

Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them.

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin



UGWA DEMOLUH YATEKE

Phone: 869-2771



Oneida, WI 54155

*Approved as
Regular
Meeting 2-7-83*

SPECIAL MEETING

January 20, 1983

Meeting called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chairman.

Present: Purcell Powless, Norbert Hill, Kathy Hughes, Gordon McLester, Lloyd Powless, Mark Powless, Tony Benson, Loretta Metoxen.

Excuse: Lois Powless

Others: Tony Utschig, Joe Villagomez

DISCUSSION ON CLARIFICATION OF THE ROLE OF THE HEALTH BOARD

The Business Committee discussed the clarification of the role of the Health Board. The Business Committee agreed that a notice be drafted telling the Health Board to cease functioning as an Oneida Health Board. The following memo was written to present to the Health Board explaining why this action was taken:

Purpose of Attached Resolution Regarding the Clarification of the Role of the Health Board (Memo dated 1/20/83)

As we are all aware, a serious conflict has existed between the Oneida Health Board and the Oneida Health Center Director for quite some time. Recently, however, this conflict has resulted in serious Health Center morale problems because the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that Health Center professional staff have been forced to become involved in this problem.

The purpose of the Oneida Health Center is to provide health services to our Oneida people. This problem has grown to the extent that it is now resulting in a serious negative impact on the delivery of services at the Health Center and is jeopardizing the continued delivery of these vital health services. Thus, the Business Committee was obligated to take the necessary action of adopting the attached resolution on behalf of the Oneida General Tribal Council.

The attached resolution specifies the corrective action to be taken. Thus, the Business Committee feels that this action will provide a

long term solution to this problem and guarantee the continued delivery of vitally needed health services to our people.

RESOLUTION NO. 1-20-83-A

WHEREAS, the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the responsibility to create sub-organizations within the Oneida governing structure; and, WHEREAS, the Oneida Business Committee in 1974, created the Oneida Health Board for the purpose of setting health policies for the Oneida Tribe in the operation of the Oneida Health Center; and, WHEREAS, revision of the Resolution has been determined by the Oneida Business Committee and by the Oneida Health Board to be necessary to clarify:

- (1) Roles and responsibilities of the Oneida Health Board
- (2) Communications between the Oneida Health Board and the Oneida Health Center personnel
- (3) Policies and Procedures existing and in practice at the Oneida Health Center are to be consistent with all other policies and procedures directed by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and,

WHEREAS, communications, employee and patient morale at the Oneida Health Center have fallen to intolerable levels, due to lack of clarification of the above mentioned policies and procedures; and, WHEREAS, a resolution is currently being developed which clarifies the above mentioned functions of the Oneida Health Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida Health Board and all individual Health Board members are hereby directed to cease functioning as an Oneida Health Board until a resolution is enacted which defines the above mentioned functions of the Oneida Health Board

Mark made a motion to adopt the Resolution and these policies and procedures are to be developed no later than April 1, 1983. Loretta seconded. Motion Carried.

Mark made a motion to approve the memo to the Oneida Health Board of January 20 1983 and that these materials be sent out in the Kalihwisaks. Norbert seconded Motion Carried.

RESIGNATION OF TED WHITE, HEALTH CENTER DIRECTOR

Tony Utschig presented the following resignation of Ted White:

"As you well know, it has always been my intention to serve the Tribe in any capacity that would be beneficial to the whole community. Also, it has been my intent to retire for several months and I have expressed this to you and others on several different occasions.

Therefore, after reviewing the present operations of the Health Center and feeling very confident in the present staff and the quality of services that can be continued to be delivered, I, hereby, submit my resignation as Health Administrator to be effective no later than April 1, 1983. I am extending this period of time so that you and the Business Committee can find an adequate replacement for me.

Sincerely,
Ted White
Health Center Administrator

Lloyd moved to accept the resignation of Ted White. Tony Seconded. Motion Carried.

PRESS RELEASE REGARDING SECRETARY OF INTERIOR JAMES WATT

The following press release was reviewed in response to remarks made by Secretary Watt on January 18, 1983.

PRESS RELEASE

The Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin have found it necessary to respond to remarks made by Secretary Watt on January 18, 1983. After consideration of the matter, the Oneida Tribe is demanding that Secretary Watt be fired immediately, without delay, and furthermore ask for the resignation of President Reagan. As we understand, the Secretary of Interior James Watt speaks for the Reagan Administration and reflects the views of the President and his administrative policies.

Other reasons for this are that Mr. Watt is a representative of the U.S. Trustee who discretionary responsibilities immediately affect the lives of Indian people on Reservations and Indian communities in which they live. While the remarks were comments on the results of socialism, the underlying implication and attitude displayed by these remarks cannot be tolerated.

For many years, Indian people have had to contend with policies of the U.S. that were designed to create the very problems that Mr. Watt cited. The social problems which he listed are not unique to Reservations of Indian communities, but are, in fact, problems for nations throughout the world. Moreover, the incidents of these and many other problems can be traced to the policies fostered by the U. S. Through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service. Secretary Watt's remarks are cynical and reflect a blatant, dehumanized attitude toward Indian people and bring to mind the termination policies of the Federal government in the 1950's. The assumption that Indians should be forced to integrate into American system flies into the face of the Secretary's statements of the B.I.A., self-determination and could not be any more contradictory.

It is true that the Federal Government has been actively involved directing more and more aspects of affecting lives of Indians on reservations. A reading of current materials on Indians would support some of the factual contentions of Mr. Watt. However, to cite this list of horrors and then to impune Indian people in the process is the rankest kind of bigotry.

The comprehensive policies of Mr. Watt, as expressed by his actions and statements, show that he is dedicated to the exploitation of what he considers federal lands. His concept of federal lands includes the Reservations of federally recognized Indian tribes. Thus, though his statements shock the conscience of decent honest people, he uses the same statements to justify the right of federal government to control energy, water and other Indian resources, valued in billions of dollars. The water rights of Indians in western states has been a critical issue for Indian governments seeking self-determination and which the policies of Secretary Watt's administration has directly and deliberately undermined through failure to assist tribes in their attempts to secure water rights guaranteed by their treaties and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court

The recent attempts to re-align and re-organize the Bureau for economic reasons have been soundly and unanimously rejected by Indian governments throughout the United States. Furthermore, it has not been general publicized that changes to the 638 self-determination grants to Indian tribes have become more stringent with more and more controls and bureaucracy being placed in the hands of the Secretary to the detriment of Indian governments and Indian people

In the areas of land claims as well, Indians have had to file suit in the Washington Federal District Court against Mr. Watt in order to protect valid land claims, and to prevent the arbitrary, administrative determination that these claims are without merit. The court in that case ordered the federal government to initiate corrective legislation, which has since occurred, or to file protective lawsuits on behalf of all Indians making claims. For these reasons, we feel that the presence of Mr. Watt, as one of the so-called trustees of the U. S., can only serve to discourage Indian people further from actively participating in their governments and their own self-determined efforts for economic control of the reservations.

The emotional damage that Mr. Watt has inflicted on Indian people is not so extensive as might be expected. Knowledgeable Indian people have been aware that the policies of Mr. Watt regarding Indian people are not only cynical, but actively oppose true self-determination. The ultimate insult of these remarks are not in the emotional response they have generated in the Indian reservations and communities, but in Mr. Watt's willingness to publicly declare this de facto policy.

In an earlier administration, Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz made derogatory racial remarks about black people. The outrage of the U. S. demanded and received his resignation. The remarks of Mr. Watt here are even more damning to him and President Ronald Reagan. The outrage of American Indian people should be shared by all decent, and fair American citizens.

President Reagan and Mr. Watt should be removed immediately

Norbert Hill moved to approve this press release. Mark seconded. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION ON WATT'S RESIGNATION #1-20-83-AA

Mark Powless made a motion to adopt the following resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 1-20-83-AA

WHEREAS, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin is a Federal

Treaty Tribe and is federally recognized by the United States; and, WHEREAS, the governmental relationship between the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and the United States exists through the administration of the Department of Interior and where the legal relationship between the Department of Interior by its Secretary, appointed by President Reagan and approved by both houses of U. S. Congress, is an indispensable party to continue good relations between the Oneida government and the United States; and, WHEREAS, on January 18, 1983 in a publically televised interview, Secretary of Interior James Watt made public statements which falsely portray the social conditions of American Indians residing on their own lands; and, WHEREAS, these public statements have damaged the credibility of Indian Tribal Governments by the very "trustee" whose responsibility it is to assist in their governing functions. These statements have undermined and interfere with the good relations that Tribes have maintained with local governments, state governments and other organizations with which Tribes do business. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin hereby demand the immediate resignation and removal of U. S. Secretary of Interior, James Watt. NOW THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin hereby demand the immediate resignation and removal of U. S. President Ronald Reagan. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that qualifications for this position as it relates to Indian affairs be developed by prior consultation with Indian governments.

with the corrections. Norbert Seconded. Motion Carried

At 4:30 P.M. the Chai man called a recess until 4:00 P.M

5:00 P.M.

Dr. Kaylor, Dr. O'Donnell, Dr. Wood and Nursing Director Dorothy Welke arrived. The Business Committee had called a meeting with the Doctors and Nurse Welke to reinforce our support of the health services they are providing, also to discuss problems that they may be having and also discuss the future plans for the successful operation of the Health Center. The main concern is the Public Law 95-394 and how they are to handle the services at the Health Center.

The Doctor's were told that the Law is effective immediately and the Health Center has to comply at this point. The Tribe will have the Law Office look into the Law about the services that will be provided at the Health Center.

Loretta made a motion to have the Law Office review the regulations of P. L. 97-394 and get the Indian Health Services's interpretation and to work with and inform Dr. Kaylor, Ted White, Tony Utschig and that they contact the Bemidji Program Office, Contract Health Services Branch, either Winnifred Anderson or George LeFebre Tony seconded. the motion. Motion Carried.

at 6:00 P.M. Norbert moved to recess until 6:30 P.M. Kathy seconded. Motion Carried.

6:30 P.M.

Meeting was called to order with the Health Board at the Health Center.

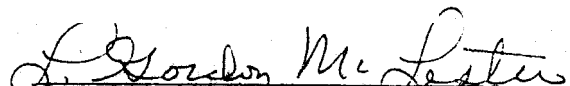
Business Committee members present: Purcell Powless, Norbert Hill, Kathy Hughes Gordon McLester, Mark Powless, Tony Benson, Lloyd Powless, Lois Powless, Loretta Metoxen.

Health Board present: Myron Smith, Cleo Cornelius, Pat Lassila, Prudy Doxtator, Debbie Skenandore, Mary Edna Greendeer.

The Chairman read the memo explaining the problems that have existed between the Health Board and the Health Director and also due to lack of clarification of policies and procedures. The Health Board is to cease functioning as an Oneida Health Board until a resolution is enacted defining the policies and procedures. The Health Board was told this action would be finished by April 1, 1983. The Health Board asked if they would be the same people that would serve on the Board after the new Policies and Procedures are developed. The Board was told yes, if they wanted to be on the Board after they review the Policies and Procedures. The Board asked that the P.L. 97-394 be addressed, they were told that the Law Office will be reviewing it. The Business Committee told the Health Board after the Policies and Procedures are set in place this should answer many of the questions they have at this time.

Norbert moved to recess at 8:30 P.M. Mark seconded. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



L. Gordon McLester, Tribal Secretary