



# Oneida Business Committee

Regular Meeting  
8:30 AM Wednesday, September 11, 2024  
BC Conference Room, 2nd floor, Norbert Hill Center

## Minutes

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### **REGULAR MEETING**

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

**Not Present:** Chairman Tehassi Hill, Councilwoman Jennifer Webster;

**Arrived at:** n/a

**Others present:** Jo A. House, RaLinda Ninham-Lamberies, Mark W. Powless, Todd Vanden Heuvel (via Microsoft Teams<sup>1</sup>), Lisa Summers (via Microsoft Teams), Katsitsiyo Danforth (via Microsoft Teams), Melanie Burkhart (via Microsoft Teams), Justin Nishimoto (via Microsoft Teams), Melinda J Danforth (via Microsoft Teams), Clorissa Leeman (via Microsoft Teams), Grace Elliott (via Microsoft Teams), Sidney White (via Microsoft Teams), Melissa Alvarado (via Microsoft Teams), Maureen Metoxen (via Microsoft Teams), Derick Denny (via Microsoft Teams), Carolyn Salutz (via Microsoft Teams), Nicole Rommel (via Microsoft Teams), Michelle Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Patricia King (via Microsoft Teams), Stacie Cutbank (via Microsoft Teams), Joyce King (via Microsoft Teams), Danelle Wilson (via Microsoft Teams), Fawn Billie (via Microsoft Teams), Fawn Cottrell (via Microsoft Teams), Janice Decorah (via Microsoft Teams), Maureen Perkins (via Microsoft Teams), David Jordan (via Microsoft Teams), Kristal Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Debbie Melchert (via Microsoft Teams), Rae Skenandore (via Microsoft Teams), Lori Hill (via Microsoft Teams), Tavia James-Charles (via Microsoft Teams), Brooke Doxtator (via Microsoft Teams), Shannon Davis (via Microsoft Teams), Amber Martinez (via Microsoft Teams), Carol Silva (via Microsoft Teams), Mary Graves (via Microsoft Teams), Tracy Metoxen (via Microsoft Teams), Pearl Webster (via Microsoft Teams), Jeanette Ninham (via Microsoft Teams), Gina Powless-Buenrostro (via Microsoft Teams), Candace House (via Microsoft Teams), Connor Kestell (via Microsoft Teams), Winnifred Thomas, Barbara Cornelius, Edward Delgado, Lynn Metoxen, Russell Metoxen, Frederick Muscavitch, Garth Webster, Teresa Schuman, Nancy Barton, Marie Cornelius, Jennifer Hill-Kelley, Jeremy King, Michelle Braaten, Reynold Danforth, Debbie Thundercloud, Kimberly Skenandore-Goodrich, Mark Powless, Neoma Orsburn, Billie Jo Cornelius-Adkins, Gerald Hill, Linda Dallas, Cathy L Metoxen, Melissa Skenandore, Jeff House, Arlinda Locklear (via Microsoft Teams), James Bittorf (via Microsoft Teams), Louise Cornelius, Chad Fuss, Bonnie Pigman (via Microsoft Teams);

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

*Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens at 8:32 a.m.*

*For the record: Chairman Tehassi Hill is out on vacation. Councilwoman Jennifer Webster is out on approved travel to attend the Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee in Portland, OR.*

## **II. OPENING (00:00:22)**

*Opening provided by Councilman Kirby Metoxen.*

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<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 (00:00:48)

Motion by Kirby Metoxen to adopt the agenda with four (4) additions and two (2) deletions [1) under the Oath of Office section, add item entitled Oneida Election Board Ad-Hoc Committee - Nancy Barton; 2) under the Resolutions section, add item Adopt resolution entitled Authorization to Open an Operating Bank Account for the Oneida Hotel; 3) add section entitled General Tribal Council and add item entitled Accept the fiscal impact statement - petition # 2024-02; 4) under the General Tribal Council section, add item entitled Approve the notice and materials for the October 23, 2024, tentatively scheduled General Tribal Council meeting; 5) under the Resolutions section, delete item VI.C. Adopt resolution entitled Continued Support for the Tribal Elder Food Box Program; and 6) under the Travel Requests section, delete item VII.A. Approve the travel request - Marlon Skenandore - WhyHunger Midwest Cohort Gathering 2024 - Columbus, OH - October 17-18, 2024], seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

### IV. OATH OF OFFICE (00:02:43)

- A. **Anna John Resident Centered Care Community Board - Lynn Metoxen, Jeanette Ninham**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- B. **Legal Resource Center - Billie Jo Cornelius-Adkins and Gerald Hill**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- C. **Oneida Election Board - Linda Dallas, Candace House, Teresa Schuman**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- D. **Oneida Gaming Commission - Jeremy King**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- E. **Oneida Land Claims Commission - Chris Cornelius, Candace House, Deborah Thundercloud**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- F. **Oneida Land Commission - Gina Buenrostro Powless, Ethel Marie Cornelius, Russell Metoxen Jr., and Frederick Muscavitch**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- G. **Oneida Nation Commission on Aging - Cathy Metoxen, Neoma Orsburn, and Pearl Webster**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- H. **Oneida Nation School Board - Tracy Metoxen, Teresa Schuman, and Melissa Skenandore**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- I. **Oneida Trust Enrollment Committee - Jennifer Hill-Kelley, Tracy Metoxen, and Teresa Schuman**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

- J. Pardon and Forgiveness Screening Committee - Kimberly Skenandore-Goodrich**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary
- K. Oneida Election Board Ad-Hoc Committee - Nancy Barton**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

*Oaths of office administered by Secretary Lisa Liggins. Lynn Metoxen, Billie Jo Cornelius-Adkins, Gerald Hill, Linda Dallas, Teresa Schuman, Jeremy King, Chris Cornelius, Deborah Thundercloud, Ethel Marie Cornelius, Russell Metoxen Jr., Frederick Muscavitch, Cathy Metoxen, Neoma Orsburn, Melissa Skenandore, Jennifer Hill-Kelley, Kimberly Skenandore-Goodrich were present. Jeanette Ninham, Candace House, Gina Buenrostro-Powless, Pearl Webster, Tracy Metoxen were present via Microsoft Teams.*

**V. MINUTES**

- A. Approve the August 28, 2024, regular Business Committee meeting minutes (00:18:41)**  
Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jonas Hill to approve the August 28, 2024, regular Business Committee meeting minutes, seconded by Lawrence Barton. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**VI. RESOLUTIONS**

- A. Adopt resolution entitled Authorizing Participation in the U.S. Department of Transportation Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program (00:19:10)**  
Sponsor: Melinda J. Danforth, Intergovernmental Affairs Director

Motion by Lawrence Barton to adopt resolution 09-11-24-A Authorizing Participation in the U.S. Department of Transportation Tribal Transportation Self-Governance Program, seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

- B. Adopt resolution entitled Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program Application (00:21:05)**  
Sponsor: Mark W. Powless, General Manager

Motion by Lisa Liggins to adopt resolution 09-11-24-B Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program Application, with one (1) change [1] add "Application" to the end of line 1], seconded by Marlon Skenandore. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**C. Adopt resolution entitled Authorizing Use of Carry Over Funds for Capital Expenditures for Oneida Hotel Prior to Consolidation (00:21:50)**

Sponsor: Louise Cornelius, Gaming General Manager

Motion by Lawrence Barton to adopt resolution 09-11-24-C Authorizing Use of Carry Over Funds for Capital Expenditures for Oneida Hotel Prior to Consolidation, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**D. Adopt resolution entitled Continuing to Operate Fiscal Year 2025 (00:27:36)**

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Lisa Liggins to adopt resolution 09-11-24-D Continuing to Operate Fiscal Year 2025, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**E. Adopt resolution entitled Affordable Home Ownership Strategy (00:31:31)**

Sponsor: Jo Anne House, Chief Counsel

Motion by Lawrence Barton to table this item, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore,  
Jameson Wilson  
Opposed: Lisa Liggins  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

*For the record: Secretary Lisa Liggins stated, On July 10<sup>th</sup> the General Manager and the Comprehensive Housing Division presented the "Affordable Home Ownership Strategy" to the Oneida Business Committee which contained four (4) parts; a budget request specifically for Comprehensive Housing Division's in house revolving home program to assist with Homeownership by Independent Purchase Program (HIPP) and For Sale by Owner Program; collaboration with the [Oneida] Land Commission to purchase ready to sell homes for the Residential Sales Program; collaboration with internal areas to revamp and create a successful Home Building Opportunity Program (HBO) that prepares and provides Oneida members with vacant lots to build homes; and collaboration with Bay Bank to administer the construction loan program on behalf of the Division, in which the Nation guarantees the construction loan. The areas completed the directive as requested. Additional direction was given for the Law Office to work with Finance to identify funds to fund the \$8 million dollars that was requested and required to make this Affordable Home Ownership Strategy a success and that was what was completed today so therefore I oppose the tabling of this resolution. Thank you.*

*For the record: Councilman Jameson Wilson stated, Mine was more along the lines of the conclusion of the statement of effect as the resolution, as is, directs the General Manager to create rules for mortgage programs which include requirements specific to the Veterans Housing Programs among other loan recipients. The Business Committee does not have authority to delegate that type of authority to the General Manager and those authorities would actually lie within the, for that law, with the Comprehensive Housing Division and Land Management. and Land Commission. If the resolution were restated to reflect "monitoring", have General Manager monitor the administrative rulemaking authority that's delegated to those affected entities, then I think we would be in compliance. But as the Legislative Operating Committee Chairman that's why I decided to support the tabling of the item. Thank you.*

*For the record: Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens stated, I believe if we're able to have discussion on the resolution, I think we could have rectified all of that. Have the conversation, talk about it, and make motions to that effect. That's why, I am not in a position to vote, but my counsel would have said, "talk about the issues, get a better understanding of what we need to see coming back here to this table if the resolution wasn't ready". Simply tabling an item doesn't allow for that, that's why I would have pressed to just to talk about it and could have brought it back in 30 days.*

**F. Adopt resolution entitled Authorization to Open an Operating Bank Account for the Oneida Hotel (00:44:35)**

Sponsor: Louise Cornelius, Gaming General Manager

Motion by Lawrence Barton to adopt resolution 09-11-24-E Authorization to Open an Operating Bank Account for the Oneida Hotel, seconded by Lisa Liggins. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

## VII. APPOINTMENTS

### A. Post one (1) vacancy - Southeastern Wisconsin Oneida Tribal Services Advisory Board (00:58:07)

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Lawrence Barton to post one (1) vacancy on the Southeastern Wisconsin Oneida Tribal Advisory Board in accordance with § 105.7-1(c)(2), seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Rescind BC resolution # 04-08-20-K Appointing Oneida ESC Group LLC as Nation's General Contractor for Construction Projects (00:58:30)

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Lawrence Barton to rescind BC resolution # 04-08-20-K Appointing Oneida ESC Group LLC as Nation's General Contractor for Construction Projects, as amended, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Opposed: Lawrence Barton

Abstained: Jonas Hill

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

Amendment to the main motion by Jameson Wilson to not rescind BC resolution # 04-08-20-K Appointing Oneida ESC Group LLC as Nation's General Contractor for Construction Projects and forward to a Business Committee work session for further discussion, seconded by Kirby Metoxen. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson,

Opposed: Lawrence Barton

Abstained: Jonas Hill

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

*Councilman Marlon Skenandore left at 10:18 a.m.*

### B. Enter the e-poll results into the record regarding the approved Selection Criteria for the Oneida Head Start Program (01:47:59)

Sponsor: Lisa Liggins, Secretary

Motion by Jonas Hill to enter the e-poll results into the record regarding the approved Selection Criteria for the Oneida Head Start Program, seconded by Lisa Liggins. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Marlon Skenandore, Jennifer Webster

*Councilman Marlon Skenandore returned at 10:20 a.m.*

**X. GENERAL TRIBAL COUNCIL**

**A. PETITIONER LINDSEY BLACKOWL – New Recreation/Community Center Build - petition # 2024-02**

**1. Accept the fiscal impact statement regarding petition # 2024-02 (01:48:24)**

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the fiscal impact statement regarding petition # 2024-02, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**B. Approve the notice and material for the October 23, 2024, tentatively scheduled special General Tribal Council meeting (01:50:02)**

Sponsor: Lawrence Barton, Treasurer

Motion by Lisa Liggins to approve the notice and material for the October 23, 2024, tentatively scheduled special General Tribal Council meeting with one (1) noted change to include a memorandum from the Budget Manager regarding Tribal Member access to the full budget, seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

*The Oneida Business Committee, by consensus, took a five (5) minute recess at 10:37 a.m.*

*Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens at 10:42 a.m.*

*Roll call for the record:*

*Present: Treasurer Lawrence Barton; Councilman Jonas Hill; Councilman Marlon Skenandore; Councilman Jameson Wilson; Vice-Chairman Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens;*

*Not Present: Chairman Tehassi Hill; Secretary Lisa Liggins; Councilman Kirby Metoxen; Councilwoman Jennifer Webster;*

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (01:58:23)**

Motion by Lawrence Barton to go into executive session at 10:42 a.m., seconded by Jonas Hill. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Jennifer Webster

Motion by Lawrence Barton to come out of executive session at 1:07 p.m., seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson  
Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**A. REPORTS**

**1. Accept the Hotel to Gaming Transition Committee September 2024 report (01:58:54)**

Sponsor: Louise Cornelius, Gaming General Manager

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the Hotel to Gaming Transition Committee September 2024 report, seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**2. Accept the General Manager report (01:59:16)**

Sponsor: Mark W. Powless, General Manager

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the General Manager report, seconded by Lawrence Barton. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**3. Accept the Chief Counsel report (01:59:55)**

Sponsor: Jo Anne House, Chief Counsel

Motion by Lisa Liggins to accept the Chief Counsel report, to approve the correspondence regarding the September 8, 2024, special General Tribal Council meeting outcomes, and approve the recommendations in the September 3, 2024, memorandum, seconded by Marlon Skenandore. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

**XII. ADJOURN (02:00:27)**

Motion by Lawrence Barton to adjourn at 1:08 p.m., seconded by Jameson Wilson. Motion carried:

Ayes: Lawrence Barton, Jonas Hill, Lisa Liggins, Kirby Metoxen, Marlon Skenandore, Jameson Wilson

Not Present: Tehassi Hill, Jennifer Webster

Minutes prepared by Bonnie Pigman, Information Management Specialist.  
Minutes approved as presented on September 25, 2024.



Lisa Liggins, Secretary  
ONEIDA BUSINESS COMMITTEE