

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
June 23, 2011**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

**Dave Lopeman
Arnold Cooper
Andy Whitener
Pete Kruger, Sr.
Ray Peters
Jim Peters
Charlene Krise**

**Chairman
Vice Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary
1st Council Member *(left at 3:54)*
2nd Council Member
3rd Council Member**

**Legal Counsel
Tribal Administrator
Council Liaison
Recording Secretary**

**Kevin Lyon
Don Whitener
Ray Peters
Melissa Puhn**

Pete Kruger offered the opening prayer. Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jim Peters moved to approve the June 23rd Council Agenda. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. Ray Peters would like to add a medicare update to the agenda. Kathy Block would like to update on capital projects. Charlene Krise would like to discuss mold in the houses. Ray added that Russell Harper will be coming in later today to discuss internship and tribal advancement. Kathy has been working on the MBR Training and certifications. Arnold would like to have Russell meet with Kathy instead of coming to Council. Kathy added that she will be discussing the intern plan to work session. She plans on creating a structured program. Ray will contact Russell. Council approved the agenda six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council modified the per capita discussion on the May 26th minutes. Jim Peters moved to approve the minutes with changes. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

July 1: Veterans Memorial Clean-up, 9am- noon. Dave will bless the new paddles that are in the memorial.

Arnold asked about a memorial vault for cremations within the cemetery. Kathy shared that she and Rhonda have been looking in to something like that. She added that there are some funds in the cemetery budget for a vault to hold ashes. Arnold would like to see this done.

July 5-8: Council Work Session, Suncadia Resort in Cle Elum. Ray asked about Natural Resources needing to be on the agenda, since they met with Council in March. Kathy stated that Dons intent was to have the directors present their 2012 Goals & Objectives. Ray added that Council goes off-site in order to tour facilities. Jim added too that the work session is not only to hear from directors

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and their plans of the future, but to just have a relaxed discussion. It allows the directors to come with some new ideas.

July 11-13: WIGA, Tulalip. Andy, Ray and Jim will attend. Ray and Jim will only attend one day. Pete will attend in place of the remaining time for Ray.

July 12-15: Washington DC, Ray will travel with Island Enterprises.

July 25-31: Canoe Journey Landing, Swinomish. Arnold feels that he and Dave need to be there. Kathy will need to attend as well; she hopes to attend the entire journey this year since she has never attended. Arnold hopes that the steering committee should attend so they know what to expect.

July 28th IEI is sponsoring a salmon dinner for the soft landing on the Island. IEI will take care of everything. .

Council would like to schedule a dinner with the Mason County Commissioners. Ray asked if next week is too soon to meet with Mason County. Dinner usually works better. Charlene asked about Wednesday. Ray will coordinate a dinner meeting at Xhins Oyster House, 5pm.

Charlene brought up the IHS Meeting that she, Kathy and Bonnie attended. She thought that it was very informative and staff did well in discussions regarding tribal needs. Kathy added that there are a couple of things on the forefront that are pertinent to the tribes. Squaxin has challenged IHS and the Area on Aging to move assisted living to their facility program and staffing package. There is a need for culturally appropriate care. The tribe has been working with SPIPA on options, but it is cost prohibitive. Early childcare learning was discussed. The current rule is that there can only be one facility within a county that can receive grants. There currently is a head start at Skokomish, which makes Squaxin ineligible for early learning grants. Squaxin believes that the government programs need to be based on per capita, not location, since Skokomish is outside of this area. Council would like to look in to expanding the Child Development Center to accommodate preschool age kids as well.

Jim asked to give an update on Centennial Accord; he will later in the day. Charlene would like to update on NCAI later also.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Council would like to assist Tonya Henry since her house caught on fire. Dave had Tonya look in to furniture to see what she needs.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Joe Peters was present with the 2011-2012 Annual Fishing Regulations. He had a fish committee meeting on May 25th. Ten community members showed up and had a good discussion. The new regulations eliminate the fish tax language, except for past taxes. July 15th is the available opening date. Dave asked if the fishermen can track how many fish they lose to seals. Jim added that there is a new requirement for management of marine wildlife; fisherman should report their seal deterrent tactics. Joe added that he adopted a similar regulation that defines when a fisherman can take fatal

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action when dealing with a sea lion. Arnold Cooper moved to approve the 2011-2012 Fishing Regulations. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ENROLLMENT

Tammy Ford handed out a memo regarding an adoption request. Vicky Kruger also was present and asked Council if they would further discuss the enrollment moratorium. Arnold asked what the Enrollment Committee thought about the adoption. With the moratorium in place, the adoption does not qualify for enrollment. Ray would like to discuss with Council if this is truly an exception to the moratorium or is it within the rules. Council will discuss this at the end of the day.

Tammy presented three new applicants:

Resolution #11-42 enrolls Anthony Del Johns

Resolution #11-43 enrolls Raul Cristian Avalos

Resolution #11-44 enrolls Apisai Moliga Jr.

Andy Whitener moved to approve all three enrollment resolutions. Jim Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Tammy presented **Resolution #11-45** which adjusts the blood quantum of Jearid Williams. This came with the recommendation of the Enrollment Committee. Jim Peters moved to approve the change. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

These enrollments bring the total number of tribal members to 1,039.

Council went in to executive session to discuss the adoption request. No action was taken. This will be discussed at work session.

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR UPDATE

Committee & Commission appointments: Tribal Council made the following appointments: **Child Care Board of Directors:** Rickie Ramage, Terry Capoeman, Gloria Hill and Janette Sigo were appointed; **Education Commission:** Rickie Ramage was appointed; **Elections Committee:** Dillon Decicio and Rickie Ramage were appointed; **Fireworks Committee:** Dillon Decicio, Rose Boggs, Will Henderson, Misti Saenz-Garcia, Julie Owens, Jennifer Johns and Arnold Cooper were appointed; **Fish Committee:** Rod Schuffenhauer was appointed; **Housing Commission:** Tully Kruger was reappointed; **Hunting Committee:** Bob Whitener Sr., Tully Kruger, Rod Schuffenhauer and John Vanderwal were reappointed; **Little Creek Oversight Board:** Misti Saenz-Garcia was reappointed; **Shellfish Committee:** Terry Capoeman was appointed; **One Percent Commission:** Joe Peters and Ruby Fuller were reappointed; **Aquatics Committee:** Rose Boggs was appointed, Jill Krise, Jason Koenig and Jeremy Walls were reappointed.

Kathy gave an update on capital projects. Arcadia boat ramp construction will begin on July 13th, still waiting for a permit from Ecology. Arnold would like to educate tribal members as to where they can launch their boat during fishing season. Natural Resources will work with Theresa Henderson on getting a notice out. Kathy shared that the goal is to continue the project teamwork: NR has been active and is interested because of the fishing, the technical side of the project is going to Kevin

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Dragon, Kathy would like to get the proper notices and worded properly for publication. Will do a media push including the Journal.

The next project is the canoe journey camping and trail building. The contract was awarded a couple of days ago and the campground clearing begun yesterday. They are clearing and smoothing 15 acres. The budget commission approved the budget for the trail; the Stepping Stones participants will be working on the trail as well.

The canoe carving center contract has been awarded to Jack Selvidge. He is currently ordering materials now. Additional funding was approved to extend the boardwalk towards the community kitchen. The kitchen is just about complete. Summer Rec will be using the kitchen this summer.

Kathy shared that Kevin Dragon will be developing the RFP for the infrastructure for the community center.

The budget for the Museum roof replacement went to the budget commission, which was allocated. That project is supposed to be open to bid mid July and should be completed by this fall.

An RFP is out to stain the administration building, elders building and the Museum. All three buildings will match the administration building. A scheduled maintenance plan will be in place.

Kathy brought up the \$10,000 that has been set aside for a skatepark. This has been a low priority and has been set aside for about five years. Planning has been unable to find parks/rec money for this project and she would like to return the funds before they expire.

Last project is the NR/CR Building. That has been assigned to Kevin Lyon; he will have a definitive timeline by next week and will report at the next Council meeting.

Ray updated on the park area by Skookum Creek. Natural Resources have been working on clearing out the knotweed. Jeff Dickison was here and shared that NR was awarded a grant for noxious weed removal. All notices were sent out, but funds have not actually been received yet from the BIA. They have been unable to proceed since the funding has not arrived, unsure of why.

Kathy shared that the elders receive funding for their meal program. Currently, they serve meals Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday was only soup and sandwiches, and that grant recently expired. In order to continue providing meals on Tuesdays, they will need additional funding. Kathy is asking for \$36,112 in order to continue that portion. Jim moved to provide funds needed for the elders to provide the Tuesday food program, including indirect. He would like to include this on an annual basis. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and (0) against (*Andy was out of the room*).

Kathy provided an update on a reservation house with a mold problem. She stated that there are no funds available to clean up the mold. There are grants available for low income homes; but this is a conveyed home and the maintenance responsibility falls on the home owner. Jim added that Housing offers workshops for home owners on house maintenance. Charlene worries that mold may become a problem on the reservation. Kathy will work with Legal and Housing about a specific workshop.

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Rose James was here from UW. She shared that years ago she came to Council and asked for participation from Squaxin for a project she was working on with SPIPA Womens Wellness. She worked with Rita Andrews to research why women tend to not use the facilities available for preventive care. She was here today to share her results. She shared a power point presentation and handed out her findings.

HOUSING

Liz Kuntz was here to share what Housing is doing to assist the tribal member whose house caught fire. The hotel has provided some furniture and many tribal members have donated items as well. Liz shared that Housing strongly encourages tenants to buy renters insurance. Charlene encouraged Liz to send out a notice stating the importance of renters insurance. Jim suggested that the two tribal members who were affected by fires this year could add some comments about the importance as well. Council decided to donate \$500 towards a washer and dryer set. The funds will be sent directly to Quality Appliance; where she got a quote from.

Liz reported on the two homes within the reservation that are for sale. If the tribe actually buys these houses they could be rented out to tribal members and not be limited by income. Council would like to have Kathy and Liz look in to purchasing the Smith and Strobe houses. They would like to have appraisals done, then go from there.

2012 CANOE UPDATE

Deb Meisner was here to provide an update. She shared that the different committees are established and working. Council discussed the community dinner that is done as part of hosting. She would like it to be traditional foods. Deb would like to hear ideas from the community regarding hosting. She added that Swinomish Council gives a \$1,500/month budget for community dinners during the canoe journey planning/hosting process. Deb would like the same budget; the funds would be used for buying food, gifts and door prizes to entice attendance. Andy suggested Council approve the monthly amount through September. Andy moved to donate \$4,500 for the rest of the fiscal year (\$1,500/month for July, August & September). Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against (*Ray was out of the room*).

Deb attended NCAI and made a lot of contacts as well as generated interest. She met with Department of Corrections and they have the capability to purchase items at good prices. She met with Ecology and Port of Olympia regarding the landing site. They are planning a traditional dinner the Wednesday of the hosting week. One Percent Grant applications are ready to be sent out to tribes; there are several tribes who donated to the hosting tribe. She was able to meet with the Swinomish assistant coordinator. The steering committee has a regular meeting schedule. They are working on sponsorship packets and started a website. This year the canoe family is planning on having ten other canoe families leaving from Squaxin this year.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL LIAISON UPDATE

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Bordeaux donation: a teacher from Bordeaux Elementary contacted Ray and asked for a donation of \$100. This amount will help pay for tribal 5th graders' teddy bears. At the end of the school year, all 5th graders get a teddy bear that can be signed by other students. Jim suggested that Council make this a yearly donation. Council agreed.

Fireworks food vendors: Ray brought up that someone would like to park a taco truck at the stands this year. The question is can non-tribal food vendors set up at the stand location? Charlene brought up that this is an economical piece for tribal members, and she would prefer to see all vendors tribal only. Council agreed.

DNR Cultural trees contract: Ray received a contract from DNR which was reviewed by Legal. There are a couple of insurance provisions that needs to be abided by, Ray shared that the liability is covered. He met with Chuck Bloomfield today, and it was determined that the tribe would have to seek out a helicopter logger to pull the logs out. DNR is in no hurry. Ray will reach out to the heli-logger. Arnold would like to see plans for the logs before they are removed.

Art Commission: Ray would like more direction from Council regarding a request for membership. Ray would like to get Laura Grabbhorn on the Commission. Ray will work with Charlene to form a three person commission. Ray will seek people to assess the artwork submitted; since Mitch Corbine would like to see someone else choose the artwork that is displayed.

LEGAL

Bruce Davies presented the Youth Code and shared the changes that were made. Jim Peters moved to approve the code and its **Resolution, #11-46**. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Sharon Haensley reported on the Johns Creek case. The tribe was successful in its fight against Ecology. Ecology sent a letter, which Sharon would like to respond to. She shared the response letter that she prepared hoping for approval from Council. Council approved.

Sharon brought up fish buying. Andy shared that the tribe should have jurisdiction over the tribe's fish buyers. The tribe is not looking to have any loopholes, and would like to deter any illegal activity. Sharon stated that she feels the tribe has tried; her recommendation is to write a letter to the state, and share what the tribe needs. Otherwise, share some bottom line requirements.

Andy brought up the co-management agreement on hunting. Jim would like to have Council meet with Green Diamond to discuss what is happening; someone upper management who understands what the tribe is about.

Sharon handed out an outline draft of an inmate handbook for tribal members. If anyone has any input, let her know.

Jim wanted to discuss the representation at the dispute resolution next week. Kevin has been attending. Jim also would like to start attending. There is a meeting at Quinault next Monday he would like to attend. Council agreed to have Jim start attending.

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Jim also brought up that the Natural Resources Conservation Service deals with agriculture issues. They created an advisory Council to assist NRCS; this includes wildlife and shellfish management. Jim would like to attend their monthly meetings. Council agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.