

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
August 22, 2013**

Attendance:

Tribal Council	Dave Lopeman	Chairman
	Arnold Cooper	Vice Chairman
	Andy Whitener	Treasurer (absent)
	Pete Kruger, Sr.	Secretary
	Ray Peters	1st Council Member
	Jim Peters	2nd Council Member
	Vince Henry, Sr.	3rd Council Member
Legal Counsel	Kevin Lyon	
Tribal Administrator	Don Whitener	
Recording Secretary	Melissa Puhn	

Pete Kruger offered the opening prayer. Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Arnold Cooper shared that he would like to bring up a concern from a Tribal Member, at the end of the day. Jim Peters would like to add a travel report. Pete Kruger would like to make a Hunting Committee appointment. Arnold moved to approve the August 22, 2013 Council Agenda. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Arnold made the motion to approve the July 11th, July 16th phone poll, and the July 30th phone poll. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

August 22: Vocational Rehab Dinner, 6- 9pm Sa-heh-wamish Room, LCC

August 23: KTP #1 Shell Grand Opening, 12-4pm

August 23: Community Dance, 5:30 - 9pm. Community Kitchen

August 23-24: "Coming Together to Keep our Community Safe." 9-5pm Community Kitchen

August 24: Wellness Fair, 10am - 5pm

August 28: Public Budget Hearing, 4:30 Council Chambers

September 9-10: NAFOA, Seattle. Ray will attend.

September 15-20: ATNI, Coeur d'Alene ID. Arnold, Pete, Ray will attend.

September 21: MLRC Art Auction. Council will sponsor at the \$2500 level.

October 3-7: NW Basketweavers Conference, Nez Perce ID. Council will sponsor 15 tribal members, similar to what they have done in the past. A notice will be sent out, and if more than 15 sign up, a lottery drawing will be done.

October 7-11: EPA Leadership Summit, Spokane. Jim and Jeff are planning on attending.

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October 10: Centennial Accord, Nisqually. Jim shared that he is still working on improving and lengthening the dialogue opportunities with tribes. There is not enough time for discussion with the Governor.

October 13-18: NCAI, Tulsa OK. Andy and Pete will attend.

October 27-30: NIGA, Albuquerque NM. Ray will attend.

TRIBAL CHAIRMAN UPDATE

Committee Appointments: Council appointed Erika Thale to the One Percent Commission. Council discussed the Budget Commission vacancy and decided to request a recommendation from the Commission.

TRIBAL GAMING AGENCY

Summer Petty and Joanne Decicio were present. Joanne handed out a summary showing the functions and commitment that is required of the Gaming Commissioners.

Summer shared that with the direction of Council, TGA has become very proactive and hardworking; they accomplish a lot. She would like to add that when someone shows an interest in serving on the Commission, she would like to make sure they know the extent of that position. Joanne shared that TGA used to be a five member commission; then Council changed it to a seven member commission. They currently have two vacancies, and the Commission would like to recommend leaving it at five members. The current commission is very strong.

Council will look at the makeup of the Commission and hold off making any appointments at this time.

Joanne will email Council a monthly report; unless something urgent comes up, TGA will report to Council every other month.

On behalf of Council, Jim shared how appreciative they are of the work that TGA is doing. Keep up the good work.

Vince shared that he will be on partial fishing leave starting September 20th – October 11th.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Don brought up the Suicide Prevention Event that is scheduled for September. He fully supports the event, just not the way it was planned. Council might need to talk about staff going directly to the Casino for funding/donations, without going through the proper budget process. Council directed Don to remind the directors of the proper process. There will be a Directors Meeting on Monday and Don will emphasize the process of getting projects funded. Don added that particular event will be funded by Family Services after a budget request went to the Budget Commission. Ray added that the Tribe will be funding the event, and not the Casino. Jim asked about reminding the Directors to

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include conferences and trainings in their budget requests. Proper planning needs to be done ahead of time.

TRIBAL LIAISON UPDATE

Ray mentioned that we are now in the fourth fiscal quarter and the Council budget is getting thin. There are some political donations that he will hold off until the next quarter. There is still a little bit of funding left in travel, but it needs to be watched.

Ray brought up the Council salaries and the idea of a monthly stipend instead. Jim agreed and added that since each Council member has their own travel budget, each member needs to prioritize their travel. In the past, Council members were each assigned topics and chose what conferences they attended.

Fee to Trust Update: Ray reported that Esther Fox and Don have been doing a good job in getting tribally owned land in to trust status. The tribe is currently working on the Collier Property and there is some opposition within that neighborhood. Ray discussed the option of a resolution stating the usage of that property (among others) will not change, since the concern of the neighborhood is the integrity of their community.

Kevin presented **Resolution #13-62** which states that the intended use for the Griswold, Wokojance, Collier and Lopeman Properties, as more particularly described in Resolutions 13-25, 13-26, 13-27 and 13-28 are for residential use. Jim Peters moved to approve Resolution #13-62. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

ATNI Fundraiser: ATNI is asking for donations to be used at the fundraiser during the Annual Convention. Dave suggested that he has a cedar hat in his office that Council can donate.

WIGA Fundraiser: September 13th is a Golf Tournament benefiting WIGA, held at Seven Cedars. Council agreed to sponsor a team.

INDIAN SHAKER CHURCH

Rose & Mike Davis, Bishop Strom, Roslyn Reed and Carmen Algea from the Church were present, as well as Rich Wells and Kevin Dragon. The Bishop stated that they received three proposals for the water system at Mud Bay. Their critical issue is the lack of water. They are looking for support from the Tribe to fix their water system. Their three proposals is either to hook in to the local water system, which will run just over \$10,000 to complete. Another option is to purchase the adjacent property, which has a well already in it. The asking price on that piece recently came down to \$64,000. Their last option is to have their existing well drilled deeper. After the Board reviewed their options they would like to look in to drilling their well deeper to see if they find more water. They are asking Council for help with this; they would like someone to look at the well log then put in a bid proposal to have the well drilled. The church has some funding that they hope will cover the costs. Kevin Dragon stated that he has contacted Evergreen Well Drilling who provided two proposals; one to drill a new well and another to extend their current well. Kevin stated that they have adequate water for their regular

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Sunday Service, but they run in to issues when they host large events. It puts a lot of stress on the system; he suggested installing a storage tank.

The Bishop shared that they have some members who live in Taholah in a mobile home. They suggested moving their home to the Shaker Property and become the caretakers. Then the church wouldn't have to find a house. They would ask the Tribe to cover the moving costs, since they don't have the funding. Arnold asked what the moving costs would be; including setting the house up once it's in place. The Bishop stated he will get that information to Rose and Mike. Council stated that amount would come out of the Church annual budget. Ray suggested having Don check out the home first before its moved. Council wants the church to get quotes for moving it.

Arnold asked if the church has reached out to other tribes in asking for money. Rose stated that she has sent letters to different tribes. Don suggested that the Bishop meet face to face with other Councils, just like he does with Squaxin.

The Bishop will get some quotes. The Board feels that the rest of their allocation should be marked for the water system. Next year is a large convention so the water situation will need to be taken care of by then.

Don added that Kevin, Dan and Rich can look in to these things. Currently, Squaxin has tribal projects that occupy a lot of their time. Graciously the three of them have helped the church. Don has a concern with the Mud Bay septic system, if the water is increased. He added that Squaxin will assist with their requests but it won't be done right away since the tribe currently has its own large projects going that everyone is occupied with.

The Bishop stated they really appreciate the tribes support.

Council discussed phasing their projects; maybe water first, septic second and moving the house third. Arnold offered to help them contact other Tribal Councils to solicit funding. Ray suggested having one of the Planners write up a fact sheet to share with the other tribes. It's just a matter of the Board going out and doing the work of soliciting. Don suggested that with a fact sheet, bring it up as a capital campaign to regional events such as ATNI.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Public Safety: Don asked Kris Peters to be present to discuss the vehicle restraint code. Kris stated that there currently is no child restraint code on the reservation. Kris has been going through the Tribal Code and comparing it to the RCW (Revised Code of Washington). The RCW is very clearly stated and he would like to adopt this as Tribal. Kris has read it and it clearly addresses the child restraint and seat belt law. He recommends that the Tribe adopts the RCW. Kris is in the process of revamping the Tribal Civil Code, but this should be done right away.

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Ray added that the tribe has the duty of the safety of the community. He feels Council is doing the tribe a disservice by not having this in place. For whatever reason it hasn't been passed before, a restraint law for children and adults is necessary for safety reasons.

Jim Peters moved to approve **Resolution #13-63** which adopts State Law regarding child restraints and seatbelt use in a vehicle. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against. Kevin will draft a resolution for signature.

Kris stated that proper education will be done with the community: newspaper, Daily Scoop, reader board, posters, etc. Kris said that his officers will not be about citing people, but more about educating. They will issue warnings first.

Jim brought up helmets on bicycles and ORV's. He recently saw an adult with a small child on a quad, with no helmet. He would like to see helmet laws in place also, and doesn't want to wait until something happens first. Kris will bring this back at a future Council Meeting.

Don asked about the County involvement with Tribal Police. Kris shared that their jurisdiction is divided up civilly and criminally. The tribe deals with criminal jurisdiction and by law tribal courts are limited to what they can do with felonies. If a felony occurs on the reservation, those cases are turned over to federal. The state has jurisdiction over major crimes on the reservation since the tribe's court does not handle them. The tribe has a really good relationship with Mason County.

LEGAL

Kevin reported that he has been working with Lummi on a team regarding expanding gaming machine count on properties. Kevin attended a discussion at WIGA regarding this. Ray and Andy were invited to an event at the Northwest Indian College and Lummi would like to meet with them at that time. Kevin will work with them on further details.

DNR and WA are working on expanding the Kennedy Creek Natural Preserve area. Kevin is drafting a letter in response.

Kevin brought up the Woodard Bay Project and if Squaxin would like to finance a portion of the renovation. Ray suggested that the One Percent Commission could spread the allocation out over a year and half.

Jim brought up the Mud Bay Site and the concern about Dale Croes working for Nisqually now. He would like to make it clear to Nisqually that the site belongs to Squaxin. Arnold suggested meeting staff to staff and have Legal draft a letter for Rhonda to send to Nisqually. If that doesn't work, then Council can get involved.

Kevin presented **Resolution #13-64** which adopts a change in the Court System Code regarding Appeal Judges. Arnold Cooper moved to approve. Jim Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against (*Ray was out of the room*).

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Kevin presented a resolution regarding the Bank of America Loan for the NR/CR Building. This modified the loan agreement to extend a provision. This was tabled until Ray returns.

Kevin brought up some enrollment issues. There are a handful of enrollments that pre-date the enrollment code. Kevin would like to “clear the deck” of the enrollment issues and come back with a code and how it pertains to past issues. Kevin will take this to the Enrollment Committee and come back with a recommendation.

Kevin gave an update on the hunting U&A case.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO

Michael Starr and Nathan Schriener were present. Michael brought up a contract issue. He has been granted approval by Council for the LCCR expansion. Korsmo Construction has not yet provided a firm contract. They have been working closely with Nathan Schriener, Dan Neelands and Korsmo. Michael would like to issue a letter to Korsmo, to proceed with the foundation, and authorization to pay Korsmo up to \$250,000 for the foundation. Michael also would like to have a letter drafted for up to \$400,000 for plans of design work that is about completed, for the entire Phase I of the project. The letter would allow LCCR to pay for work that is already done. They will have a contract with Korsmo within the next two weeks. Michael would like approval to sign the letters and have it act as a “bridge contract” until the contract is complete.

Council agreed by consensus to allow Michael to sign the two letters as discussed.

Michael handed out the July financial report, as well as last year’s July report. He shared everything is going better as compared to last year. He feels August will be similar.

He gave a brief overview of the successful recent events that were hosted. This February will be the 40th Anniversary celebration of the Boldt Decision. This will be a huge event that will fill the resort.

Michael introduced the new Spa Manager.

Ray asked about the RV Park. They have 74% occupancy with very little expenses related to it.

ISLAND ENTERPRISES

Kelly Croman, Richard Sweeney, Dave Johns and Cameron Goodwin were present. Shell Fuel festival tomorrow at KTP, noon until 4:00. The Steamboat Station is doing very well.

They are still looking at the Kamilche Café and trying to make that a better profitable business. They will bring those numbers and recommendations to the IEI Board next week.

KTP repair bids came back. The IEI inspector noticed some rot in the poles for the canopy at KTP. They put together a bid package to three companies. She explained how the fix would be; it essentially would put steel around the log posts and would be the least intrusive and safest. So her question is

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how Council feels about changing the look of the canopy by not having log posts anymore. After a while, nobody will even notice the change. If they would like to keep the wood posts, it will take more work and more time with more interruptions in business.

Cameron shared that the Factory is doing really well. They shut down this week for some major cleanup and maintenance. It looks really good. The production schedule prior to the shutdown was pretty intense. Warehousing cleaned their area as well. June and July both had good numbers.

Dave Johns provided an update from Salish. He shared some examples of the seed they received for the “bouncy bucket” system he has been working on.

DRUG TASK FORCE

Janita Raham provided an update on the Wellness Fair, August 24th. They will have about 34 booths in the ball field and eight vendors selling food and crafts. They have bought 35 bicycle helmets to give to the kids. Council decided to donate \$500 to buy more bicycle helmets. There will be a dunk tank, sumo wrestling and a bounce house.

Janita added that the Casino has been doing a great job with the elders by providing event tickets and accommodating their needs.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Dave Babcock and Adrian Emery were present with a guardianship request. Council went in to executive session. Coming out of executive session, Council agreed with the recommendation of the Family Wellness Team and supports the guardianship for case # SQ1-CW-2012-1210-0175.

PLANNING

Elizabeth Egan presented **Resolution #13-65** which authorizes SPIPA to submit with the Department of Health and Human Services a grant proposal for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program, on behalf of the Squaxin Community. Ray Peters moved to approve the grant resolution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

Elizabeth presented **Resolution #13-66** which authorizes SPIPA to submit with the Department of Health and Human Services a grant proposal for the Community Services Block Grant, on behalf of the Squaxin Community. Arnold Cooper moved to approve the grant resolution. Ray Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

Elizabeth presented **Resolution #13-67** which authorizes SPIPA to submit with the Department of Agriculture a grant proposal for the Food Distribution on Indian Reservations Program, on behalf of the Squaxin Community. Arnold Cooper moved to approve the grant resolution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against

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TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

Tully Kruger was present regarding his reimbursement for providing support boat services during Canoe Journey. His gas was reimbursed by Council, but he still has some other expenses including food, moorage and an occasional hotel. The food he bought was to provide meals and snacks for the pullers. Arnold asked if the canoe family should have been providing food, instead of Tully. Council suggested Tully seek reimbursement for food, from the Canoe Family. Don shared that this should have been in the planning of the canoe family; they need to help Tully with these expenses since he provides support for them. Charlene Krise was present and discussed the canoe budget this year, which was pretty thin.

Council agreed to reimburse Tully for moorage and hotel, but the food needs to be paid by the canoe family.

CANOE FAMILY

Charlene Krise, Aleta Poste and Joe Seymour were present. Charlene explained how next year's journey will work and their ideas for the pullers. She is hoping that each puller gets sponsorships, similar to marathon runners.

Joe Seymour shared his idea of a golf tournament to raise funds for the 2014 Journey. He would like Squaxin to approach other tribes to help sponsor this tournament and all proceeds will go to Bella Bella. Council likes the idea. Ray and Dave Kaas can organize the event.

July 13, 2014 is when the potlaching will begin at Bella Bella; therefore Squaxin pullers will need to leave a lot earlier, anticipating around June 14th. Charlene brought up how the government tried to strip tribes of their culture, she reminds everyone to hold up their culture. There are tribal members who hold down jobs, and it makes it hard for tribal members to attend canoe journey.

Council would like the Canoe Family to attend more Council meetings to keep Council updated on the Journey and their planning efforts. Ray suggested that the pullers will need to start a workout schedule. Charlene reminded that this will be an expensive journey. She will bring in the budget later.

Kevin brought up that Rhonda Foster has asked that LCOB be on the next Council agenda. They would like to discuss including Kelly as a member; they want to recommend Arnold and Pete replace Dave and Don; and to clarify the ex-officio roles.

Kevin went back to the Bank of America Financing Resolution. He presented **Resolution #13-68** which authorizes the First Amendment to the Existing Loan Agreement for the NR/CR Building. Pete Kruger moved to approve the modification resolution to the NR/CR Building Loan, extending the availability period. Jim Peters seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.