

**Squaxin Island Tribal Council
Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2006**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

Jim Peters	Chairman
Andy Whitener	Vice Chairman
Vince Henry, Sr.	Secretary
Russell Harper	Treasurer
Will Penn	1st Council Member
Pete Kruger	2nd Council Member <i>(absent)</i>
Charlene Krise	3rd Council Member

Executive Director

Ray Peters

Deputy Director

Dave Whitener, Sr.

Legal

Kelly Croman-Neelands

Recording Secretary

Melissa Puhn, sitting in for J. Ruby Fuller

Jim Peters called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Jim Peters offered the opening prayer.

Minutes/Agenda

Charlene Krise motioned, and Vince Henry seconded the motion to approve the meeting agenda with a few additions. Will Penn would like to discuss Administrative Leave for elected officials at the next Council Meeting.

The Council minutes from April 27th and May 15th were tabled until later.

Oath of Office

Rhonda Foster administered the Oath of Office to Russell Harper. Glen Parker and Dave Whitener Sr. were present as witnesses, and was then welcomed by Council.

Travel Reports and Plans

NIGA Commissioner Certification Training, June 15-16 Nice, CA. Will Penn reported on the training he attended May 10-11. He felt that it was very informative. Mike O'Donnell was present and mentioned that he has been looking at training in Oregon he is planning on sending his commissioners to, and suggested that Council attend. Mike will contact Council with more information as the date gets closer.

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Conference, June 18 – 21, Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Andy Whitener and Ray Peters plans to attend, and Council approved to send Glen Parker as well.

Construction

Dan Neelands provided an update on the Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF). He presented **Resolution 06-41**, which approves the AGC Agreement. Charlene Krise motioned to approve this resolution and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against. Dan Neelands, Mike Poier and Jeff Peters will manage this project and provide a weekly report to Ray Peters and Deb Stoehr. Kelly Croman also presented **Resolution 06-42** which approves a contract of services with Richard Martin and an addendum to that contract to perform certain site preparations services related to the WRF Project. This resolution still needs to be reviewed by Legal prior to execution. Charlene Krise motioned to approve this resolution and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried. Dan would like to set up a two hour meeting with Council to discuss the WRF Project on June 6th at 9:00 a.m.

Council went in to Executive Session to discuss the Gaming Compact.

Chairman's Update

Lunch with County Commissioners will be on June 6th at noon.

Talking Circle will be scheduled in September.

Centennial Accord will be on **June 13th** at the Evergreen State College. Jim would like to have issues such as housing, natural resources and education discussed at the Centennial Accord. Ray will check with the directors to see what issues should be brought up. Jim encouraged all of Council to attend.

Glen Parker announced that on **June 19th** at 11:00 a.m. the Tribal Veterans will bless and smudge all of the Tribal flags (this was later changed to June 26th at 11:00 a.m.). One of the flags will be encased in the museum. He also mentioned that Andrea Sigo will carve a top piece for the flagpole in Council Chambers. Charlene asked for a flag to fly during the canoe journey.

Executive Director

Ray Peters announced that Council Orientation and Training is scheduled for **June 14th**, at 10:00. Kevin Lyon will conduct the meeting, and it will be held at the Casino.

Ray read a letter of appreciation that was received from Nancy Rose. She also requested a copy of the minutes from the General Body Meeting.

Lummi Stomish Commemorative Blanket Council agreed by consensus to purchase two blankets with honor the Lummi Veterans. Ray asked Charlene if Squaxin artists could come up with a blanket design to benefit our Veterans. The Veterans will work with Charlene on designing a blanket to be used as a fundraiser. Jim felt that it would be important to have Veterans represent Squaxin at the Lummi Ceremony. Glen stated that the Veterans Committee would like to attend, but finances are a problem. Council agreed

to donate \$500 for the Veterans to attend this ceremony. Charlene Krise said that she also would like to attend. Ray will work with Glen regarding the finances.

Canoe Family By-laws Ray handed out the draft by-laws for the Canoe Family. These by-laws will allow the Canoe family to establish a committee which will then make it easier for them to record and account for their meetings and finances. After discussion and a few changes, Vince Henry motioned to approve the by-laws with revisions and amendments and Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Fire District #4 Ray provided an update on the building construction. The existing house will be used for living quarters. A request for proposal will be sent out for a re-bid. Fire District #4 also requested that Squaxin Island Tribe cover the costs to hire two full time fire fighters with tribal preference. After discussion it was decided that the Tribe will only cover costs for one full time tribal employee, and a second position only if it is filled by a tribal member. The training program will also be funded by the Tribe only if the trainees are tribal members. Ray, under Tribal Councils request, will bring these requests back to the Fire District.

Planning

Nia Wellman and Tracy Parker presented to following resolutions:

Resolution 06-43 which authorizes the submission of the FY06 ICDBG with a 25% match to rehabilitate approximately 29 homes in the reservation. **Resolution 06-44** which authorizes the submission of a grant application to Indian Health Services for FY06 Health Promotions Disease Prevention funds. **Resolution 06-45** which authorizes the submission of a funding application to Washington State Dept. of Health for FY07 Basic Food Nutrition Education Project, with a 30% match. **Resolution 06-46** which authorizes the submission of a grant application for the US Dept. of Justice COPS Grant program, with a 25% match. **Resolution 06-47** which affirms that the Tribe's Maintenance Policy Resolution 99-59, and the Occupancy Resolution 05-106 serve as the Rehabilitation Standards and Policies for the housing within the jurisdiction of the Squaxin Island Housing Department. Resolution 06-47 is necessary in order to apply for the ICDBG Grant, Resolution 06-44.

Little Creek Casino Resort Update

Doug Boon was present and provided an update on financials, additions, the new restaurant and events center.

Doug presented the changes to Little Creek Casino's Policy and Procedure Manual, and explained the necessary changes. Council reviewed the changes and Andy motioned to approve the changes and Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against.

Little Creek Casino *(Continued)*

Doug then presented the Casino's new 401K Plan resolution for Councils review. Doug is looking for approval at the next Council meeting.

Golf Course Update LCOB Members Ray Peters, Bob Whitener Jr. and Glen Parker, along with Jeff Dickison were present to provide an update on property acquisition for the golf course. Upon meeting with the Contractor, it was the recommendation of the LCOB Board to move forward with the groundbreaking beginning June 15 of this year. Council approved by consensus on this decision. Doug provided a brief update on the loan documents and environmental review. Jeff Dickison reported that according to the environmental review it was determined that there would be no significant impacts made to the wetland and streams.

Doug Boon asked for Council input on a logo for the golf course. Doug will present a couple of ideas at the next Council meeting, and it was suggested that he ask for tribal members to submit designs as well. The logo needs to be decided by June 15th.

Island Enterprises

Kamilche Adventures Bob Whitener Jr. and Jeremie Walls presented a business plan in which Island Enterprises is planning on partnering with. Bob explained how Island Enterprises would like to assist tribal members in starting their own businesses, and this would be a good opportunity to do so. Jeremie shared his business plan with Council, and went over different ideas. There was no action taken.

Natural Resources

Jeff Dickison presented **Resolution 06-48** which approves the Natural Resources work plan to promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of the productivity capacity of the Tribe's homeland, treaty resources and fish & wildlife habitat. Charlene Krise motioned to approve this resolution, and Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against.

Chairman *(continued)*

Graduation incentives Lisa Evans was present to discuss the incentives for graduates. Lisa read a letter from the Education Department supporting incentive gifts for college graduates as well as high school graduates. After extensive discussion, Charlene Krise motioned to provide \$1000 to all college graduates (AA, BA, MA and Ph. D Degrees), Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried, Jim Peters was out of the room. High school graduates will still receive \$1000 and a laptop and printer, and GED recipients will receive \$500. Council will look further in to this issue at a later date.

TGA Report

Mike O'Donnell was present to provide an update from Tribal Gaming. He handed out the TGA Monthly Audit Report. Mike also discussed some issues he is having with the Seafood Bar. Council supported the request to post a sign warning customers of the hazards of consuming raw seafood. TGA has hired two new agents and two surveillance agents. Mike also wanted to clarify the Gaming Commissioners stipend change. Council agreed to a four hour minimum pay to all Commissioners, and their hourly pay thereafter. The surveillance network video recording installation is now complete, and Mike invited Council to their open house; June 28th at noon. Mike stated that he has been working with Mike Poier and Dan Neelands regarding the wire for the administration building surveillance system. They plan to contract that out to Southwest Surveillance

ICW

Whitney Jones and presented two ICW cases and were seeking Council recommendation. Council went in to Executive Session.

Council agreed by consensus to support the recommendation made by the ICW team, regarding case number CI0403081, and case number CI09907066. Andy Whitener excused himself from these two votes.

Tribal Member Concerns

Vicky Kruger inquired about the petitions that were passed around during the General Body Meeting, one being a petition to create an Enrollment Committee. Jim stated that he would like to look at other Tribal Enrollment Committee by-laws and guidelines. The second petition was requesting that Squaxin Island Tribe hire three fluent language teachers by the year 2012. The budget process is about to begin, so this will be looked in to. Vicky also voiced a concern regarding an adoption case and asked Council if the Squaxin ICW Team could intervene with this adoption. Ray will look in to this matter.

Marilyn McFadden was here to request assistance with legal counsel. She was also looking for financial assistance as well as housing assistance. Ray will look into different programs that may benefit her needs.

Marvin and Willow Henry were inquiring about mini motorbikes, and whether they were allowed to ride them on the reservation. Ray stated that he will speak with Law Enforcement regarding this issue, and Ray will get back to Marvin.

Jim Peters left at 5:00 p.m.

Nancy Rose was present and wanted to thank Tribal Council and the Housing Department. She has resided on the reservation for two years now, and feels that her body and spirit has healed since she has lived here. She asked Council if she would be

able to purchase a five bedroom house here on the reservation. She was directed to work with Housing, and Ray will direct Housing to contact Nancy and explain the process of purchasing a house. She also wanted to share that she is willing to share her home with Squaxin Members who are in need of housing

Executive Director *(continued)*

Donation requests: Brunch with Maria Cantwell, June 3rd, no donation at this time.
Climate Solutions Fundraiser Event, May 31st, no donation at this time.
Cowlitz Canoe Family donation request was forwarded to the One Percent Committee.

Property Acquisition Council went in to Executive Session.
As per Council consensus, Ray will move forward on the Clary property.

Committee Appointments were tabled until the next meeting. Charlene suggested having an appreciation dinner for committee members.

Minutes with a few amendments, Vince Henry motioned to approve the May 15th and the April 27th Council minutes, Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

May 31st is a meeting with the Medicine Creek Tribes regarding the Shellfish Agreement. Andy and Charlene will attend.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.