SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
March 9, 2012

Attendance:

Tribal Council	**Dave Lopeman**	**Chairman**
	Arnold Cooper	**Vice Chairman**
	Andy Whitener	**Treasurer**
	Pete Kruger, Sr.	**Secretary**
	Ray Peters	**1st Council Member**
	Jim Peters	**2nd Council Member**
	Charlene Krise	**3rd Council Member**
Legal Counsel	**Kevin Lyon** *(Arrived at 1:30)*	
	Nate Schriner	
Tribal Administrator	**Don Whitener**	
Recording Secretary	**Melissa Puhn**	

Andy Whitener offered the opening prayer. Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the March 9th Council agenda. Andy would like to add a Golf Committee Report at the end of the day. Andy Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously *(Pete and Charlene were both out of the room).*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Arnold Cooper moved the approve the February 23, 2012 Council Minutes. Andy Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously *(Pete and Charlene were both out of the room).*

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

March 15-21: Skookum Creek Tobacco, Italy. Ray, Bobby and Cameron will be attending.

March 25-27: Coast Salish Gathering, Duncan BC. Charlene and Pete will be attending.

April 1-5: NIGA, San Diego. Charlene will attend.

May 1-3: Native American Fish & Wildlife Society, Cherokee, NC. Pete will attend.

May 5: General Body Meeting, LCC Events Center.

May 6-10: Self Governance Conference, New Orleans. Ray and Pete will attend.

May 18: Salmon Defense Tournament. Council agreed to become a hole sponsor for $2,000, plus an additional team for $500. Council would like to have Salmon Defense come report to Council is the near future.

June 4: MLRC Fundraising Tournament, Salish Cliffs.

June 17-20: NCAI Mid-Year, Lincoln, NE.

July 29 – August 5: 2012 Canoe Journey

CHAIRMANS UPDATE

Nisqually Discussion: Dave has not heard anything from Nisqually yet. Andy shared that there is a medicine creek meeting today; Joe Peters is attending for Squaxin Island Tribe.

Council Work Session: Dave would like to have a meeting before General Body this year, then again sometime after if necessary. This will be further discussed at the end of the day.

Fireworks: The Fireworks flier will be send out. Status quo from last year. The drawing will be held during the Council Meeting on April 12th.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Don introduced the new DCD/Planning Director; Richard Wells. Richard thanked Council for welcoming him to Squaxin. He has worked for tribal government for almost 33 years at Quinault and has been involved in many projects similar to the position here.

Basket: Council agreed to purchase a raffia basket woven by Stephen Henry for $150. Council will use the basket as a gift for the Native American Fish & Wildlife Conference.

Don brought up the clinic service area. He shared that there are about 20 tribal members who live in Grays Harbor, and the clinic does not serve that area. Grays Harbor used to be included but was taken away some time ago. Bonnie has shared in the past, her concerns about including Grays Harbor again. Don stated that it would add about 22 members to the clinic. Ray added that since the clinic is at capacity, they cannot take any more non-tribal members, so it would only add Squaxin members who live in Grays Harbor County. Council approved Don to meet with Deb Stoehr, Bonnie Sanchez and Nora Coxwell to really look in to it and see if it is feasible. If it is, Council approves adding Grays Harbor to the service area. Jim suggested adding it to the budget for the next fiscal year. Don will look in to it and make sure everything is feasible.

Ray updated on the Wokojance and Taylor Properties.

Ray stated that Council approved him to look in to a lobbyist for the Tribe. He made a recommendation of Jeanne Cushman. Ray, Dave, Jim and Don met with her and Ray would like to move forward on getting a limited contract in place for her. Jim wanted to make sure that there would be no conflict of interest with whoever is hired. There was a discussion as to who this person would report to, no decision was made.

Andy brought up the land acquisitions. He raised the concern how the Tribe will pay for the land, if it is other than the land acquisition accounts. Ray stated that in the past, he handles all of the negotiations. He added that because it's a "buyer's market" right now, and the land is available, it makes sense to finance those pieces. He related that he met with Bank of American and the Bank indicated that it would finance the Tribe's acquisitions.

Andy reiterated that he is concerned about the debt load the Tribe is carrying and its ability to service those debts. Andy would like a conversation about what factors should go in to a decision to acquire additional debt.

The topic was identified as one for the upcoming Council work session.

Ray added that he has Rex Evans look over the financials.

Jim would like to see a written report of the tribal debt, including Island Enterprises and Little Creek Casino. He would like to see what it looks like on paper.

PLANING DEPARTMENT

Elizabeth Egan presented four SPIPA Resolutions:

Resolution #12-10 authorizes SPIPA to submit a proposal to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention for an amount not to exceed $396,257 on behalf of the Squaxin Island Tribe and SPIPA. These funds will be used to continue funding and implement new projects related to cancer prevention.

Resolution #12-11 authorizes SPIPA to submit a proposal to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in an amount not to exceed $635,151 in behalf of Squaxin Island Tribe and SPIPA. These funds will be used to continue funding the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.

Resolution #12-12 authorizes SPIPA to submit a proposal to the US Administration for Children and Families, LIHEAP REACH for the amount not to exceed $60,000 on behalf of the Squaxin Island Tribe and SPIPA. These funds will be to provide direct energy assistance to qualified low income consortium tribal members.

Resolution #12-13 authorizes SPIPA to submit a proposal to the United States health Resources and Services Administration Public Access to Defibrillation Demonstration Project not to exceed $198,612 on behalf of Squaxin Island Tribe and SPIPA. These funds will be used to develop and implement a community based public access defibrillation demonstration project.

Jim Peters moved to approve the four SPIPA resolutions. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against *(Charlene Krise out of the room).*

Elizabeth presented **Resolution #12-14** which authorizes the Education Department, Executive Services, Public Safety and the NWITC to submit for four multi-year projects for an amount up to $2,375,000 through the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Program. The four projects will include:

> Public safety and community policing. The strategy will be to increase capacity and proactively address the substance abuse issues in the community and built a strong collaboration with key departments to decrease the incidence of crime and increase community safety.
>
> Comprehensive Planning Demonstration Project, which will engage in strategic planning to improve Tribal justice and community wellness and safety.
>
> Violence against Women, which will increase the NWITC capacity to promote peer support networks during and after drug and alcohol treatment through educating the community about domestic violence, safety planning, service providers and providing advocacy for victims.
>
> Tribal Youth Program, which will provide a center-based prevention program that supports teenagers with targeted wrap-around services available in the community and help at-risk youth make positive changes how they manage their lives.

Jim Peters moved to approve Resolution #12-14. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against *(Andy Whitener was out of the room).*

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Rhonda Foster handed out a design for the Squaxin Island Pendleton Blanket. The blankets will be numbered; the first blanket will be housed in the Museum and the second blanket will be housed in Council Chambers. Council needs to decide who will have the opportunity to buy the lower numbered blankets (3, 4, 5, etc.) She suggested that the lower number blankets cost more and be sold to Tribal Council members. All of the proceeds go to the youth program.

Rhonda brought up the contract. She stated that one issue of significance is what happens to the factory "second" blankets. If the tribe does not purchase those also (at a 50% discount), they will be sold to the public. There will be about ten factory "second" blankets. These ten will not be part of the numbered limited edition. Council agreed that the tribe will buy the "seconds." Council approved the contract with Pendleton.

Pendleton is in the process of making the sample before the tribe approves the design. Jim stated that they need to decide on how to sell the lower numbered blankets. This can be discussed further once the sample arrives.

LEGAL UPDATE

Nate discussed the Golf Works arbitration in Executive Session. Legal continued until later.

ADMINISTRATOR

Don reported on the Proclamation that was voted on Wednesday at the Washington State Capital. Don and Andy were in attendance and Squaxin Island Tribe was recognized. It was a nice recognition of the tribe and the upcoming canoe journey.

Andy shared that the golf committee met yesterday. They received a marketing update and are actively going for Seattle and Portland area.

Discussed the MLRC Tournament which will be held at Salish Cliffs.

Council discussed the golf course. Discussed water. Don added that the reservoir should be filled this spring. Andy added that there isn't a water shortage problem, it's more of a water storage problem. Since this summer will not be a "grow in" year, they will know more about how much water is needed.

TWO NATIONS PRESENTATION

Chissie Spencer was present to offer his services to the Tribe. He works with kids in their ICW Program to help improve their lives. He offers transportation, helps with homework and anything to keep kids in school. He tries to make them understand the importance of finishing school in order to succeed.

Currently he works for Muckleshoot and he started there with a three month contract, then they extended it to six months, now he's been there over a year. He provides a monthly report to the Muckleshoot Council, while maintaining confidentiality. He shared that he has more success with the kids than ICW, Enforcement and Education since he is not a tribal employee. He builds trust with families and generally gets places that the government never can.

Jim asked that he write up a proposal.

Sally Brownfield was present as well and asked how his program interfaces with other programs and how he deals with mandatory reporting. Chessie stated that his officer and counseling background helps him recognize bad situations and he reports anything that needs to be reported.

Ray suggested that this program could be discussed with other departments at work session. Council asked that he talk with Sally Brownfield.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO

Mark West was present to review their employee handbook changes. He has made a change to their sick leave accruement; the change will make it consistent with Tribal Government. The other policy change is the anti-fraternization policy which will pertain to management level and higher.

They put out bids for catering trucks that can be used for the golf course and canoe journey.

The Isley Brothers brought in a good night.

They will have new seats coming in. Discussed machines. Mark reported on various subjects including parking, advertising, etc.

Mark presented the employee handbook changes just to let Council know; Council agreed by consensus.

Mark asked about announcing to the staff the decision to hire a CEO. Kevin stated that the negotiations are not complete.

2012 CANOE JOURNEY UPDATE

Deb Meisner introduced Gary Ball from the Olympia Yacht Club. Gary presented a $500 check to the tribe for the canoe journey.

Deb shared that it has been a crazy week. They had a good three day retreat at Suquamish to work with them. They will meet next with the tent company to approve the tents. She sent out an RFP for porta-potties and would like to get that committed soon. She met with Flamingo Audio, who has done the AV for the past journeys. There is another company who is going to do a documentary of the journey.

Kathy shared that she met with Skyline Drive-In. They will close down that week and rent the facilities to the Tribe for parking. They are donating about 2/3 of the cost.

Everything else is coming along well.

Deb would like to see a fashion runway during General Body Meeting; similar to what was done during ATNI. There were a lot of good feedback and is hoping that more tribal members would participate during General Body Meeting. Charlene would like to offer prizes and she will plan the runway.

Arnold asked about any concerns regarding canoe journey; Deb stated that she is not worried about anything.

Deb brought up alcohol sales at KTP during journey. She stated that when other tribes host, it is her understanding that their stores close alcohol sales during that time. It sends the message that the journey is a drug and alcohol free event. Arnold likes the idea, Council will consider it and decide later.

Deb shared that the Casino provided her floor plans to identify which 60 rooms Council has to give away. Council does not want to deal with assigning rooms, they want to keep it simple. Charlene reiterated that the rooms will not be given away, but only reserved and the guest needs to pay for them.

Kevin brought up insurance. He met with the tribes carrier to make sure adequate coverage for the event. Brown & Brown has been the broker for the last five journeys, and is also the current broker for Squaxin.

LEGAL CONTINUED.

Kevin updated on the LCCR CEO negotiations in Executive Session.

Kevin updated on the wills program. The contract term has come to an end and there is a desire to continue the program but use a different provider. Legal is evaluating options for the program, including the Indian Law Center at Seattle U. Legal will return with a proposal. A brief discussion ensued regarding the challenges with the provider under the initial program. The Legal Department recommended against continuing services through SIRE.

See the Confidential Memorandum to Council regarding the status of litigation and other tasks. Kevin will present litigation updates at work session.

Work Session: Council decided that they will meet the week of April 16th. They would like Island Enterprises, Little Creek Casino, Legal and Finance in attendance. It will be held at Suncadia Resort.

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned.