

ST. CROIX CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF WISCONSIN
TITLE 2
CHAPTER 1
ELECTION ORDINANCE

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ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(1) Title

This Ordinance, as amended and adopted pursuant to Resolution No. 2021.19.01.05 shall be referred to as the Election Ordinance of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(2) Authority

Pursuant to the powers vested to the Tribal Council by Article V, Section 1 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, elections to the Tribal Council shall be governed by the provisions set forth herein.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(3) Purpose

The intent and purpose of this Ordinance is to establish procedures for fair, open, and honest elections and to ensure the secrecy and the sanctity of the ballot.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(4) Elections to the Tribal Council

Pursuant to Article IV, Sections 1 & 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, elections to the five member Tribal Council shall be held biennially on the second Saturday in June, on every odd year.

ARTICLE II. ELECTION BOARD

2 S.C.T.C § 01.02(1) Appointment and Composition

- (a) The Tribal Council shall appoint a sixteen (16) member Election Board consisting of twelve (12) regular members and four (4) alternate members.
- (b) The Tribal Council, in making appointments to the Election Board, shall attempt to select an equal number of members to represent each of the four (4) major communities identified in 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.08(1).
- (c) Individuals must be St. Croix Tribal Members and twenty-one (21) year of age or older to serve as an Election Board Member.
- (d) Those appointed shall be notified by mail of their appointment.
- (e) Upon the seating of the Election Board, the Board members shall nominate and confirm a Chairman, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board to act as Officers of the Board.
 1. The Chairman shall be responsible for presiding over all meetings of the Board, direct the work of the Board members, have signatory authority, and all other duties delegated to him or her by the Board.
 2. The Vice-Chairman shall preside over any meetings that the Chairman is absent from.

3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep all Board records, maintain Board meeting minutes, and any other duties delegated to him or her by the Board.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(2) Election Board Meetings

- (a) The Election Board shall meet no more than fifteen (15) times from the beginning of the election process until the conclusion, with the exception of any meetings required in order to resolve post-election appeals, the day of the election, and any special meetings called to resolve candidate eligibility challenges.
- (b) The Election Board shall make all Board decisions through a majority vote of Board members present. Any vote that ends in a tie will be decided by a subsequent vote of the Officers of the Board.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(3) Duties and Responsibilities

- (a) The duties of the Election Board shall be to:
 1. Have supervisory authority over the election for which they are appointed;
 2. Ensure an election process which is fair, open, and impartial;
 3. Determine the eligibility of candidates for office;
 4. Provide each polling place with a list of qualified voters;
 5. Resolve all questions as to voter eligibility;
 6. Ensure each polling place has sufficient voting materials at the time of the election;
 7. Maintain a secure and peaceful environment at each polling place and during board activities;
 8. Ensure the sanctity and secrecy of the ballot;
 9. Ensure the safe keeping of all election materials and ballot boxes;
 10. Ensure each polling place is free from campaign materials and that a 100- foot limit against electioneering is maintained;
 11. Abide by general rules of procedure in the conduct of Board meetings;
 12. Fulfill other duties detailed in this Ordinance.
- (b) The responsibilities of the Board shall be to:
 1. Refrain from electioneering for any candidate;
 2. Decline any nomination bid for Tribal Council made in their name if so nominated at the General Meetings;
 3. Refrain from any activity tending to cast doubt on the integrity of the election process;
 4. Keep the proceedings of all Election Board meetings throughout the election process in strict confidentiality.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(4) Stipend

- (a) Election Board members shall receive a stipend of one-hundred (\$100.00) dollars

per attended meeting. Election Board members shall receive a stipend of five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars for service on Election Day.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(5) Removal and Vacancy

(a) An Election Board member position may be declared vacant by a majority vote of the Election Board for the following reasons:

1. An Election Board member has been removed, pursuant to 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(5)(b);
2. An Election Board member has died; or
3. An Election Board member has become ill to the point of being unable to perform their duties.

(b) An Election Board member may be removed by a majority vote of the Election Board for the following reasons:

1. An Election Board member has missed three scheduled Board meetings;
2. An Election Board member has violated their duties and responsibilities pursuant to 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.02(3).

(c) Upon the vacancy of an Election Board member by the circumstances described above, the Tribal Council member who represents the community from which the removed Election Board member is from shall nominate and appoint a replacement.

ARTICLE III. NOTICE OF ELECTION

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.03(1) Deadline and Contents

The Election Board shall publish notice of election at least one-hundred (100) days prior to the date of elections, except such notice shall not be required in a special election to decide a tie vote. At a minimum, the notice shall set forth the following information:

- (a) Date of elections, pursuant to 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(4);
- (b) Time and place of the General Meetings;
- (c) Number of vacancies to be filled; and
- (d) Location of polling places

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.03(2) Distribution

A copy of the notice shall be posted in each community center identified in 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.08(1)(a). A copy of the notice may also be posted in any Tribally-owned and/or Tribally-sanctioned newspaper, website, and social media page, and at other places the Election Board

determines appropriate. Public newspapers, radio and television media may be used as finances dictate.

ARTICLE IV. GENERAL MEETINGS

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.04(1) Meeting Requirements

General Meetings shall be held in each of the four (4) major communities, within thirty (30) days of the posting of the election, for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates for Tribal Council.

- (a) Notice of the General Meetings shall be made in accordance with 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.01(4).
- (b) At least two (2) board members shall conduct and be present at each General Meeting.
- (c) The date and time of the General meetings in each major community shall be identical.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.04(2) Nominations

Any tribal members who meet the eligible voter requirement of Article IV, Section 4 of the tribal Constitution may nominate a person as a candidate for Tribal Council. Self-nomination is permitted. All persons making nominations will be required to show tribal identification to the Election Board before being allowed to nominate. Nominations must be made in writing on forms provided by the Election Board for the purpose of nominations. Submission of nominations must be made in person by the party making the nomination. Seconding of nominations shall not be required for that nomination to be accepted by the Election Board.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.04(3) Notice to Nominees

All persons nominated shall be notified by the Election Board of their eligibility or ineligibility as candidates within fifteen (15) days of the General Meetings.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.04(4) Declination of Candidacy

Eligible candidates shall have an opportunity to decline such nomination within fifteen (15) days of the General Meetings. Declination of candidacy shall be made in writing to the Election Board.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.04(5) Background Information Disclosures

Eligible candidates who choose to accept their nomination will be require to fill out and submit to the Election Board a "Background Information Disclosure ("BID") Form and consent to a background check provided by the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

- (a) The candidate will be required to submit seven dollars (\$7.00), by either cash or check, with checks made out to the Election Board, to cover the cost of running the background check. The BID Form and seven-dollar (\$7.00) fee must be submitted within fifteen (15) days of the General Meetings.

- (b) If the BID Form is not received by the Election Board within the fifteen (15) day deadline the candidate will be disqualified as an eligible candidate for the respective election process.
- (c) BID Form submission and the completion of background checks are for the purpose of compliance with 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(2) in order to determine the eligibility of a candidate for Tribal Council.

ARTICLE V. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(1) Qualifications

A nominee shall be considered a qualified candidate provided that:

- (a) The nominee is a resident of the reservation wherein nomination is made. The nominee must reside in a home on reservation land, or lands directly adjacent or contiguous, of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin; and
- (b) The Nominee is a resident of the reservation, or lands directly adjacent or contiguous to the reservation, where nomination is made for a minimum of six (6) months prior to the date of nominations; and
- (c) The nominee is a qualified voter as defined in 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.06(1) of this Ordinance; and
- (d) The nominee is an enrolled member for a period of three (3) years prior to the date of nominations; and

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(2) Disqualifications

A nominee will not be considered a qualified candidate provided that:

- (a) **The nominee has been found, by a court of competent jurisdiction, in a civil and/or criminal action, to have misappropriated, embezzled, stolen, misapplied, converted, or willfully permitted the misapplication, of any monies, funds, credits, goods, assets, or other property.**
- (b) The Nominee has been found, by a court of competent jurisdiction, to have been convicted of a felony for violent offenses committed against a person. This classification includes but is not limited to felony convictions for homicide, battery, sexual assault, domestic violence, strangulation, and/or child abuse.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(3) Balsam, Bashaw, Gaslyn, and Clam Lake Residents

For purposes of this section, residents of Bashaw, Gaslyn, and Clam Lake shall be considered residents of Big Sand Lake. Residents of Balsam Lake shall be considered residents of Big Round Lake.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(4) Residence Definition

“Residence” means the place where an individual actually physically resides for a period of six (6) months prior to the date of nomination. The individual must maintain residency on the reservation community that originally elected them during their entire elected term.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.05(5) Reservation Definition

“Reservation” means any lands proclaimed by the Secretary of the Interior to be reservation lands held in trust for the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin or any lands held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe. Reservation shall include lands directly adjacent or contiguous to the reservation.

ARTICLE VI. QUALIFIED VOTERS

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.06(1) Eligibility

All tribal members who meet the eligible voter requirement of Article IV, Section 4 of the tribal Constitution and By-Laws are eligible to cast a ballot on Election Day.

ARTICLE VII. VOTER LIST

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.07(1) Procedure for Obtaining Voter List

The Election Board shall be responsible for obtaining a list of qualified voters from the St. Croix Tribal Enrollment Department.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.07(2) Reproduction/Distribution Restricted

The Election Board may reproduce from the original copies of the list provided that such copies are utilized only by the Election Board during election activities.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.07(3) Public inspection

The Election Board shall make available for public inspection the voter eligibility list at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the election. Inspection of the list shall be restricted to eligible voters during regular business hours in the Office of the Tribal Attorney.

ARTICLE VIII. POLLING PLACES

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.08(1) Location of the Polling Places

(a) There shall be four (4) polling places, located as follows:

Big Sand Lake Community – Tri-County Center
Big Round Lake Community – Community Center
Maple Plain Community – Community Center
Danbury Community – Community Center

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.08(2) Local and Non-Local Voting Procedures

- (a) An eligible voter residing in any of the above communities is encouraged but not required to vote at the local polling place. In the event that a voter does not vote at the local polling place:
1. The Clerk of each of the above communities shall create a “group text” wherein each Clerk will send the first and last name of a voter who casts a vote at a “non-local” polling place;
 2. The Clerks at the remaining communities will make note of the voter having cast their vote and the community wherein the vote was cast.
 3. A “non-local polling place” means any polling place outside out the voter’s residential community.
- (b) “Residence” means the place where an individual’s habitation is fixed, without any present intent to move, and to which, when absent, the individual intends to return.

ARTICLE IX. BALLOTS

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.09(1) Ballots

The Election Board shall be responsible for the preparation of the ballots. All ballots shall be counted and the number certified by the board prior to the opening of the polls. Only officially, printed ballots shall be recognized as valid. To be valid, each ballot must:

- (a) Bear the name of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin; and
- (b) Indicate that it is an official ballot; and
- (c) List the names of all candidates for Tribal Council arranged alphabetically and by tribal community.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.09(2) Non-Removal of Ballots

No person may take or remove any ballot from the polling place before the close of the polls.

ARTICLE X. ELECTION PROCEDURE

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(1) Enrollment Office

Enrollment office will be open for the express purpose of providing tribal identification for tribal members.:

- (a) The night of the General Meetings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.;
- (b) The Friday preceding the election from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.; and
- (c) The day of the Tribal Council Election for the duration of polling hours.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(2) Hours of Voting

The hours of the polls on the day of the Primary Election and the day of the Tribal Council Election shall be from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm. Any voter in line but unable to vote before the close of the polls shall be permitted to vote.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(3) Ballot Box

The ballot box shall be handled in the following manner:

- (a) The day preceding the election the Legal Department will obtain the ballot boxes from the Tribal Police Department.
- (b) Each Election Board Judge will receive their respective ballot box and retain the ballot box overnight. Each Election Board Judge will bring the ballot box to their respective community center the morning of the election.
- (c) The Clerk from each community will receive the keys to their respective ballot box and retain the keys overnight. The Clerk will bring the keys to their respective community center the morning of the election.
- (d) Each Election Board Judge, at each polling place in the presence of the members of the Election Board, shall verify that the ballot box is empty of all material prior to the opening of the polls. Each Election Board Judge shall then lock the ballot box closed for the duration of the poll hours.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(4) Election Materials

Prior to the opening of the polls, the Election Board shall ensure that each polling place has sufficient ballots, voters' lists, tally and registration sheets, and other materials required for the election. The number of blank ballots at each polling place shall be counted and certified prior to the opening of the polls.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(5) Spoiled Ballots

If a voter spoils a ballot, the voter shall be entitled to receive an additional ballot. Upon return of the spoiled ballot to the Election Board Judge, the voter is to be issued another ballot. Spoiled ballots shall be so marked and kept separately by the Election Board Judge. At the close of the polls, spoiled ballots shall be counted and the number recorded on the tally sheet. The ballots shall then be sealed in an evidence envelope that is marked SPOILED BALLOTS.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(6) Method of Voting

Voting must occur in person. There shall be no provision for absentee voting or voting by proxy.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(7) Registration of Voter

Each prospective voter must provide sufficient proof of identification to the Election Board Clerk prior to voting. The Clerk shall then determine whether the name of the voter appears on the voter eligibility list. A prospective voter whose name does not appear on the voter eligibility list or the supplemental document indicating that person's eligibility to vote, shall not be permitted to cast a vote. Each eligible voter must register their name on the official poll list. The Clerk shall instruct the voter to print and sign their name on the list prior to voting.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(8) Proof of Identification

Proof of identification is limited to, a tribal identification card. Name changes by marriage or otherwise shall be noted on the poll list by the Election Board clerk.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(9) Handling of Ballots

Once the voter is properly identified and determined eligible to vote, the clerk shall initial or stamp the ballot before it is issued to the voter.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(10) Secret Vote

Upon receipt of the ballot, the voter shall promptly retire to the voting booth or other designated area and there mark the ballot. No more than one (1) person may be permitted to occupy a booth or voting area at the same time. If a voter requires assistance due to a disability, only the Judge and Teller may assist the voter. In no way may the assisting board members influence the voter.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(11) Marking the Ballot

The voter shall mark the ballot in ink in a space opposite the name of the candidate for whom the vote is intended. The voter shall vote for no more than five (5) candidates: two candidates from Big Sand Lake, one candidate from Danbury, one candidate from Round Lake, and one candidate from Maple Plain.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(12) Casting the Ballot

Once completed, the voter shall fold and deliver the ballot to the Election Board teller who shall check the ballot to ensure the proper initialing or stamp is visible. The voter shall then deposit the ballot in the ballot box.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(13) Ascertainment of Intent

Ballots will be reviewed and counted for correctness as follows:

- (a) If a voter marks the ballot with a cross mark or any mark, it shall be considered sufficient to be tallied as a vote for the candidate whose name it is opposite.
- (b) If a voter voted for a greater number of candidates than specified on the face of the ballot, the ballot shall be considered and declared to have been spoiled.

- (c) If a voter included a “write in” candidate that is not officially printed on the face of the ballot then the ballot shall be considered and declared to have been spoiled.
- (d) If a ballot is determined and declared to have been spoiled the Judge shall then fold the ballot and immediately under the name or initial of the Clerk, shall write “SPOILED”, the reason(s) for spoiling the ballot, and their signature. Spoiled ballots shall be stored separately as described in 2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(5).

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(14) Poll Watchers

- (a) Each candidate shall be entitled to have one (1) poll watcher at each polling place on election day. Candidates must return the “Poll Watcher Verification Form” naming their poll watchers by the date prescribed on the form if they wish to utilize poll watchers. Forms returned after the date prescribed on the form will disqualify the candidate from utilizing poll watchers.
- (b) Each poll watcher will be required to fill out and return the “Poll Watcher Pledge” by the date prescribed on the “Poll Watcher Verification Form” that was sent to the candidate they agree to act as a poll watcher for. Persons who were named as poll watchers but fail to return the “Poll Watcher Pledge” will not be allowed to serve as poll watchers on election day.
- (c) Poll watchers may observe voting procedures but shall in no way interfere with the conduct of the election or the tallying of votes. Poll watchers shall not be members of the Election Board. Poll watchers must identify themselves and their candidates to the Election Board upon their arrival at the polling place.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(15) Closing of Polls

- (a) Upon the closing of the polls, the Election Board members shall proceed in the following manner:
 - 1. Count and make note of the number of unused ballots. Seal all unused ballots in manila envelopes provided, including thirty (30) ballots per envelope. Deposit sealed envelopes into the ballot box.
 - 2. Count and make note of the number of spoiled ballots. Seal all spoiled ballots in evidence bag provided. Deposit sealed evidence bag into the ballot box.
 - 3. Lock the ballot box in the presence of the Election Board members and any poll watchers.
 - 4. Deliver the ballot box to the Tribal Police Department officer assigned to the polling place for delivery to the polling place at Big Sand Lake.
 - 5. Deliver the ballot box keys to the Election Board Judge; and
 - 6. Secure all other election materials for delivery.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(16) Delivery of Ballots

- (a) All ballots and ballot boxes shall be brought by the members of the Election Board to the Big Sand Lake polling place for cumulative tally and certification of the results by the full Election Board.
- (b) The Election Board Judge shall not share the same vehicle with the Tribal Police Department officer and the ballot box.
- (c) Immediately upon arrival to the Big Sand Lake polling place all election materials, not including the ballot boxes and keys, shall be delivered to and locked in the Legal Department.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(17) Counting of Votes

The official count shall be open to the public and shall continue without adjournment until completed and the results thereof publicly declared. The Election Board judge from each polling place shall, in turn, open the ballot box and proceed in the following manner:

- (a) Inform the Election Board and those present of the number of ballots issued, the number of ballots cast, the number of ballots spoiled, and the number of ballots unused. This information shall be recorded by the Teller on the official tally sheet for that community.
- (b) Begin to read off the votes. The votes cast for each candidate shall be recorded by the Teller of each community. Following the ballot being read by the Judge, the ballot will then be passed to the Clerk and Teller for that respective polling place for their inspection of the ballot.
- (c) Following inspection of the ballot, the ballot will then be passed to the remaining board members for their inspection.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.10(18) Disposition of Ballots

Upon completion of the counting of votes, the entire Election Board will retire to the Legal Department in order to certify the election results. All ballot boxes, properly locked, shall be deposited in the evidence lockers and held by the Tribal Police Department on behalf of the Election Board. All tally sheets, registration sheets, ballot box keys, and any other election materials, shall be sealed and held within the Legal Department, on behalf of the Election Board. The Election Board shall destroy the election ballots and seal and store the remaining materials between the initiation of the next election process and the date of that next election.

ARTIVLE XI. TIE VOTES

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.11(1) Run-Off Elections

In the event of a tie vote between one or more candidates, a run-off election shall be held until the tie is broken.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.11(2) Declination by Candidate

A candidate who has tied with one or more candidates may choose to waive their right to participate in a run-off election by declination. To be valid, a declination must be submitted in writing and in person to the Secretary of the Election Board or to the Election Board's legal counsel. Submission of the declination must occur within three (3) working days following the date of the elections. Where the effect of any declination produces only one remaining candidate, that candidate shall be declared the winner by default.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.11(3) Deadline

The Election Board shall conduct run-off elections as soon as practicable.

ARTICLE XII. ELECTION CHALLENGES**2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(1) Accuracy of the Count**

If, for any reason, a defeated candidate alleges an inaccurate count of the votes, the defeated candidate may demand a recount. The procedure for filing and content of such challenge shall be governed by Section 3, below.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(2) Other Challenges

Any eligible voter may challenge the election results by filing a challenge of election complaint with the Election Board. The deadline for filing a contest of election shall be 5:00pm of the first Friday following the date of the election. Each challenge must be submitted in writing to the Legal Department and include:

- (a) A concise statement of the facts upon which the challenge is based;
- (b) The signature of the challenger; and
- (c) A five-hundred dollar (\$500.00) filing fee paid in cash, by certified check or money order payable to the Election Board.
- (d) Challenger has the burden of demonstrating:
 - 1. Is a party damaged as a result of the subject matter being challenged.
 - 2. That the challenge, if successful, provides a material remedy for the damage.
- (e) All challengers must file their complaints (challenges) in regards to the election results individually. Complaints (challenges) may include multiple counts (claims), but may not include multiple petitioners (challengers). Any consolidation of complaints (challenges) will be at the sole discretion of the Election Board. Only one challenger shall be allowed to file per five-hundred dollar (\$500.00) filing fee.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(3) Dismissal of Challenges

The Election Board may summarily dismiss any contest not properly submitted in accordance with Section 3, above.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(4) Burden of Proof; Election Fraud; New Elections

- (a) The challenger shall have the burden of proof to show by clear and convincing evidence that any portion of this ordinance has been violated or that the Election Board or any eligible voter engaged in conduct so unfair and dishonest as to cast doubt on the integrity of the election process and that a different outcome would have resulted.
- (b) If election fraud or any other voter irregularities or improprieties are sufficiently established pursuant to subsection (a) above, the entire vote from the polling place shall be discarded, and the Election Board shall recommend a new election.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(5) Deadline to Render Decisions

The Election Board shall consider each challenge and render a final decision within five (5) working days following the filing deadline.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(6) Public Hearing Requirement

The Election Board shall hold a public hearing to resolve all election challenges filed pursuant to Section 3 above. Written notice of such challenges shall be provided to the candidates and to the challengers. The challenger's arguments shall be heard entirely in open session. The Election Board reserves the right to conduct portions of the hearing in closed session to protect confidential and/or privileged information, provided that all action taken by the Election Board are ratified in open session. The Election Board may summarily dismiss, without public hearing, any complaint which it finds to be frivolous and without merit.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(7) Administrative Review of Final Decisions

Administrative Review of final decisions of the Election Board are made to the St. Croix Tribal Court. A petition for Administrative Review must be filed with the Tribal Court within five (5) business days of the Election Board's decision. Administrative Review means that the Tribal Court can reverse a decision of the Election Board only if the decision was arbitrary or capricious as defined by St. Croix Tribal Law or a violation of St. Croix Tribal Law. Decisions of the St. Croix Tribal Court are final and are not subject to further appeal.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(8) Appeal of Final Decision

Any appeal to the St. Croix Tribal Court of a decision of the Election Board shall be heard by a non-St. Croix Judge appointed by the Chief Judge of the St. Croix Tribal Court pursuant to procedures set forth in the St. Croix Tribal Court Code.

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.12(9) Swearing In of Elected Tribal Council Members

Newly elected St. Croix Tribal Council members must be sworn in within five (5) business days of the finalization of the election results by the Election Board, or the Tribal Court Judge if the finalization is a result of the conclusion of an appellate process.

ARTICLE XIII. INTENT OF ORDINANCE

2 S.C.T.C. § 01.13(1) Intent

This ordinance is intended to establish procedures through which fair, open and honest elections for the Tribal Council of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin may be conducted. This ordinance shall be interpreted liberally, in order to accomplish such intent. Substantial compliance shall satisfy this ordinance. Technicalities shall not be used to interfere with, delay, or block elections, or to cause confusion or a loss of confidence in the election system.