SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
November 9, 2017

Attendance:

Tribal Council	**Arnold Cooper**	**Chairman** *(absent)*
	Charlene Krise	**Vice Chairman**
	Vicki Kruger	**Treasurer**
	Steven Dorland	**Secretary**
	Bev Hawks	**1st Council Member**
	David Whitener	**2nd Council Member**
	Vince Henry, Sr.	**3rd Council Member** *(absent)*
Legal Counsel	**Kevin Lyon**	
Tribal Administrator	**Kris Peters**	
Recording Secretary	**Melissa Puhn**	

Bev Hawks offered the opening prayer. Charlene Krise called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Steven Dorland moved to approve the November 9 Council Agenda. Bev seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vicki asked for clarification in the October 26, 2017 minutes pertaining to the Housing resolutions and whether or not the treaty income and per capita was included with the changes. It was determined that it is included and explains so in the resolution. Vicki asked that the verbiage be included in the minutes. Kevin explained that Legal is planning on having the home ownership program ready to be implemented by January 1, 2018.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

November 10: **Veterans Day Celebration:** Veterans Memorial, 11:30am. Vicki asked if the veteran employees can be dismissed after lunch tomorrow. Kris will take care of it.

November 11: **Longhouse Community Dinner:** 6:00 p.m. TESC

November 13: **DNR Summit:** Dinner Monday night, Summit Tuesday. Followed by Culvert Meeting. All Council to attend. Stillaguamish

November 14: **Culvert Meeting:** Stillaguamish, 4pm – 7pm

November 16: **Legal Work Session:** Legal (discuss housing)

November 23-24: **Tribal Offices closed:** Thanksgiving Holiday. Charlene asked about holiday baskets. Bev shared Traci Coffey is working on baskets. Bev added that the elder widows need to get the gift cards also. Kris will look in to that.

December 3-5: **IEI Workshop:** Skamania Lodge

Bev added that the Housing Commission is having a training that same time. Council discussed coordinating dates better and working with schedules.

December 21: **All Staff Christmas Brunch:** 10:00 a.m. LCCR

December 22-Jan 1: Tribal Offices closed: Christmas/New Year's Holiday

January 6: **Winter General Body Meeting:** Community Kitchen, 9am

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Council Work Session: December 11, Collier House. Charlene would like to have a Council session first to discuss amongst themselves what they would like to accomplish. They would like to go over their work list from the last session.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

SPIPA Grant: Elizabeth Egan presented **Resolution #17-81** which authorizes SPIPA to administer a one year grant proposal through the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer outreach and education on behalf of Squaxin. Vicki moved to approve the grant resolution. Steven seconded. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Enrollment Update: Tammy Ford reported that the Enrollment Conference was a success with 28 tribes in attendance.

Tammy met with the Enrollment Committee on October 17 for one new applicant who is born to a current tribal member. She presented **Resolution #17-82** which enrolls Brenda Bailey. Vicki moved to approve the enrollment resolution. Steven seconded. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Tammy suggested sharing another update on the moratorium and the history of how and why, with this current Council. Tammy currently is working on a spreadsheet showing the born-to and relinquished tribal members.

Charlene thanked Tammy for the enrollment conference and she put a good light on the conference, that went really well.

Fair & Uniform Service Policy: Kris explained how this policy creates a system for individuals who get denied services for whatever reason, and have a policy to make sure everything was followed and done the correct way with documents showing why services were denied. Council would like to review and discuss at their next meeting.

Bev explained how there are some issues with eligibility that makes it difficult for some tribal members to get services; she would like to make sure that policies are clear and services are streamlined.

Vicki wants to make sure each grant lists out all the requirements and guidelines. Additional policies and practices should not be added without Kris's approval. Kris stated that the Fair & Uniform Policy does not hinder the services; it will help to make sure policies are followed.

Vicki went back to the change in practices; Vicki said that when practices are changed Kris needs to know about it. Kris added that he does need to look in to policies and practices to make sure everything is consistent and fair.

Brad Worthley Update: Kris reported that the tribe is bringing in a consultant to provide customer service training for tribal employees. The first phase is a leadership assessment; Directors and Managers will receive training plus one on one coaching. He then will hold a mandatory training for all government employees. This process will take place during December through February.

Charlene shared that she is happy to hear about this training. However, with all the services provided to the community; Squaxin still has homeless and drug problems. She would like to see an assessment on the community; like a numerical assessment on how effective the tribe is; how many foster kids are there; how many homeless are there?

Kris shared that Brad Worthley can conduct such survey, but due to fiscal responsibilities that cannot be done this year. There is a potential to re-do the contract for next year and do just that assessment. Bev thanked Kris for this and is excited to see what comes of it.

Davey stepped out at 10:45 a.m.

TRIBAL LIAISON UPDATE

Ray stated that he is still waiting to schedule a DC trip since there is talk about the Tribal Leaders Meeting being scheduled; he is waiting to hear on that schedule first.

Council went in to Executive Session.

Coming out of Executive Session, Steven moved to approve a one-time gift to tribal members over the age of 18, of $1,800. $300 will be distributed to minors with the balance

going in to their trust account. These funds are a result of the BIA Ramah Settlement. December 13th will be the distribution date. The cutoff for enrollment will remain June 30th. There also will be a one-time exemption on miscellaneous deductions. Bev seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against. Ray added that he spoke with Arnold, who spoke with Vince previously and they both were in favor as well.

LEGAL / ICW

Council went in to Executive Session. Coming out of Executive Session, Council approved the guardianship of case# 2016-1602-0032 and 2016-12-0207.

LEGAL UPDATE

Council Pay: Kevin presented **Resolution #17-80** which rescinds any previous resolution pertaining to Council Salary, and reflects the code change to adjust the Council pay. David moved to approve the resolution. Bev seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Moss Adams Letter of Intent and waiver of sovereign immunity: Kevin shared that Moss Adams Letter of Intent includes a waiver of sovereign immunity. This is a standard request by the company who performs the Tribe's audits. Council approved by consensus.

Merrill Lynch 401K: Kevin shared another waiver of sovereign immunity in order to move forward with the Tribe's 401K Plan. Legal reviewed and recommended. Council approved by consensus and approved to have Kris to sign the 401K paperwork.

Infrastructure Workgroup Update:

Water application: Kevin reported there is a team internally that has worked on an agreement with Taylor to jointly evaluate and file for a municipal water right. The agreement has been signed and the work has begun.

PUD electricity: Kevin asked for a Council provisional approval to sign with PUD 3 to build a new substation. That substation provides 25 MVA. The Squaxin internal team recommends that Squaxin request 15 of the 25 MVA. Taylors obtaining the additional 10 MVA. The estimated overall cost of the station is $3M. PUD 3 charges a system capacity fee equivalent to 60% of the cost. The fee is shared between users, Squaxins total cost of $11,000. Construction will take 1-3 years and will be located on Taylor's property. Council agreed by consensus. Legal will keep Council informed.

U.S. v. Washington Update: Deferred until the November 16th work session.

Home Ownership: Kevin explained that in August of this year, Legal was asked assist with developing a Housing Ownership Program. LeAnne Kaine was present and shared what they have done so far.

Steven added that he would like more open communication with Housing and with Council on all things housing related. He doesn't like surprises and would like to be sure policies are followed. Charlene added that she cannot attend the Housing Commission meeting on the 17th, and asked Steven to attend.

Charlene thanked Legal for the work they have put in for this.

GUEST: CAROL RILEY

Olympia Harbor Days: Carol Riley shared that Harbor Days was a huge success this year and would like to invite Council to be the title sponsor again next year. Charlene asked that she work with Ray and Leslie to apply to 1% next year.

Carol shared that a steamship company will be coming to Olympia and suggested a sunset cruise for Squaxin Elders. Charlene asked if Squaxin can offer a verbal tribal history presentation during the cruise. Carol agreed. Charlene and Leslie have been talking about offering tours for tribal members.

PUBLIC DEFENDER TRAINING
Ronnie Whitener was in regarding a three-day training for tribal public defenders. They would like to host this training through a tribe; BIA will fund and contract a company to do the training. This would be hosted in the summer at LCCR. Kevin shared that Legal is supportive. Council is supportive of this idea. Ronnie will continue working on it and with Legal, he will keep council updated on his progress.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT

Mark West, Cameron Goodwin and Erika Thale were present.

Mark met with the kitchen designers today and will have a proposal soon.

Mark asked how to handle billings for tribal member emergency extended stays. Vicki asked if they can draft a policy for this.

Council went in to Executive Session. No action.

Mark shared that the Casino contracts with a promotion company. There was an issue with the most recent $10k promotion, and they will be doing a second promotion at no cost, due to that mistake.

Mark shared that they are creating an RFP process that mirrors the Tribe's policy. Cameron explained in more detail what and how it will work.

Mark shared that he eats in the employee dining room most days to ensure they provide quality food at all times.

Erika provided an update on the benefit increase. They will be sharing some of the cost with their employees by an increase of $5/paycheck.

Vicki asked about being self-insured and mentioned that Ray has been asked to look in to a regional clinic.

LCCR moved from Kaiser to a United Health Insurance Company which has more options and is a better company for the Casino.

Vicki asked if Ray or Kris could look into switching policies. Kris shared that Squaxin has a group who reviews the tribe's benefit policy each year. Council is welcome to attend those meetings. Kris shared that last year the health of our employees was not good, so it effected our rates.

Charlene would like to have LCCR, IEI and Gov't to sit down and discuss the health care needs.

Cameron shared the October financials.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Rich Wells and Dan Neelands were present.

As previously requested, Rich shared the information that was gathered regarding a tribal transfer station, including a plan drawing, program details and cost.

Rich shared a rental report on the homes the tribe has purchased and rents out, that are not part of the Tribal housing community. Initially those homes were managed by IEI, and now are managed by Housing. He feels housing staff does a good job in management. He shared the steps that are taken to prep the rentals.

Vicki asked where the rent money goes since there are concerns from current renters who have complaints about the house they are renting. Vicki wants to talk about the rental swap that was discussed previously.

Vicki asked about the tribal member landscaping contractors and Rich said that yes, they will have opportunity once the current contract is up.

Charlene asked about the Whitener House that used to be available for emergency housing. Rich said that the previous tribal administrator discontinued that. The emergency house is still written in and still possible to be used as that. Vicki wants to see a budget of the money that comes in and what is going out.

Bev would like to see that the rental money is used for home repairs. She also wants to see what work was done on the rentals to make them livable.

Charlene asked about the Cunningham house and if there is a plan for that house. Kris said that is a Council decision on what to do with that house. Same with the church. Charlene suggested making the Cunningham a transitional house. David wants to look at the house first.

Vicki asked about making the Griswold House into a homeless shelter. Rich stated that it would cost roughly $40k to renovate and it is pretty small. Charlene asked him to look at that option anyway.

Vicki said that Nisqually just turned their jail into a homeless shelter, and she got a copy of their policy. Many homeless have problems with drugs and alcohol and the Nisqually shelter addresses that. Kris has tasked Patti to work on that and asked Rich to work with Patti on what she has learned.

Charlene wants to expend time and attention to homelessness and how it can be handled economically.

Bev suggested having the current caretaker at the Cunningham House manage it as a homeless shelter for the women and children. Tammy can offer a bus route to access services from that house.

Rich went back to the Griswold House and shared that it would cost roughly $10k to demolish it. Davey suggested giving Rich direction to demolish with the Griswold property using the rent money. Then could replace that house with another unit.

Community Center: Dan Neelands shared that he has been working with Ray on a possibility of acquiring some additional property for a new Community Center.

Vicki wants to see a basketball court with bleachers. She also wants an outdoor cooking facility to host events.

The fitness center is at 95% design and almost ready to bid.

Charlene asked about outdoor adult equipment. Dan shared that Penni Giles is researching equipment.

Vicki asked about a family that has a handicap youth and wants to make sure their house can be made handicapped accessible. She asked Rich to look in to it.

Vicki also wanted to make sure at least one handicap swing is in place. Dan suggested working with maintenance to get it installed.

NATURAL RESOURCES UPDATE

Andy Whitener presented resolutions approving the bylaws of the Natural Resources Committees. **Resolution #17-83** approves the Aquatics Committee; **#17-84** approves the Shellfish Committee; **#17-85** approves the Fish Committee and **#17-86** approves the

Hunting Committee. Steven moved to approve all by-law resolutions. David seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Aquatics Committee will be meeting on December 6. NR will return to Council on December 14 to report on their decisions.

SKOOKUM CONSTRUCTION

Jeremie Walls came in to introduce his business partner, Rozanne Garman from RHD Enterprises. Rosanne started her business in 2005 as a small contractor and has expanded to a full design and build service. She gave an overview of her business.

OTHER BUSINESS

Steven handed out designs for matching council jackets. Council chose a design to move forward with.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.