

SHANNON COUNTY MINUTES OF MAY 28, 2014

The Shannon Board of County Commissioners met in special session for the purpose of conducting a public hearing at 4:00 PM on May 28, 2014, at the Conference Room of Prairie Winds Casino. Present: Wendell Yellow Bull, Lyla Hutchison, Bryan Kehn and Auditor, Sue Ganje. Absent: Anna Diaz Takes The Shield and Eugenio White Hawk.

Chairman Yellow Bull called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM and asked the public for comment on the proposed Tribal National Park on the South Unit of the Badlands National Park. Eric Brunnemann, Superintendent of the Badlands National Park, provided a history of the park and an explanation of a 1976 Memorandum of Understanding between the National Park Service and the Oglala Sioux Tribe, which is an irrevocable agreement allowing the National Park Service to enter into land management of the South Unit. In 2000, a general management plan was implemented, which culminated in the 2006 establishment of the South Unit. Brunnemann added that the plan included input from the Tribe on what the public wanted to see done with the Park, which identified a Tribal National Park as a goal. A plan was drafted and completed in 2011, then the process of drafting the necessary legislation began. Brunnemann noted that the Tribe has been involved throughout the process and that per the MOA, all federal laws apply and the National Park Service needs tribal approval for any actions.

Several members of the public spoke of their concerns regarding the OST leadership and the lack of public input on decisions the council has made. Matters of particular concern are mining, possible displacement of property owners and whether that would be done by eminent domain, management of the park and the proposed re-introduction of buffalo herds. Brunnemann encouraged the public to pass their concerns along to the elected OST leaders and added he would report the concerns voiced at the meeting to National Park Service management.

Motion by Kehn, seconded by Hutchison, to adjourn. With no further discussion and all voting yes on a roll call vote, the motion carried and the Board adjourned at 6:13 PM.

ATTEST:

/s/ Sue Ganje

Sue Ganje, Shannon County Auditor

/s/ Wendell Yellow Bull

Wendell Yellow Bull, Chairman

Board of Shannon County Commissioners