

**Squaxin Island Tribal Council
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2006**

Attendance:

Tribal Council

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

Executive Director

Ray Peters

Deputy Director

Dave Whitener, Sr.

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

Pete Kruger motioned, and Vince Henry seconded the motion to approve the meeting agenda with a few additions. The motion carried unanimously.

Vince Henry motioned and Russell Harper seconded to approve the May 25th Council Meeting minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Travel Reports and Plans

Sqwi Gwi, June 9th at 5:00 p.m. at the Little Creek Events Center, all of Council was encouraged to attend.

June 15th at 8:00 a.m. is a groundbreaking ceremony for the Salish Cliffs Golf Course.

17th Annual Centennial Accord, June 13th at 8:00 a.m. at the Evergreen State College Longhouse. Jim Peters, Vince Henry, Charlene Krise, Ray Peters and Dave Whitener all plan on attending.

Indian Health Services Regional Facilities Planning Meeting, June 16th at the SeaTac Airport Hotel, Jim Peters will check his schedule to see about attending.

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Conference, June 18 – 21, Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Will Penn and Glen Parker are planning on attending.

Washington Indian Gaming Conference, June 25-26 in Yakima, WA. Andy Whitener is planning on attending.

Veterans Flag Blessing, June 26th at 11:00 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Site. All of Council is encouraged to attend.

Surveillance Open House, June 28th at noon in the Little Creek Hotel Skookum Ballroom B, tours will be given after lunch.

Northwest Indian Gaming Conference, July 24-26, in Tacoma WA, Andy Whitener, Jim Peters, Charlene Krise and Kelly Croman plan on attending.

Chairman's Update

Administrative Leave was tabled until later in the day.

South Puget Sound Community College Retirement Recognition for Kenneth Minnaert, who served as President of SPSCC for twenty five years. Dale Croes asked if a Council Member would be able to attend and say a few words at his Recognition. Russell Harper will attend, it will be held Saturday June 17th.

Gifts from Tribal Artists Charlene Krise wanted to thank Council for the 1% donation to support tribal artists. In return, she presented Council with multiple artwork pieces that tribal artists created. There was discussion regarding Council purchasing more art pieces to be given as gifts. It was suggested to have a pamphlet put together of all the artwork to be advertised and sold. Ray asked Charlene about the possibility of a tribal artist to create a design for a Pendleton blanket. Charlene will get that information and apply with the 1% Fund.

Dale Crawford Retirement Jim Peters stated that Jim Crawford who has been the enforcement officer with Green Diamond is retiring. His retirement dinner will be held June 29th, Jim Peters and Pete Kruger will attend and present him with a gift from Council.

Executive Director Update

April 27th Council Minutes Ray Peters stated that the minutes of the April 27th Council Meeting did not correctly record the appointment of Cameron Goodwin to the Skookum Creek Tobacco Board. Therefore, Ray would like to have the minutes amended to state "Cameron Goodwin was appointed to the Island Enterprises Board, the Little Creek Oversight Board and the Skookum Creek Tobacco Board." Andy motioned to approve this amendment, and Pete Kruger seconded the amendment to the April 27th Minutes. These minutes will then be forwarded to Kelly Croman-Neelands at Legal.

Committee Appointments

Pete Kruger motioned for Lorna Gouin to be reappointed to the Gaming Commission, and Charlene Krise seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Russell Harper motioned to appoint Patti Puhn and Roy Perez to the Education Commission, Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Will Penn will be the Council representative for this Commission as well.

Andy Whitener motioned to reappoint Carrie Smith and Carolyn Hoosier to the Budget Commission as Community Representatives, and Pam Hillstrom and Rhonda Foster as Alternates. Charlene Krise seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Vince Henry motioned to reappoint Rose Algea and Barbra Henry to the Housing Commission, and to appoint Ronnie Sanchez, Roy Perez and Donna Penn all as alternates. Pete Kruger seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Vince Henry motioned to reappoint Rose Blueback and to appoint Steve Sigo to the Aquatics Committee, and to appoint Marcella Castro, Walter Lorentz and Vicki Kruger all as alternates. Charlene Krise seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Andy Whitener motioned to appoint Marcella Castro and Mike Peters to a vacancy in the Fish Committee, and to reappoint Mike Foster Jr. and Bob Whitener Jr. Will Penn seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Pete Kruger motioned to appoint Nick Cooper and Mike Bloomfield to the Hunting Committee, and appoint Rick Peters as an alternate. Russell Harper seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Russell Harper motioned to reappoint Marcella Castro and Leo Henry Sr. to the Shellfish Committee, and appoint Jessica Salano as an alternate. Charlene Krise seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Emergency Management Training Council scheduled **July 12th** for an all day Emergency Management Training with John Taylor.

Trust Property Ray Peters shared an inquiry from a Tribal Member regarding the ability for the Tribe to put privately owned property into trust. This would involve the individual property owner deeding their property to the Tribe, and the individual would have a long term lease on the property with the Tribe. Jim Peters stated that he would be interested in looking in to this. By consensus Council agreed for Ray Peters and Kevin Lyon to research this idea.

Council Training June 14th, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Kevin will provide an updated resource notebook for Council.

Salmon Fest Ray reported that about a year ago, Council agreed to move forward with Salmon Fest. There is a financial commitment from Tribal Government, Little Creek Casino and from Island Enterprises. This event is moving forward and is scheduled for August. Tribal Council has committed \$10,000 from the occupancy tax dollars.

Evening with Capital Land Trust at the MLRC on June 29th

Ray provided Council with a property acquisition update.

Ray also reminded Council that pursuant to the Fireworks Ordinance, a community wide fireworks permit was sent out last week. This permit outlines exactly what dates and times when fireworks are allowed.

Tribal Member Contractor

Chuck Bloomfield came to Council to introduce himself. He is self-employed and is looking for work with the contractors working on the new hotel. He shared his experience and certifications. Ray suggested that he meet with the Construction Managers; Dan Neelands and Mike Poier.

Kamilche Dental

Steve Peters came in to Council to inquire about any plans for the future of the location of his office. He has plans on rebuilding his office to provide for more space. Andy Whitener mentioned that as of now, there are no plans for that location. Ray mentioned that he would need to get approval by Council prior to his expansion, and then he could work with the Construction Managers. Jim stated that Council would make negotiations prior to any changes that may occur in the future.

Enrollment

Tammy Ford handed out a flowchart of the enrollment process for Councils information. Ray asked about the Enrollment Committee inquiry that was brought up at the General Body Meeting. Tammy shared what she knew about other Tribal Enrollment Committees and how they work. Council tasked Dave Whitener to work with Tammy and look in to this and report back to Council.

Tammy presented the following enrollment resolutions;

Resolution 06-49 which enrolls Sheryl Byrd, with a 5 year wait, **06-50** which enrolls Myeisha Marie Pearl Little Sun with full benefits, **06-51** which enrolls Cora Rose Krise with full benefits, **06-52** which enrolls Jasmine Marie Rose Rivera with full benefits, **06-53** Which enrolls Chenoa Reed Peterson with full benefits, and **06-54** which enrolls Andie Mae Cousins with full benefits.

Vince Henry left after lunch.

Elected Official Administrative Leave Ray Peters read a resolution that was tabled last year regarding administrative leave for elected officials. Ray and Legal developed a policy that allows an elected official with full pay be allowed to vacate a position for three years. If after three years, that official is re-elected then the leave would expire. This will be brought back to Council at the June 22nd Council Meeting.

Skookum Creek Bridge Replacement

Brian Thompson presented **Resolution 06-55** which approves the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Squaxin Island Tribe and Mason County for the replacement of the Skookum Creek Bridge on Old Olympic Highway. Charlene Krise motioned to approve this resolution, and Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried 4 in favor and 0 against. Russell Harper was out of the room. Charlene Krise amended the motion to include Mason County on the sovereign immunity.

Little Creek Casino Hotel Resort Update

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

Doug Boon explained a minor change in the Policies and Procedures Manual which was approved at the May 25th Meeting.

Multimedia CD

Rick Peters presented a multimedia CD which showed the history of the Squaxin Island Tribe. Rick was looking for Council approval on the CD. After viewing, Council made a few suggested changes. This CD is aimed towards the 5th grade level of students, therefore a suggested change was to shorten the length of the presentation in order to keep the attention of the young viewers. Also, it was suggested to slow the presentation down slightly, it had no dramatic pauses and the narrative was spoken quickly. Council commended Rick on a job well done. Rick asked Council about hosting a dinner to show his appreciation to the sponsors; 1% Committee and the Thurston Conservation District. Council would like more details from him prior to committing.

Little Creek Casino Hotel Resort Update *(continued)*

Cameron Goodwin went over the 401K changes and answered Council's questions regarding their plan. It was decided to table the 401K change resolution so that it can be brought to the next LCOB Meeting for their review, then their recommendation to Council.

There was discussion regarding parking for major events at the Little Creek Events Center. Doug assured Council that the parking will be taken care of by the first major event in July.

ICW

Council went in to Executive Session.

By consensus Tribal Council does not oppose the adoption request of case # SCICI06-04-112 and Council sees that it would be the best interest of the youth.

Law Enforcement

Mike Evans was present to go over an inquiry by a tribal member regarding the use of mini bikes, ATV, and other off road vehicle use on the reservation. As of now, all

ORV's, (including mini bikes, golf carts and ATV's) are not street legal, but Council can pass an ordinance which would allow ORV's to be street legal on the reservation only with the proper registration and licensing. After extensive discussion regarding this issue, there will be a public meeting held in which Mike Evans will set up. Then the Law & Order Committee can bring this back to Council with a recommendation.

Shelton School District In-Service Training

Kim Cooper and Walt Archer reported on a meeting they had with the school board regarding an in-service day with the teachers and the Tribe. This has been scheduled for October 13th from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.. Every year the school district does a calendar of staff training and Kim has asked for a training day for all of the teachers to discuss Squaxin culture, kids, history and better ways to communicate with native kids. Kim stated that she is hoping to host this at the Casino and provide lunch for about 400 people. They will put together a work group to create a curriculum for that day, and then Kim will bring it back to Council for their approval. The work group will decide on lunch and get together with Ray to discuss costs.

Kim reported on a phone call the Education Department had received from the Indian Education Counselor from the Shelton High School, regarding eagle feathers on the graduation caps of tribal members. The Counselor is requesting that the school allow the Squaxin and Skokomish graduates hang an eagle feather on their cap, but that is against school policy. The policy does not allow for any writing or decorations of any kind on the graduation caps. The Counselor is looking for support from the Tribes and would like to have the Squaxin Council and the Skokomish Council meet with the school board regarding this issue. After discussion, it was decided that Council will support the school policy, and encourage the tribal graduates to hang a feather in their hair or on their button blanket, in a more traditional way. Jim will call the High School Principal and out to the Skokomish Tribal Center and share their standpoint.

Jim Peters, Charlene Krise and Will Penn will be present at Sgwi Gwi to hand out the incentive awards to the graduates. Kim reported on the number of high school graduates there will be and the number of college graduates. The high school graduates will receive a card at Sqwi Gwi stating that they will need to make an appointment with Information Services to receive their new laptops. It was discussed that regardless of when a tribal member graduates from college, they will not receive their incentive award until the next Sgwi Gwi.

Walt Archer and Jim Peters attended a Tribal Leaders Congress Meeting last week in Nooksak. Walt reported on the meeting which went well, and Walt wanted to thank Jim for attending. This is a monthly meeting, and Squaxin Island Tribe will host the meeting on August 21st. Representatives from other Washington Tribes will attend.

Executive Director *(continued)*

Ray provided an update on trust property acquisition.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.