Hello Bay Mills!

I am a candidate for Tribal President in the upcoming special election.

I hope this finds everybody well. I know this pandemic combined with winter is very trying for most of us, but things will be getting better soon. Spring is here and the snow will be melting. Then, we will be able to get out in our yards and watch life come back as Mother nature wakes the trees and plants from dormancy and they spring to life. I, personally, can’t wait for it.

As for this pandemic, Bay Mills has done a wonderful job of controlling this virus in our community. I want to say a great big “thank you” to this administration for what they have accomplished in protecting us. With the number of vaccines Bay Mills Health Center has been able to obtain and get into our arms we are building herd immunity in our community and the surrounding area. This is mentally comforting in knowing there is a less and less chance of contracting Covid-19. I will still gladly wear the mask to protect others, as should you! Keep up the good work Bay Mills!

Why am I running? Because I like serving our community. Even though I “retired,” I certainly don’t feel as if my work is done.

I believe with my past experience as Tribal President, I have a lot to offer our tribe. I am knowledgeable in our financial system, government contracting system, enterprise system, and governmental system. I could step right in and be comfortable with all of these systems with just updates provided to me.

Previously, when I was elected to this position Bay Mills was in a financial struggle and had a poor credit rating. During the four years I was in office I worked with two administrations and we were able to turn that around to where we had a favorable credit rating while paying off our financial obligation for our casino. This was accomplished by cutting waste and adhering to established budgets. Hard decisions had to be made, but our tribe came out of the red and has continued to grow in a positive direction.

Now, we are in negotiations with the State and Federal Governments and four other tribes for greater opportunities for our member fishermen to make a living. I am familiar with the players involved in this as well as what is needed by our tribe. If elected I would represent our tribe and fight to assure we continue to be a leader in our treaty rights fight. I would work along side our conservation committee and current administration for their guidance in securing what is best for us!

As for minimum wage, there is nothing I would like more than to see our members make a good living. If the Federal government implements a minimum wage of fifteen dollars an hour we would be required to abide by it. When I was previously Tribal President we took action to increase our minimum wage to match the State’s minimum wage, which at the time was much higher than the federal minimum wage. I am for increasing wages — even if not passed by Congress.

Bay Mills has invested in business opportunities that I fully support and will do whatever is needed to see continued success to provide employment and revenues for our tribe.

If you have any questions please reach out to me and ask. I ask for your vote in the upcoming Special Election for Tribal President.