

**Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission Minutes
Special Meeting - January 6, 2025
Virtual via Zoom
Public Live Stream Provided**

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Commissioners Present (by Zoom):

Robert (Bert) Polchies, Robert (Bob) Checkoway, Joseph Barnes, Oshikiyol (Ezekiel) Crofton-Macdonald, Darren Ranco, Rena Newell

Commissioners Absent: Sam St. John, Newell Lewey, Gordon (Nels) Kramer

Staff Present: Jill Tompkins (Executive Director), Rachel Bell (Projects Coordinator)

Guests Present: Vice-Chief Richard Silliboy (Official Mi'kmaq Nation Observer)

Public: By audio stream

Review of Agenda and Quorum: Quorum was not established. Commissioners reviewed the agenda and made no changes.

Legislative Update:

The special meeting aimed to get approval to submit the proposed legislation, "An Act Regarding Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission Employee Group Health Plan Eligibility" [working title and draft only]. Before the meeting, Jill emailed to the Commission a memo dated December 23, 2024, explaining the background of the proposed bill to extend state employees' group health plan eligibility to MITSC employees and the draft proposed bill. Commissioners discussed the bill. Everyone present was in favor, and it was agreed that staff would follow up with any commissioners who were absent to move forward and submit the bill by the cloture date.

Next meeting:

January 10, 2025, at Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk Tribal Offices, 8 Kennebasis Road, Indian Township.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.