

## Northern Arapaho Business Council

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June 9, 2020

Dear Tribal Members,

We continue to receive numerous inquiries and requests for information about the status of the ongoing litigation that the Northern Arapaho Tribe was forced to bring against our former attorneys, Baldwin Crocker & Rudd (“BCR”), and the related lawsuit that was brought in apparent retaliation by Co-Chairman Addison, Councilman Dresser, Faith Wallowing Bull, and Rosella Morin against our new attorneys. In the course of these lawsuits the NABC has learned some very disheartening information about one of our own. Specifically, that Co-Chairman Addison has directed significant Tribal funds to be paid to attorneys who acted in ways directly opposed to our Tribe and the interest of the Arapaho people without authorization of the NABC or our knowledge. Likewise, we have learned that he was the sole member of and signatory on bank accounts of the Wyoming Public Policy Project (“WPPC”) which has cost the Tribe hundreds of thousands of dollars, alienated potential political allies and caused considerable public embarrassment.

The NABC has confronted Co-Chairman Addison about these matters both directly and in writing laying out the specific issues. (See NABC Letter to Co-Chairman Addison attached as Exhibit A.) The NABC continues to believe Co-Chairman Addison has been taken advantage of by the Tribe’s former attorneys, BCR and Joel Vincent, and former lobbyist Mark Howell, but his refusal to share information about their past activities with the NABC has forced our hand. He continues to refuse to engage with his fellow Councilmembers or to even respond to the NABC’s repeated requests to provide Tribal documents and information to the rest of the NABC. In addition to our responsibility to keep the Tribe informed, it is our hope that the pressure of sharing this information within the Tribe will convince Co-Chairman Addison to uphold his Oath of Office (see Oath of Office attached as Exhibit B) and return the Tribal funds which he still holds in the name of the WPPC. (See WPPC Public Lobbying Report attached as Exhibit C.)

Additionally, as you will likely soon see in the local press, the Tribe has sued attorney Joel Vincent for a return of the Tribal funds that Jim Conrad and Co-Chairman Addison unlawfully directed to him to fund a lawsuit that was never authorized by the NABC and served the personal interests of himself and the individuals who brought the lawsuit at the expense of and against the interests of Northern Arapaho Tribe. (See Northern Arapaho v. Joel Vincent attached as Exhibit D). Indeed, the Wyoming District Court agreed with the NABC’s position and found that Co-Chairman Addison’s lawsuit was “directly adverse to the Northern Arapaho Tribe.” (See Order Disqualifying Counsel for Al Addison attached as Exhibit E.) To be clear, the Wyoming District Court has ruled that Co-Chairman Addison, Councilman Dresser and Faith

Wallowing Bull used the Tribe's money to bring a lawsuit directly against the Tribe and its interests, in clear violation of the rules governing the conduct of attorneys. Their attorney, Joel Vincent, has been disqualified from the case because of his blatant conflict of interest and the Tribe has now sued Mr. Vincent for the return of the funds that were improperly and illegally paid to him at the unauthorized direction of Co-Chairman Addison and Faith Wallowing Bull.

Consistent with Arapaho tradition, as a Council, we always seek to resolve disputes internally and collaboratively. It is not in our nature to bring litigation or to seek confrontation and we do not do so lightly. However, when forced, we will uphold our Oath of Office and take all necessary steps to protect the resources of the Arapaho people. We also take this action to set a precedent that the sort of behavior that led to this situation will not be tolerated, even when done by an elder and elected NABC Member. Indeed each dollar that was improperly directed to these attorneys (to be used against the Tribe!) was a dollar that did not go to serve the Arapaho people. It would be a violation of our duty to all of you to not take this stand. While we continue to hope and pray that Co-Chairman Addison will return the Tribal funds in his control and stop defending the indefensible and those seeking to undermine the Tribe, we are fully prepared to take all necessary legal action against Co-Chairman Addison and his outside enablers to protect our Arapaho people. You should expect nothing less from the members of your Business Council.

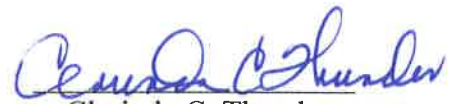
We intend to schedule a time soon to engage with you and answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



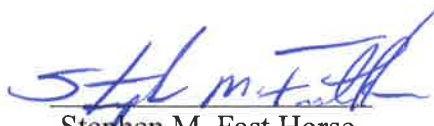
Lee Spoonhunter  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony A. Addison Sr.  
Co-Chairman



Clarinda C. Thunder  
Councilwoman

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Samuel Dresser  
Councilman



Stephen M. Fast Horse  
Councilman



Kimberly Harjo  
Councilwoman

Attachments:

Exhibit A – NABC Letter to Co-Chairman Addison

Exhibit B – Oath of Office

Exhibit C – WPPC Public Lobbying Report

Exhibit D – Northern Arapaho v. Joel Vincent

Exhibit E – Order Disqualifying Attorney Joel Vincent from the Addison Lawsuit