

Oneida Nation

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Oneida, WI 54155

BC Resolution # 03-17-20-C

Adoption of Emergency Amendments to the Boards, Committees, and Commissions Law to Address COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Boards, Committees, and Commissions of the Nation

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States has identified multiple cases of COVID-19 after learning of the epidemic outbreak in Wuhan, China; and
- WHEREAS,** the President has created the White House Coronavirus Task Force to track the spread of the virus, identify solutions for reducing the spread of the virus, managing scarce resources, and identifying opportunities to improve testing, develop treatment and immunizations, and identify how to inform about and contain epidemics in the future; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Congress has adopted legislation which devotes \$8.3 billion to fund the fight regarding COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS,** the World Health Organization has identified that the spread of COVID-19 is now a pandemic with many countries experience the effects of illness and health issues related to the virus and economic impacts; and
- WHEREAS,** Governor Evers has announced that he has signed Executive Order # 72 which declares a "Public Health Emergency in Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus"; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 12, 2020, Chairman Tehassi Hill signed a "Declaration of Public Health State of Emergency" which sets into place the necessary authority should action need to be taken and allowing the Oneida Nation to seek reimbursement of emergency management actions that may result in unexpected expenses; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, there were 1,629 cases reported through the United States, and 18 cases of positive tests in Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS,** the CDC has issued the following precautions to avoid further spread of the virus:

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has identified that the months of March, April and May should be the time when the potential for the highest increases in the number of confirmed cases would occur; and

WHEREAS, the emergency amendments to the Law is being sought to address the impact of COVID-19 on the Nation's boards, committees, and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Procedures Act authorizes the Oneida Business Committee to enact legislation on an emergency basis, to be in effect for a period of six (6) months, renewable for an additional six (6) months; and

WHEREAS, emergency adoption of legislation is allowed when legislation is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare of the Reservation population, and the amendment of the legislation is required sooner than would be possible under the Legislative Procedures Act; and

WHEREAS, the emergency adoption of these amendments to the Law are necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare of the Reservation population to protect the Reservation population against the public health crisis that is the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, observance of the requirements under the Legislative Procedures Act for adoption of this amendment would be contrary to public interest since the process and requirements of the Legislative Procedures Act cannot be completed in time to ensure that boards, committees and commissions can safely practice social distancing and eliminate any unnecessary contact with other individuals which may spread COVID-19 without having interruptions to the ability to hold a meeting and receive a stipend for that meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Procedures Act does not require a public meeting or fiscal impact statement when considering emergency legislation; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida Business Committee adopts the emergency amendments outlined in the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law effective immediately.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the amended Boards, Committees, and Commissions law hereby supersedes any conflicting language that may be found in the bylaws of boards, committees, or commissions of the Nation.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 9 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 17th day of March, 2020; that the forgoing

resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 8 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Summers", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Summers, Secretary
Oneida Business Committee

*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."