



Board Agenda  
May 9, 2025  
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

In-person (Room 261 (second floor) in the Mitchell building)  
125 North Roberts Street  
Helena, MT 59601

To join the Zoom meeting, the link is:

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/89889517199?pwd=bXEKwuwactlK1WfFwtlrvu9e7leFMT.1>

To dial by telephone  
+1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 898 8951 7199 (same for Zoom and telephone)  
Password: 628587 (same for Zoom and telephone)

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Opening Prayer
3. Welcome all Board members together
  - a. Wallace Bearchum and Gheri Hall have been appointed to the board for the Northern Cheyenne and Blackfeet tribes, respectively. Jonathan Windy Boy's application is in process, as a representative for the Chippewa Cree tribe.
  - b. Thomas Livoti accepted a new position in North Dakota and resigned late last fall, leaving an opening for a public representative.
4. Review Roberts Rules of Order, how we run our meetings
5. Approve Minutes for \*May 17, 2024, and October 25, 2024, board meetings
  - a. We must approve both meeting minutes due to a clerical error for our October meeting.
6. Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair election
7. Recent case closes
  - a. TE-03 and UN-12 by Duane
  - b. Do we have any more to celebrate?
8. New Cases
9. Case Requiring Board Action

- a. CR-02. Human remains (skull) attached to a board were discovered under a single wide trailer. Originally thought to be Native American female, case was reopened to identify ethnicity as South Asian descent. UM conducted non-destructive analysis but could not get sufficient DNA to sequence to determine which ethnicity. UM will run a second attempt with non-destructive methods to look at mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). If unsuccessful again, Jessica will report to the board if board should direct the UM to conduct more invasive methods for additional DNA analysis.
- b. \*FH-01/UN-08. Two skulls with the large case load given to the board by the Montana Historical Museum. In 2023, the board decided to request DNA analysis from the UM Department of Anthropology, but postponed sending the cases to the UM until the board had a signed MOA. MOA has been executed.
- c. FR-01: Teeth identified by a graduate student as human teeth in a faunal analysis. Weber wants teeth submitted to Dr. Meredith Snow for analysis. Cost for DNA analysis to be covered by Central Montana Historical Association (CMHA). The CMHA would like to have Dr. Snow do the testing and then, teeth to be reburied appropriately.

#### 10. Break

#### 11. Updates for Existing Cases

- a. BH-01, BH-02, TE-01. Aaron waiting for assistance with reburial.
- b. PR-04. Remains at the Powder River Museum. Remains are possibly Native American. Waiting on the appointment of Wallace Bearchum (location of the Northern Cheyenne tribe is the closest geographically to the museum).
- c. PR-03. Native American remains discovered on private property by a hunter. Property owner is open to reburial at the location of discovery. Waiting on the appointment of Wallace Bearchum (location of the Northern Cheyenne tribe is the closest geographically to the museum).
- d. FA-01. Case assigned to Andy to contact the sheriff's office in Fallon County to inquire about the location of associated burial items.
- e. LC-01 - Update from Kevin on a plot of land in the Helena area for reinterment of these remains.
- f. MO-01 – Awaiting transfer of remains to Kevin for reburial. Update from Kevin.
- g. MO-02 – Kevin to update board on efforts to contact Tim Ryan. A friend of Tim's discovered the remains in his parent's belongings (Rattlesnake area, Missoula County). Location of remains is unknown.
- h. ML-02/UN-01 – Awaiting transfer to Michael for reburial. Update from Michael.
- i. UN-10. Erika received an email from the Leech Lake THPO; they hope to reinter the remains in Minnesota this summer.
- j. RB-01: Jessica was notified by a former ranch employee of human remains on the Colstrip area ranch where he worked in 1976. When the ranch was sold about 8-10 years ago, personal property (presumably including the remains) boxed up and stored. As of September 2024, the former ranch hand has no knowledge of the location of the remains. Andy to contact the sheriff's office for any information that the sheriff might have.

k. TL-01 / TL-02. Update from John or Gheri. (TL-01 jaw, TL-02 skull). In May of 2024, the tribe may have secured a plot of land for reburial. Remains are currently at the SHPO office.

12. Break

13. Scalp lock discussions

a. UN-02, UN-03, UN-04, UN-05, UN-06, UN-11: Scalp locks. Need more tribal representation to discuss an appropriate resolution.

b. UN-07 and UN-09 records said these two were found in Bear Gulch together. Update from Gheri. She was going to ask John about the remains and if the tribe should revisit whether they are Blackfeet.

14. Other.

15. Next Meeting Date.

16. Meeting Adjournment.

\*NOTE: Due to a public notice issue with the October 2024 meeting, these Board decisions will be re-confirmed in the next board meeting.

DRAFT