

State Tribal Economic Development Commission

Conference Call
July 22, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Shawn Real Bird (Chairperson), Richard Sangrey (Vice-Chair) Cheryl Reeves, Brandi King, Gerald Gray, Lane Spotted Elk, Ken Fichtler and Jason Smith, Director Tara Rice

Staff/Guests Present:

Jenny Pelej, Heather Sobrepena and Billie LeDeau

Welcome/Purpose of Gathering:

Meeting started at 11:33 AM.

Overview of the 2019 MILP Guidelines. Heather Sobrepena presented the FY 2019 Montana Indian Language Program guideline proposed changes.

During the 66th Legislature, \$750,000 in funding for 2019 biennium (state fiscal years 2019 and 2020) Montana Indian Language Program was approved in coordination with House Bill 2 and was signed into law by Governor Bullock which will allow the MILP program to continue. Of the \$750,000 in allocated funds, \$20,000 is reserved for personal services and \$17,500 is reserved for operational expenses.

\$712,500 in MILP grant funds shall be available starting **July 1, 2019**. Any unencumbered funds shall revert to the general fund on **June 30, 2021**. Program funds shall be equally distributed through a contract to each of the eight tribal governments. Each grantee shall receive **\$89,062.50**.

Any remaining funds that are unencumbered as of **June 30, 2021** revert to the general fund. If unexpended funds have the potential of reverting to the general fund during the 4th quarter of the state's fiscal year, which begins April 1, then STED Commission may contract directly with an established subrecipient in an amount proportionate to the unexpended funds.

ACTION: Motion made by Commissioner Gerald Gray/seconded by Commissioner Lane Spotted Elk to approve the MILP Guidelines as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gerald Gray provided an update on the status of Little Shell's federal recognition. The defense bill passed out of the House and Senate and will go to Conference Committee in September.

The next STED Commissioner meeting is September 26, 2019 in Billings.

Motion made by Commissioner Richard Sangrey/seconded by Commissioner Gerald Gray to Adjourn. Motion carried.