

GAAGIGE-MIKWENDAAGOZIWAG REWARD FUND BOARD MEETING

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
9:00am-10:30am

**Board Members:**

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|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Matthews- Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Selena Garza    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rene Ann Goodrich |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merlin Deegan                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caroline Palmer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ana Negrete       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open Seat                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest _____                |   |

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Minutes

9:00 to 9:05 Welcome- Shortened Agenda to continue the review process.

9:05 to 10:20 Detailed Review of Draft Policy/Procedure

- Discussion on when reward can, should be paid. Language as it is written mirrored after BIA's MMU tip program indicates under award eligibility that to be eligible for the max monetary reward, the case required prosecution as it relates to a homicide investigation or bring closure to the case related to a missing persons case.
  - Discussion on what happens if someone is believed to be guilty gets off on a technicality. Will avoid the word conviction to reflect the concern and use prosecution as it reflects the process of justice as opposed to an outcome.
  - Do we want to pay a smaller amount on arrest and a larger amount on prosecution as a show of good faith? This was advised by crime stoppers as well.
  - Board indicates that we do want to pay a smaller amount at the time of arrest and max amount upon prosecution.
  - Discussion on who will dictate if the information is substantial which will pay at a higher rate vs significant which will pay at a lower rate. Answer: Lead law enforcement agency will advise the board of impact (Substantial v Significant) as defined by the policy to determine appropriate reward payout. This may need to be revised in policy and practice once we get to this step depending on the engagement of the LE agencies involved.
  - Discussion on anything in the statute that nullifies this process. Answer: It does not seem to be an language that would limit this process at this time.
  - Some discussion on how detailed we will need to be to clear that to be eligible for 10k, this will require a prosecution. Without a prosecution the max award would be 7500, the additional 2500 would be rewarded with the prosecution that does not mandate conviction. This will require further discussion with legal advocate or other qualified consultants who may be more familiar with the full justice process.

10:20-10:30 Other Business

- Board member Selena Garza indicated that there was a HRD handler out of White Earth, she was unsure of the name but will find out and report back. She indicated that Red Lake is interested in developing a K-9 team that is specific to the region.