

KICKAPOO RESERVE MANAGEMENT BOARD
NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBER PROCEDURE

- All interested nominees should familiarize themselves with the statutory procedures and board powers listed in 15.445 and 41.41 Wis. State Stat. (Pertinent sections copied on back).

- Interested nominees residing locally should contact their nominating officials (usually the Chair of the Village – Ontario or LaFarge, Town - Stark/Whitestown/Forest, School Board – Brookwood/La Farge/Hillsboro or County Board - Vernon) to let them know they're interested in being nominated. All will request submission of a resume' because the Governor's Office requests a resume'. It is up to the nominating body to decide whether the nominees need to appear before their board. Personal appearance for nomination is not a requirement of the State Statute. The nominating board should take action to approve or deny the nomination during a formal, public meeting.

- The Chair of the nominating board submits nominees via a letter to the Governor (with resume). Up to three people can be nominated by each municipality per Wis. State Stat. 15.445(2)(d)3.

- The Governor appoints based on those nominations. Traditionally, the Governor's office checks references and/or consults with the legislators or other officials for this district and usually runs a modified background check to ensure there are no potential conflicts for appointing a candidate to a State Board.

- Nominations for the three direct appointments representing Recreation/Tourism, Education and Environment are handled directly by the Governor's office. The Governor appoints/reappoints those directly, followed by Senate confirmation – no nominations required from the municipalities. Procedures for those appointments are available through the Governor's Office website: https://evers.wi.gov/Pages/Application_Process.aspx - follow the "Apply to Serve" link and scroll to "Boards and Commissions." A more formal background check and financial report is requested for these three appointments to ensure no conflict-of-interest.

Vacancies: May 2025

Tourism & Recreation Seat
Education Seat
Ho-Chunk Nation Seat

15.445 (2) KICKAPOO RESERVE MANAGEMENT BOARD. (a) Creation.

There is created a Kickapoo reserve management board which is attached to the department of tourism under s. 15.03.

(b) *Membership.* The board consists of the following members appointed to serve for 3-year terms:

1. Four members who are residents of the area composed of the villages of La Farge and Ontario, the towns of Stark and Whitestown and the school districts encompassing the villages of La Farge and Ontario.

2. Two members who are residents of that portion of the Kickapoo River watershed, as determined by the department of natural resources, that lies outside of the area specified in subd. 1.

3. Three members who are not residents of the watershed specified in subd. 2., one of whom shall be an advocate for the environment, one of whom shall have a demonstrated interest in education and one of whom shall represent recreation and tourism interests.

5. Two members who have an interest in and knowledge of the cultural resources within the Kickapoo River watershed.

(c) *Vacancies.* If any member ceases to retain the status required for his or her appointment under par. (b), the member vacates his or her office.

(d) *Recommendations for membership.* 1. The governor shall appoint the members specified in par. (b) 1. from a list of individuals recommended by the governing bodies of the municipalities and school boards of the school districts specified in par. (b) 1.

2. The governor shall appoint the members specified in par.

(b) 2. from a list of individuals recommended by the governing bodies of each town, village and city which includes territory located within the area specified in par. (b) 2.

2m. The governor shall appoint the members specified in par.

(b) 5. from a list of individuals recommended by the Ho-Chunk Nation.

3. Each municipality or school district specified in this paragraph may recommend no more than 3 members. The Ho-Chunk Nation may recommend no more than 6 individuals for the membership positions under par. (b) 5. At the request of the governor, a municipality, a school district, or the Ho-Chunk Nation shall recommend additional members if an individual who is recommended declines to serve.

41.41 (7) BOARD POWERS. The board may:

(a) Delegate responsibility for administration of the Kickapoo valley reserve to the executive director.

(b) Lease land that is part of the Kickapoo valley reserve to any person for purposes consistent with the management of the reserve under sub. (3), or for agricultural purposes, and lease other land that is acquired by the board for any lawful purpose.

(c) Subject to approval of the governor under s. 20.914 (1), purchase a parcel of land any portion of which is approved by the department for inclusion in the Kickapoo valley reserve.

(cm) Acquire development rights in land any portion of which is approved by the department for inclusion in the Kickapoo valley reserve. Purchases under this paragraph are subject to the approval of the governor under s. 20.914 (1).

(d) Sell land that is not a part of the Kickapoo valley reserve.

(e) Subject to approval by the governor in the same manner that purchases are approved under s. 20.914 (1), trade a parcel of land that is part of the Kickapoo valley reserve for another parcel of land any portion of which is approved by the department for inclusion in the reserve if the land traded is comparable in value to the land received and any of the following applies:

1. The land received is more suitable to the purposes of the Kickapoo valley reserve than the land traded.

2. The trade serves to consolidate the land in the Kickapoo valley reserve.

3. The trade serves to settle a boundary dispute or encroachment.

(f) Authorize, license and regulate private concessions in the Kickapoo valley reserve for purposes consistent with the management of the reserve under sub. (3) and receive revenue from the concessions.

(g) Subject to ss. 13.48 (10), 16.85 (1) and 20.924 (1), plan, design, construct and maintain facilities in the Kickapoo valley reserve for purposes consistent with the management of the reserve under sub. (3).

(h) Issue orders directing compliance with this section or the rules of the board.

(i) Accept and administer gifts, grants and bequests.

(j) Charge fees for use of the land and facilities in the Kickapoo valley reserve.

(k) Promulgate rules that are applicable only to land in the Kickapoo valley reserve and other land acquired by the board, facilities on that land and waters adjacent to that land establishing restrictions on use of the land, waters and facilities.

(l) Cooperate with and provide matching funds to any nonstock, nonprofit corporation described under section 501 (c) (3) or (4) of the internal revenue code (26 USC 501 (c) 3 or (4)) and exempt from taxation under section 501 (a) of the internal revenue code (26 USC 501 (a)) that is organized to raise moneys for and provide assistance to the Kickapoo valley reserve.

(m) Raise moneys from private donors by selling memberships in the Kickapoo valley reserve or by other similar means.

(n) Grant easements for highway or utility purposes on land that is a part of the Kickapoo valley reserve or land that has been acquired by the board.