

April 2018 Informational Letter

Greetings, Members of the Kul Wicasa Oyate, I hope this letter finds you all in good spirits as spring is upon us.

Since my last letter a lot has happened. One is the Brul'e Sioux boys' basketball going to the State Tournament. These young men represented Lower Brule in a way we all can be proud of. The students and the school staff did a wonderful job preparing for the tournament as well. The community is to be commended also for their support. These young athletes have brought a sense of pride to our community and for that I am grateful. We look forward to the girl's and boy's going to the State Tournament next year!!!

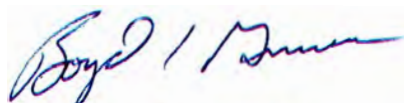
If anyone has been west I'm sure you've seen the construction at the Medicine Creek Bridge. The project is a 4.7 million dollar project funded through the BIA roads and will be great in making the road safe for the commute to Pierre and westbound. There are jobs available at the site. Ben Janis TERO director is the contact person for jobs on the project.

Coinciding with this project and special thanks to Senator John Thune the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe has been awarded what's called a (TIGER) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant in the amount of 21 million dollars for the construction of a new road to the Kennebec junction. We are pushing for this project to start in construction season 2019. The timing of this project couldn't be better following the construction of the new bridge and will be providing much needed jobs to our community.

Another project we are working on is stabilization of the shoreline in front of Lower Brule. This project is greatly needed to insure that we do not have to move to higher ground again. There was a public meeting in town raising awareness and gathering concerns from the members.

Also I want to assure everyone the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe is not in any tax agreement with the state of South Dakota. I did not sign one nor do I have the authority to. I will follow the direction of the Tribal Council but I believe something of this magnitude should be brought before the people. I'm sure the Tribal Council will agree. With sovereignty under attack everyday and being the only tribe to not have a tax agreement with the state strengthens our position in protecting our sovereignty.

Lastly our cash position hasn't changed much, and we are still faced with tough decisions, but with the changes we have put in place there will be improvement in the long run. We are slowly rebuilding our once stellar reputation as you can see by the projects awarded to our Tribe. Our people deserve better and we are committed to create a better quality of life for you, by more jobs and economic development opportunities while we rebuild our Tribe and we are headed in the right direction.


Chairman