



# Oneida Business Committee

Regular Meeting  
8:30 AM Wednesday, July 10, 2024  
BC Conference Room, 2nd floor, Norbert Hill Center

## Minutes

---

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**Present:** Chairman Tehassi Hill, Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens, Treasurer Lawrence Barton, Secretary Lisa Liggins, Council members: Jonas Hill, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson;

**Not Present:** Councilman Marlon Skenandore

**Arrived at:** n/a

**Others present:** Jo A. House, RaLinda Ninham-Lamberies, Mark W. Powless, Todd Vanden Heuvel (via Microsoft Teams<sup>1</sup>), Debra Powless (via Microsoft Teams), Kaylynn Gresham (via Microsoft Teams), Lisa Summers (via Microsoft Teams), Melanie Burkhart (via Microsoft Teams), Katsitsiyo Danforth (via Microsoft Teams), Loucinda Conway (via Microsoft Teams), Justin Nishimoto (via Microsoft Teams), Lisa Rauschenbach (via Microsoft Teams), Debra Danforth (via Microsoft Teams), Sidney White (via Microsoft Teams), Louise Cornelius, Chad Fuss, Chad Jordan, Grace Elliott (via Microsoft Teams), Diahanna King (via Microsoft Teams), Patricia King (via Microsoft Teams), Joyce King (via Microsoft Teams), Kristine Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Ann McCotter (via Microsoft Teams), Michelle Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Danelle Wilson (via Microsoft Teams), Fawn Billie (via Microsoft Teams), Fawn Cottrell (via Microsoft Teams), Janice Decorah (via Microsoft Teams), Rhiannon Metoxen (via Microsoft Teams), David Jordan (via Microsoft Teams), Maureen Perkins (via Microsoft Teams), Kristal Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Debbie Melchert (via Microsoft Teams), Clorissa Leeman (via Microsoft Teams), Rae Skenandore (via Microsoft Teams), Dana McLester (via Microsoft Teams), Tavia James-Charles (via Microsoft Teams), Kevin House (via Microsoft Teams), Carolyn Salutz (via Microsoft Teams), Lori Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Stacie Cutbank (via Microsoft Teams), Sacheen Lawrence (via Microsoft Teams), Fern Orié (via Microsoft Teams), Colleen Cornelius (via Microsoft Teams), Mary Graves (via Microsoft Teams), Lisa Duff (via Microsoft Teams), Gregory Matson (via Microsoft Teams), Connor Kestell (via Microsoft Teams), Shannon Davis (via Microsoft Teams), Carol Silva (via Microsoft Teams), Amber Martinez (via Microsoft Teams), Micheal Debraska (via Microsoft Teams), Harmony Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Cary Waubanascum (via Microsoft Teams), Warren Stevens, Derrick Denny (via Microsoft Teams), Peter Skenandore, Elaine Skenandore-Cornelius, Edward Delgado, Lindsey Blackowl, Aliskwet Ellis (via Microsoft Teams), Bonnie Pigman (via Microsoft Teams);

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

*Meeting called to order by Chairman Tehassi Hill at 8:30 a.m.*

*For the record: Councilman Marlon Skenandore is out on leave.*

### **II. OPENING (00:00:05)**

*Opening provided by Chairman Tehassi Hill.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Microsoft Teams is software which provides a communication and collaboration platform for workplace chat, file sharing, and video meetings.

### III. **ADOPT THE AGENDA (00:03:56)**

Motion by Lisa Liggins to adopt the agenda with four (4) noted changes [1) delete item XI.B.2. Review BC Resolution 04-08-20-K recommendation and determine next steps; 2) delete item XI.B.5. Review Oneida Airport Hotel Corporation fiduciary responsibility and determine next steps; 3) under the Travel Request section, add item entitled Approve the travel request - Secretary Lisa Liggins - Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee Fundraiser - Wisconsin Dells, WI - July 23-25, 2024; and 4) under the Travel Request section, add item entitled Approve the travel request - Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens - Democratic National Convention - Chicago, IL - August 1-21, 2024, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

### IV. **OATH OF OFFICE**

- A. **Bay Bancorporation Board of Directors - Elaine Skenandore-Cornelius and Fern Orié (00:08:10)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- B. **Oneida Election Board Ad-Hoc Committee - Colleen Cornelius and Kenneth Skodowski (00:11:17)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- C. **Oneida Election Board Alternates - Sacheen Lawrence (00:11:17)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- D. **Oneida Nation Arts Board - Peter Skenandore (00:08:10)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- E. **Southeastern Wisconsin Oneida Tribal Services Advisory Board - Harmony Hill (00:11:17)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

*Oaths of office administered by Secretary Lisa Liggins. Elaine Skenandore-Cornelius and Peter Skenandore were present. Colleen Cornelius, Fern Orié, Sacheen Lawrence, and Harmony Hill were present via Microsoft Teams. Kenneth Skodowski was not present.*

## V. MINUTES

### A. Approve the June 26, 2024, regular Business Committee meeting minutes (00:14:38)

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Kirby Metoxen to approve the June 26, 2024, regular Business Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Lawrence Barton. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster,  
Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Abstained: Jameson Wilson, Jonas Hill  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*For the record: Councilmen Jameson Wilson and Jonas Hill were on approved travel to Harvard Business School.*

*Item VII.A. was addressed next.*

## VI. APPOINTMENTS

### A. Determine next steps regarding five (5) vacancies - Oneida Election Board Alternate (01:20:28)

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the selected applicants; to appoint Justine Huff, Mary King and Lynette Jordan to the Oneida Election Board Alternates with terms ending upon ratification of the 2024 Special Election results, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer  
Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*For the record: Secretary Lisa Liggins stated I'd just like to note that the remaining vacancies for the Oneida Election Board Alternates will not be posted as the special Election is only ten days away.*

*Item X.B. was addressed next.*

## VII. TRAVEL REPORTS

- A. Approve the travel report - Councilman Jonas Hill - Native American Tourism of Wisconsin (NATOW) Annual 2024 Conference - Red Cliff, WI - June 13 - 15, 2024 (00:15:26)**

Sponsor: Jonas Hill, Councilman

Motion by Jennifer Webster to approve the travel report from Councilman Jonas Hill for the Native American Tourism of Wisconsin (NATOW) Annual 2024 Conference in Red Cliff, WI on June 13 -15, 2024, seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Abstained: Jonas Hill  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

## VIII. TRAVEL REQUESTS

- A. Approve the travel request - Councilwoman Jennifer Webster - Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Regional Tribal Consultations - St. Paul, MN - August 26-29, 2024 (00:15:54)**

Sponsor: Jennifer Webster, Councilwoman

Motion by Jonas Hill to approve the travel request from Councilwoman Jennifer Webster to attend the Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Regional Tribal Consultations in St. Paul, MN on August 26-29, 2024, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Abstained: Jennifer Webster  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

- B. Enter the e-poll results into the record regarding the approved the travel request for Councilwoman Jennifer Webster to attend the PROGRESS Act Tribal Consultation in Bloomington, MN on July 16-17, 2024 (00:16:23)**

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jonas Hill to enter the e-poll results into the record regarding the approved the travel request for Councilwoman Jennifer Webster to attend the PROGRESS Act Tribal Consultation in Bloomington, MN on July 16-17, 2024, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Abstained: Jennifer Webster  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**C. Approve the travel request – Secretary Lisa Liggins – Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee Fundraiser – Wisconsin Dells, WI - July 23-25, 2024 (00:17:01)**

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jonas Hill to approve the travel request from Secretary Lisa Liggins and Councilman Jonas Hill to attend the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee Fundraiser in Wisconsin Dells, WI on July 23 -25, 2024, seconded by Lawrence Barton. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Abstained: Jonas Hill  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**D. Approve the travel request - Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens – Democratic National Convention – Chicago, IL – August 19-21, 2024 (00:19:00)**

Sponsor: Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens, Vice-Chairman

Motion by Jennifer Webster to approve the travel request from Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens and Treasurer Lawrence Barton to attend the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, IL on August 1-21, 2024, seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Accept the Emergency Management After Action Report regarding the April 2-6, 2024, severe weather event (00:19:34)**

Sponsor: Kaylynn Gresham, Director/Emergency Management

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the Emergency Management After Action Report regarding the April 2-6, 2024, severe weather event, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**B. Research Request: Dr. Waubanascum & Dr. Beans - UW-Green Bay - “Nothing about us, without us”: Community Engagement Collaboration with Oneida Nation to Inform Tribal Research Protections – Review recommendation and determine appropriate next steps (00:24:08)**

Sponsor: Mark W. Powless, General Manager

Motion by Lisa Liggins to approve request "Nothing about us, without us" and to request researchers to work with Councilman Jameson Wilson, Legislative Operating Committee Chairman regarding the findings of the study, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**X. GENERAL TRIBAL COUNCIL**

**A. Approve the notice and materials for the September 8, 2024, tentatively scheduled special General Tribal Council meeting (00:34:51)**

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Lisa Liggins to defer the notice and materials for the September 8, 2024, General Tribal Council meeting to a special Business Committee Work Session Monday, July 15, 2024, and schedule a special Business Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 2, 2024, for approval of the final materials, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*Councilman Kirby Metoxen left at 9:13 a.m.*

*Councilman Kirby Metoxen returned at 9:14 a.m.*

**B. Schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting to address the Blackowl petition # 2024-02 (00:54:30) ; (01:21:09)**

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jameson Wilson to schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting on November 17, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. to address the Blackowl petition # 2024-02, seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion withdrawn.

Motion by Lisa Liggins to defer items IX.B. and IX.C. until after Executive Session, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*Councilman Kirby Metoxen left at 9:40 a.m.*

*Councilman Kirby Metoxen returned at 9:45 a.m.*

*Item XI. was addressed next.*

Motion by Lisa Liggins to schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting Monday, November 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to address the Blackowl petition # 2024-02, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**C. Schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting to address the On?yote?a?ká ni?i Project Plan (01:22:20)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Lisa Liggins to schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting Monday, November 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to address the On?yote?a?ká ni?i Project Plan, seconded by Jennifer Webster.

Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*For the record: Secretary Lisa Liggins this is a non-stipend General Tribal Council meeting, as directed "by General Tribal Council".*

*Item XI.A.1. was addressed next.*

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION (01:19:57)**

Motion by Jennifer Webster to go into executive session at 9:50 a.m., seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*Roll call for the record:*

*Present: Treasurer Lawrence Barton; Councilman Jonas Hill; Chairman Tehassi Hill; Secretary Lisa Liggins; Councilman Kirby Metoxen; Councilwoman Jennifer Webster; Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens; Councilman Jameson Wilson;  
Not present: Councilman Marlon Skenandore*

Motion by Lawrence Barton to come out of executive session at 5:31 p.m., seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

*Item VI.A. was addressed next.*

**A. REPORTS**

**1. Accept the Chief Counsel report (01:23:34)**

Sponsor: Jo Anne House, Chief Counsel

Motion by Jennifer Webster to accept the Chief Counsel report, seconded by Lisa Liggins. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**2. Accept the General Manager report (01:23:50)**

Sponsor: Mark W. Powless, General Manager

Motion by Jennifer Webster to accept the General Manager report, seconded by Lisa Liggins. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**3. Accept the Hotel to Gaming Transition Committee July 2024 report (01:24:17)**

Sponsor: Louise Cornelius, Gaming General Manager

Motion by Jennifer Webster to accept the Hotel to Gaming Transition Committee July 2024 report, seconded by Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

Motion by Lisa Liggins to schedule a special General Tribal Council meeting on Monday, December 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to address the Integrated Casino Resort proposal, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Review Affordable Home Ownership Strategy/Veteran Loan Assessment and determine next steps (01:24:52)**

Sponsor: Mark W. Powless, General Manager

Motion by Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens to accept the report on Affordable Home Ownership Strategy/Veteran Loan Assessment and direct the Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, General Manager and Chief Counsel to work together to identify/recommend funds to be used for the program in the amount of four (4) million dollars for each of the two (2) programs, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**2. Review Elected Officials Wages memorandum and determine next steps (01:25:28)**

Sponsor: RaLinda Ninham-Lamberies, Chief Financial Officer

Motion by Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens to accept the discussion as information and forward the memorandum to the August 8, 2024, Business Committee Work Session, seconded by Lawrence Barton. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens  
Not Present: Marlon Skenandore



**3. Review Four Fires – Residence Inn D.C. refinancing and determine next steps (01:25:45)**

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Jameson Wilson to remove Terry Cornelius as Oneida Nation’s representative on the Four Fires LLC Board of Managers and appoint Ralinda Ninham-Lamberies, Chief Financial Officer, as the Nation’s representative for such time as she shall hold the office of the Chief Financial Officer, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**4. Review No Limits Basketball team request and determine next steps (01:26:21)**

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Jennifer Webster to defer the item back to the sponsor for follow-up clarification, seconded by Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**5. Review YMCA proposal and determine next steps (01:26:36)**

Sponsor: Justin Nishimoto, Economic Strategy Coordinator

Motion by Jennifer Webster to accept the discussion regarding the YMCA proposal as information and direct the Chairman to send correspondence to the requestor, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**6. Review 2024 Trade Back for Cash request and determine next steps (01:26:54) (01:27:23)**

Sponsor: Todd VanDen Heuvel, Executive HR Director

Motion by Lawrence Barton to deny the Trade Back for Cash request for FY2024 in accordance with section IV.A.5.n of the Personnel Policy and Procedures, the expense being unbudgeted for this fiscal year and the analysis of the financial position of the Nation and potential fiscal conditions, seconded by Jennifer Webster. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

Motion by Lawrence Barton to deny the Trade Back for Cash request for FY2025 in accordance with IV.A.5.n of the Personnel Policy and Procedures, is not included in the proposed FY2025 budget, seconded by Lisa Liggins. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**7. Review application(s) for five (5) vacancies - Oneida Election Board Alternate (01:27:51)**

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jennifer Webster to accept the discussion regarding the applications for the Oneida Election Board Alternate vacancies as information, seconded by Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

**XII. ADJOURN (01:28:07)**

Motion by Lawrence Barton to adjourn at 5:39 p.m., seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster, Jameson Wilson, Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

Not Present: Marlon Skenandore

Minutes prepared by Bonnie Pigman, Information Management Specialist.  
Minutes approved as presented on July 24, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Liggins, Secretary

ONEIDA BUSINESS COMMITTEE