



LOWANEU ALLANQUE LODGE

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Nicholas C. Shute

Lodge Secretary

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Lowaneu Allanque Lodge #41

E-Board Minutes

Date: January 21st, 2021

Type of Meeting: Microsoft Teams Call

Secretary: Nicholas Shute

#### Executive Board Positions:

**Lodge Chief-** Daniel Stoner ( [chief@oa41.org](mailto:chief@oa41.org) )

**Lodge Vice-Chief of Committees-** Nico Lamb ( [vccom@oa41.org](mailto:vccom@oa41.org) )

**Lodge Vice-Chief of Chapters-** Ryan Predki ( [vcchapt@oa41.org](mailto:vcchapt@oa41.org) )

**Lodge Secretary-** Nicholas Shute ( [sec@oa41.org](mailto:sec@oa41.org) )

**Lodge Treasurer-** Collin Freese ( [treas@oa41.org](mailto:treas@oa41.org) )

**Lodge Quartermaster-** Ethan Tidwell ( [qm@oa41.org](mailto:qm@oa41.org) )

**Call To Order-** Daniel Stoner started the meeting around 7:32 p.m. and he led us with the O.A. Obligation, a Pledge of Allegiance was not held, he then said that we were going to go out order tonight and proceeded to start with Chapter reports

#### **Agenda: Reports-**

Secretary's Report (Nicholas Shute) – For the Secretary's report, the minutes for the last meeting on December 17th were shown via screen share and after several minutes of looking over by everyone in attendance at the meeting they were passed after a motion and a second, and it was mentioned that we would later be having some votes on amendments to the Lodge Bylaws

Webmaster with (Mrs. Deb Brown) – Daniel went to the Webmaster's report after Committee reports and for the Webmaster's report, Mrs. Brown's video was not working she mentioned, but she said it was used up for another meeting her husband was on, she then said she will post the minutes she has, then she asked if the lodge email aliases were working, and Mr. Nadeau said they are working correctly, although they should be checked, so each member of the Key Six should try to email themselves, then if was asked if the email aliases would send directly to a personal email address or to that personal address and the lodge advisors email, and it was said that the hope was that the email aliases would send to both the advisor and the youth, so Mrs. brown said she would put them back as she took them off in December when she heard they were not working, Mr. Nadeau said no matter what we do a lot of people end up with messages like this in their spam or junk mail, so we all should periodically be checking our spam, it

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was then said that we could post a “how-to” communications page on the website, Mrs. Brown said to send her anything important you want added to the website, then she

said for communications we can put how to fix email issues, how to contact lodge members, and maybe even some contacts, and she said that the current lodge forms on the website are generic and not up to date, so she needs to update the forms for 2021 and she will probably send those to either the Key Three or Key Six to look over, then she said we are missing a few forms as well, so then it was mentioned that the Communications Committee has a few things to do including writing up something for Mrs. Brown to put on the website regarding how to make junk mail “unjunked” as it was said and make sure that people know how to change a email to non-jun, then Gavin said he is up to the task, but they should have asked him on Discord as that is his calling card, then it was said that we are unsure what we can do for some people as if they are not here tonight they would not know if they did not get a email as they did not hear this conversation, they then said that we could also use Slack and Discord to talk about this as well and Mrs. Brown said Discord was good as she uses it for all her gaming, then it was said we can put it on the Facebook website, and that it does not need to be as long as *War and Peace*, it could just be one or two sentences, and Gavin then said he would reach out to the Chapter Chiefs and tell them what to put in their Discord or Slack accounts, and then Mrs. Brown said that you should talk to her if you want to update the website and send the missing information over to her if you have it, then someone brought up the conversation of Lodge due notices and postcards which was said to be a ongoing conversation between Gavin and Collin, Gavin then said he has a postcard design, and he said he will bring it up at the next Executive Board meeting and get approval from the Treasurer first as we need to get those out, so he will get those to Collin and he can get them out for free printing hopefully although we will have to pay for mailing which Collin will talk more about at a later time, then it was finally said that the standard postcard size would be 4”x6” long and wide when they are sent out

Treasurer’s Report (Colin Freese) – For the Treasurer’s report, Sean put up the treasurer’s report, and we were shown a sheet with a lot of different information and costs on it which were mostly account balances, although it was mentioned that the key ones are the dues and events and the fact that the end total was \$142,596.33

Quartermaster’s Report (Ethan Tidwell) – For the Quartermaster’s report Daniel went to the Quartermaster’s report after Chapter reports and said it was “Chaos Day”, at this time Ethan was in the meeting, but we could not hear him, so Daniel moved to Treasurer’s report instead, then when the Treasurer’s report was over Ethan started his report and said he had trouble with Microsoft Teams before, but he could do his report now, as for his report he said they still have the limited edition patches, so if you want those go to the websites and follow the



instructions, then it was asked if we have a plan for distributing the patch sets, and Mr. Bruns said they will do something, but are unsure of what at this point, although he was thinking of mailing them out he is unsure, we should send him an email if we have an interest in getting a patch set which is explained

on the website, they also have ready the regular patch set for people who pay annual dues, and they have Winter Banquet Patches to get out, all along with the 25th anniversary patches

**Chapter Reports** (Ryan Predki)—Ryan went right into Chapter reports first thing

Chippewa - The Report for the Chippewa Chapter is Ryan Dodd said that they held two successful elections on January 19th, 2021, and they had another successful meeting on January 7th, 2021 and they had a Chapter cook-off and there were some good meals, also they have around twenty elections scheduled with more to come, then he said they are looking for a Chapter Quartermaster position to be filled as they need to manage the large amount of ceremonial gear they have, and finally he said that February 20th, 2021 is their Chapter Training Academy event which will be virtual from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Ottawa - The report for the Ottawa Chapter is at the time they came to him, Vinny Hlavacek was not there, so they moved onto Potowatomi, and when Potowatomi finished and there was still no Vinny, Ryan Predki covered for them saying that they held a meeting in the first Wednesday of the month which was January 6th virtually, they went over general business, future events and E-Board Meeting dates, they went over elections promotions and information, and they discussed the ACT conference and a lot of other stuff, and they always meet the first wednesday of every month so they should be meeting on February 3rd, 2021 next

Potawatomi - The report for the Potawatomi Chapter is Austin Mathison was not yet there when they got to them, but Lucas Wilson was, so he said that they had a elections trainings meeting and they went over what people should be doing in a virtual setting, although Lucas was unsure of how many people were there, but they had a elections training for their meeting

**Committee Reports** (Nico Lamb)— Daniel went to Committee Reports after the Quartermaster report, but Nico was not on yet, so they went to the Secretary report instead, and then he went back to the Committee Reports, Nico could not be heard at first, but fixed it and told Committee Chairman to check their emails as he sent on out this afternoon about Spring



Fellowship and he said it was important, then he said that about half of the people he sent it to have looked, so please respond, and then he said if you did not receive it then tell him to resend it or send it to a different email address

American Indian Activities/Affairs - The report for A.I.A. is Matt Bazan was not her tonight, but Nico was able to say that at this time American Indian Affairs does not currently have anything to report at this time

Activities - The report for the Activities committee is Nico said that they currently have begun to begin planning for Spring Fellowship, but other than that at this time Nico has nothing to report

Brotherhood - The report for the Brotherhood committee is Jacob Wilson said that he had nothing to report, but Mr. Stoner asked Jacob when the next Brotherhood Bash was going to be, and Jacob said he is currently looking at April right now, but he has not found a very good weekend for it, and he then said he would like it to be at Camp Big Timber, so he was told to ask Mr. Nadeau about availability at Camp Big Timber (CBT) in April, and he said he would send Mr. Nadeau an email about that

Communications - The report for the Communications committee is Gavin Smith was Gavin said that right now they are in the process of mailing dues postcards for the year, but they are mostly waiting on approvals, he also said he is starting to work on the Lodge social media accounts and that we should send a email to him if we want to help or talk to him about anything regarding communications, and he said that people should make sure that emails are not going to their spam as some people have told Mr. Nadeau that their emails are going to their spams, so we should all be sending emails out in a way that they do not go to people's spams, Mrs. Brown said she was going to say the same thing, Nico was then questioned about the email for Spring fellowship he sent out and he said that he only sent that out to Committee Chairman, so many people should not have received that email, Daniel then joked that he is not a Committee Chairman, but he got one, but Nico snappily said that he is the Lodge Chief, then Daniel asked if that was attitude from Nico

Elangomats - The report for the Elangomat committee is Lucas Wilson said that he is looking for Elangomats for Spring Fellowship, then he said that training at Winter Banquet went well, so thanks to those that came, also he said please text him and do not call him if you want to be an Elangomat, finally he said he will be preparing a training for Elangomats going to Spring Fellowship

Grounds - The report for the Grounds committee is Eric Moskal was not at tonight's meeting, but he told Nico to say for him that he currently has nothing to report at this time



Inductions - The report for the Inductions committee is Austin said that he was sorry for not being here earlier, but he said the Inductions cycle has started as two elections have happened, then he said that units that have not yet told us if they need an election need to do that soon, he said that they held a training for elections at their Chapter meeting, then he said they are improving the website for the elections system, and that recently Jordan posted a guide to complete an election with all the pandemic information, so if you have access to the portals, check that out before you start a

election, then the status on DocHub was questioned and it was said that it has been distributed, and that COVID-19 changes have changed the eligibility requirements this year in some ways so you should look at the updates, then Austin asked if we got the Zoom licenses and the answer was no, not yet, and Ryan Predki said he sent out a few emails asking about it, but they are still looking for them, and it was asked that as we have had some elections what have we been using, and it was said they used the troops platforms, but if they need Zoom licenses tell Mr. Nadeau, then Ryan Dodd said that some units are not meeting virtually so we will need Zoom licenses, and that his Chapter does Zoom meeting for their Chapter meetings, so he would appreciate one account per Chapter as it is more accessible than Microsoft Teams, but it was said we could continue the Zoom discussion later

Service - The report for the Service committee is Eddie Ouimet was here for the first time in a while, but he said that at this current time he has nothing to report

Vigil - The report for the Vigil committee is neither of the chairman were here again, but Mr. Nadeau said that there is no new business, but vigil certificates for people who got Vigil last Fall are still in the process from National, but we are just waiting for them to send them to us

### **New Business-**

**Elections-** they said that the elections training is this weekend which is not much of a notice, but in two days Ryan Predki, Austin Mathison, and Jordan Landtiser will be teaching, so come to hear the power three in the Lodge speak, then come to training and learn about elections, as for Chapters elections, Chippewa has twenty-six documented elections, ten of which are opting out as they do not have anyone to elect, Ottawa has ten elections so far with two units not having an election, and Potawatomi has one unit with a election, and as of right now we have two candidates for the 2021 season, and there is a training on January 23rd and then a one hour video will be sent out to tell what to do, then it was asked if we had a link yet for the



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elections training, and it was said yes it is with a bunch of Google Forms, and is on Facebook, the Chippewa Discord in announcements, and will be on the Ottawa Slack in a few minutes, so if you are going to the training sign up on the google form as this year they want everyone to be trained due to the new virtualized format, also unless another Chapter wants to hold a training or teaching day or meeting, this will probably be the last training we will have so make sure that you are there, also National has changed some requirements if you did not know so Jordan will be sending out some things about that

**Winter Council of Chiefs (W.C.O.C.)**-There was not a lot of time to discuss Winter Council of Chiefs because Daniel wanted to move onto the Lodge Bylaws change as it was thought to take the most time, so they just said that it is this weekend, so you should sign up for it

**Bylaws Amendment Change Vote**-So there are three changes that have been brought up, one is public access, a second is number of votes, and a third is a Budget thing, so the first proposal is to put the Lodge Bylaws in a place with public access so everyone knows and has access to view them, the second one is a proposed budget for the Chapters where if we make no budget the Chapters get 2% of what we make at the end of the year, then 23% goes to each and the little bit left over at the end would be in case the Chapters need more money, then the third is changing the number of voting from ten to twenty for officer elections as we would like to increase that number for general officer elections, as we get more votes for each Chapter after the merger instead of just ten votes, so now we will go back to public access

**Public Access**- so the first one makes sense and Mr. Stoner wishes they were already on the website and we would not have to come to this, although when he looked at other Lodges websites he quickly found other Bylaws on their websites, then Mrs. Brown said when the Bylaws proposal was made posted it to the website, but she unfortunately never had the Bylaws so she could never post them, Gavin then said he concurs that it is important that we know what they are, then Gavin said that he was not allowed to use Discord for anything he would be very sad, so it is important people know the rules, and whatever we vote on will be updated so that is good, then Ryan Dodd said that he would like to motion to pass and it was said we need 51% of us to agree to pass the change, so it may be just easier to ask if anyone is opposed, or we could throw together a very fast Google Form, then Mr. Nadeau said that there is a way to lower the hands of members on the meeting, so all youth were asked to raise their hands and there was problems with getting all youth to have their hands up as it seemed some people were not listening, then it was decided in the end that there was about twenty-six youth at the meeting, so we need at least thirteen votes in order to pass any changes, then Nicholas Shute asked why youth are the only ones voting if the Bylaws do not specify that only youth can vote meaning adults could vote as well, and Mr. Stoner said he thought about this already and interpreted its original meaning was to only say youth, although

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it realistically should only be youth members who have paid their dues, then some said that Ryan Predki better have paid his dues and he said he paid for annual dues for himself and for Mr. Predki, and Ryan Dodd said he has paid his as well, and then there was a vote and it was approved with a vote that was cut off at sixteen, therefore the Public Access change will be made

**Chapter Finances-** so the second vote is on a budget change which says that if we do not have a budget then this will go into effect, the question is are we going to make a budget as in the Bylaws it says we will have a budget, so we should make one, and it was said that we should have one so that people know we are not stealing the money, then Mr. Stoner said that he thinks that this gives justification for our dues and where all

our money is going, and that it feels like we are putting something in our budget to justify not making a budget, then he also asked where that 2% was coming from as he was wondering if the Chapters are getting 2% of everything the Lodge makes, or if it is 2% of the money we make on dues and if it is only from the dues the Chapter made or the whole Lodge, then it was said that when Ryan thought it up, the 2% would come out of all of it, although it would not be needed if we had a budget, but we do not currently have a budget, so in what way can we enforce the Bylaws as it is rather hard to enforce them and if they are not enforced then there should be some way to fall back, then someone mentioned that this would eliminate a Chapter budget and that there have been questions as to why a Chapter cannot have a budget, then it was said that a rough estimate of the 2% is only a couple thousand dollars which using that as a base is not a huge amount of money, then it was said that the Bylaws say a Chapter can request funds, but a budget for the Chapters would help, then Daniel said that when he was Chapter Chief the Legacy Chapter of Fox Fire he understood that a budget was not made as they only had three people, but he thinks that their should just be more specification on if the money is set aside how can it be used as it sounds like we are giving up a couple thousand dollars to use for a free range of things, then Nico said a budget would be good for the Chapters to allow for them to have fun activities and maybe they could use the money to benefit others, but he does agree with Daniel that there are not enough specifics, therefore there are a lot of questions coming up about things that are not in the Bylaws or in the change, so the amendment needs to be more specific in certain areas, then Mr. Vitous asked if there was anything that should limit lodge spending at any level and the answer was no, but it could not just be a free for all spending situation, then as a joke for a final comment some said that they would like to allocate 50% of Lodge funds to a Pirate Ship which Ryan Predki said he would bring up at the next Key Six meeting, then it was asked if we want to vote on this, or if we want to vote on changing it so it is worded and ready to go when we vote and then take another vote to get it passed later, then it was decided we would be voting for it to decide if we wanted or did not want to do it to the Bylaws, after about half a minute not one single youth Scout had voted for it, so we said we would look back at it, and hope to see some editions and we should give recommendations to

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Collin our Treasurer as to exactly what it would say, therefore the Chapter Finances Change will not make it into the Bylaws at this time

**Number of Votes**-the third proposed addition is to change the officer elections vote number per Chapter to twenty, it was then said that the revision also mentioned one vote per youth member and Gavin said that he would like to change this as member attendance would be heavily stacked against Potawatomi and Ottawa and we may have a situation where a Chapter is unfairly treated, therefore Gavin said we should revise the change to where every state has the same amount of votes just like the Senate giving twenty votes to every Chapter despite their attendance at the event, then Ryan Predki said that at the last Fall Fellowship Chippewa had a lot more than twenty members, Potawatomi had nine members and votes half of which were Ordeal members, and he said that should not be how it is as one Chapter just because it is

massive does not mean it should have more votes than a Chapter with less people, and he said it would not be right to weigh it by Chapter like that, then Austin said that usually Chapter Chief or Chapter Vice Chief are at these elections and they could be the ones to lead the Chapter in its allocation of the votes, and he said that Potawatomi has the biggest landmass and only a few people stayed for the election as many went home due to the rain and some were setting up ceremonies, so Austin asked if we could do it so that people present at the event get to choose, so it would still be weighted by Chapter, but not as weighted if ten people went to Fall Fellowship, then Ryan said that he is in agreement that twenty members may be hard to get, and one to one voting would not work either as Chippewa will have a ton of people to vote, then it was said that usually people in attendance are brand new, so it may be hard for Chapters to reach members, so what Ryan suspects is that a more complicated method of voting may be needed to be brought up to find the solution to our problems, then Nico said that with voting it has always been that if you show up to the event you get a vote up to the number of votes determined by the Bylaws, so trying to use recent attendance is not good as we have not had COVID-19 until the last year which has changed the attendance by a lot, and we are trying to look for the future and the improvement of the Bylaws for all time, but increasing the votes to twenty does give the smaller Chapters more incentive to bring more people as when we went fully virtual we lost a lot of people, Nico went on to say that he used to have fifteen people at troop meetings and now that is cut in half, so we should try not to over complicate it and should just leave it if you do not show up to vote then they don't count your vote like in a United States election, Nico gets the balance difference in members forum the Chapters and you can set an equal playing field, but that is not how everything is planned, then it was said that that is a great thought, but it raises questions of how we are not getting members to go, it was then said we need to work on communications as sometimes that is what it comes down to, then it was said that for Chippewa the current law change is a little unfair, and we just need to rework out how the votes can be used, then it was said that if you go back to the way the Section votes officers, each Lodge has ten votes and if Lodge has less than ten people then there are less than ten votes given, and based on being at events and

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voting, when the Lodge was formed we did ten votes per Chapter no matter what and this was eventually changed for an unknown purpose, which was probably brought up by some Chapter, and when Mr. Stoner went to his first election he got the best of both worlds as you get a lot of votes, but it is also like the House Representatives where size matters, which is why it is the way it is, Jordan then said that other Lodges do it the same way we have it now with twenty votes, but we can never make it 100% truly fair, then it was said that we have never had to much of an issue and we could do more for elections, so that people know why people are being elected, Mr. Stoner then said they did their elections before the ceremony and Ordeal candidates were there, but had to remain silent, then Austin said he feels like the number is fine, and a lot of people sleep overnight to see stuff, and that at the last Fall Fellowship there was low attendance in Chapters because it was wet so people were not sleeping overnight in the dark and a lot left, so changing the number of votes and setting people up to get ready to vote is not the problem, but rather when we hold the

vote is the problem, then it was mentioned that one thing being heard by everyone is if attendance counts and it is inherently weighted towards Chippewa then we need to do a better job on getting people to come to these events, it was said that in United States elections if you do not show up then you do not get a vote, so just be there as that is the larger part of this discussion, then Mr. Stoner said he was surprised how this went saying that this worries him on a different level if we cannot get twenty people to come, originally we had ten votes given in the same way, but are we saying it was unfair before?, then he said it is almost like the vote for the amendment is going a certain way for the wrong reasons, and that we should be able to have sixty youth at these elections, and he is trying to rally us to get attendance to our events, then Nico said that steps we can take is communication, social media, Discord's, emails, Chapter Chiefs that give a centralized way to vote, and he said that at this point the vote is changing from ten to twenty, if the issue is having more people come then talk bout that after, then they voted and the motion passed so the Number of Votes at officer elections will be changed in the Bylaws

**Other-**For other New Business, we skipped Conclave, Spring Fellowship, and Awards Committee, and Mr. Nadeau does not want to hold up our time anymore, but he wanted to say that the Executive Board set a date for Spring Fellowship and it will be June 4th through June 6th, 2021 at CFL or Camp Freeland Leslie, so that date is set and there will be more information later, Daniel then said that he would also like to say that if we have anything to add to the discussion of the Executive Board then we should go to him, so he will put his email in the chat

**Old Business-**

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**Winter Banquet-** This was scheduled to be discussed on the Agenda, but because we went overtime with the Lodge Bylaw Amendment voting, we did not get to it unfortunately.

**Other-**There was no other old business that was mentioned at this time, so there was nothing else to discuss.

**Key 3 Minutes-** Daniel said it was time for the Key Three Minutes now where Mr. Nadeau will make a great speech, Mr. Stoner will look good after his speech, and Daniel will look bad

Lodge Staff Advisor (Mr. Sean Nadeau) – in Mr. Nadeau’s minute he said thanks to

everyone for coming, he wanted to say that we had a great Winter Banquet and thanks to everyone for doing wonderful service, he then said it has been a very long but very productive meeting, and that is good so long as nothing bad is happening, and some of us were like man are we done yet but we made it, and even though something did not get passed situations may change, so have a good rest of the weekend and the elections training is Saturday and WCOG or Winter Council of Chiefs is Sunday so go to those

Lodge Advisor (Mr. David Stoner) – in Mr. Stoner’s minute he said at work he hears a lot the saying that goes something like “daylight is the best disinfectant” and we should look at things and this helps us to open up, so it is good to look at things, so when Ryan Dodd brought up changes for the Bylaws he actually them and realized what we are not doing and what is missing which is good, he then said if we do not evolve we will die, so those Bylaws made sense when they were created, but now the Lodge needs to evolve and change, and he was enlightened by how many people had points to bring up on the Bylaws and their changes, finally he said thanks for the participation and discussion

Lodge Chief (Daniel Stoner) – in Daniel’s minute he said he would like to start off with the fact that Mr. Stoner always takes away his speech ideas, so he would like that fact included in the minutes which it was, then he said any questions or anything else should be sent to him and he would like to thank everyone for showing up and coming up with ideas and being there even if there is still no Pirate Ship, and he ran out of things to say he said, so then he lead us into our song

**Meeting Adjournment-** Daniel moved us into our O.A. official song and everyone said goodnight with the meeting ending around 9:10 p.m.