



Indian Affairs Advisory Committee

Kelly Inn – Saint Cloud, Minnesota

December 6th, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Heidi Doo- Kirk, Cook County
Dick Downham, Cass County
Gary Johnson, Yellow Medicine County
Priscilla Klabunde, Redwood County
Barbara Marschall, Scott County
Peter McLaughlin, Hennepin County

David Oslin, Mille Lacs County
Stephen Hallan, Pine County
Donald Skarie, Becker County
Timothy Sumner, Beltrami County
Karen Ahmann, Mahnomen County
Neal Gaalswyk, Cass County

GUESTS:

Keith Winger
John Berends, Yellow Medicine County
Scott McCollum, Mahnomen County
Julie Hanson Mahnomen County
David Geray, Mahnomen County
Thomas Proulx Carlton County
Angela Nordma, Leech Lake Band

- I. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Karen Ahmen, Chair
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Welcome and Introductions
 - Approval of Minutes

- II. Presentation on Tribal Sovereignty and the Legislative Process

Reid LeBeau – R. Reid LeBeau II is an attorney and lobbyist having represented tribes in Minnesota and South Dakota. Reid is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and grew up in Pierre, South Dakota. Reid graduated from the University of Minnesota-Morris in 2002 and is a 2005 cum laude graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. Reid currently serves as the Treasurer of the Indian Health Board of Minneapolis and is the founder of the Congressman Ben Reifel Memorial Scholarship.

Mr. LeBeau presented on the basis of tribal sovereignty and legislations that was advocated for in the previous legislative session, and how the tribes were able to work with counties to achieve common goals on specific legislation including the “autopsy bill.”

Mr. LeBeau also gave his perspective on the political landscape on the upcoming session.

- III. County Roles and Responsibilities and the Tribal Courts
Tom Burke- Health and Human Services Director Aitkin County
Julie Hanson, Social Services Director, Mahnommen County

Mr. Burke and Ms. Hanson discussed the roles and responsibilities of counties when social service decisions are made in a case being heard in tribal court.

MACSSA has commenced dialogue with DHS for to discuss, roles, costs if counties are held financially responsible for services resulting from tribal court decisions, and how counties will be impacted related to performance measures and state funding for cases over which they have no control.

- IV. "County share of State share of Tribal Tax agreements"
Robert Yochum- Cass County Administrator

Mr. Yochum presented a proposal that will be made by Cass County in the upcoming legislative session that will increase the county share of the state share for revenues collected by the state for casinos under Minn. Stat. 270C.19

This proposal does not require additional payment by the tribe but rather returns funds to local communities.

Cass County will continue to work on draft language to be sent to the Indian Affairs Advisory Committee to review and possible support.

- V. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
Chair:

A Motion was made by Keith Weigner from Beltrami County for the election of Commissioner Tim Sumner, Beltrami County as chair, a Second was made by Stephen Hallan, Pine County. Commissioner Hallan of Pine County moved that there be a unanimous ballot case for Commissioner Sumner which was seconded by Donald Skarie of Becker County. The motion passed.

Vice-Chair:

A motion was made by Commissioner David Oslin. Mille Lacs County to elect Commissioner Stephen Hallan as vice chair, a second was made by Neal Gaalswyk of Cass County who also moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for Commissioner Hallan as Vice-Chair, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Heidi Doo-Kirk, Cook County.

- VI. ADJOURN