



More Last Bear Moon powwow Photos!

page: 7



Child Support Office has a new location!

page: 6

Volume 55, Number 5

Wake hikiruxe wi
Raccoon Mating Moon

Saturday, March 14, 2026



In Honor of
Neola Walker

In honor of the new year's thunder this past weekend, our masthead for this issue features the icon representing the Thunder Clan / Wakaja Hikikarac. The Thunder Clan is the clan from which the Chief was traditionally selected. The Thunder Clan is one of the four sky clans. Peacetime decisions were made by the Thunder Chief, while war related actions may have been decided by another clan leader. Pipe carriers from the Thunder Clan functioned also as the guardians of peace among the membership and outside people. Families within the clan include: Baker, Bassette, Bradford, Beaver, Bigfire, Blackhawk, Grayhair, Hanken (descendent of Smoke family), Hunter, Kelsey, Payer, Raymond, Smith, and Tebo. Our gratitude to the HoChunk Renaissance Department for providing their guidance with the information shared here.

The World's Best One-Day Powwow: Last Bear Moon 2026



By Bethani Redhorn
Photography by Garan Coons

[Sloan, IA] From the beats of the drum to the vibrant swirls of regalia, the WinnaVegas Casino Resort transformed the Event Center into an arena to host the world's best one-day powwow! This year's Last Bear Moon Powwow and Winter Celebration made history as the largest gathering to date, drawing over 400+ dancers to the area and reaching a global audience of more than 100,000 viewers via livestream!

A ground blessing was rendered that morning by Winnebago Veteran, Bear Clan member and former Chairman of the Winnebago Tribe, Frank White. Hosted

by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, planned and coordinated by the Last Bear Moon Powwow Committee, the event served as a powerful cultural bridge honoring the sacred "Last Bear Moon" of the Ho-Chunk calendar through traditional song, dance, and shared commitment to preserving Indigenous traditions for future generations to come.

At the start of the evening session, Winnebago Tribe's Communications Officer Garan Coons shared an exclusive interview on the livestream with Arena Director, John YellowSmoke Snowball, where he shared insight into how Last Bear Moon came to be in 2019. Crediting Winnebago Communications Office Manager Gayla Whitewater, who created

a public service announcement video sharing why the Ho-Chunk celebrate the Last Bear Moon. "The Last Bear Moon marks the end of winter's deep cold, with a promise of renewal; it reminds us of patience, transformation, and respect for the natural cycles around us."

Expanding the digital footprint this year, the celebration featured a new global simulcast via Powwows.com. This partnership brought the event to 265,300 people across 88 countries via Facebook, YouTube, and TikTok. Locally, KWTN The Big Voice maintained a strong connection with the community, garnering

Con't. on page 2...

Nī šoc Nīgešana

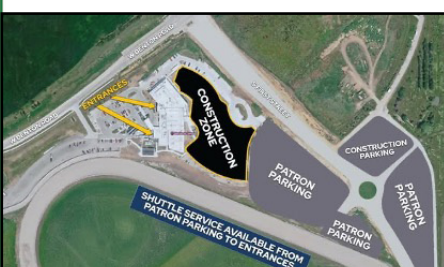
By: Tyler Snake



On March 3rd, a recognition dinner was held in celebration of Autumn Nieman being awarded as the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska's 2025 Employee of the Year! Autumn has been with the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska for 26 years and has previously been awarded the Employee of the Month in June of 2025. Congratulations on this accomplishment and recognition of all your work over the years!



The Little Priest Tribal College received the Leader College of Distinction Award at the ATD DREAM 2026 Conference in Portland, Oregon. President Minoj Patil, VP of Academic Affairs Channing Stellato, Director of Student Support Services Trisha Wegner, and Director of Institutional Effectiveness Kayva Mariboyina accepted the award on behalf of LPTC for the second consecutive year.



Recently, WarHorse Lincoln stated their phase 3 of construction began February 9th. This step includes new amenities such as a sports bar named Nebraska Ale Haus, and a premium clubhouse named Big Fire Chop House. Additionally, the casino expanded their gaming floor with over 1,100 slots and 18 table games. With these upgrades, WarHorse Lincoln is to be Nebraska's second-largest casino.

Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System Announces
New Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)



By WCHS Marketing (Erin McElroy & Halle Murray)

Winnebago, NE – Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System (WCHS) is proud to announce the appointment of Melanie Tuamoheloa, BSN, RN, as its new Chief Nursing Officer (CNO). Melanie brings more than a decade of progressive nursing leadership experience, a deep commitment to patient-centered care, and a strong dedication to serving our patients and relatives.

Prior to this role, Melanie served as the Director of Nursing Care Services at WCHS, where she successfully led

recruitment initiatives, mentored and developed nursing staff, and strengthened interdisciplinary collaboration. Her focus on operational excellence, workforce development, and patient satisfaction has made a lasting impact on the organization. She has also been instrumental in developing the forensic nursing program, expanding services within the Emergency Department to provide Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations (SANE) and intimate partner violence examinations, ensuring patients have access to compassionate, specialized care.

Melanie earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Creighton University School of Nursing and is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Nursing with a focus on Nurse Executive Leadership at Walden University. She maintains active RN licensure and holds specialized training in TNCC, Adult/Adolescent Forensic Nursing Examinations, and as a CAPP Lactation Educator. Her professional excellence has been recognized through numerous honors, including the IHS Nurse of the Month Award, the NNA Positive Image of Nursing Award, the Area Director's Award for Outstanding Employees, and the DAISY Award.

"I am an enrolled member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska; I come from the Wind Clan. My parents are Jeff and Colleen

Gilpin, prayer leaders in the Native American Church. The prayer instruments that my parents have come from John Rave from the Winnebago Tribe in 1906. They were given to my Great Grandparents Ed and Grace (Walker) Cline. They were passed down to my grandparents Alfred (Buddy) and Naomi (Cline) Gilpin. My paternal great grandparents were Sam and Louisa (Cayou) Gilpin. My maternal grandparents were Byron and Ruby (Irvin) Scotton, and great grandparents were Walter and Cora (Vawter) Haynie and Bert and Alta (Tuttle) Scotton," said Melanie. "My upbringing and cultural teachings have shaped my servant leadership style. I feel truly blessed to serve our relatives and am excited about the care we continue to provide to our community."

Melanie will continue to strive to create a positive, supportive work environment for her team and a welcoming space that fosters strong relationships and healing for relatives. As CNO, she will champion clinical excellence, workforce development, cultural humility, and patient- and family-centered care. As part of the executive team, she will play a key role in shaping the health systems future direction, helping drive sustainable growth, and operational excellence. WCHS remains committed to the community with the highest standards of care.

"Hōcaḱ hiḱa hitoik'i wiāje – Be Proud to be a HoChunk"



ANNOUNCEMENTS



...Cont. from front page: THE WORLD'S BEST ONE-DAY POWWOW: LAST BEAR MOON 2026

2,500 views for both the afternoon and evening sessions. A highlight of the event is the Saturday Night Spotlight Special, and this year's spotlight was for the Invited Drum Groups, which included Ho-Chunk Station (Wisconsin), Iron Boy (Minnesota), Meskwaki Nation (Iowa), Little Soldier (Kansas), Iron Bow (Oklahoma), and Leading Arrow (Oklahoma). Three categories were featured in the Spotlight Special: Best Sound (Leading Arrow), Best Dressed (Meskwaki Nation), and People's Choice (Ho-Chunk Station). Winnebago Host drums included HayLushKa, Grey Wolf, and New Breed. Another new element this year was People's Choice, using a QR code, viewers and spectators were able to cast their vote which decided the winner for that category! The Last Bear Moon Powwow Committee members are Les Painter,

Winnebago Public Health Department; Cassie Kitcheyan, Kikijire Community Crisis Response Team; Anna Berridge, Winnebago Tribe Environmental Protection Department; Melanie Parker, Ho-Chunk, Inc.; Garan Coons, Winnebago Tribe Communications Department; Tom Teesdale, WinnaVegas Casino; and Summer Snow, Winnebago Tribe Youth Council Member. Thank you to the LBM Powwow Committee, the Winnebago Tribal Council, all the sponsors, and everyone who helped make this year's celebration a success. Looking forward to Year 7 in 2027!

****Editor's Note: You can always watch the afternoon and evening sessions from the 2026 Last Bear Moon Powwow and Winter Celebration on demand by visiting the KWTN Big Voice YouTube channel: @kwtnthebigvoice1009*



FARMER'S MARKET

Healthy Living Starts with Healthy Food

Thursday, March 19

3:30PM-5:30PM

Winnebago Village
Farmer's Market

Stop by and pick up a free fruit and vegetable box while supplies last!

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WE ARE HIRING

CERTIFIED STAFF:

- ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL (ADMINISTRATION)
- ADMINISTRATOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR (ADMINISTRATION)
- ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS DIRECTOR (ADMINISTRATION)
- COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR (COMMUNICATIONS)
- K-6 SCHOOL COUNSELOR (SCHOOL COUNSELING CERTIFICATION)
- HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER
- MATH TEACHER
- ELEMENTARY TEACHER
- EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TEACHER

CLASSIFIED STAFF:

- MAINTENANCE AND FACILITIES DIRECTOR
- NUTRITIONAL SERVICES (FULL TIME, 10 MONTH, TEMPORARY)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK
WINNEBAGOPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG OR
REACH OUT TO
CHERISHM@WINNEBAGOK12.ORG

Wāgax hūk ra wāgax hokik'una

Letter to the Editor

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

Little Priest Tribal College is now taking applications for the following positions:

- **Carpentry Instructor**
- **Project Manager**
- **Part-Time Maintenance Specialist**
- **Student Equity Intern**
- **Student Extension Intern**

For more information, visit us on the web at:
<https://www.littlepriest.edu/human-resources/>
 LPTC is an equal-opportunity employer.
LPTC 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE

JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH



By: Pastor Ricky Jacob

God's Righteousness'

Does our unrighteousness demonstrate God's unrighteousness? Let me put the question in a different way: does the sin of the child have a reflection on his father or her mother? Questions like these Paul proposed to the believers in Jesus in Rome. [See Romans chapter 3, verses 1 through 8].

You have probably heard the expression: 'the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.' What does this mean? It is usually used in a negative way. The meaning - that the child often reveals what he or she learned from one's parents. Or one might say: 'Like father - like son; or like mother - like daughter.'

Some of God's chosen people of the tribe of Israel were unfaithful. Did their unfaithfulness reflect on YAHWEH?

Now let me put this in the perspective of the lives of Christians. People who are not Christians often observe us - Christians - those who identify as being 'one with Christ.' Yes, you who call yourself a Christian - how often do you fail to actual follow the ways of Jesus Christ? Are you following Christ in all of his ways - all the time - not only when others are watching.

Now, does the unrighteousness of a 'Christian' make Jesus Christ unrighteous? No, May it never come to be!

Let me ask you another question: Does one's unrighteousness demonstrate God' unrighteousness? Or does one's unrighteousness undermine God's righteousness? Since one has been given life by one's Creator - and one is obviously not righteous - can one blame God?

Can you say: 'God you made me this way!' Paul uses this type of reasoning to explain how some attempt to shift the blame from the culprit - the sinner - to the one who gave the sinner his life. Once again Paul gives us the answer: 'May it never come to be!'

While mankind became unfaithful - God was true to Himself. God remained faithful to His Word. God does not go back or fudge on His rules. When God sent His Son, Jesus, into this world. Jesus came not to judge or condemn the world but rather to save the world, that is all people as well as all of creation.

Further, Jesus came not to abolish the Law but to fulfill the Law - every last Word of it. At the same time Jesus came to suffer the consequences, the FULL WRATH of God, for each and every sinner.

The FULL WRATH of God came down on Jesus when he suffered and died. The FULL WRATH of God included Jesus being abandoned by his heavenly Father while he hung on the cross. 'And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" [Matthew 27:46 (ESV)]? That word 'forsaken' can also be translated as 'abandoned' or 'banished'.

We, due to our sinful nature, would rather accuse God as being unfaithful and unrighteous than to see the truth. We, due to our sinful nature, would rather do evil things - thinking that the more evil that one does - the more God's grace can abound. How foolish is that!? And at what cost is such thinking? The cost of suffering for one's sins rather than believing that our sin has been paid in FULL by Jesus!

God is faithful, He is true, and His truth resounds to His glory. God's righteousness is established and vindicated in His words. Thus God's certain truth and reliable faithfulness, and His righteousness justly have negative consequences upon all those who are sinners. At the same time, God's faithfulness and righteousness provides great assurance to those who are in Christ through faith - His faith-full people.

MĀ'ŪNA WA'INĪGINĀP
HĀPHISACAHA JE NA!
THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY!



LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-068

**In the Matter of the Custody Petition of:
Kateri Payer
vs.
Christopher Morris Sr.**

To: **CHRISTOPHER MORRIS SR,**

You are hereby notified that a Custody petition has been filed and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in case no. CV26-068 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 6th day of APRIL, 2026 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

*Winnebago
Indian News
is owned and
published by the
Winnebago Tribe of
Nebraska".*

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-076

**In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
LAURA BUCHANAN
In Re:
A.B. (Born 3/2022)**

SHAI WEBSTER, Mother
LAWRENCE BUCHANAN, Father

**TO: SHAI WEBSTER, Mother
LAWRENCE BUCHANAN, Father**

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV26-076 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 26th day of March, 2026 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-075

**In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
Rheanna & Lamuel Freemont
In Re:
C.R. (Born 05/2016)
C.R. (Born 12/2017)
A.R. (Born 11/2019)**

DANICIA FREEMONT, Mother
XAVIER RAVE, Father

**TO: DANICIA FREEMONT, Mother
XAVIER RAVE, Father**

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV26-075 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 26th day of March, 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

SAVE THE DATE

**160th Annual
HOMECOMING
CELEBRATION**

COMMEMORATING THE RETURN OF CHIEF LITTLE PRIEST & THE "COMPANY A" SCOUTS

July 23-26, 2026

WINNEBAGO, NEBRASKA • VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on March 28, 2026. DEADLINE for this issue will be March 24, 2026.



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Winnebago, Nebraska 68071

The Winnebago Indian News (WIN), founded in January 1972, is published bi-weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view. LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebago Tribal Council.

The WIN encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor; however, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length.

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 Victoria Kitcheyan.....Member
 Ireta Frazier.....Member
 Trey Blackhawk.....Member
 Lorelei DeCora.....Member
 Eugene DeCora.....Member



TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA PHYSICAL RESOURCES REPORT MEETING February 9, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Isaac Smith
Victoria Kitcheyan
Lorelei DeCora (virtual)
Ireta Frazier
Trey Blackhawk

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brian Chamberlain
Christina Parker
Autumn Nieman
Kevin Ebert
Anna Berridge
Trisha Rivers
Aseanna Overfelt
Kellie Snow
Natalie Davis
Kiana Lewis
Tiffany Buchanan
Darla LaPointe
Willy Bass

Lynelle Blackhawk
Tanya Baker
Kiana Lewis
Tyresha Romero
Cecelia Earth

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Teresa Littlegeorge (NCAI-Travel)
Rona Stealer (NCAI-Travel)
Eugene DeCora (NCAI-Travel)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 9:10 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Councilman Blackhawk offered the opening prayer.

AGENDA:

Additions: Senior Center Air Vent System & Executive Session.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the amended agenda. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

LAND MANAGEMENT:

[Victoria out at 9:16 a.m.]
Homesite Cancellation – RH

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-75: REF. Cancellation of Home Site Lease- Rick Huffman. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Ag Resolution – 775-A Mrs. John Brown & 776 William Brown

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt resolution #26-76: Agricultural lease REF: Allotment 775-A Mrs. John Brown & 776 Willam Brown. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES REPORT:

MONTHLY REPORT

Isaac Smith motioned to accept the Physical Resources January 2026 Monthly Report. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

FACILITIES

Waste Disposal vendor update – Information only.

TRIBAL HOUSING

Big Winnebago Lane Long Home – No action taken.

EPD INFORMATION

Pow-wow Mapping Project – Information only.

Authority and enforcement/crop dusting – Information only.

[Isaac out 9:57 a.m., in 10:00 am.]

Iowa Bill 2237 – Discussion only.

[Victoria in at 10:03 a.m.]

Weather Station

Ireta Frazier motioned to table action on the Weather Station until it is ready to go. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

VISIT MAY 2026 – Information only. Will schedule a meeting with the Tribal Council during the visit.

Section 401 cwa 2026 proposed changes
Lorelei DeCora motioned to authorize comment regarding Section 401 cwa 2026 proposed changes. Isaac Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trey Blackhawk motioned to enter executive session at 10:08 a.m. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Trey Blackhawk motioned to exit executive session at 11:07 a.m. Victoria

Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Lorelei DeCora motioned to request Winnebago Gaming Commission and Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation to send their findings to the CEO, CAO and H.R. for review. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Trey Blackhawk motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

*Recording Secretary, Submitted,
Ireta Frazier, Council member
Winnebago Tribal Council
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA REGULAR TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING February 9, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Isaac Smith
Victoria Kitcheyan
Lorelei DeCora
Trey Blackhawk
Ireta Frazier

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kellie Snow
Terri Lee Medina
Tyresha Romero
Kiana Lewis
Aseanna Overfelt
Terry Medina
Danelle Smith
Garan Coons
Bethani Redhorn
Keely Purscell
Lynelle Blackhawk

Tressa Smith
Anna Berridge
Willy Bass
Frankie Smith
Brian Chamberlain
Jorge Saurez
Sunshine Bear
Elaine Earth
LaDonna Holstein
James Price, Jr.
Tiffany Buchanan
Relisha Ware
Christina Parker
Ernie Sanchez

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Rona Stealer (NCAI-Travel)
Eugene DeCora (NCAI-Travel)
Teresa Littlegeorge (NCAI-Travel)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 12:10 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Using the Opening prayer offered by Councilman Blackhawk at an earlier meeting.

AGENDA:

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the agenda. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

January 19, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the January 19, 2026, Mid-Monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

January 21, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the January 21, 2026, General Counsel meeting minutes. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RATIFY FIVE SIGNATURES:

Approval to present Billy Dean in concert at WinnaVegas on 3/14/26, Joe Nichols in concert on 4/11/26. Both Shows to begin at 8:00 p.m. at WinnaVegas Event Center.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to ratify the five-signature approval to present Billy Dean in concert at WinnaVegas Event Center. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval to utilize the remaining clothing distribution gift cards to cover the cost of the Last Bear Moon Pow-wow Meal.

(the use of balance is yet to be determined)

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to ratify the five-signature approval to utilize the remaining distribution gift cards to cover the cost of the Last Bear Moon Pow-wow Meal. (the use of balance is yet to be determined). Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #26-74 BIA/USGS Funding Stream Gauge Project FY26

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to ratify the five-signature approval of Resolution #26-74: BIA/USGS Funding Stream Gauge Project FY26. Lorelei DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of donation of a star quilt from the Winnebago Tribal Council inventory to the Last Bear Moon Celebration for fundraising purposes.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to ratify the five-signature approval of donation of a star quilt from the Winnebago Tribal Council inventory to the Last Bear Moon Celebration for fundraising purposes. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Construction Management: Construction Tax Agreement with State of Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to table the Construction Tax Agreement to the CEO Report. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

Discussion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Isaac out at 12:24 p.m.]

NITC: Statement approval

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the Chairman's signature to the NITC Statement. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:

ATLAS program – discussion
Isaac Smith motioned to direct the CEO to draft a lease between ATLAS and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska for the Boys and Girls Club building when it becomes available and to revisit it later. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

OBJECT: Lorelei DeCora

VOTE: (4) yes, VK, IS, TB, IF (1) no, LD (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Isaac in at 12:26 p.m.]

Mesa Public School, Mesa, AZ – letter of request for donation

Ireta Frazier motioned to table the request for further information. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Senior Citizen Center request

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the request as submitted for the Senior Citizen Center, Senior Advisory Committee Loan Signatures for Liberty Bank. (Signers: Jeanette Rice, Velma Alaniz, Bobbie Wolfe, Coly Brown, Isaac Smith, Teresa Littlegeorge, Rona Stealer, Trey Blackhawk, Lorelei DeCora, Victoria Kitcheyan, Eugene DeCora, and Ireta Frazier).

Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

EPD – Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) Grant Status update

Lorelei DeCora motioned to submit a letter on behalf of the tribe regarding issues of the NET Grant. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

A.Y. Referral request

Isaac Smith motioned to direct Human Services to fulfill request by A.Y. for repairs to vehicle window that was smashed by vandals in the amount of \$307.14. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Radio Station – Update only

[Ireta out at 1:15 p.m., in at 1:17 p.m.]

Boys and Girls Club

[Isaac out at 1:22 p.m., in at 1:24 p.m.]

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the recommendation on option #2 with estimating closing date of August 1, 2026. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Vice Chair Resignation letter – Discussion, no action taken.

SGAC meeting

Lorelei DeCora motioned to authorize travel for Victoria Kitcheyan and a delegation to attend the SGAC meeting. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Appropriations Hearing

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to request Eugene DeCora to testify for Appropriation hearing. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

WCHS Special meeting

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to schedule a special meeting with the WCHS Board and the Executive Team. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Brian Chamberlain – No Action taken.

[Coly out at 3:30 p.m.]

[Victoria out at 3:35 p.m.]

Loss of quorum. BREAK: 5 minutes, resume meeting at 3:42 p.m.

ADJOURN:

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:52 p.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:52 p.m.

*Recording Secretary, Submitted,
Ireta Frazier, Council member
Winnebago Tribal Council
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA CEO REPORT February 11, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Isaac Smith
Ireta Frazier
Trey Blackhawk
Lorelei DeCora
Victoria Kitcheyan

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tyresha Romero
Kellie Snow
Terri Lee Medina
Ramona Sheridan
Kevin Ebert
Garan Coons
Christina Parker
Cecelia Earth
Char Richardson
Tyler Snake
Darla LaPointe
Tiffany Buchanan
Bethani Redhorn
Anna Bess Preston
Janelle DeCora
Sarah Snake
Anna Berridge
Jaralyn Bear
Keri LaPointe
Greg Walker
Gayla Whitewater
Kellen Kelsey
Willy Bass
Chad Smith
Brittany Thomas

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Rona Stealer (NCAI-travel)
Eugene DeCora (NCAI-travel)
Teresa Littlegeorge (NCAI-travel)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Councilman Smith offered the opening prayer.

AGENDA:

Addition: TC-26-71A Tribal Action Plan
Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the agenda with addition. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION:

CEO January Report
Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the January 2026 CEO Report. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

CAO January Report

Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the January 2026 CAO Report. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

In-house Legal January Action Items/ Report

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve the In-house Legal January Action Items/



TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES



Report. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:
Wildlife & Parks; Advertise five vacancies

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to advertise five (5) vacant positions for the Wildlife & Parks Commission for 30 days. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria out at 10:06 a.m.]
Winnebago Housing Development Commission; Advertise one vacancy

Ireta Frazier motioned to advertise for one (1) vacancy for the Winnebago Housing Development Commission until filled. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation; Advertise three vacancies, staggered terms

Trey Blackhawk motioned to advertise for three (3) vacancies at staggered terms for the Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation for 30 days. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

*amended motion: from Commission to Corporation, staggered terms (3-2-26 Regular TC mtg.)

[Victoria in at 10:10 a.m.]

HNH Youth Council; Advertise one vacancy

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to advertise for one (1) vacancy for the Hocak Nisoc Haci Youth Council. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Credit Committee; One vacancy, two applicants

Lorelei DeCora motioned to appoint Serenity Drew to the Credit Committee for a two-year term. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Community Development Fund; One vacancy, two applicants

Ireta Frazier motioned to appoint Felicia Brownrigg to the Winnebago Community Development Fund for a three-year term. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Pow-Wow Committee; One vacancy, two applicants

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to appoint Trina Solomon to the Pow-wow Committee for a three-year term. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Hemp Commission; Two vacancies, one applicant

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to appoint Levi Blackhawk to the Hemp Commission for a three-year term. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (1) abstain, TB Motion carried.

Hemp Commission Resignation

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to accept A.B. resignation from the Hemp Commission and re-advertise for two (2) vacancies. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ENROLLMENT:

Resolution – Tribal Enrollment Applicants

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-77: Tribal Enrollment Applicants [A4761, A4774, A4797, A4798, A4813, A4816, 4836, A4837, A4840]. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Blood Quantum Correction

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-78: Blood Quantum Correction (383-U07472). Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

Resolution – Ho-chunk Way Project – Wake and Burial

Trey Blackhawk motioned to adopt resolution #26-79: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska 2026 Ho-Chunk Way Project – Wake and Burial Program. Isaac Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Isaac out at 9:46 a.m.]

Resolution – Ho-chunk Way Project

– Angel DeCora Museum Artifact Preservation

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt resolution #26-80: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska 2026 Ho-Chunk Way Project – The Angel DeCora Museum Artifact Preservation Project. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (3) yes (1) no, LD (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria out at 10:59 a.m., lost quorum] [Isaac in at 11:04 a.m., resumed meeting]

Nonprofit Project Development Officer Position Request

Approve Organizational Chart

Ireta Frazier motioned to approve the new position (Nonprofit Project Development Officer) and the New Org Chart. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

88.9 FM Radio Station License Department Spotlight

[Victoria in]

[Trey out at 11:50 a.m., in at 11:56 a.m.] [Isaac out at 12:05 p.m., in at 12:08 p.m.]

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS:

Resolution – Construction Tax Agreement with State of Nebraska Department of Transportation

Lorelei DeCora motioned to adopt resolution #26-81: Construction Tax Agreement with the State of Nebraska Department of Transportation. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Resolution- Tribal Coordinating Committee

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-71A: (Amendment) Authorizing the Establishment of a Tribal Coordinating Committee to Develop and Implement a Tribal Action Plan for a Comprehensive Prevention and Treatment Program for Alcoholism and other Substance Abuse. Isaac Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

*Recording Secretary, Submitted,
Ireta Frazier, Recording Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

**WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
MID-MONTHLY TRIBAL COUNCIL
MEETING
February 16, 2026**

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Trisha Rivers Kevin Ebert
Teresa Littlegeorge
Ray Thomas Roland Warner
Eugene DeCora Anna
Berridge Kiana Lewis
Lorelei DeCora
Terri Lee Medina
Daryl LaPointe
Ireta Frazier
Barbara Pretends Eagle
Brian Chamberlain
Trey Blackhawk
Les Painter
Danelle Smith
Isaac Smith [In at 5:08 p.m.]

Daryl LaPointe, Jr.

Lewis St. Cyr

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Rona Stealer (PTO)
Victoria Kitcheyan (PTO)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 5:02 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Councilman Trey Blackhawk offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the amended agenda

Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

READING OF THE MINUTES:

2-9-26 Physical Resources Report meet-

ing minutes

Trey Blackhawk motioned to approve the Physical Resources Report meeting minutes. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

2-9-26 Regular Tribal Council meeting minutes

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the 2-9-26 Regular Tribal Council meeting minutes. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

2-11-26 CEO Report meeting minutes

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the 2-11-26 CEO Report meeting minutes. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RATIFY 5 SIGNATURES:

Approval for the Enrollment Committee members and any interested Tribal Council to attend the Annual Enrollment Conference in Waikiki, HI, 3/16/26 to 3/20/26.

Eugene DeCora motioned to ratify the five-signature approving the Enrollment Committee members and any interested Tribal Council to attend the Annual Enrollment Conference in Waikiki, HI, 3/16/26 to 3/20/26. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution #26-82: WTN 2026 Ho-Chunk Way – Native Pony Mart Revitalization Project the Tribe will apply on behalf of the Physical Resources Dept.: Construction Mgt. Program from Ho-Chunk Way in the amount of \$466,500.00.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to ratify the five-signature Approval of Resolution #26-82: WTN 2026 Ho-Chunk Way – Native Pony Mart Revitalization Project the Tribe will apply on behalf of the Physical Resources Dept.: Construction Mgt. Program from Ho-Chunk Way in the amount of \$466,500.00. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOA with Hospital for Random Drug Testing with WCHS for our WTN employees

Eugene DeCora motioned to table to request a price match from WCHS to UNITY Point to include pre-employment drug testing and Tribal Council testing. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Angel DeCora Museum item: NRC Ireta Frazier motioned to table the MOU with NRCS until March 2, 2026. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

State and Federal-level policy with implications to EPD funding, water quality protections, and the Tribe's Section 401 TAS authority

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the written statements as amended for the State and Federal-level policy with implications to EPD funding, water quality protections, and the Tribe's Section 401 TAS Authority. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

TRIBAL COUNCIL ITEMS

Donation match request: Winnebago Warpath Basketball

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve a \$1,000.00 fundraising match for the Winnebago Warpath Basketball team. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (4) yes (0) no (2) abstain, IF, TL Motion carried.

Quilt Purchase – V.M.

Ireta Frazier motioned to approve the purchase of quilts from V.M. for \$1050.00 from the Tribal Council donations. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

LAST BEAR MOON PERMISSION TO SLICIT FUNDS

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the LBM pow-wow committee to solicit funds. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

YCIC

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the New Position request, Floater Youth Worker/Shift Lead and the updated organizational chart. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

LAND BACK Celebration – Discussion only

Executive session: WinnaVegas
Trey Blackhawk motioned to enter executive session at 5:56 p.m. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to exit the executive session at 6:47 p.m. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Eugene DeCora motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Isaac Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

**WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA
SPECIAL MEETING –
ENROLLMENT
February 16, 2026**

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Teresa Littlegeorge
Trey Blackhawk
Eugene DeCora
Ireta Frazier
Lorelei DeCora
Isaac Smith
OTHERS PRESENT:
Crystal Ross
Leah Hunter
Anthony Earth
Tyler Smith
Kevin Ebert
Natalie Earth
Danelle Smith
Terri Lee Medina
Ramona Sheridan
John Blackhawk
Tyresha Romero
Jennifer Berridge
Tiffany Buchanan
Cherie Tebo
Sarah Snake
TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:
Rona Stealer (PTO)
Victoria Kitcheyan (PTO)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 9:14 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Eugene DeCora offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

SURVEY

DISENROLLMENT

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the agenda. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

SURVEY RESULTS:

Presented by Terri Lee Medina, Enrollment Committee member

BREAK: (reboot meeting, lost mic's) 10:10 a.m., reconvene at 10:21 a.m.

Next steps:

Survey is still open to receiving opinions.

Post results on the website, the WIN, and with Communications, etc.

Recommend post card mailer with a scan code to enrolled members.

FORUM to reveal the results.

Enrollment committee to move forward with the Secretarial Election for the age limit of 25 years old.

Winnebago Talks: to speak about the survey results and that it is still open.

DISENROLLMENT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Eugene DeCora motioned to enter executive session at 10:49 a.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to exit executive session at 11:06 a.m. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve the disenrollment of tribal members #383-U03937, #383-U02141, #383-U03742, #383-U04052, #383-U04073, #383-U04074, #383-U04076, #383-U04075, #383-U03741, #383-U07086 notice of a hearing will be scheduled in 30 days and sent by the Winnebago Enrollment De-

HAKWEWE

Question of the Issue:

In honor of Women’s History Month, we want to know: Outside of your own family, which historical woman has inspired you the most, and why?

GARAN: Former first lady Michelle Obama really inspired me with a few quotes. “When they go low, we go high”. At times I have to remind myself of this. The other is “Success isn’t about how much money you make; it’s about the difference you make in people’s lives.”

KEVIN: “Honestly, I can’t name just one. As a single dad, the women who inspire me most are the single moms out there doing the job every day. If you can raise kids, work, and keep everyone alive... you’re basically a superhero.” I’m proud to say I was raised by a single, almost died a few times, at no fault of hers, well maybe buying a kid a mini bike wasn’t a great idea.”

CHRISTINA: Thinking about historical women in general, Mother Teresa and Harriet Tubman come to mind. Mother Teresa is inspiring because she was an extremely humble missionary from India that only wanted to help the poorest of the poor and was awarded the noble peace prize for her work with the suffering. Harriet Tubman is inspiring because of her immense bravery and courage to free groups of people chained in slavery with Harriet as their only hope for a better life.

GAYLA: Chief Hąboguwiąa (Glory of the Morning) inspires me the most because she demonstrated that Ho-Chunk women are powerful diplomats and decision-makers. She was the first recorded woman in Wisconsin’s history and the first documented woman chief of the Ho-Chunk in the 18th century. She was from the Thunder Clan and rose to leadership at just 18 years old, guiding the Ho-Chunk during a time of growing colonial pressure and regional conflict. She helped navigate relationships between nations, worked toward peace, and left a lasting legacy through her descendants and the leadership traditions she embodied. Hąboguwiąa remains a powerful reminder that Ho-Chunk women have always belonged in positions of leadership. There is actually a really cool statue of her in downtown Neenah, Wisconsin, so if you’re ever in the area, def check it out!

BETHANI: The first woman in Nebraska history to play high school football for the Winnebago Public School, my best friend Ione Irene’s mom, the late Saralee Ione “Cupcake” Suarez (Huffman). She was truly amazing; I thank her for a lot. Growing up, I admired her for the way she carried herself, and it just added to my amazement when I found out about her name being in the Nebraska history books. She is deeply missed by so many.

Winnebago Health Foundation Board of Directors



William Bass

Dr. David Hoelting



Winnebago, NE – Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System (WCHS) is proud to announce William Bass and Dr. David Hoelting as new members of the Winnebago Health Foundation (WHF) Board of Directors. Their leadership and professional experience will help support WHF’s strategic goals. Their involvement brings valuable ideas, perspectives, and support to further strengthen community-focused initiatives.

William Bass is deeply committed to community service and the health and wellness of the Winnebago community. He actively supports the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being of Tribal members and contributes to initiatives that strengthen community health and leadership. Bass has participated in community health assessments and strategic planning and serves on multiple boards, including the Hemp Commission, Little Priest Tribal College Board of Trustees, Leadership Siouxland, Boys & Girls Club of Siouxland, Winnebago Tax Commission, Winnebago Community Development Fund Board of Directors, and WCHS Board of Directors. “I am honored to serve and give back to a community that has given so much to me,” said Bass. His dedication reflects a lasting

commitment to programs and decisions that benefit the community.

Dr. David Hoelting brings decades of medical expertise and community service to the organization. A retired physician with an active license, he continues volunteering and sharing his healthcare insights. He has held leadership roles on the Pender City Board, Nebraska Governor’s Nuclear Waste Advisory Board, and Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians Board. “I look forward to contributing my experience and supporting WHF’s mission,” said Dr. Hoelting. His appointment reflects WHF’s dedication to experienced, community-focused leadership.

We are also honored to announce that Amy Encinger was recently reappointed for another three years to the WHF’s Board of Directors. Together, the WHF board continues to bring a dynamic blend of healthcare philanthropy expertise to the 501c3 non-profit arm of the Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System. The Winnebago Health Foundation would like to extend its gratitude to these new and reappointed board members for their willingness to provide invaluable services in guiding our continued efforts to make a positive impact on our community for years to come.

YOU’RE INVITED TO OUR OPEN HOUSE

CELEBRATING OUR NEW OFFICE LOCATION

201 HO-CHUNK PLAZA #7
(In the old Gaming Office)

Thursday, March 19, 2026
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

WINNEBAGO CHILD SUPPORT

Winnebago Tribe Employee of the Month!



Julya Starr is the February 2026 Winnebago Tribe Employee of the month. She was nominated because of her exceptional dedication to protecting the safety and well-being of the community.

WINNEBAGO SUMMER YOUTH Employment Program

JOB FAIR

Friday, April 10, 2026
9AM-12PM

WPS PRACTICE GYM

Any questions? Please contact Rana at (402) 878-2631
email: education@winnebagotribe.com

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska



THE 2026 WINNEBAGO POWWOW COMMITTEE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR

CROWNS & SASHES

FOR THE 160TH ANNUAL HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

MUST SEND PICTURES OF PREVIOUS BEAD WORK
powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com

DEADLINE IS:

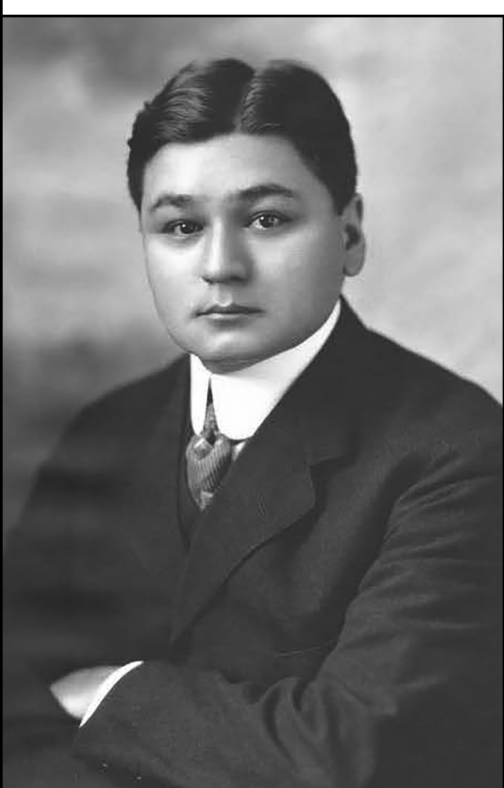
FRIDAY, JULY 10TH 2026

PLEASE EMAIL OR DROP OFF BIDS TO:
powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com

Any questions, contact: powwowcommittee@winnebagotribe.com or (402) 878-2272



ANGEL DECORA MUSEUM ARCHIVE FEATURE



advanced degrees in theology and anthropology.

Roe Cloud was a founding member of the Society of American Indians and established the Roe Indian Institute, the first college preparatory school for Native students.

He served in the Office of Indian Affairs and as superintendent of the Haskell Institute, where he worked to integrate Native traditions into education.

A key contributor to the 1928 Meriam Report, he helped expose the failures of federal Indian policy and supported

reforms such as the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934.

Honored with the Indian Achievement Award in 1935, Roe Cloud left a lasting legacy in Native advocacy and education. A building at Haskell Indian Nations University bears his name today.

Sources: Encyclopedia of the Great Plains, "Roe Cloud, Henry." Provided historical background on his education, advocacy, and leadership roles.

Yale University, "Henry Roe Cloud." Offered additional context on his academic achievements and influence on Native higher education.

Henry Roe Cloud (1884-1950), a Ho-Chunk Native American from the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, was a pioneering educator, reformer, and Presbyterian minister.

Born on the Winnebago Reservation and was from the bird clan, he became the first full-blood Native American to graduate from Yale University in 1910, later earning



Another close view of just how packed the floor was with dancers, as well as spectators.



The closest visual representation of the record-breaking attendance this year!



Growing each year, 400+ dancers registered for LBM 2026.

Some more photos from 2026 Last Bear Moon Powwow!



Under the spotlight during the Grand Entry for the evening session.



LBM 2026 Grand Entry for the evening session looked beautiful and sounded amazing!



A closer look at some HoChunk Applique, Fancy Feather, and Traditional.



LBM 2026 Saturday Night Spotlight Special – Best Dressed Champions: Meskwaki Nation



LBM 2026 Saturday Night Spotlight Special – Best Sound Champions: Leading Arrow



LBM 2026 Saturday Night Spotlight Special – Peoples Choice Champions: HoChunk Station

TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

partment (tentatively March 16, 2026).
Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Trey Blackhawk motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA GENERAL COUNSEL MEETING February 18, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Teresa Littlegeorge
Rona Stealer
Ireta Frazier
Trey Blackhawk
Lorelei DeCora
Victoria Kitcheyan
Eugene DeCora [in at 9:12 a.m.]

OTHERS PRESENT:

Danelle Smith
Sarah Herring
Brittany Thomas
Christina Parker
Terri Lee Medina
Joseph Adler Ruane
Kiana Lewis
Anna Berridge
Chad Smith
Darla LaPointe
Cecelia Earth
Josh Pitre
Tyler Smith
Kirstin Lowry
Tom Teesdale
Tanya Baker
Lisa Livingston
Nakia Mallory

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Isaac Smith

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Brown called to order at 9:07 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Councilman Blackhawk offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the amended agenda. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Eugene in at 9:12 a.m.]

ACTION ITEMS:

BIA/USGS Funding-Stream Gauge Project FY25

Ireta Frazier motioned to adopt amended resolution #24-187A: BIA/USGS Funding-Stream Gauge Project FY25. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Victoria out 9:13 a.m.]

WPSC Disciplinary Hearing Policy & Procedures

[Victoria in at 9:16 a.m.]

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the WPSC Disciplinary Hearing Policy & Procedures as presented. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

STATE ADVOCACY – LHM – Joseph Alder Ruane

Truth in Healing hearing. **LB 1016** - Medicaid reimbursement for traditional healing services will have its hearing this week **Thursday, February 19th**.

(Attendees: Coly, Victoria, Eugene, Ireta)

[Rona out at 9:45 a.m.]

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve travel for any Tribal Council member to attend the hearing regarding the Truth in Healing in Lincoln, NE, February 19, 2026. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Rona in at 9:49 a.m.]

LB 1250 – Authorization of selling or transferring water and sewer systems to a tribe

The hearing will be held on February 24, 2026.

(Attendees: Trey, Coly, Eugene)

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve travel for Tribal Council to attend the hearing regarding authorization of selling or transferring water and sewer systems to a tribe in Lincoln, NE on

February 24, 2026. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

LB 1037 – Cigarette tax bill hearing – Update only, no action

LB 1184 – Tribal College Invest Act – Update only, no action

LB 1032 – Customary Adoptions Bill – Update only, no action

Budget – Update

New Position Request – Region 7 Pesticides Circuit Rider (EPD)

Eugene DeCora made a motion to approve the New Position request; Tribal Pesticide Circuit Rider and Organizational Chart. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

DOI BIA Deputation Agreement
Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to adopt resolution #26-83: To Approve the Deputation Agreement Between the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services. Lorelei DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribe Surveillance Policy
Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve the Winnebago Tribe Surveillance Policy. Rona Stealer seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Lorelei DeCora motioned to request General Counsel to work with IT and Communications on the development and protection of a policy on the use of AI. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

BREAK: 10:37 a.m., reconvene at 10:54 a.m.

6.b. Tribal Energy Leadership Fellows (TELF) Program

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to authorize Councilman Trey Blackhawk to participate in Tribal Energy Leadership Fellows (TELF) Program. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

ABSTAIN: Trey Blackhawk

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (1) abstain Motion carried.

Victoria Kitcheyan motioned to approve travel for Tribal Council to attend the Indigenous Energy & Environment Leadership Capstone Presentation at Tribal Energy Equity Summit the week of May 11-14, 2026. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

FEDERAL ADVOCACY:

Congressional Update:
Overview of Hill Meetings
Senate Hearing on Native 8(a) Program

[Trey out at 11:20 a.m.]

Lorelei DeCora motioned to direct Ho-Chunk, Inc CEO Lance Morgan to make comments to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs regarding the Native 8(a) Program Contracts and Funding for submission by February 27, 2026. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Boarding School Bill Introduced in the House – H.R. 7325

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve the letter that General Counsel will be preparing for the Boarding School Bill. Victoria Kitcheyan seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

[Trey in at 11:34 a.m.]

Upcoming Hearing on Fiscal Year 2027 Tribal Priorities
Administrative Updates
Department of Education Consultation Comments

[Teresa out at 11:40 a.m., in at 11:46 a.m.]

Prediction Markets – discussion
Lorelei DeCora motioned to direct General Counsel to work with Lance Morgan of War Horse and Tom Teesdale of WinnaVegas to collect comments to prepare a letter from the Tribal Council to the States of Iowa, Nebraska delegations.

[Trey, Eugene, Victoria out at 11:56 a.m.]

[Trey in at 11:57 a.m.]

Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

[Victoria, Eugene in at 11:59 a.m.]
VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

RECESS: 12:02 p.m., reconvene at

1:04 p.m.

WTN RADIO STATION UPDATE:

Construction was extended to July 13, 2026 for a completion date.

Ernie Sanchez's contract is due to be renewed.

GAO STUDY – NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, FOLLOW UP:

Worked with THPO to provide responses and was completed

There will be an additional follow up meeting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

Hensley Springs

Snow Spring

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB NMTC PROJECT:

Letter to clearing house has been signed and sent. There has been no response from Clearing House.

Travois is working to identify a new CDE

QUILICB is being worked on for tax purposes. This will be brought back to the Tribe at a later date.

WINNEBAGO LAND TRANSFER ACT IMPLEMENTATION:

Continuing to assist the Wildlife & Parks Department with code revisions.

Planning for the celebration to take place in August 2026.

[Eugene out at 1:20 p.m., in at 1:25 p.m.]

BROADBAND FIBER PROJECT:

Construction is beginning in Winnebago

Working through approvals with the village of Thurston

Working on approvals from South Sioux City.

Chat over Coffee event Feb. 20th starting at 10:00 a.m. at Sweet Water Café.

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: update only for D Ave. paving project.

TRIBAL CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS – SECRETARIAL ELECTION:

Discussion.

[Rona out at 1:50 p.m.]

WINNEBAGO HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

Thunderway project – start with one homebuyer to start with.

HAVW Deeds – update

TACT workgroup sessions

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to suspend the rules to add the travel for Tribal Council to attend the Educare National Summit. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the Tribal Council to travel to Tulsa, Oklahoma for the 2026 Educare National Summit May 12-14, 2026. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the Tribal Council to travel to Tulsa, Oklahoma for the 2026 Educare National Summit May 12-14, 2026. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Eugene DeCora motioned to enter executive session at 2:12 p.m. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to exit executive session at 3:38 p.m. Ireta Frazier seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Rona Stealer motioned to move forward with recommendations from Big Fire Law as presented to approve the Centralized Tribal Employment Internal Assignment and Administrative Support Memorandum for Class II Gaming Regulatory and Strategic Support and the Winnebago tribe of Nebraska personnel assignment letter class II gaming regulatory and strategic support pending approval of regulatory considerations. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Ireta Frazier motioned to have Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Human Resources to advertise all vacant positions for Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

Rona Stealer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:48 p.m. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Teresa Littlegeorge, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA TREASURER'S REPORT MEETING February 25, 2026

TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Coly Brown
Rona Stealer
Teresa Littlegeorge
Lorelei DeCora
Trey Blackhawk
Eugene DeCora
Isaac Smith

OTHERS PRESENT:

Terri Lee Medina
Cheryl Painter
Petra Nielsen, WCR
Tyresha Romero
Kiana Lewis
Kellie Snow
Char Richardson
Anna Bess Preston
Danelle Smith
Lynelle Blackhawk
Anna Berridge
Darla LaPointe
William Bass
Christian Rogers, WCR
Tom Teesdale, WCR
Anthony Earth
Ray Thomas, WCR
Mark Grant, WCR
Brittany Thomas
Aaron LaPointe
Angel Derochie, WHC
Lisa Walker
Nakia Mallory
Leon Rozeboom, LNB
Jordan Rozeboom, LNB
Brian Coyle, LNB
Beth Wewel
David Edwards, WCHS
Christina Parker
Cecelia Earth
Lance Morgan, WHC
Clarrissa Rave
Janelle DeCora
John Jensen
Joi Long
Dorine Payer
Manoj Patil, LPTC
Tiffany Buchanan
Sharon Frenchman
Yatti Mohamad, LPTC
Rebecca Walker
Keely Purscell
Angie Kent, LPTC
Jaralyn Kelsey
Mark Vasia, LPTC
Jessica Mercer
Felicia Brownrigg
Linda Horse-Free
Sarah Snake
Dulcie Paiva
Janelle DeCora
Brenda Conway, LPTC
Cherie Tebo
Mitchell DeCora, Jr.
Justin Bearskin, Jr.
Iva Masquat
Zeriah George
Andrew Zagurski
Charli Earth

TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Victoria Kitcheyan (Travel)

Ireta Frazier (Travel)

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Brown called to order at 9:05 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Treasurer Stealer offered the opening prayer.

APPROVE AGENDA:

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the agenda. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

December 2025 financials are turned into Tribal Council for review, Presenters will provide a verbal update on January 2026 financials

WTN FINANCIAL REPORT: Presented by Cheryl Painter, Interim CFO

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the WTN December 2025 and January 2026 Financial Reports. Trey Blackhawk seconded the motion.

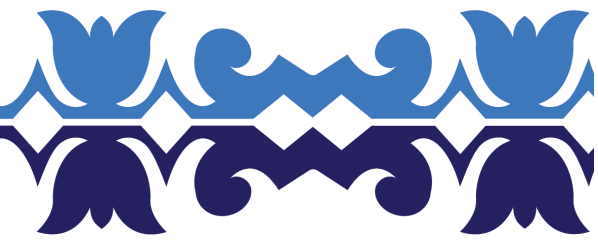
VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Support Letter for EPA TAG Application – presented by Brittany Thomas

Isaac Smith motioned to approve the Support Letter for CERCLA Section 128(a) Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Application. Eugene DeCora seconded the motion.

VOTE: (6) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Liberty National Bank Presentation – Leon Rozeboom, Jordan Rozeboom, and



WPS BOARD OF EDUCATION



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Meeting of the Board of Winnebago Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 4:45p.m. in the board room at the Winnebago Public Schools, Highways 77 & 75, Winnebago, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent:

Present: Teresa Littlegeorge, Nilah Solomon, Crystal Ross, Kiana Lewis, Kristine Earth
Absent: Greg Bass III (excused)

In Attendance: Annette Zimmerman, Jermiah Lonewolf, Daniela Gant, LaDonna Holstein, Sandy Scott, Sonja Wyant, Dulce Pavia, Janelle DeCora, Isaac Smith, Tiffani Warner, Ireta Frazier

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1.Receiving of Delegations: E3 Emergency Response System 4:50-5:10 / LaDonna Holstein, Motherhood is Sacred 5:15-5:30

2. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by President Teresa Littlegeorge, also President Littlegeorge states, "MEMBERS OF THE BOARD RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE MEETING SHOWING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING INCLUDING THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED. NOTICE OF THE MEETING WAS PUBLISHED BY POSTING ON THE OFFICE DOOR AND THREE OTHER PLACES." A COMPLETE COPY OF THE OPEN MEETING ACT IS POSTED ON THE SOUTH WALL.

3. Approval of Agenda with the following changes: delete Item 10, addition of 9-c., move 5-6 to 5-2

Motion: Ross
Second: Solomon
Discussion: None
Voting for: Lewis, Earth, Ross, Littlegeorge
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

4. Business Affairs

4-1. Approve minutes of December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting with the addition of the exit time of 10:52

Motion: Lewis
Second: Solomon
Discussion: None
Voting for: Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

1. January 12, 2026 School Board Meeting

4-2. Approve accounts payable in the amount of \$103,599.47, petty cash account/ treasurer's report.

Motion: Earth
Second: Lewis
Discussion: accounts payable
Voting For: Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

4-3. Approve Facilities WEFLC: \$25,320.88

Motion: Ross
Second: Solomon
Discussion: discuss the change in dates
Voting For: Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5. New Business

5-1. Discuss/Approval J.A.G. Program for 2026-2027 (Annette Zimmerman presenting 5:40-6:02)

Motion: Solomon
Second: Lewis
Discussion: benefits of the program/questions & answers
Voting For: Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth, Ross
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-2. Discuss/Approve Academy Handbook Updates to begin 2026-2027 School year(Digital Attachment)

Motion: Ross
Second: Lewis
Discussion: presented by the Academy teaching staff
Voting For: Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-3. Discuss/Approve Honors American History 2 Summer Trip
Table until we can get more accurate information regarding the trip

Motion to table: Earth
Second: Solomon
Discussion: none
Voting For: Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-4. Discussion-Athletic uniform rotation and donations. (Attached Rotation)

5-5. Approve Policy Updates for January 2026-718 & 802.07

Motion: Earth
Second: Lewis
Discussion: none
Voting For: Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

5-6. Discussion on Entrance Construction- meeting Thursday, January 15th at 2:30

5-7. Discussion on Bullying Forum Date

6. Reports

1. Superintendent:
 - a. SERC Building Update-furniture arriving, Repaint, Opening and blessing
 - b. Legislative Issues Conference, Lincoln, January 25-26
 - c. NAFIS- March 14th -18th

2. Administrative Reports

- a. Athletics Director
- b. Elementary
- c. High School
- d. Special Education
- e. Dean of Students
- f. School Staff Slideshow

7. Public Comment (No board discussion)

3. January 12, 2026 Board Meeting

7. Closed Session 84-1410 Enter Motion 8:22 p.m. Exit Session at 10:37 p.m.

To discuss: 1. Academy Student Dismissal 2. Employee Grievance November 2025 continued

3. Employee Bullying Accusation continued 4. Safety Director Job Duties

Motion: Lewis
Second: Earth
Voting For: Ross, Solomon
Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth

Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

Motion: Earth
Second: Solomon
Voting For: Solomon, Littlegeorge
Lewis, Earth, Ross

Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried (5-0-0-1)

9. Action on:

9-1. Academy Student Dismissal denied with provisional probation through 2nd semester of 26-27 school year

Motion: Solomon
Second: Earth
Discussion: none
Voting For: Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

9-2. Approve Safety Director Job Duties

Table until the February meeting
Motion to table: Littlegeorge
Second: Ross
Discussion: none
Voting For: Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

9-3. Approve Angel DeCora Museum Assembly

Motion: Ross
Second: Earth
Discussion: none
Voting For: Lewis, Earth, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

10. Adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Crystal R. Ross, Secretary
Winnebago Board of Education



**IT'S JUST
MORE FUN**

ON THE HOUSE

**WINN Mortgage
Payments
for a Year!**

Saturdays In March!

6pm to 10:45pm | Promo Play Drawings Every 15 Minutes

SATURDAYS, MARCH 7, 14 & 21

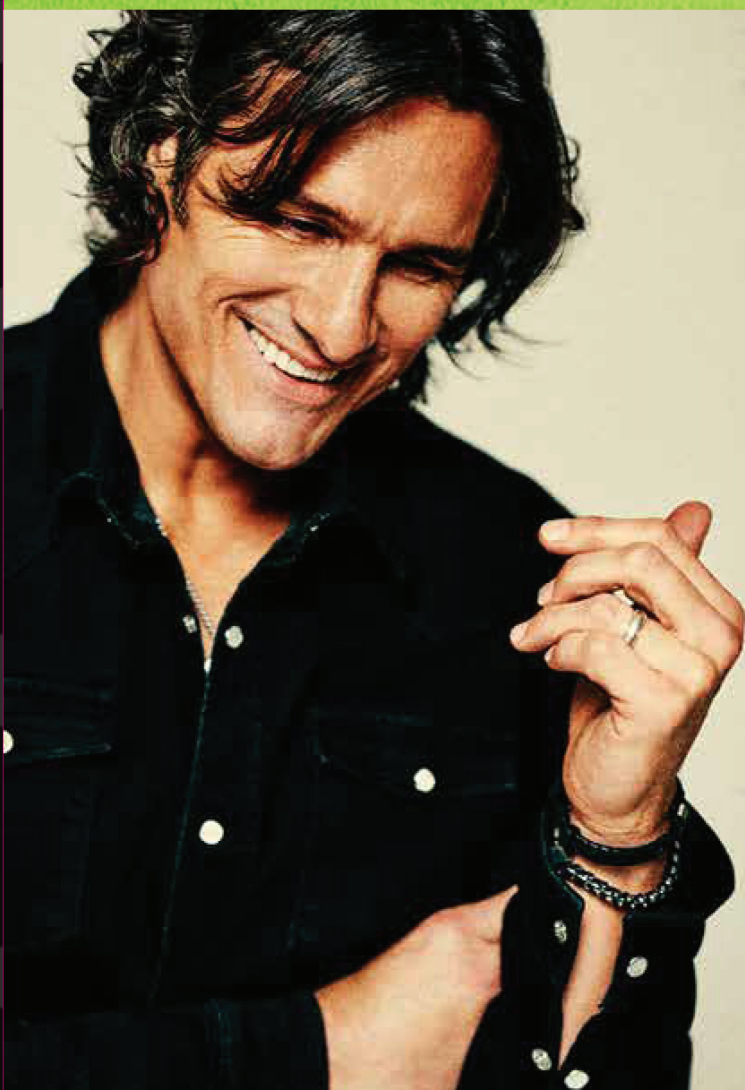
11pm | Three Lucky Winners will be drawn to WINN one month's mortgage* payment.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

11pm | One Lucky Winner will be drawn to WINN mortgage payments for a year!

*Mortgage payment paid as \$2,500 cash for the one month's prize and as \$30,000 cash for the year's prize.

Players can win up to two Promo Play prizes per promotion day. All players eligible for 11pm drawing.



JOE NICHOLS

WINNAVEGAS EVENT CENTER
SATURDAY, APRIL 11

TICKETS ON SALE NOW STARTING AT \$25

For more information: visit WinnaVegas.com or call us at 800-468-9466