



Aaron Wayne Otto's Candidate Statement:

Walking a path blindly, without a clear destination, will only get us lost.

The big picture shows us where we are going. What does our end goal look like? We need to ask ourselves "what does our nation want and what does our nation need?" Until these questions are answered, we won't be able to clearly see our destination. So, how do we clear the path?

To help us answer these questions, the Tribe should have a comprehensive census and needs assessment conducted. With the help of an analyst, we can better understand the data provided. With this information we could set up the foundation that will support the long-term plan and future success of the tribe.

What will we do until this plan is in place? Let's develop a short-term plan for housing. Strengthening our infrastructure to be able to support our future plans will benefit the Tribe as a whole. Working toward energy independence and sustainable energy solutions will bolster our Tribes independence and continue to show our leadership in Northern Michigan. The health and wellness of all LTBB Citizens is of the utmost importance, so providing a mobile health clinic to support our families outside the service area needs to become a priority.

We must not forget all the citizens living outside the service area as we are moving forward on all of this development within the reservation boundary. They should not feel unseen or unheard. The census data must reflect the needs and wants of our out of service area citizens. They must be included in our long-term plans and be a part of the discussion. Let's figure out a way to more consistently support them. I see you and I hear you.

It is my belief that transparency is important. We need to find the best way to distribute information to the citizenry. We could start by reporting on a quarterly basis. I would like to see the Executive Branch and its departments as well as the Legislative Branch and its offices, post their reports in the Odawa Trails and the website. This will be the start to lead a better offering of information for the public.

The biggest honor of my life was serving our community in the past. Representing the Little Traverse Bay Bands again, would extend that honor further. I would love the opportunity to move the tribe in a positive direction. My life experiences, past and present, will guide me to make continued positive change for the Tribe and its future. If elected again, I promise to seek out these ambitions for our Tribe with passion and a renewed enthusiasm.