

WAGANAKISING ODAWAK STATUTE
CONTRACTING STATUTE

SECTION I. SHORT TITLE

This Statute shall be entitled “Contract” Statute. This statute rescinds and replaces any and all previous Statutes, Resolution, Regulations and/or policies related to this subject matter. This Statute repeals and replaces Waganakising Odawak Statute (WOS) 2018-019, Waganakising Odawak Statute (WOS) 2013-007 and WOS 2002-04, Section III. C. Contractors and Subcontractors.

SECTION II. PURPOSE

To authorize the Tribe and its sub-entities to negotiate, execute and enforce contracts within the parameters stated in this Statute and provide for legal and financial review authority.

SECTION III. DEFINITIONS

- A.** “Competitive Contracts” means contracts for which one or more vendors compete by placing bids.
- B.** “Enjinaaknegeng” means the LTBB Legal Department.
- C.** “Financial Review Authority” means a designated person within each Tribal branch or its sub-entity that has the authority to review finances.
- D.** “Frivolous law suit” means a suit without any legal merit.
- E.** “Non-Competitive Contracts” means contracts that do not require public notice or bids.

1 **F.** “Official” means any person holding an elective or appointed office in any branch, entity,
2 enterprise, authority, division, department, office, commission, council, board, bureau,
3 ccommittee, legislative body, agency and any establishment within the Executive, Legislative or
4
5 Judiciary branch of the Tribe including Members of the Election Board and Prosecutors.
6

7 **G.** “Preponderance of the Evidence” means just enough evidence to make it more likely
8 than not that the fact the claimant seeks to prove is true.
9

10 **H.** “Tribally-owned Corporations” means a Corporation or a subsidiary of a corporation that
11 is at least fifty-percent (50%) owned or controlled by the Tribe.
12
13

14 **SECTION IV. LEGAL and FINANCIAL REVIEW**

15

16 **A.** To ensure that all contracts follow Tribal law and are in the best interest of the Tribe, all
17 contracts entered into on behalf of Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) or
18 Odawa Casino Resort (OCR) or other LTBB Tribal entities must be reviewed by Enjinaaknegeng
19 and the Financial Review Authority before they are executed and/or take effect.
20

21 **1.** Enjinaaknegeng shall review contracts for legal form, including, but not limited
22 to, appropriate designation of parties, legal consideration (i.e., mutual obligations),
23 jurisdiction, waiver of sovereign immunity, term and liability.
24

25 **2.** Each branch of the government or its sub-entity shall notify the Department of
26 Commerce of the person identify as a “Financial Review Authority” and shall update the
27 information as needed. A financial review will be conducted to ensure that all contracts
28 are allowable under the program, budget and/or adequate finances are available to cover
29 the contract.
30

31 **SECTION V. WAIVER OF SOVERIEGN IMMUNITY**

32
33

1 A. Any contract containing a provision for a waiver of sovereign immunity shall be
2 approved by Tribal Council before they are executed and/or take effect unless otherwise
3 authorized by Statute or Resolution.

4
5 B. The Tribal Council clearly and expressly waives its sovereign immunity to the Limited
6 Remedies as set forth in this Statute for any official that violates this Statute.

7
8
9 **SECTION VI. CENTRAL REPOSITORY FOR CONTRACTS**

10
11 In order to maintain a central repository for contracts, a copy of all final, executed contracts
12 entered into on behalf of LTBB or OCR or other LTBB Tribal entities shall be sent to
13 Enjinaaknegeng for placement in a contract repository. The repository may be kept electronically
14 as long as backups are maintained.

15
16
17 **SECTION VII. ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF LTBB CONTRACTING**
18 **PARTIES**

19
20 **A. Standards of Conduct for Officials as Contracting Parties.** All LTBB officials shall
21 abide by Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians *Constitutionally Mandated Rules of Conduct*
22 *for Officials of Tribal Government* when involved in contracting activities.

23
24 **B. Standards of Conduct for Employees as Contracting Parties.** Employees shall
25 disclose any potential conflict of interest when involved in contracting activities and shall abide
26 all terms of the Employee handbook related to ethical considerations involving contracting
27 activities.

28
29
30 **SECTION VIII. TRIBAL CITIZENS PREFERENCE**

31
32 **A. Non-Competitive Contracts and Competitive Contracts.** Contracting Parties must give
33 a preference to LTBB Tribal Citizens and LTBB Tribal Citizen owned businesses in issuing
34 noncompetitive and competitive contracts. Tribal Citizen owned businesses means a business
35 owned by at least 51% by the LTBB Tribal Citizen.

1
2 **B.** LTBB Tribal Citizen Contractors/Vendors shall be given preference with respect to request
3 for proposals and quotes only. A list of qualified LTBB Tribal Citizen Contractors/Vendors shall
4 be maintained and updated semi-annually by the LTBB Executive or designee and shall be
5 presented to Tribal Council for approval. This list may be subject to review by Enjinaaknegeng at
6 any time.

7
8 **C.** LTBB Tribal Citizen Contractors/Vendors:

9
10 **1.** Shall hold similar qualifications as all other Contractors/Vendors in their product,
11 service or specialty area.

12
13 **2.** Shall maintain quality of product, service or specialty area which is consistent with
14 standards for their particular industry. If quality standards are not maintained, the contract
15 may be revoked.

16
17 **3.** Shall maintain timeliness of delivery and/or service which is consistent with
18 standards for their particular industry. If timeliness standards are not maintained, the
19 contract may be revoked.

20
21 **4.** Shall be required to hold required licensure, provide performance bonds, etc. as
22 required and/or stipulated in the request for proposal.

23
24 **D.** The Contracting Party shall not be bound by pricing with respect to Tribal Preference. For
25 example, the LTBB Contractor/Vendor shall not receive a premium over others bidders due to
26 Tribal Citizenry. In addition, a Tribal Citizen Contractor/Vendor that provides the lowest quote,
27 yet does not meet the qualifications as noted above, may not be awarded the contract.

28
29
30 **SECTION IX. TRIBALLY-OWNED CORPORATIONS**

31
32 **A. Non-Competitive Contracts and Competitive Contracts.** Contracting Parties must give
33 a preference to Tribally-owned Corporations in issuing noncompetitive and competitive
34 contracts. "Tribally-owned Corporations" means a Corporation or a subsidiary of a corporation
35 that is at least fifty-percent (50%) owned or controlled by the Tribe.

1
2 **B.** Tribally-owned Corporations shall be given preference with respect to request for
3 proposals and quotes only. A list of qualified Tribally-owned Corporations shall be maintained
4 and updated semi-annually by the LTBB Executive or designee and shall be presented to Tribal
5 Council for approval. This list may be subject to review by Enjinaaknegeng at any time.

6
7 **C.** Tribally-owned Corporations:

8
9 **1.** Shall hold similar qualifications as all other Contractors/Vendors in their product,
10 service or specialty area.

11
12 **2.** Shall maintain quality of product, service or specialty area which is consistent with
13 standards for their particular industry. If quality standards are not maintained, the contract
14 may be revoked.

15
16 **3.** Shall maintain timeliness of delivery and/or service which is consistent with
17 standards for their particular industry. If timeliness standards are not maintained, the
18 contract may be revoked.

19
20 **4.** Shall be required to hold required licensure, provide performance bonds, etc. as
21 required and/or stipulated in the request for proposal.

22
23 **D.** The Contracting Party shall not be bound by pricing with respect to Tribally-owned
24 Corporations. For example, the Tribally-owned Corporations shall not receive a premium over
25 others bidders due to Tribal ownership. In addition, a Tribally-owned Corporations that provides
26 the lowest quote, yet does not meet the qualifications as noted above, may not be awarded the
27 contract.

28
29
30 **SECTION X. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**

31
32 **A.** As a general rule, only the persons with direct authority may sign a contract that binds the
33 Tribe. An employee who enters into a contract that binds the Tribe or its sub-entities without
34 authority may be subject to disciplinary actions, including termination. An Official who enters into
35 a contract that binds the Tribe or its sub-entities without authority may be held personally liable.

1
2 **B.** The Accounting Office will not issue and/or sign a check for goods and services obtained
3 in violation of this policy without a written justification substantiating why the contract was not
4 presented in a timely fashion or was signed by an unauthorized person.
5

6
7 **SECTION XI. LIMITED REMEDIES BEFORE THE TRIBAL COURT FOR**
8 **VIOLATIONS**
9

10 **A.** An Official who enters into a contract that binds the Tribe or its sub-entities without
11 authority may be personally sued for the incurred liability. Any claim of violation against an
12 Official must be filed with the Tribal Court either during the duration of the contract or within
13 ninety (90) days after the end of the term of the contract.
14

15 **B.** In any action filed under this Statute, the Tribal Court may grant the following
16 remedies:
17

18 **1.** *Equitable Remedies.* If the Tribal Court determines that the preponderance
19 of the evidence indicates that a violation occurred, its judgment must specify an
20 appropriate equitable remedy or remedies for that violation.
21

22 **2.** *Damages.*
23

24 **a.** The standard for determining whether a violation of this statute has
25 occurred for the purpose of imposing damages is “preponderance of the
26 evidence.”
27

28 **b.** If the Tribal Court finds a violation of this statute occurred with
29 negligence, gross negligence, reckless indifference or malice, the Tribal Court
30 may additionally award compensatory, punitive damages and/or fines.
31

32 **3.** The Tribal Court may award reasonable attorney fees and costs at its
33 discretion to the prevailing.
34

1 **4.** If the Tribal Court finds that the non-prevailing party’s claims were
2 frivolous, the Court should fine the party and may order any other remedies as the
3 Tribal Court deems appropriate.
4

5
6 **SECTION XII. SAVINGS CLAUSE**

7
8 In the event that any phrase, provision, part, paragraph, subsection or section of this
9 statute is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to violate the Constitution of the Little
10 Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, such phrase, provision, part, paragraph, subsection or
11 section shall be considered to stand alone and to be deleted, the entirety of the balance of the
12 statute remain in full and binding force and effect.
13

14 **SECTION XIII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

15
16 Effective upon signature of the Executive or 30 days from Tribal Council approval whichever
17 comes first, or, if the Executive vetoes the legislation, then upon Tribal Council override of
18 the veto.
19

20
21 **SECTION XIV. OTHER RELATED STATUTES**

22
23 See Waganakising Odawak Statute (WOS) 2014-011 Contracts Statute, or as may be amended.
24

25
26
27 **CERTIFICATION**
28