

**Special Board Minutes** Monday,  
August 3, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.  
Administration Conference Room

**Present:** James Evans, (Via Teleconference/Virtual): Donna Yellow Owl-Chairperson, Wendy Bremner, Brenda Croff, Mistee RidesAtTheDoor, Brian Gallup, Rae TallWhiteman. **Absent:** Kristy Bullshoe.

Ms. Yellow Owl called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Approve Board Agenda:** Motion by Mr. Evans to approve the agenda with no changes. Second

### **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Discussion/Possible Action of Upcoming 2020-2021 Fall Sports Year for Browning High School:** Board and Activities Department presented COVID safety plans for sports at the tribal council meeting. The Tribe approved Ordinance #121 in April with strict guidelines for community and schools and last week approve ordinance #299-2020 which is a continued stay at home and be engaged only in essential activities order until 8/14/20 and can have only 25 or less in a group with social distancing. The Tribe did not lift the travel restrictions. The Tribal Council and their legal staff were specific with regard to 14-day quarantine if you travel. Activities coaches have a plan in place as though there will be a sports season, with practice times, weight room use, football field and volleyball gym outside but have not discussed what happens during game time yet. All sports will be required to follow all CDC guidelines. Ms. Yellow Owl felt that the school nurses should have been in attendance at this meeting to help with planning. They can also be utilized for checking temperatures, do a questionnaire, etc. and have designated safety officer to make sure all are following all protocol. Superintendent Hall will review the negotiated agreement and meet with the nurses regarding this issue. Each coach discussed plans for their teams practice and safety guidelines and student numbers for each. Ms. Croff requested that everything be in writing with the exact coach plans for practice and games and a copy be available to all board members. It was noted that there may some coaches that are not comfortable having sports right now: Ms. Yellow Owl stated that this is understandable and she does not want them to do anything they feel they cannot do. Ms. Bremner agreed that if they are at-risk or family at-risk, they should sit out the season with no penalty and will have their same position back next year; another coach concern is that if a student or coach come back with the virus, the whole season is done. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that it is very important to sanitize, wear masks and social distance and it may be necessary to make changes for winter sports and also stated that it bothers her to send teams out there and possibly to a higher rate of COVID in their communities then we have here; the district needs to purchase masks for all the athletes. Board members felt that there should not be any spectators at home games. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that each parent signs participation form for their student and asked if we can have the students tested prior to tryout or practice. Superintendent Hall will check into this but noted that they may not be offering the test for this. The district has checked on rapid testing but has not heard from the lawyers yet. It was also noted that CDC is changing protocol and they don't recommend the second test. Sport meetings start 8/12/20 and 8/13/20 and 8/14/20 practice starts. Ms. Yellow Owl stated that the district can setup protocol for our athletes here but what about when they are traveling and possibly being exposed. Mr. Evans felt that it is the parent's decision to allow their student to participate in sports and the choice to send the kids out of our community is their decision. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated that this is where we consider the waiver, the parent has the choice. Board members discussed limited choices for our students and other pros and cons, mental health of students, parents, and coaches and how to protect all of the students and that many other schools have not made final decision yet to open for sports. Board members agreed that students should get their physicals and offer a waiver too. Ms. Yellow Owl suggested no fall sports for middle school or elementary students. Ms. RidesAtTheDoor stated that some elementary coaches have been hired and asked what will happen with their contracts. Ms. Yellow Owl suggested bring back a new contract for approval for those coaches to work with high school sports. Mr. Gallup motioned to approve fall sports for high school only for the 2020-2021 sports season. Second by Ms. Bremner. Motion passed 5-0 with Donna Yellow Owl, Wendy Bremner, Brian Gallup, Rae TallWhiteman, Brenda Croff voting for. Misty RidesAtTheDoor and James Evans voted for opening high school sports and both voted to have middle school sports.

Motion by Mr. Evans to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. Second by Ms. Bremner. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_ Carlene Adamson, Board Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Donna Yellow Owl, Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_ Stacy Edwards, District Clerk