

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL
COUNCIL MEETING
January 8, 2009**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

Dave Lopeman	Chairman
Arnold Cooper	Vice Chairman (<i>left at 1:30 p.m.</i>)
Vince Henry, Sr.	Secretary
Russell Harper	Treasurer
Misti Saenz-Garcia	1st Council Member (<i>arr. at 10:15 a.m.</i>)
Marcella Castro	2nd Council Member
Charlene Krise	3rd Council Member (<i>left at 2:30 p.m.</i>)

Executive Director

Ray Peters

Legal Counsel

Kevin Lyon

Recording Secretary

Melissa Puhn

Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
Russell Harper offered the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the January 8, 2009 Council Agenda. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the December 11, 2008 Council Minutes with amendments. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

January 10: Winter General Body Meeting, 9:00 a.m. TLC Gym

January 16: All Staff Winter Luncheon, Little Creek Hotel Grand Ballroom

January 17-21: Presidential Inauguration, Washington DC. Dave, Russell, Vince, Charlene, Misti, Marcella, Ray and Bobby will attend.

January 22-25: Tribal Leaders Forum, Temecula, CA. Dave, Arnold and Charlene will attend.

February 16-19: ATNI Winter Conference, Tulalip

February 21-22: Sa-He-Wamish Days, Little Creek Casino

March 9-12: "Res 2009", Las Vegas, NV

ENROLLMENT

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tammy Ford presented the informational PowerPoint presentation the Enrollment Committee compiled for the General Body Meeting.

Council discussed the five year wait the idea of presenting it back to the General Body to fully inform about the five year wait. Council would like to be sure that the intent behind the waiting period is understood..

Arnold Cooper moved to lift the five year wait and two year wait for elders ages 55 and over, moving forward with no retroactive action. This will be effective February 1, 2009. Kevin verified that all elders who are on the five year and two year wait, their "wait" will be dropped. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Tammy stated that the draft Enrollment Ordinance will be presented Saturday at the General Body Meeting. She will also discuss DNA testing for enrollment.

Council discussed the five year wait and the impact it has had on the tribe.

Charlene stated she would like to see someone gauge the enrollment by adding a time frame on enrollment in order to see how many new enrollees will enroll as a result of the new chance to elders. Council discussed a "wait" for the elders, but less than five years.

Charlene would like to see a review done on healthcare, resources and finances to see how everything will be impacted. Council discussed a freeze on new enrollments. This discussion will be tabled.

As requested by Council, Kevin prepared and handed out **Resolution #09-01** which states individuals that relinquished as minors from Squaxin Island to join another tribe that re-enroll at Squaxin Island one year or more after becoming 18 years of age shall be subject to the 5-year and 2 year wait required by Resolution 06-31; provided, that individuals that relinquished as minors from Squaxin Island to join another tribe that re-enroll at Squaxin Island within one year of becoming 18 years of age shall be exempt for the 5-year and 2-year wait. Individuals that relinquished as a minor from Squaxin Island to join another tribe that re-enroll at Squaxin Island within 120 days of the effective date of this resolution shall also be exempt from the 5-year and 2-year wait required by Resolution 06-31. The effective date shall be October 1, 2008. Marcella Castro moved to approve Resolution #09-01. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and (0) against with one (1) recusal (*Dave and Misti were out of the room*).

Vicky Kruger inquired about stipends for the enrollment committee for working this Saturday at the General Body Meeting, presenting the enrollment ordinance and informational presentation. She also would like to see the stipend policy changed with the dollar amount increased. Ray will review the policy and provide an assessment of the stipend amounts. He also stated that if a committee is required to attend a meeting as a group, they should receive stipends or flex time.

TRIBAL GAMING AUTHORITY

Desi Smith provided a quick gaming update.

NATURAL RESOURCES

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

Andy Whitener, Jeff Dickison, John Konovsky introduced Eric Erler, Director of Capital Land Trust. Jeff shared that Squaxin and Capital Land Trust have had a formal written agreement on acquisition of land and shoreline to protect resources. Eric briefed on the history of the Agreement with Squaxin. Capital Land Trust has been able to conserve 15 sites and five miles of shoreline in the south sound, creating permanent conservation sites. He updated on current efforts and working with the Salmon Recovery Board and Mason County conserving Oakland Bay.

Andy and Jeff discussed the state beach in Totten Inlet that had encroachment issues. Kevin and Jeff have been working on this situation and they believe it was a mistake. Jeff is looking for direction on how to deal with this situation. Council discussed options and Natural Resources will continue to work on this and will come up with an agreement that works.

Andy handed out draft budget prepared by the Northwest India Fish Commission for the Tribal Natural Resources Transition Budget. The Fish Commission is requesting \$40,000 and is seeking donations from all tribes. Andy will apply through the One Percent Program. The funds will be used to hire a consultant to help the tribes during the Obama transition.

Andy also requested on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe a donation for their tribal elk feeding station. Puyallup has begun a program in the Packwood area to assist the elk that are unable to feed during the winter. Council agreed by consensus to donate \$1,000.

Marcella asked about the elders digs, she would like to see them during the day rather than at night on Skookum. Council had a concern of enforcement coverage. Andy will look in to enforcement and make sure each dig is covered. Vince wants to see Island Enterprises communicate with the diggers on what they are buying. Natural Resources and Island Enterprises will facilitate communications. *(Andy came back and reported that he had staff at the dig in question, so enforcement was covered. He also reported that the remaining pounds for the Senior dig on Skookum will be done in the daylight.)*

Marcella asked about the Dahman leased beach. She also inquired about the closure she heard about on the senior beach. Andy stated that the senior beach has limited pounds, but it is not closed.

Charlene stated that a few years ago the Fish Committee requested that tribal members have the opportunity to fish Budd Inlet during silver season.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Ray commended the staff involved for their work during the snow and flooding. He would like to present an amendment to the closure policy to better fit the tribal programs. Ray will present the policy changes at a later time; extended days of snow closures affect the abilities of the government. He also reported that staff who worked during the Christmas Break was appropriately compensated.

Ray provided a quick update of the fee to trust process for the Shaker Church.

Tribal member request: Ray reported he received a letter from a tribal member requesting to rent the RV pad which is on a piece of property recently acquired by the tribe. Russell suggested to offer the rental opportunity and to accept applications. Charlene liked the idea of having a renter to watch over the property. Ray will talk with the tribal member and report back to Council.

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

LCOB Appointment: The Community Member vacancy on LCOB was advertised and one letter of interest was received. Misti was filling that position in the interim. Misti decided that she will remain in that position. Council agreed by consensus.

Ray provided a flood update.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

Council went in to executive session.

Dennis provided an update on the ICW program.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE *(continued)*

Ray presented a ratification to **Resolution #08-114** which authorizes Ray to sign the closing documents on the Taylor Property. Vince Henry moved to ratify the resolution. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried four (4) in favor and zero (0) against.

Ray presented a letter from the Department of Interior Office of Special Trustee. They are looking for contact information for who is officially authorized to conduct business with the OST on behalf of the Tribe. Russell Harper moved to authorize the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Executive Director and Comptroller. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. A resolution will need to be done outlining this authorization.

Dave presented a letter received from the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. The Omaha Tribe is in the state of emergency due to several breaks in their water lines because of an antiquated system. This has been an ongoing problem and has left residences without water for several days at a time. They are unable to obtain assistance from other entities. Council agreed by consensus to donate \$7,807.50, which will pay the balance of their bill to Murphy Tractor & Equipment for work done.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.