

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
August 21, 2014**

**Attendance:**

<b>Tribal Council</b>	<b>Dave Lopeman</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Arnold Cooper</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
	<b>Andy Whitener</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
	<b>Pete Kruger, Sr.</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
	<b>Whitney Jones</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Jim Peters</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Vince Henry, Sr.</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Council Member</b>
<b>Tribal Administrator</b>	<b>Don Whitener</b>	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Melissa Puhn</b>	

Pete Kruger offered the opening prayer. Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Dave thanked Council and all the staff who helped with his granddaughters' funeral. He appreciated the work of the staff, and the good food. The family told the staff what they wanted, and they got what they wanted. Dave thanked the hunters for the meat.

Deb presented the FY15 draft budget, it will be published once approved and will be available prior to the Public Hearing on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Arnold asked if there is any changes or concerns that Council needs to be aware of. Deb stated that they are dealing with Family Services shortfall still. Finance tries to make sure all current positions are funded before we roll in to the new fiscal year.

Whitney had a few questions, Dave said to go ahead and go through the questions. Don shared that he feels this budget is healthy. He didn't see any budget cuts and doesn't see a need for budget cuts, which is why he authorized the 1% COLA.

After going through Whitney's questions and the Council discussing various other points, Arnold moved to approve the draft FY15 budget. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against *Pete was out of the room*.

Dave brought up that he is still upset that the tribe pays 25% gas tax to the state. He believes that the tribe shouldn't pay anything to the state. Dave would like the attorneys to work on that. He emphasized that Council tells Legal what to do, not the other way around. He thinks the attorneys need to do what Council wants and make it so, they need to fight for what Council wants.

Don brought up that the last meeting in September (September 25<sup>th</sup>) is the same week as ATNI in Pendleton. Four Council Members are scheduled to attend so he suggested Council reschedule their last meeting that month. Council decided to reschedule their second meeting to September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Elizabeth Egan handed out **Resolution #14-59** which authorizes SPIPA to submit with the Department of Health & Human Services a formula grant for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program on behalf of Squaxin. This is an ongoing annual grant. Arnold Cooper moved to approve the grant resolution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

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Elizabeth handed out **Resolution #14-60** which authorizes the Nisqually Tribe to serve as lead applicant with the U.S. Department of Education a grant proposal for the American Indian Vocational rehabilitation Services Grant on behalf of Squaxin. For the past six years Nisqually and Squaxin has successfully collaborated to operate a Voc Rehab Program that serves both Squaxin and Nisqually. Arnold moved to approve the resolution. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Arnold wanted to discuss the Community Center Project, so Rich Wells was present. Arnold wanted to know the reality of the building. Rich stated that it will cost about \$6.5M to build, so it is up to Council and if they want to spend that money. Rich states at all of the community planning meetings, that there currently are no funds to build the building, only funds to design it. Ray added that the planning process is important to determine use and if grants are available. Jim stated that projects like this don't happen overnight and he would like to make sure the community fully understands the phases. Arnold would like to see Squaxin caught up with what the other tribes are doing and what the priorities are. Don added that Family Services and Legal Offices have become a high priority for now. Arnold wanted to be sure that Planning keeps Council updated on their processes, so they can answer questions of the community.

Dave brought up the auto auction that was recently held at the Casino. Dave believes that sales taxes should not be paid for sales made on reservation land, since the licensing and transfers are done onsite. Dave would like to charge a small fee for the Tribe to keep, and not pay sales tax to the state.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.