

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COURT**

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LARRY B. ROMANELLI,
Tribal Ogema,

Plaintiff

v.

LRBOI TRIBAL COUNCIL,
Defendant

Case No. 25-253-GC

Honorable Angela Sherigan

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ORDER REGARDING MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

On May 13, 2026, the Court entered an order in this matter which ordered the Tribal Council to appropriate funds according to the 2026 budget, which is the budget presented by the Ogema on September 30, 2025.

On September 8, 2026, the Court entered an Order finding Tribal Council Members Speaker Shannon Crampton, Secretary Al Metzger, and Councilors Julie Wolfe, Ron Wittenberg, and Susan Thull in Contempt of Court for failure to follow the Court's May 13, 2026 Order, and ordering each Council Member found in contempt to pay a fine of \$300.00 no later than Friday, September 11, 2026 by 3:00 p.m. to the Tribal Court.

Four of the five found in contempt paid the fine. After that, and after the timeline to pay, a Motion for Reconsideration was filed by defendant's attorney, Jeremy Otis.

The Motion begins with a “procedural history and official record” summation. This is not an official record nor is it accurate to call something procedural when inserting the opinion of a party. Opinions are not facts. For example, the motion states that the “Court illegally and unconstitutionally ordered...” at I A(1), page 2 of the motion. Until such time as an Order of this Court is overturned, it stands.

The Motion at I A(4) (*the first IA(4)*), also on page 2, is incorrect. The Motion states that at the June 30, 2026, hearing defendant argued that “an order for Tribal Council to vote in a particular way was unlawful due to the Separation of Powers Doctrine...” This was, in fact, not argued. Additionally, as stated in the Order of September 8, 2026, the Defendant admits to violating the court order in paragraph 6 of its Answer to the Motion for Show Cause. Counsel for Defendant is cautioned and reminded of its duty to be candid with the court and of the LRRCR Rules of Ethics, 2.306, 2.311, and the Rule regarding the effect of a signature 4.114.¹

Court Rule 4.119 (F) Motions for Rehearing or Reconsideration, states that the moving party must demonstrate a palpable error by which the court and the parties have been misled and show that a different disposition of the motion must result from correction of the error.

The Defendant’s motion fails to demonstrate a palpable error and merely attempts to want the court to use a higher standard than it used in the June 30, 2026 hearing without having argued that at that June 30, 2026, hearing. The argument made in the motion is that additional protection should be afforded to Tribal Council to that of those afforded in contempt proceedings in complex injunctive matters. There has been no argument in the entirety of this case that this is a complex injunction matter. Additionally, the contempt is not for a violation of a complex injunction, it is for failure to follow a mandamus order.

As to the argument of legal impossibility, it is without merit. The Tribal Council members in contempt refuse to follow an order of the court where the court found a violation of the Constitution. The Court reiterates that an ordinance does not trump the Constitution. There is no

¹ 2.306 Advocate. The following provisions shall apply when a lawyer serves in the role of advocate: (A) Meritorious Claims and Contentions. A lawyer shall not bring or defend a proceeding, or assert or controvert an issue therein, unless there is a basis for doing so that is not (C) (1) Candor Toward the Tribunal. A lawyer shall not knowingly: (a) make a false statement of material fact or law to this Court; or (d) offer evidence that the lawyer knows to be false

(E) (1) Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal. A lawyer shall not: (3) engage in undignified or discourteous conduct toward the tribunal.

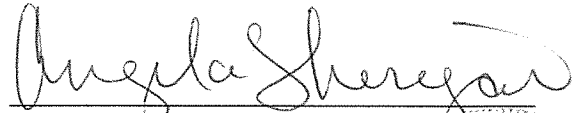
Rule 4.114 Signatures of Attorneys and Parties; Verification; Effect; Sanctions.

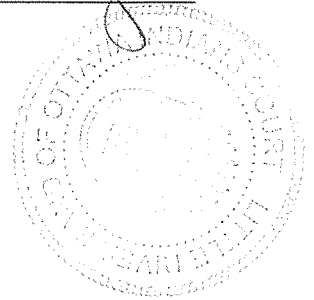
(D) Effect of Signature. The signature of an attorney or party, whether or not the party is represented by an attorney, constitutes a certification by the signer that (1) he or she has read the document; (2) to the best of his or her knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the document is well grounded in fact and is warranted by existing law or a good-faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law; and (3) the document is not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of litigation.

legal impossibility here and more importantly, it was not argued at the hearing. The Court will not "re-hear" this matter now. Any arguments that Tribal Council had should have been made at the June 30th hearing. This includes Chapman v. Election Board and Tribal Council, which the defendant has misinterpreted.

THEREFORE, Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration is hereby DENIED.

Date: 9-18-26

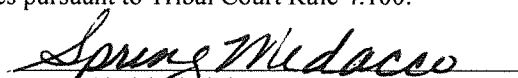

Hon. Angela Sherigan



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this document was served upon the parties pursuant to Tribal Court Rule 4.100.

9-18-26
Date


Court Clerk/Administrator