

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
August 12, 2010**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

Dave Lopeman	Chairman
Arnold Cooper	Vice Chairman
Andy Whitener	Treasurer
Pete Kruger, Sr.	Secretary
Misti Saenz-Garcia	1st Council Member
Marcella Castro	2nd Council Member
Charlene Krise	3rd Council Member

Legal Counsel

Kevin Lyon (*absent*)
Mark Allen

Executive Director

Ray Peters

Recording Secretary

Melissa Puhn

Dave called the August 12, 2010 meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Marcella Castro offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dave added Mike Peters to the beginning of the agenda. Andy Whitener moved to approve the agenda. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Council went in to Executive Session to meet with Mike Peters. No action was taken.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Deb Stoehr presented the draft fiscal year 2011 budgets. These were distributed for review earlier this week and need approval today. The approval today will allow Finance to move forward with presenting the draft budget at the Second Public Budget Hearing. Misti asked about more funds for Natural Resources and Client Services. Deb stated that the department director needs to submit that request to the budget committee. Marcella stated that her program has run out of money to pay for tribal members' water bills, power bills, etc. Misti moved to approve the draft FY11 budget. Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

At the request of Council, Deb handed out an information packet regarding Council benefits. She included information such as accruing sick leave, annual leave, medical benefits, etc. She included a re-cap of the Chairman's salary and a total Council salary. Misti stated that the initial request was for Council Members who also accrue leave at their current job, while serving on Council. Deb stated that not knowing specifically what the request was, she tried to capture what Council was asking; the information handed out was in regards to Council salary and benefits. Ray suggested holding a special Council Meeting to discuss this further at a later date. Charlene asked Deb for a better explanation of the request: Initially Misti requested the ability to earn leave on Council. That raised issues of the other benefits, so Deb took an expanded approach on Council having all benefits that regular employees have. Arnold would like to see what other tribes offer their Councils. The option of dividing the Council budget seven ways was briefly discussed. This would allow a percentage to be computed to each member. Right now Council Members are considered an "on call" employee.

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Marcella added that before she was on Council, she had annual leave accrued. Now that she is serving time on Council, she does not have any annual leave since she uses it while she is serving. Now she has to use leave without pay for fishing, since she has no annual leave. She would like to accrue annual leave for her time spent serving on Council.

Ray stated that leave without pay and the fishing season leave policy is meant to give employees the opportunity to be gone and allow for a temporary employee to be hired during that season. Marcella stated that she should have taken the two months off to fish, but she didn't. Arnold stated that she should have submitted for the time off, just in case. She stated that she always has been able to take time off to fish, and now she can't.

Andy stated that he feels the fishing season leave policy does not really work like it was designed to. Most employees who fish are taking four days off at a time (the policy states that any time off in excess of five days needs prior approval). Arnold stated that the policy is for those employees who would like their jobs protected if they wish to take the entire season off. Ray stated that in most cases the tribe really tries to accommodate employees.

Charlene asked about fringe benefits for Council. Ray stated that fringe would be in addition to the salary and does not come out of the current salary. Charlene would like to check in to what other councils offer in regards to medical insurance. Deb would like a better understanding of what Councils intent is.

Ray stated that the research was done to show what a full time paid Council would look like versus a Council paid by stipend. He would like Council to look at the information provided and tailor it to fit their wants. It was suggested to split the Council budget six ways (minus the Chairman) and have each Council member accrue their own percentage. Ray suggested they accrue leave at the same rate as regular employees. Andy shared that when he looks at his Council salary, minus the council hours and 40% he is losing hours working on Council. He takes leave without pay for Council work, so he is actually losing money being in Council.

Charlene recommended that Deb provide options for Council to consider in regards to salary. Deb shared that she can propose some scenarios with cost estimates of annual leave, sick leave and a full benefit package.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

August 19: Second Public Budget Hearing, Council Chambers, 4:30 p.m. This is allocated for IEI and LCC to come in and talk about their proposed yearly plan.

August 19-20: 6th Annual Re-Emerging Tribal Economies Seminar, Tulalip, Arnold will attend.

August 27: Korsmo Community BBQ, 11:30 a.m. Admin Building parking lot

September 19-23: American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Tulalip

September 25: MLRC Art Auction.

September 21-22: WIGA, Kalispel, Andy will attend

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September 20-23: ATNI Annual Conference, Kalispel, Mist, Pete, Ray and Arnold will attend

September 30-October 3: Basket Weavers Conference, Warm Springs. Charlene and Misti will attend. This will be advertised as it was in the past to tribal members (Council will sponsor 15 tribal members and spouses to attend, a flier will be sent out and if more that 15 are interested a lottery drawing will be done September 3rd).

October 6-7: Self-Governance Tribal Strategy Session, Catoosa OK.

October 6-11: NIEA, San Diego. Marcella and Misti will attend.

October 19-20: NIGA Mid Year Conference, Prior Lake, MN

November 14-19: NCAI Annual Convention, Albuquerque, NM. Charlene, Andy, Misti, Marcella, Ray and Pete will attend.

November 15-18: Global Gaming Expo, Las Vegas

Ray shared that the Annual First Salmon Ceremony went very well. Natural Resources and the other volunteers did a good job. The Planning Department invited and toured people from WSDOT and Federal Lands & Highways to the event. It was nice to get the critical participants of the boat ramp renovation there to see the site and how it can be used.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Census Bureau: Esther Fox introduced Toby Ivarson and Elena Capoeman from the Census Bureau. Toby stated that he and Elena served as a liaison between tribal government and federal government during this project. They will be doing wrap up work to finish and so far the have completed under budget due to the high participation this year. A lot of money was saved nationally and he feels that it is in part of the partnership programs that were in place, as well as the media campaign. The tribe did well in regards to participation. Toby shared that Esther did a good job as a liaison for the tribe and he enjoyed working with her.

Toby and Elena presented a plaque to the Council showing their appreciation. Toby handed out a survey for Council to fill out in regards to the program and if they want a repeat in 2020.

Squaxin Island Fractionated Interest: Kathy Block handed out information regarding purchasing the fractionated interest on the Island. Esther shared a flier that will be sent out to other tribes along with a press release to go out to tribal newspapers seeking interested individuals to sell their interest to the tribe. Council liked the flier and press release.

Esther shared the letter that will be mailed to fee owners. Charlene asked about the value per acre, Ray stated that it is dependent on the BIA requirement and it does depend on the timber prices and quality of timber. Andy stated that usually when you sell it, the appraiser is going to look at the similar surrounding land sale price. Kathy pointed out that in the draft letter it does touch on the BIA appraisals and value. Charlene asked about the land use code. Mark stated that there is not a code, but there is a forest management code in regards to harvesting. Andy stated that a past Council made

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the decision to not develop the island and to keep it in the current state. Council approved the letter that will be sent out to fee land owners.

Andy mentioned that the Lummi Tribe is selling credits to their wetlands. The tribe has bought land elsewhere and asked the allottees to exchange their wetland property with useable property.

Kathy updated that the Marshall, Clary and Manke environmental assessments are being worked on. There is a 30 day period, then can move forward. Ray stated that the assessments were done and they need to be renewed. The Clary property clean-up is complete. One of the requirements is to publicize the fee to trust process. The tribe is very close to getting those parcels in to trust.

Kathy provided an update on her transition; she is officially the director and Brian will continue working three days/week to help Kathy with his knowledge. He as a couple of projects he will help with. Do not have a complete departure date, but they are planning a fair well departure event. Kathy stated that there are good workers in Planning and DCD.

Resolution: Kathy presented **Resolution #10-79** which refers to the BIA Indian Reservation Roads Program funds for eligible transportation projects. There are FY10 shares available to the tribe. This resolution requests that those shares be allocated to fund the design and construction of a future Klah-Che-Min Drive housing access project; and construction shares to fund the Transportation Planning Program. Charlene Krise moved to approve the resolution. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Kathy provided a handout outlining project updates. They are currently working with DOT Transit who is providing a training session that Penni Giles will attend. There are two pending grants Planning is waiting to hear back on. Road construction going on.

Charlene mentioned that she appreciates the lighting in the community. Kathy stated that they will be doing quarterly inspections of the street lights. She shared her appreciation of the summer youth workers who did the weeding. Ray brought up dumpsters; they are usually ordered in the spring and once again in the fall. Housing schedules that and Council will pay for the dumpsters for the fall clean up.

Kathy shared that there will be a meeting next week with USDA regarding financing the NR/CRD Building. She, Margaret Foley and Brian Thompson will attend.

Housing update: Kathy provided the current housing wait list and empty unit report.

Animal report: The horses at the Clary property were taken care of. Animal Control came and looked at the horses, they looked good. Since that area is a high traffic area there were some complaints about the state of the horses. The horses were taken to a new home.

The new duplexes are progressing well. She is looking in to a modification for outdoor lighting for the carports. There are 12 new units and 14 applications are in the evaluation process. The units will be complete in November.

Painting bids were received yesterday for preventive maintenance. Five rentals need painted.

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Kathy reported on Sue Henrys house; no bids were received for the renovation. Native Land Development is working on the new duplexes already so they provided a low bid for her house. The renovation includes floors, windows, roof, plumbing, electrical upgrade and new doors. This is a HIPPP Project and next year another home will be funded.

This Friday Lisa Peters and Patti Puhn are holding a financial literacy work shop for the Stepping Stones Program participants. This will be held at the Casino and they are excited about providing this to the youth and hope that it will be meaningful.

There will be a Housing and Education Fair next Friday.

Marcella asked about an upcoming eviction. Kathy stated that if the tenant pays what is owed, he will not be evicted. Marcella stated that he contact her regarding financial assistance, but Marcellas program has run out of money. Kathy stated that the housing programs and SPIPA has assisted him financially, but all of those resources have been exhausted. The Housing Support Team met for further assistance, but he has already used all of the available sources. He recently had a court hearing and did not show up. Mark Allen added that the Housing Support Team has worked with this individual quite a bit and has done everything they can. This is the third time this tenant has been through this process. There has been no response from him.

Charlene asked if the tribe has a Housing Counselor. Kathy stated that Lisa Peters does that and tenants come see her quite a bit. She does a good job with sharing what resources are available. Charlene would like to see the Housing Support Team send out the information to tribal members in need, instead of making the tribal member come in. She doesn't want to intimidate tribal members in need. Kathy stated that Lisa is available for one on one counseling. Normally if a tenant can work through the counseling, their case does not have to go to the Housing Support Team. The HST is more of a brainstorming session with each service department representative.

Arnold stated that Housing already does go to the extreme to work with tribal tenants. Housing has policies that need to be followed. Mark stated that the Legal Department and the tribal judge are wonderful to work with and are not at all intimidating. Once a case gets to the Legal level, everything is done to work with the tenant and is very supportive. Arnold shared that this tenant in discussion could have turned his last per capita check in to housing as a good faith payment, but did not. Pete added that he thinks tribal members need to be more self reliant. Arnold encouraged Council to be supportive of Housing and their process.

Charlene brought up the housing discussion that came up at the last talking circle. Tribal members feel intimidated to come here to discuss their housing needs and difficulties. She would like to see information sent out to tribal members instead of making them come in. Kathy stated that information is already provided to tribal members.

Kathy shared that the siding on the Administration Building needs to be refinished. There is moisture damage and it needs to be cleaned bi-annually. Kathy would like to make sure that all of the tribal buildings are taken care of with a maintenance plan in place.

There has been a consultant evaluating the MLRC roof. Preliminary indications show that the roof may need to be replaced because of moisture damage.

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Charlene would like to see the boardwalk extended through the trees to the location of the new kitchen.

LEGAL

Guardianship update: Bruce Davies reported on a guardianship petition that was filed and needs Council attention. A family is filing for guardianship for Derek Wiley. Council supports this request.

Charlene asked about tribal young adults who are almost 18. Bruce stated that youth are out of the system once they reach 18; with the exception of one who requested to stay in guardianship until he's 21.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

TLC Backpack donation: Council agreed to donate the same as last year: \$3,300. This will be used for gift cards to purchase back packs, at \$15 each. TLC will provide the same amount gift cards to purchase school supplies. Arnold would like to look in to having the Casino and IEI pitch in. Ray will look in to it. Marcella suggested using some of childcare funds from her program; she will coordinate.

Shaker Church update: Mark shared that the church was able to reach an agreement with the neighboring land owner. He got the upper end of the request and is preceding forward with the transaction documents.

Ray shared that he has been trying to coordinate with the Skokomish church on their drain field repairs. Charlene suggested inviting the Skokomish Council in for a lunch meeting as a good neighbor gesture. She would like to see the Councils meet on a regular basis and work on strengthening the relationship. Ray will draft a letter inviting them to lunch.

Misti asked about the letter that Kevin was working on in regards to funds for getting drivers licensing reinstated. Ray will follow up with Kevin.

Ray presented a couple of resolutions for Mark.

Resolution #10-80 references the sale of the shaker church property to the tribe. Pete Kruger moved to approve the resolution. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against (*Dave and Andy were out of the room*).

Resolution #10-81 authorizes the lease agreement with DeLage Landen for the tribes copy machines. The resolution includes a waiver of sovereign immunity. Marcella Castro moved to approve the agreement. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against (*Dave and Andy were out of the room*).

Department of Justice Tribal Summit: Ray shared that the DOJ would like to host the next tribal summit at the Casino. One of the commitments of the host is to sponsor a lunch for all attendees, estimate about 300 people. Charlene added that there are tribal members incarcerated and would like to work with DOJ in providing the opportunity for the tribal members to have a better life. Charlene suggested having the casino work with the tribe and serve traditional foods. Charlene would like to

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see some plan showing the transition of our people coming home from jail. Council agreed to host and sponsor lunch.

Canoe Journey: Ray met with Brian Cladoosby and Brian agreed to share their planning notebook/template of their committees regarding the canoe journey. Charlene would like to have the Makah Tribal Canoe Coordinator come down and help train our coordinator.

Ray met with City of Olympia Commissioner and they are very open and committed to assist with police and transit. They got good information and would like to have a lunch meeting with Makah coordinator and go over what they have done.

Ray stated that Brian Cladoosby mentioned that Squaxin should start looking in to renting bleachers for 2012. The demand and price for rental is high. Ray suggested partnering with Swinomish Tribe and buying bleachers to rent out for tribal journeys. Arnold would like Ray to look in to buying a large tent also. Charlene stated that Lummi has a large tent. Ray will look in to buying a tent and bleachers.

Council discussed give-away items for 2012. Ray would like Jeremiah to report on this.

Ray has budgeted for next year to hire the 2012 Coordinator. Andy would like to see the coordinator volunteer at Swinomish next year for hands on experience. Charlene would like the job description to be really tight since it will be a heavy load. This person will have to have good organization skills, along with good people skills.

Ray shared that yesterday at the Council/LCC Meeting the golf program was added to the LCC Organizational Chart. The change adds a Director of Golf, Head Pro, Superintendent and a Financial Analysis position. Andy was hoping that the golf program would be a stand alone business with a board of directors instead of being under the Casino. Arnold stated that as Council, they have been out of the loop with the golf course progress. The organizational chart was out on hold.

FAMILY SERVICES

Lorraine VanBrunt, Vicky Engel, Gloria Hill and Deanna Warren were here for an update. Lorraine brought Dianna just in case Council had any questions about ICW. Arnold if the ICW program is getting what they need to make their job easier and the program successful. Lorraine stated that they do need a full time case aid. With their cases, they juggle a lot of work and could use some help. Lorraine has added a case aid to her unmet needs. Deanna stated that there are two cases that are getting ready to close. Lorraine stated that Elizabeth Fenton has transferred to Family Services and she has been an asset. They just finished a two day retreat and did skill building around team work that was quite helpful. The retreat was good and "wellness in the workplace" was the focus; if the employees are not well, they cannot give something they do not have. TANF is moving to the trailer near family services.

Vicky thanked Council for supporting TANF. She handed out the appeal process for TANF and always encourages people to follow the appeal process if they are not happy with TANF. Usually if someone is not happy with services it is almost always mis-information. TANF does everything they can to get services to people.

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Vicky updated on TANF assisting with drivers licenses. It is stated in the federal plan that TANF is not allowed to spend money on getting licenses back. Until Sept. 1 they can help pay fines, but after that it is not allowed anymore. Driver's licenses are okay, but not fines.

Marcella asked about relative placements and why per capita checks are counted as income for relative placements. Vicky stated that all income needs to be counted, including the child's per capita checks. It's a federal guideline to count all taxable income, as income.

Gloria Hill shared that she has been able to assist 18 people this year with her Domestic Violence Grant. The funding has really helped people in the community. Charlene asked about the funding for her program; Lorraine stated that she has a grant here and one at SPIPA. One of the grants is gone, so they are working on renewing.

Arnold asked for an update on an ICW case. Deanna stated that they are doing very well; they participated with the canoe journey and attended first salmon.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *(continued)*

Ray stated that the golf club house information was just received. This process will not be allowed to go forward without Council approval.

Andy would like to discuss the structure of the golf course before they approve the organizational chart. Ray stated suggested that Council provisionally accept the org chart, but know that the golf course structure is still being worked on. Ray suggested approving the org chart, just to get the operation moving. Approving it temporary until the golf structure is discussed further. Andy moved to approve the organizational chart under the provision discussed. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and (0) against (*Misti and Marcella were out of the room*).

Golf Course Update: Kirk Kyster introduced Tim Matson and RHC Construction and Jeff Walls with AB Design. Kirk handed out a draft proposed floor plan for the club house. Ray added that the building site is beautiful but there are limitations on where to put the clubhouse. The club house needs to capture an area with views and utilizing all of the amenities. Kirk handed out a floor plan and an exterior drawing as a starting point. They are trying to capture the longhouse feel with some house poles.

Jeff explained the floor plan and the different options that are available. The plan reflects an open area with exposed beams and lots of glass. Council would like a more refined drawing of the exterior showing the true look and feel of the building. Jeff would like any input on the design. Ray suggested setting up a meeting for next Tuesday to discuss the plans.

TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

Jake Sigo was present to ask some questions about the geoduck fishery. First he wanted clarification of the geoduck test deadline. Andy stated that it is March 31st. Then Jake asked about the questionable pounds that are left; do they disappear? Andy stated that they probably will disappear. Andy stated that when Council decided March 31st date, they did not consider the reallocation. Craig Parker also was present and he shared that the reallocation usually happens on February 15th. He

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would like to see a plan on how to reallocate the pounds that are not used in result of the divers who do not pass or drop the fishery. Charlene Krise moved to have the reallocation of pounds on February 15th; the reallocation will be for every diver. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. All tests have to be complete by February 15th. The reallocation will be amongst all divers and this supersedes the March 31st certification test deadline. The motion carried unanimously.

Council would like to see each diver notified of this change. Natural Resources will take care of that.

Jake mentioned that the Aquatics Committee has not met and there has been no attempt to meet. He would like to see the committee meet and be organized. Andy stated that NR will make sure that there is an Aquatics Meeting within the next few months. Jake would like to talk with the committee about replanting geoduck. Charlene would like Craig and Jake to put a replanting plan together. Once a plan is put together, NR can start pricing it out and coming up with the technical aspect of it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *(continued)*

Youth relinquishment per capita eligibility: This discussion was put on hold from a previous Council Meeting. The question was if a youth relinquishes from Squaxin, are they entitled to their trust fund or do those funds go back to the tribe? Arnold and Dave both feel that the youth is entitled to those funds. They still should get the money that was accrued during their enrollment. Charlene Krise moved to approve that if a youth relinquishes or is disenrolled from the tribe, they still will be able to receive the balance of their trust upon completion of the requirements of obtaining their funds (*turning 18 years of age with a diploma or GED; or turning 21*). Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Council laptops: A quote was provided showing the cost if Council would like to purchase new laptop computers.

Political donations: Council approved the following political donations: Claudia Kauffman, \$500; Patty Murray, \$500; Norm Dicks, \$500 and John McCoy, \$500.

Shelton Skate Park donation: IEI has assisted in the past. Ray spoke with Parks & Rec and they have a plan in place for next years operating costs. They have a shortfall for this year and need \$4,000 to fund the rest of the year. Council will forward this request to the 1% committee.

Land Update: Ray looked at the property along highway 108, just past the tobacco factory. He stated that IEI is interested in the property.

The other piece that he wanted to look at is on Arcadia Point. There is a deep water dock. Bobby talked with Mitch Corbine about the Casino buying the property and potentially using the house as a resort property.

Council directed Ray to look in to both the properties.

Ray shared he received a message regarding the Fair Harbor Marina being for sale. Council told him to look in to it.

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Ray has been getting calls for property that Tom Collins owns in Oakland Bay. There are not a lot of tidelands associated with it, but lot of upland. It is not productive shellfish land. Ray will talk to them and let them know the tribe is not interested.

First Thurston Bank Board Member: Ray shared that the golf course loan is through this bank. Ray is on the Bank Board and the third Monday of each month Ray attends a committee meeting at the bank. They run from about 5:30-8pm. He feels that this relationship valuable for future projects.

Council Training: Kevin is working on setting up a Council Training with Rick McGee. This would be for Council and Directors. Arnold would like to see the topics before an agenda is set. Ray stated that the training hopefully will be set up in October.

CHAIRMANS UPDATE

Tacoma Rainiers: Dave handed out an information packet. This will be forwarded to TLC.

Tribal member fence: Council decided that they will not fund a fence for a tribal member. Ray will prepare a letter.

There being no further business Council adjourned.