately 31.7 inches of precipitation from valid samples, compared to 26.1 inches in 2024. Wetter conditions deliver more total mercury to soils, rivers, and lakes — even when the concentration measured in individual events remains comparable.

Why This Matters to Our Community

Mercury that falls with rain and snow can eventually make its way into fish in our rivers and lakes. Many families in our community continue traditional fishing practices, and the Tribe closely tracks these trends to help inform safe consumption guidance and to protect our waters for future generations.

Most of the mercury reaching our area originates from distant sources — coal-fired power plants, industrial activities, and long-range atmospheric transport from other parts of the United States and from international sources. Local monitoring helps us understand how these broader patterns affect our homelands and traditional resources.

### What the Tribe Is Doing

The Environmental Protection Department continues to operate the MDN monitoring site year-round. Results are shared with the Tribe's Water Program (CAA Section 106) to support integrated air and water protection efforts. This information also informs community education and helps guide the Tribe's ongoing work under the Clean Air Act to safeguard air quality, water quality, and the health of our people.

The Winnebago Tribe remains committed to protecting our environment and traditional ways of life for future generations. Community members with questions about mercury monitoring, or this report are encouraged to go to the Air Quality webpage at <https://winnebagotribe.com/air-quality/> or contact the Environmental Protection Department.

Sources: National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) Mercury Deposition Network; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska MDN Site NE25 data (2024–2025).

## Twelve Clans of the Ho-Chunk: A Cultural Portrait

### “Roles, Rites, and the Responsibilities”

The Ho-Chunk people's history is not just a story of the past — it is a living, breathing part of their present and future.

The twelve clans are more than symbolic; they are the living foundation of community identity, guiding values, and sustaining cultural continuity.

The twelve clans are a living, interwoven system that shapes how the community functions, from decision-making to spiritual life. They form a complex social and cultural framework that sustains governance, justice, health, and spiritual life, while preserving the tribe's heritage and identity.

Think of them as a framework of duties, roles, and relational ties that keep the tribe's culture alive and its people connected.

Importantly, the Ho-Chunk clan system has no hierarchy—no clan is considered above another. Instead, the structure emphasizes balance, mutual respect, and the interdependence of all members. This equality reflects the Ho-Chunk worldview, where harmony within the community is valued over rank or status.

Each month we will introduce one of the twelve clans and discuss some of the responsibilities, and how each clan plays a significant role in Ho-Chunk culture.

This month is June – Ma hina'u wira – Earth Cultivating Moon. In this article, the clan spot light will discuss one of the Sky Clans: Wakaja Hikikarac – Thunder Clan.

The Clan Role of the Wakaja Hikikarac (Thunder Clan) is that of a Civil Chief or leader, that has a crucial role in governance, community decision-making, mediation, caregiving, and have strong connections to the weather to ensure the balance in nature.

The Thunder Clan hold the responsibilities for civic duties, maintain law and order, are emissaries of the Sky People when it pertains to interactions with other clans and in ceremonial culture, as well as setting example of ethical conduct and upholding the values of the Ho-Chunk people.

Wakaja Hikikarac are significant to en-

uring the welfare of the tribe, maintaining the peace, and upholding the balance of nature and society.

Like the Wakaja Hikikarac, every clan has a designated role in preserving culture and contributing to the community's collective welfare:

### 1. Governance and Justice

Each clan has a defined place in the community's leadership structure. They work together to make decisions, resolve disputes, and uphold laws. This ensures that governance is not top-down but shared and balanced, with each clan contributing its voice and perspective.

### 2. Health and Well-being

Clans also play a role in maintaining physical and spiritual health. They may oversee healing practices, care for elders, and ensure that community members are supported in times of illness or hardship. This reflects a holistic view of health — tied to both body and spirit.

### 3. Spiritual Life

Spirituality in the Ho-Chunk worldview is deeply connected to the land, ancestors, and community. The clans help preserve traditions, ceremonies, and teachings, ensuring that cultural knowledge is passed down through generations.

### 4. Cultural Preservation

By keeping each clan's identity, history, and responsibilities alive, the system acts as a guardian of heritage. It prevents cultural erosion and keeps the Ho-Chunk people's unique identity strong.

### 5. Social Cohesion

The clans create a sense of belonging and mutual responsibility. Members know their role in the larger community, which fosters cooperation, respect, and unity.

In short, the Twelve Clans are like a living map of the Ho-Chunk people's social fabric — a framework that governs how people live, work, heal, and honor their traditions, while keeping the tribe's identity intact. It's not just about lineage; it's about shared purpose, balance, and continuity.

By January Bird, Angel Decora Museum and Research Center



# Winnebago Powwow Wilderness Walk/Run

## 1 MILE FUN WALK, 5K WALK/RUN & 7 MILE CHALLENGE

### July 25, 2026

**Veterans Memorial Park**  
 1¼ mile east of Winnebago, NE

Registration: **6:45-7:45AM** | Race Starts at: **8:00AM**  
 Winners Announced at: **11:00AM**

**ALL AGES WELCOME**

Winners will be posted on Facebook and can collect medals at the Pow Wow Walk/Run Stand.

Scan to Sign-Up:



Contact: **402-745-3955**

SPONSORED BY: 

# HAKEWE

## Question of the Issue:

**“With a new radio station coming soon, what was your favorite Radio Show back in the day growing up?”**

**GARAN:** It was an Omaha station called Hot 97.1 with the drive at 5 pm featuring DJ Bizzy Bee! He would DJ live and mix all the hype up songs. Then I remembered he opened the show up for Ludacris when he came to Sioux City. Him and Ludacris's DJ had a beef on who was playing the better songs. Shoot DJ Bizzy Bee tore him up!!!

**KEVIN:** I just remember it was on Z98 it was a rock show.

**CHRISTINA:** I don't recall a favorite radio show growing up. However, I do remember the Friday night music videos that would come on around midnight, I think. I would be fighting my sleep to see what new videos were on.

**BETHANI:** I am going with Gayla on this one for Delilah on KG95. I always thought her voice sounded soothing; it's one of those voices you just hear and know who it is, plus she gives pretty good advice!

**TYLER:** I can't say that I have a popular radio show growing up. I think Sirius XM came out when I was growing up though lol

**GAYLA:** My favorite radio show is tied between “Delilah” and “The Quiet Storm”. I remember Delilah aired on KG95 and she played a lot of love songs and callers would send dedications and share stories. The Quiet Storm aired on a station out of Omaha, but I can't remember which one. It barely came in here in Winnebago, but I would still tune in. They played R&B and slow jams though! Very relaxing overall. I looked forward to these shows every week 'cos we didn't have the luxury of SiriusXM or Spotify back then!

**QUINCE:** 106.3FM KBWH “The Miracle Station” Friday and Saturday Nights from 8 to 10, they played new hip hop and remixed it all. Poppa Gator was the name of the DJ. He DJ'd 1986 Homecoming in Bago. Idk how they got Poppa Gator. But the school got him...

**AYDEN:** I never really give any mind to what radio station would play back then. It was usually just what ever my parents put on, so a lot of classic rock. But when I played GTA 5 for the first time, I played blonded los santos radio 97.8 fm, it would play just bangers all day. This was my first time choosing what I wanted to listen too. So that would be my favorite radio show.

## Pride Month with Winnebago Two-Spirit



By Bethani Redhorn

[Winnebago, NE] For Winnebago Two-Spirit, Pride Month is not just a seasonal celebration, but a vital part of the year-round mission to reeducate and support the local community. Organization President Curtis Alexander Jr. emphasizes that their core focus is restoring old traditional ways. The term “two-spirit” itself is not a traditional Ho-Chunk term, but a universal Pan-Indian concept created by the Ojibway in the 1990's to help indigenous people incorporate their diverse identities back into their language and heritage. Led by Alexander, Vice-President Jesse Lame, and Treasurer Emmy Scott, the non-profit group is pushing through recent regional funding declines and political shifts to bring critical, heart-wrenching, and necessary conversations to the forefront of the community.

This June, Winnebago Two-Spirit is centering its advocacy on three major themes that deeply impacted the community last year: conversations around transgender individuals, people of color, and immigration. Their lineup of local Pride Month events included a gender-affirming care conversation and community resource booth day on June 3<sup>rd</sup>; a screening of Being Thunder on June 16<sup>th</sup>, a documentary following a transgender individual who travels North America performing the traditional fancy dance at various powwows; A Night with Vanessa at the auditorium on June 17<sup>th</sup> featuring a community conversation with the former host of their first drag show; on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, a collaborative historical presentation with the South Sioux City public library titled “Unearthing History,” which will explore Two-Spirit anthropology and

archaeology history; and the annual Pride Drag Show on June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Whirling Thunder Wellness Center Gym, featuring community resource booths and a special appearance by the Appleseed Project.

In addition to hosting local events, the organization is utilizing grants from the Omaha Foundation's Neighborhood Project LGBTQIA fund to travel and establish visibility at various pride festivals across the region, including Iowa City, Lincoln, and Hastings, with plans for a booth at the annual homecoming celebration in July. The organization's work extends far beyond June. As the seasons shift, Winnebago Two-Spirit transitions into a variety of cultural and community gatherings. The fall is filled with lots of programming from the Yasquatch in September which is held annually on the weekend before Native American Day, and family fun Halloween themed events into the month of October.

Despite facing a challenging political climate where corporate sponsorships and regional diversity initiatives face erasure, the leadership at Winnebago Two-Spirit remains resilient. For those navigating their own identities, Alexander shares encouragement, “everybody has to come to terms with who they are in their own time. You may fear it because it is pretty scary, but there is also love. And that's the biggest thing, that you will find people who know you and love you for who you are, and not for the façade you're building up. This is your life and you deserve to be happy.” To get involved, stay updated, or find more details on upcoming events, visit the official Winnebago Two-Spirit Facebook page at: facebook.com/WinnebagoTwoSpiritPride



**Omaha Community Foundation**

Growing good, together.



## NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

— We Will Be Temporarily Closed —

**JUNE 22 - JUNE 26**

Our staff will be attending the 37th Annual NAFDPIR Conference to learn, network, and gather resources to better serve our community.

**Please plan ahead for food pickups prior to the closure dates.**

**\*\*Regular services will resume on June 29th.\*\***

Email: food@winnebagotribe.com  
Phone: (402) 878-2877  
Toll Free: (833) 568-5989

## WINNEBAGO POWWOW:

160th Annual Homecoming Celebration

**July 23-26**

• 33 DAYS • 4 WEEKS, 5 DAYS •  
• 2 TRIBAL PAY DATES •

## 2026 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Hello, my name is Ayden Armell. I am enrolled in the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and a member of the Bear Clan. My father is James Armell, and my mother is Esther Mercer. I'm a Class of 2026 Alumni at Winnebago Public School.

I worked as an apprentice in the spring of 2026. I began my work with Baby BisonBeats, learning how to use the radio equipment, then learned voice overs and began the pilot episode of Voices of Tomorrow. During my last year of high school, I played football and wrestled.

As of now, I'm working as a radio host for Big Voice Radio under the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Currently, I'm working on my new season of Baby Bison Beats. I'm going to a Native storytelling workshop in Kansas later on to improve my skills. I also want to begin the premiere of the first season of Voices of Tomorrow again before I leave for school at Wayne State College for an art degree in the fall.

*Ayden Armell*



**BIG VOICE RADIO**  
**KWTN 100.9 FM**  
Official Radio Station of the  
Winnebago Tribe of  
Nebraska

# TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

...Con't. from pg. 4...

2026, CEO Report meeting minutes with corrections. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

May 28, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council Meeting minutes

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve May 28, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council Meeting minutes. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RATIFY FIVE SIGNATURES:

Approval to appoint Jaralyn Bear and Monica Cleveland to the Secretarial Election Board

Eugene DeCora motioned to ratify the five-signature approval to appoint Jaralyn Bear and Monica Cleveland to the Secretarial Election Board. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Ireta Frazier

VOTE: (3) yes (0) no (1) abstain, IF Motion carried.

Approval to nominate Tribal Council Member, Ireta Frazier, to serve on the Center for Indigenous Innovation and Health Tribal Advisory Committee

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to ratify the five-signature approval to nominate Tribal Council Member, Ireta Frazier, to serve on the Center for Indigenous Innovation and Health Tribal Advisory Committee. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Ireta Frazier

VOTE: (3) yes (0) no (1) abstain, IF Motion carried.

Approval of donation request for B.P. to attend her college graduation in Glendale, AZ for the amount of \$1000 to be paid out of the Tribal Council donations line item.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to ratify the five-signature approval of donation request for B.P. to attend her college graduation in Glendale, AZ for \$1000 to be paid out of the Tribal Council donations line item. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of fundraising donation match request for J.S. to play in the Cal Ripken Experience tournament, May 21-25, 2026, in Pigeon Forge, TN (baseball) Amount of \$570.00 out of Tribal Council donations

Eugene DeCora motioned to ratify the five-signature approval of fundraising donation match request for J.S. to play in the Cal Ripken Experience tournament, May 21-25, 2026, in Pigeon Forge, TN (baseball) Amount of \$570.00 out of Tribal Council donations. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approve resolution #26-126: Declaration of State of Emergency for the Winnebago Reservation Due to Severe Weather and Power Outages

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to ratify the five-signature adopting resolution #26-126: Declaration of State of Emergency for the Winnebago Reservation Due to Severe Weather and Power Outages. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Planning Department: Resolutions Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Fy 26 Agriculture & Range Project

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-134: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska FY 26 Agricultural & Range Project. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

FY 26 Winnebago Boys & Girls Club of the Hocak Nisoc Haci Charitable Giving Contributions

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-135: FY 26 Winnebago Boys & Girls Club of the Hocak Nisoc Haci Charitable Giving Contributions. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

WCHS: Resolution

Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System – Phase 2 Produce Prescription Pilot Program

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-136: Winnebago Comprehensive Health Care System – Phase 2 Prescription Pilot Program. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: none

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:

Donation match request – V.V.

[Rona in at 9:30 a.m.]

Presented by Ayden Littlegeorge and Viola Velasco.

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve a donation match request in the amount of \$1000.00 for travel to Louisiana to represent Nebraska for the Billy Michal Leadership Award. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Teresa Littlegeorge

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (1) abstain, TL Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Eugene DeCora motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 a.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA PHYSICAL RESOURCES REPORT June 8, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown  
Teresa Littlegeorge  
Rona Stealer  
Trey Blackhawk (v)  
Ireta Frazier  
Eugene DeCora  
Victoria Kitcheyan (in at 9:04 a.m.)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Fannie LaTray  
Autumn Nieman  
Oscar Canales  
Harvey Freemont  
Kellie Snow (v)  
Jewel Parker  
Christina Parker  
Brian Chamberlain  
Tyresha Romero (v)  
Danelle Smith (v)  
Tiffany Buchanan (v)  
Brittany Thomas  
Anna Berridge  
Gerry Lyons  
Madisyn Redhorn  
Laura Beshilas (v)  
Tatanka Petite (v)  
Anna Bess Preston (v)  
Jarold McWilliams  
Melania Berridge  
Jaralyn Bear (v)  
Virginia Snake-Bumann  
Darla LaPointe (v)  
Ricky Suarez

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

vacant  
vacant

*\*(v) indicates virtual attendance.*

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 9:02 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Secretary Littlegeorge offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Rona Stealer motioned to approve the agenda with additions. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria in at 9:05 a.m.]

LAND MANAGEMENT:

Homesite Resolution – I.W.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-138: REF: Homesite Lease – Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska – Iyana Warner. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Homesite Resolution – R.C.

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-139: REF: Homesite Lease – Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska – Robert Carbajal. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Business Lease – WCHS

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-140: REF: Business Lease, Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System – Equine Therapy. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria out at 9:09 a.m.]

PHYSICAL RESOURCES REPORT:

Monthly Report – Presented by Autumn Nieman and Brian Chamberlain

[Victoria in at 9:14 a.m.]

Ireta Frazier motioned to approve the Physical Resources Report as presented.

Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT:

Pesticide Enforcement – information only.

Properties Phase I and Phase II – information only.

Region 7 use of WTN Flag and Seal request.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the EPD request to send the Winnebago Tribal Seal to the Region 7 office. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Tribal Pesticide Program Council delegation.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the letter to the Executive Committee of the Tribal Pesticide Program Council delegating Virginia Snake-Bumann the EPD, Tribal Pesticide Circuit Rider. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Rental payment for EPA department.

[Victoria out at 9:55 a.m.]

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

Wildlife and Parks Well Assistance

(BIA FY26 Special Project Request)

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-141: Winnebago Wildlife & Parks Water Well Assistance (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Request FY 2026). Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribe Heritage Foods Revitalization (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026)

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-142: Winnebago Tribe Heritage Foods Revitalization (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026). Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria in at 10:03 a.m.]

Winnebago Tribe Natural Spring Water Access and Roadway Improvement Project (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026)

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-143: Winnebago Tribe Natural Spring Water Access and Roadway Improvement Project (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026). Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribe Invasive Species/Noxious Weed Project (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026)

Rona Stealer motioned to adopt resolution #26-144: Winnebago Tribe Invasive Species/Noxious Weed Project (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Requests FY 2026). Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribe Enrollment Census (BIA Winnebago Agency Special Project Funding Request FY 2026)

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-145: Winnebago Tribe Enrollment Census (BIA Winnebago Agency

Special Project Funding Request FY 2026). Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

FY 26-27 Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP) Educare Winnebago

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-146: FY 26-27 Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP) Educare Winnebago. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribal Farms Greenhouse Restoration Project (BIA Carry Over funds Request FY 26)

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to adopt resolution #26-147: Winnebago Tribal Farms Greenhouse Restoration Project (BIA Carry Over funds Request FY 26). Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

FY2026 – Historic Preservation Fund – Annual Tribal Historic Preservation Office Grants

Eugene DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-148: FY2026 – Historic Preservation Fund – Annual Tribal Historic Preservation Office Grants. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS: National Laboratory of the Rockies – Tribal Strategic Energy Planning Introduction and presentation. – Laura Beshilas.

[Teresa out at 10:21 a.m., in at 10:24 a.m.]

[Eugene out at 10:21 a.m., in at 10:24 a.m.]

[Teresa out at 11:01 am., in at 11:04 a.m.]

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to authorize the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska to engage in the Tribal Strategic Energy Planning with the National Laboratory of the Rockies. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Election Board Selection

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the randomly selected Election Board Members

Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Applicants Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the (7) seven applicants to be on the eligible voters list.

Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

2026 DRAFT Eligible Voters List

[Victoria out at 11:25 a.m.]

[Trey out at 11:25 a.m.]

Rona Stealer motioned to approve the 2026 DRAFT Eligible Voters List. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Eugene DeCora motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:26 a.m. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

**Mājanahą waš'ųnaje?**  
(maw-ja-nah-hah-wah-sh-oo-nah-jay)  
**How old are you?**

**Mā [age] wā'ųaje ną.**  
(mah- [age] - wah-oo-ah-jay-nah)  
**I am [age] years old.**

HoChunk Renaissance  
Language Preservation Program

# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Meeting of the Board of Winnebago Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 13, 2026 at 4:58 p.m. in the board room at the Winnebago Public Schools, Highways 77 & 75, Winnebago, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent:

Present: Nilah Solomon, Crystal Ross, Greg Bass III, Kiana Lewis, Kristine Earth

Absent: Teresa Littlegeorge (excused)

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1.Receiving of Delegations: Troy Geigling, Mammoth Company

### 2. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:48 p.m. by Vice-President Greg Bass III, also President Bass III states, "MEMBERS OF THE BOARD RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE MEETING SHOWING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING INCLUDING THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED. NOTICE OF THE MEETING WAS PUBLISHED BY POSTING ON THE OFFICE DOOR AND THREE OTHER PLACES." A COMPLETE COPY OF THE OPEN MEETING ACT IS POSTED ON THE SOUTH WALL.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Solomon  
Second: Earth  
Discussion: None  
Voting for: Ross, Solomon, Earth, Lewis, Bass III  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

### 4. Business Affairs

4-1. Approve minutes of March 9, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion: Earth  
Second: Lewis  
Discussion: None  
Voting for: Solomon, Earth, Lewis, Bass III, Ross  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

1.

April 13, 2026 School Board Meeting

4-2. Approve accounts payable in the amount of \$265,175.45, petty cash account/ treasurer's report.

Motion: Ross  
Second: Earth  
Discussion: accounts payable  
Voting For: Earth, Lewis, Bass III, Ross, Solomon  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

4-3. Approve Facilities WEFLC: \$0.00

No action needed

Motion:  
Second:  
Discussion: update  
Voting For:  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent:  
Motion Carried: (0-0-0-0)

4-4. Approve purchase of Chromebooks (\$116,577.00)

Motion: Lewis  
Second: Ross  
Discussion: Chromebooks with cases  
Voting For: Lewis, Bass III, Ross, Solomon, Earth  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

4-5. Approve Camera replacements & Upgrades (\$30,000.00)

Motion: Earth  
Second: Lewis  
Discussion: installation  
Voting For: Bass III, Ross, Solomon, Earth, Lewis  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

4-5. Approve/Discuss Turf Field Replacement (approx. \$750,000.00 total)

Motion: Ross  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: installation dates, completion  
Voting For: Ross, Solomon, Earth, Lewis,  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: Bass III  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (4-0-1-1)

2.

April 13, 2026 School Board Meeting

### 5. New Business

5-1. Approve Senior Class Graduates for Class of 2026

Motion: Lewis  
Second: Earth  
Discussion: Graduation Day, walking/not walking  
Voting For: Solomon, Earth, Lewis, Bass III, Ross  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-2. Approve/Discuss-Updated Wellness Policy (Language & Goals)

Motion: Earth  
Second: Lewis  
Discussion: changes  
Voting For: Earth, Lewis, Bass III, Ross, Solomon  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-3. 5 Year Visit Update from March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>

Teresa Littlegeorge 6:13 p.m.

5-4. Approve Hires of 1. Kaitlyn Nelsen (Math) and 2. Deanna Hightree (Science)

Motion: Littlegeorge  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: qualifications, previous school  
Voting For: Lewis, Bass III, Ross, Solomon, Earth, Littlegeorge  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Littlegeorge  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

Kristine Earth out at 6:20 p.m.

### 7. Reports

#### 1. Superintendent:

- Winnebago Resource Center is ready to occupy/Set date for Opening/Blessing (4/30/26)
- JAG Nebraska applicant
- Strategic Planning starting in May (waiting for 5 year visit report, we can start prior to NDE)
- Areas of Expansion-Public Relations/Communications & I.T.

#### 2. Administrative Reports

- Elementary Principal
- High School Principal
- Special Education Director
- Dean of Students
- Safety/Athletic Director
- Staff Presentation

3.

April 13, 2026 Board Meeting

### 7. Public Comment (No Board Discussion)

8. Closed Session 84-1410 Enter Motion 7:51 p.m.

Exit Session at 8:16p. m.

To discuss: 1. Potential Legal Issues 2. Employee Disciplinary Action

Motion: Littlegeorge  
Second: Solomon  
Voting For: Bass III, Ross  
Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis

Motion:Solomon  
Second: Ross  
Voting For: Ross, Solomon  
Littlegeorge,Lewis,Bass III  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: None  
Motion Carried (5-0-0-1)

Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: None  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

### 9. Adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by:  
Crystal Ross, Secretary  
Winnebago Board of Education*

# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Meeting of the Board of Winnebago Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 4:52 p.m. in the board room at the Winnebago Public Schools, Highways 77 & 75, Winnebago, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent:

Present: Teresa Littlegeorge, Nilah Solomon, Crystal Ross, Kiana Lewis, Kristine Earth

Absent: Greg Bass III (excused) Kiana Lewis (in at 5:16 p.m.)

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

### 1. Receiving of Delegations:

#### 2. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:52 p.m. by President Teresa Littlegeorge, also President Littlegeorge states, "MEMBERS OF THE BOARD RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE MEETING SHOWING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING INCLUDING THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED. NOTICE OF THE MEETING WAS PUBLISHED BY POSTING ON THE OFFICE DOOR AND THREE OTHER PLACES." A COMPLETE COPY OF THE OPEN MEETING ACT IS POSTED ON THE SOUTH WALL.

### 3. Approval of Agenda with correction of the next meeting on June 8, 2026

Motion: Earth  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: None  
Voting for: Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

### 4. Business Affairs

#### 4-1. Approve minutes of April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion: Solomon  
Second: Earth  
Discussion: None  
Voting for: Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Earth  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

#### 1. May 11, 2026 School Board Meeting

#### 4-2. Approve accounts payable in the amount of \$1,172,700.76, petty cash account/ treasurer's report.

Motion: Ross  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: accounts payable  
Voting For: Solomon, Littlegeorge, Earth, Ross  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

#### 4-3. Approve Facilities WEFLC: \$53,446.00

Motion: Earth  
Second: Ross  
Discussion: final construction  
Voting For: Littlegeorge, Earth, Ross, Solomon  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

#### 4-4. Approve Payment of Emergency Electric Repair from December 2026

Motion: Earth  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: explanation of repairs  
Voting For: Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

### 5. New Business

#### 5-1. Approve Final Graduates for WPS Class of 2026

Motion: Solomon  
Second: Earth  
Discussion: Graduation  
Voting For: Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Earth  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III, Lewis  
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

#### 5-2. Presentation of 2026 Washington D.C. Academy Trip Report

Kiana Lewis in at 5:16 p.m.

#### 5-3. Discussion-Front entrance doors are magnetized and operable as locking vestibule

2. May 11, 2026 School Board Meeting  
5-4. Approve Boys and Girls Club Summer Facility Use Request only Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

Motion: Ross  
Second: Solomon  
Discussion: supervision  
Voting For: Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth, Ross  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

#### 5-5. Discussion- General WPS Facility Use Policy (attached)

#### 5-6. Discussion-Official NDE 5 Year Visit Report (attached)

#### 5-7. Approve-Remove Hearing Language in Non-Certified Handbook (page 20 email attached)

Motion: Ross  
Second: Lewis  
Discussion:  
Voting For: Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon  
Voting Against: None  
Not Voting: None  
Absent: Bass III  
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-2)

### 6. Reports

#### 1. Superintendent:

- a. Winnebago Resource Center blessing update  
b. Strategic Planning starting in June (8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> Board meeting at 12 p.m.)  
c. EOY @ Winn-A-Vegas Casino May 20<sup>th</sup>

#### 2. Administration Reports

- a. Elementary Principal  
b. High School Principal  
c. Special Education Director  
d. Dean of Students  
e. Safety/Athletic Director  
f. Staff Presentation

#### 7. Public Comment (No Board Discussion)

#### 8. Closed Session 84-1410 Enter Motion 6:32 p.m. Exit Session at 7:24 p.m.

To discuss: 1. Emergency Repairs 2. Open Positions 3. Per Diem Repayment

|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Motion: Lewis               | Motion: Ross                 |
| Second: Earth               | Second: Solomon              |
| Voting For: Lewis, Earth    | Voting For: Earth, Ross,     |
| Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge | Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis |
| Voting Against: None        | Voting Against: None         |
| Not Voting: None            | Not Voting: None             |
| Absent: Bass III            | Absent: Bass III             |
| Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)   | Motion Carried (5-0-0-1)     |

#### May 11, 2026 Board Meeting

### 9. Adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

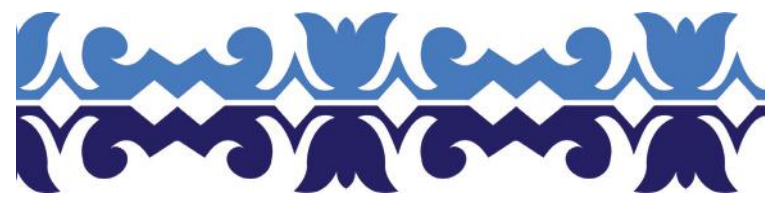
*Respectfully submitted by:*  
*Crystal Ross, Secretary*  
*Winnebago Board of Education*

## NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 17 WINNEBAGO, NEBRASKA

The regular meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of Thurston County School District 0017 (Winnebago Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska (the "District") will be held at 4:45 PM, on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 in the regular meeting place of the Board, the School Conference Room on Highway 77 & 75 in the Village of Winnebago, Nebraska. An agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection in the offices of the District Superintendent, located at Highway 77 & 75, 878-2224. The meeting will be open to the attendance of the public. If the meeting needs to be rescheduled, the 1<sup>st</sup> rescheduled date and time is Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:45p.m. and the 2<sup>nd</sup> rescheduled date and time will be Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.



# HCI INTERNSHIP



## 2026 INTERN WELCOME SPOTLIGHT



**Alexander George**

Alexander is from Winnebago, and an enrolled tribal member. He attends the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he is majoring in accounting. This summer, he is interning with our Accounting department. He hopes to gain real-world accounting experience by applying what he has learned in his courses to practical situations. He also looks forward to strengthening his technical and professional skills while learning more about how accounting supports business operations.



**Wallace Earth Jr.**

Wallace is from Winnebago, an enrolled member and part of the bear clan. He is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, where he is studying architectural engineering. Wallace is interning with Ho-Chunk Construction this summer. He looks forward to gaining insight into working in a corporate environment while learning more about how construction projects are planned, built, and budgeted through hands-on experience.



**Eliseo Nava**

Eliseo is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and belongs to the wolf clan. He recently graduated from the carpentry program at Little Priest Tribal College and is interning with Ho-Chunk Construction this summer. During the internship, he plans to gain more knowledge in the construction field, strengthen his time management skills, build professional connections, and continue creating work that benefits his people and community.



**Isaiah Snyder**

Isaiah is from Rosalie, NE., an enrolled Winnebago tribal member and part of the thunder clan. He recently graduated from Little Priest Tribal College with his associate's degree in computer information technology. This summer, he is interning with the IT department and hopes to continue expanding his knowledge of the IT field while applying his skills to help solve challenges within the department and organization.



**Junius Snowball**

Junius is from Winnebago, an enrolled tribal member and part of the bear clan. He is entering his second year at Little Priest Tribal College, where he is majoring in business. This summer, he is interning with our Community Development team and hopes to gain valuable experience and skills that support his future career. Junius shared that working with Ho-Chunk, Inc. has always been a dream of his, and he looks forward to learning from professionals who inspire his career goals.



**Logan Kinzler**

Logan is from Chesapeake Beach, Maryland, and is a senior at York College of Pennsylvania, where he is pursuing dual majors in mathematics and computer science. This summer, he is interning with All Native Group in Fairfax, VA. Through the internship, he hopes to gain practical experience developing informational dashboards, creating documentation, and building efficient data pipelines.



**Martin Ojeda**

Martin is from Omaha, NE., and recently graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with his bachelor's degree in finance. This summer, he is interning with WarHorse Gaming. Through the internship, he hopes to gain real-world business and leadership experience while learning more about how large organizations operate.



**Melaki George**

Melaki is from Winnebago, an enrolled tribal member, and part of the bear clan. This fall, Melaki will be a junior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in finance and agribusiness. He's placed with Ho-Chunk Farms this summer and hopes to gain more hands-on experience in a professional work environment while developing a stronger understanding of agribusiness operations and learning how he can use his knowledge to create positive opportunities for his community.



**Randall Nunez**

Randall is from Norfolk, NE., and an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska. He recently graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with his bachelor's degree in business management with a minor in Native American studies. This summer, he is interning with WarHorse Gaming. Randall looks forward to learning from leaders in Indian Country economic development while continuing to grow both personally and professionally.



**Ricky Suarez**

Ricky is from Winnebago, an enrolled tribal member, and is part of the wolf clan. He is a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in accounting. This summer, he is interning with our Community Impact & Engagement team and the Winnebago Tribe's Finance Department. He hopes to expand his knowledge of how accounting and financial management contribute to the success of tribally owned organizations, while applying what he has learned to his coursework and gaining practical experience in budgeting, reporting, and financial analysis.



**Tyler LaMere**

Tyler is from Winnebago and is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and a descendant of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. They are a senior at the University of South Dakota, majoring in Native American studies with a minor in social media marketing. This summer, they are interning with our Corporate Communications team. They hope to make a positive impact at Ho-Chunk, Inc. by developing effective communications strategies and creating quality content to add to their growing professional portfolio.



**Zayne Bassette**

Zayne is from Winnebago, an enrolled tribal member, and part of the water spirit clan. He recently completed his second year at Little Priest Tribal College, where he is majoring in business. This summer, he is interning with our Human Resources and Benefits department. Through the internship, he looks forward to exploring HR and Benefits fields and gaining a deeper understanding of the work that goes into supporting employees and organizational operations.

HCI INTERNSHIP



Sae Doxey

Sae is from Winnebago and an enrolled tribal member. Her Hocak name is Ha Me Ha Mani Winga (Walks against the Wind), and she is a member of the bear clan. She is also a descendant of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. She's entering her fourth year at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln studying graphic design. She is interning with Blue Earth Marketing and is looking forward to growing her graphic design experiences, strengthening her creative skills, and gaining new knowledge that will help her become an Indigenous designer dedicated to elevating Native entrepreneur voices through impact brand identities.



Sylvia Valentino

Sylvia is from Walthill, NE., an enrolled member of the Onedia Tribe of Wisconsin and a part of the turtle clan. She is also a descendant of the Umonhon Tribe of Nebraska. She is a senior at York University, majoring in psychology with a minor in business administration. This summer, she is placed with our Human Resources and Benefits departments. She is excited to learn more about employee relations, recruitment, and workplace communication while gaining hands-on experience in HR and Benefits. Sylvia also looks forward to strengthening her leadership, communication, and organizational skills throughout the internship.



Desia Kitcheyan

Desia is from Winnebago, an enrolled tribal member and a descendant of the bear clan. She is a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in interior design with minors in architecture and community & regional planning. Placed at Ho-Chunk Capital, Desia hopes to apply the skills and knowledge she gained throughout the academic year to real-world projects while continuing to grow both personally and professionally. She is excited to deepen her understanding of Indigenous design and community planning for tribal communities while strengthening her rendering, software, strategic thinking, and data analysis skills.



Shondeen Long

Shaúndíin or Shondeen (Shawn-deen) is park Hocak and Dine (Navajo). Her legal name means morning sunlight (morning blessings with sunlight). She is a descendant of the bear clan and her Hocak name is Naacgepiiwinga (Good heart woman). She also has a Diné name that is Asdzaan bahazonii (Friendly/Happy Woman). She is currently on the pre-law route and is majoring in political science with minors in philosophy and Native American studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and will graduate this year. This summer, she hopes to learn and grow with Flatwater Group and support multiple government contracting projects. She's also looking forward to gaining hands-on experience with procurement regulations, contract execution, and the legality issues faced in government contracting. The internship so far has deepened her interests and understanding of how Native-owned businesses engage in federal contracting.



HO-CHUNK  
INCORPORATED

2026 INTERN WELCOME SPOTLIGHT

THE 2026 WINNEBAGO POWWOW COMMITTEE IS NOW ACCEPTING BIDS FOR:

- **GROUNDSKEEPER** •  
GARBAGE PICK-UP
- **HEAD COOK** •
- **SOUND** •
- **SECURITY** •

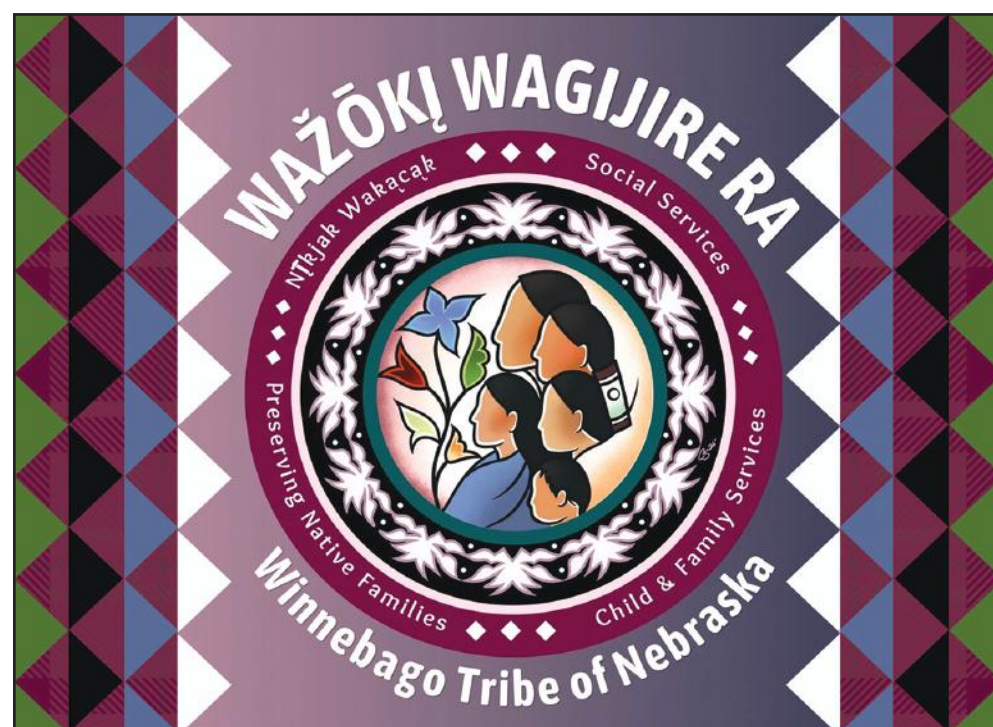
for the 160th Annual Homecoming Celebration

**DEADLINE IS:**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH 2026**

PLEASE EMAIL OR DROP OFF BIDS TO:  
[powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com)

Any questions, contact: [powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com) or (402) 878-2272



NĪKJAK WAKAČAK ANAĢA WAGIJIRE  
**GRAND OPENING CEREMONY**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24th, 2026

11:00am - 1:00pm

A light lunch will be provided

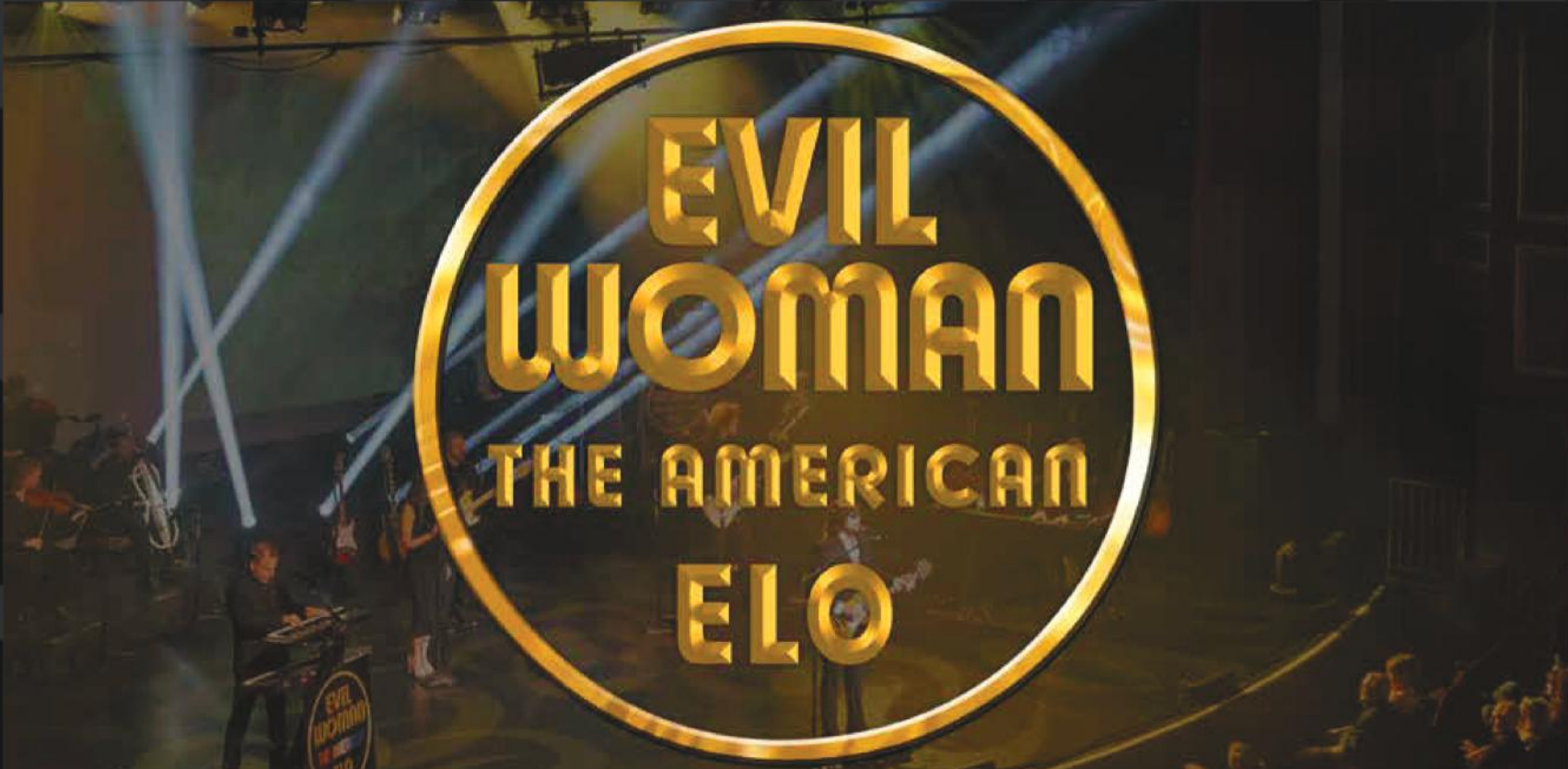


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