

TREATY RIGHTS, NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

We as members of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and members of the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee, in order to organize for our common good, to support the governing of ourselves under our own laws, to foster our tribal culture, to protect our homeland, to conserve, develop, and protect our treaty rights with the federal government, do hereby establish the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee as a constitutional committee and an advisory group to recommend policy to the Tribal Council for action as specified under Article X, Section 2 and Article XI, Section 2 of the Tribal constitution do hereby establish the following by-laws.

ARTICLE I NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Power and Authority of the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee

Power and authority for the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee is delegated to the Committee by the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to recommend policy for the management and conservation of natural resources, the environment and the protection of Treaty Rights as specified by the Tribal Council and the Tribal Constitution. The Committee will comply with all Tribal policy the Tribal Council has established.

Advisory Groups/Subcommittees - The Natural Resource and Environmental Committee may provide for advisory groups or subcommittees. Each group or committee shall advise the Committee and shall have such powers and perform such duties or functions, not inconsistent with law, as may be set forth for it by the Committee. Appointments to and the filling of vacancies of such groups or committees shall be the responsibility of the Committee Chairperson unless the Committee provides otherwise. Any action by any such group shall be reported to the Committee at its next meeting after such action.

Number Election and Term of Office of the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee.

The Natural Resource and Environmental Committee (hereinafter referred to as Committee) shall be composed of a minimum of five (5) members at large and/or the maximum number allowed by the GTB committee procedures act.

Composition of the Committee shall include Tribal members, a Tribal Council member who will serve as Chair and one appointed Tribal Council member as Vice Chair.

Tribal Council member(s) serving on the Committee, who loses an election, is recalled, resigns or is removed from office, shall relinquish his or her membership on the committee unless re-appointed as member-at-large. Staff of the Natural Resource Department and Conservation employees shall act in an advisory capacity only. The Conservation Captain and/or designee and the Natural Resource Department Manager and/or designee will serve as ex officio member(s) of the Committee.

Each Committee member shall hold office for a term of four (4) years. The term of each member shall be specified as the time of his/her selection, and each member shall hold office until his/her successor is selected.

Committee members shall be appointed/reappointed and approved by the Tribal Council as needed to carry out the functions of the Committee as required.

Resignation or Removal

Any member may, by notice in writing to the committee, resign at any time.

Any member may be recommended for removal from the committee for just cause upon review and by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the committee.

Absence without reasonable cause for three consecutive Committee meetings.

Repeated violations (three or more) of the Great Lakes/Inland Regulations.

Vacancies

In the event of resignation or removal the Committee shall advertise the vacancy (ies) immediately in the GTB Newsletter. Any interested Tribal Member may request in writing his/her interest in serving on the committee. The request shall be voted on by the committee and recommended to Tribal Council for appointment. The vacancy shall be filled as soon as possible after the former member's departure.

Quorum and Transaction of Business

A majority of Committee members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum is not present within the first 30 minutes the meeting will be cancelled unless notification is made that a member will be late. The act of a

majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Committee.

Action to be recommended to the Tribal Council requires a majority vote of Committee members, notwithstanding abstentions. The Chair shall only vote to break a tie.

In the event an issue must be acted on immediately and a meeting cannot take place a telephone poll may be taken. The Recording Secretary shall contact all members of the Committee within a 24-hour period. If a Committee member cannot be contacted within the 24-hour period, they shall be considered absent. The Recording Secretary shall make every attempt to contact each member of the Committee. All votes remain confidential until the polling is complete.

There shall be no voting by proxy.

Any Committee member who disagrees with the Committee's recommendation may make a written minority report to the Tribal Council outlining their opposition to the recommendation.

Annual Membership Meeting

The Committee Chairperson or appointee shall highlight the Committee activities at the Annual Membership meeting.

Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held at such times and places as the Committee determines. The Recording Secretary shall give notice of each meeting to Committee members, associated administrative staff and interested Tribal Members. All meetings are open to Tribal members.

Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chairperson or any two members and shall be held at such times and places as may be specified in such call. A 24-hour notice must be given to all members of the Committee. The Recording Secretary shall make every attempt to contact each member of the Committee.

Compensation

Committee members not employed by the Tribal Government shall receive a stipend as established by Tribal Council. Committee members who phone-in due to extenuating circumstances, to participate, are eligible for stipends as determined by the Committee and must be approved prior to the scheduled meeting.

Travel

Committee members who travel on Committee related business must have the travel approved by the Committee and/or Chairperson prior to the travel and follow all applicable GTB policies and procedures.

Expenses

Committee members may submit receipts for consideration of reimbursement to the Natural Resource Department Manager.

ARTICLE II OFFICERS

Election

The officers of this Committee shall be a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. Officers shall be appointed by Tribal Council and shall hold office until their term is expired.

Duties

The officers of this Committee shall have such authority and perform such duties as are customarily incident to their respective offices and such other and further duties as from time to time required by the Committee.

Chairperson – The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Committee unless absent in which case the Vice-Chairperson shall preside.

The Chairperson or designee shall be authorized to sign on behalf of the Committee all legal instruments as approved by the Committee.

The Chairperson or designee shall act as the official spokesperson for the Committee unless so delegated by the Tribal Council.

The Chairperson or designee shall represent the Committee at all Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority meetings wherever and whenever designated. Information obtained at these meetings shall be relayed to Committee members

The Chairperson or designee shall attend any special meetings; court hearings that relate to Committee issues.

The Chairperson or designee shall report to the Tribal Council the Committee activities at monthly meetings.

Vice Chairperson – The Vice Chairperson shall conduct all meetings in the absence of the Chair or other duties as delegated by the Chair.

Recording Secretary – The Recording Secretary of the Committee shall be staff of the Natural Resource Department. Records kept by the secretary are described in Article V of these by-laws.

ARTICLE III FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Committee shall be the twelve-month period ending on the same day that conforms with the Tribal Government fiscal year.

ARTICLE IV CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A Committee member having a conflict of interest or a conflict of responsibility on any matter involving the conservation of the Tribe (and any other business or person) shall refrain from voting on such matter. No Committee member or officer shall use his or her position as a member or officer of the Committee for his/her own direct or indirect personal and/or financial gain.

ARTICLE V RECORD OF THE NATURAL RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Recording Secretary of the Committee shall maintain all minutes of all Committee meetings. An up to date record of the names, addresses, telephone numbers and date of appointment shall be kept on file with the Recording Secretary. It shall be the duty of each member to furnish the Secretary of the Committee with his/her address and to report promptly upon becoming such to furnish the Secretary of the Committee with his/her address and to report promptly to the Secretary any change in his/her address. Upon the termination of any Committee member for any cause, the date of termination and the facts relating thereto shall be recorded.

Minutes of all meetings shall be made available and will include all resolutions made and disposition of each motion. These and all other records of the Committee shall be kept at the Natural Resource Department.

ARTICLE VI AGENDA

Agenda items shall be submitted through a NREC Agenda Request form to the Recording Secretary five business days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting and must include documentation for Committee members review. If an agenda item needs to be added to

the NREC Agenda after the submission deadline the late submission request must be approved by the NREC Chairperson or if the NREC Chairperson is not available the request must be approved by the Vice-Chairperson. All Committee meetings shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure, i.e., Roberts Rules of Order.

Agenda Format

- I. Call meeting To Order
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
 - C. Approval of minutes
 - D. Staff reports
- II. Old Business
- III. New Business
- IV. Open Forum
- V. Closed
- VI. Adjourn
- VII. Date of next meeting

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

These Committee By-Laws may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members then in office at a regular meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose provided that a seven (7) day notice be given as to the intent to amend these By-Laws.

APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE By-Laws in the form submitted are hereby approved and adopted as the By-Laws of and the Committee Recording Secretary is hereby instructed to forward said By-Laws to the Tribal Council for approval with the records of the Natural Resource and Environmental Committee.

5-30-11
Date of Recommendation

Brian S. Napont
Chairperson, Natural Resource and
Environmental Committee

for: Jandra T. Little
Tribal Chairperson

Greg M. Lee
Tribal Council Secretary