

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
July 9, 2009**

**Attendance:**

**Tribal Council**

<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>Misti Saenz-Garcia</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Council Member</b>
<b>Marcella Castro</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Council Member</b>
<b>Charlene Krise</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Council Member</b>

**Legal Counsel**

**Kevin Lyon  
Jaime Cruz**

**Executive Director**

**Ray Peters**

**Recording Secretary**

**Melissa Puhn**

Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Pete Kruger offered the opening prayer.

Per the request of the Chairman, Kevin Lyon provided an update on the Nisqually Case.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the July 9, 2009 Council agenda. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Pete Kruger moved to approve the June 24 and June 25<sup>th</sup> Council Minutes. Arnold Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

**TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS**

**July 13-15: NW Indian Gaming Conference (WIGA)** Tulalip. Andy, Misti, Marcella, Charlene. Kevin stated that there will be a meeting to discuss tribal hunting issues during WIGA. This meeting will be for tribal chairman and invitees.

**July 16-17:** Council will meet with Directors to discuss budgets.

**July 21: Business Center Grand Opening, 2-6:00 pm**

**July 24: All Staff BBQ.** Council decided to change the date from the 31<sup>st</sup> to accommodate their schedule.

**July 31: BIA Assistant Secretary Larry Echohawk** will be visiting at the Casino. Ray stated that Larry Echohawk will meet with Council and the NWIFC. He will tour the tribe and its enterprises; seeing how Squaxin has grown and diversified since Self-Governance.

## **SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**August 7: First Salmon Ceremony**, Arcadia Point

**September 14-17: NIGA Mid-Year Membership Meeting** Santa Fe, NM, Andy, Pete, Misti and Ray will attend.

**September 22-24: National Tribal gaming Commissioners/Regulators Fall Conference**, Tulsa OK. Charlene, Marcella will attend.

**October 11-16: NCAI Palm Springs, CA.** Dave, Misti, Pete and Andy will attend.

### **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE**

**Per Capita date:** Council agreed to hand out per capita checks August 6<sup>th</sup>. \$500 will be given to the adults and \$350 will be given to the youth.

Charlene brought up her concern of some tribal youth who do not have warm coats during the winter. She would like to see a class for young mothers to teach them how to dress their kids appropriately with the weather. Whitney suggested doing a coat drive for the Child Development Center.

Council went in to executive session to discuss a tribal member concern. Legal and Law Enforcement will draft a letter to the tribal member for Council signature. Council would like an article in the Klah-Che-Min about bullying.

### **TRIBAL GAMING AGENCY UPDATE**

Desi Smith and Jeff Peters provided an update on TGA. Desi handed out a letter addressed to Bally's per Councils recommendation. This is out of the regulatory issues that was discussed during the last Council Meeting. Council likes the letter; Desi will send it off.

Desi handed out a couple of options, per Councils request, of allowing 18 year olds on the casino floor. Council agreed by consensus to not move forward with this and continue not allowing 18 year olds on the casino floor.

### **ENROLLMENT**

Council went in to executive session.

Andy Whitener moved to approve the enrollment of Arthur Barrigan. Charlene Krise seconded the motion. As discussed at the last Council Meeting when this application was tabled, the enrollment date of this applicant will be retroactive back to the initial date of June 24, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

Kevin handed out a flow chart of how applications are handled as well as how dis-enrollments will be handled. He also provided a copy of the draft code. The Enrollment Committee is very close to finishing up the draft code, and will then bring it to Council for consideration. Kevin stated that the committee would like to set up a meeting with Council to go over the code.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE**

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Golf Update:** Ray Peters and Dan Neelands provided an update on golf. Gene Bates has been approving the work as it's been done. Dan gave an update on the construction progress; would like to get the majority of construction complete this year and prepare for the grow-in period for the grass. Everything is on schedule for the interim budget. Council would like to have regular reports on the golf course.

Squaxin has preliminary approval from the bank and is now waiting for approval from the BIA. The bank has everything needed to turn in to the BIA. Kevin explained the next steps in financing.

Council went in to executive session.

Coming out of executive session, Council has agreed to extend a letter of intent for an additional 30 days with no increased amount.

**Summer Youth Report:** Patti Puhn provided an update on the Summer Youth Employment Program and the Stepping Stones Program. Astrid Poste is overseeing the Summer Youth and Bev Hawks is overseeing the Stepping Stones. The schedule for the Stepping Stones is Monday and Tuesdays they work on cultural crafts for the canoe family and elders; Wednesday is class room training for pre employment; Thursday and Fridays they work on special projects such as predator control on the Island, berry picking, etc. Patti asked if the Stepping Stones would be able to sit in during a portion of a Council Meeting. Council stated that the next meeting, July 23<sup>rd</sup> will be fine.

### PLANNING/DCD/HOUSING UPDATE

Brian Thompson presented the following grant resolutions:

**Resolution #09-64** authorizes HHS to prepare and administer with DHHS Indian Health Services, a project that recognizes the need to enhance and expand health promotions, through the Health Promotion Disease Prevention Program.

**Resolution #09-65** authorizes the submission of a grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency to develop and implement a replicable model of sustainable community action that generate cost effective and greenhouse gas reductions while improving the environmental, economic and health conditions within the Squaxin Community.

Charlene Krise moved to approve these two resolutions. Misti Saenz-Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**Housing Update:** Brian provided an update on some housing issues. He handed out the current Housing Wait List.

**Land Update:** Brian provided an Island purchase update. They have added three new allotments. The BIA appraisals for those allotments came back 35-50% less than the appraisals of a year ago due to the drop in timber and land value. Brian stated that the market is low and recommends waiting on the purchase. Council decided to move forward with the purchase at 50% land value and wanted it known that the purchase price is not their decision but rather the BIA market appraisal. Brian had **Resolution #09-66** prepared which states that the new appraisals completed in June 2009 by the Office of Special Trustees, Bureau of Indian Affairs listing the fair market value of the ten allotments

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

discussed (121-3, 121-8, 121-12, 121-13, 121-16, 121-18A, 121-19-A, 121-20, 121-21 and 121-22), less 50% of the fair market value of all timber, and will be the new authorized purchase price. Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve the resolution. Andy Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Brian shared that the Planning Department has earned over \$9.2 million in grants this year.

Brian will have the transit plan at the next Council meeting for their consideration.

Brian handed out a brief summary of capital projects that DCD and Planning are working on.

**2012 Canoe Journey Planning update:** Bridgette Ray Jeremiah George and Joe Seymour provided an update on the planning of the 2012 canoe journey. Until there is an official canoe coordinator, Bridgette is filling in for that position. She has been tracking the planning process and will provide regular updates to Council. Council discussed holding a dinner with the Nisqually Council and both tribes canoe families and discussing the two tribes roles and responsibilities during the planning; discussed drafting an agreement that would outline both tribes involvement.

The Squaxin Canoe Family would like to form a canoe event planning committee that would consist of two Council Members, two Squaxin canoe family members, one youth and one elder. The canoe family recommended appointing both Jeremiah and Joe to the committee.

Jeremiah is checking dates to hold the dinner, looking at dates after this years journey.

Bridgette would like to have a facilitated discussion about the vision of the 2012 journey. She handed out some strategic questions for Council to consider. Dave suggested a few community meetings with the Squaxin canoe family and Council.

Bridgette is working on a draft budget. Misti would like to be sure that all seven families are represented on the committee. The committee will report once each month to Council.

Bridgette discussed the fundraising plan and suggested that there be a two separate committees: budget committee and the event planning committee.

Charlene and Pete both stated that they would like to be involved on the planning committee. Council agreed by consensus to appoint Joe and Jeremiah to the planning committee. The elders will be approached as well as the youth council.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

Andy handed out the 2009 Hunting Regulations. Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve the regulations. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE *(continued)*

**Reservation based education program:** Whitney reported that they have reached out to colleges again; due to budget cuts many colleges are not increasing their satellite programs. Whitney

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

confirmed that Evergreen is not able to open a site at Squaxin unless Squaxin is willing to pay for the faculty. There is a Squaxin site for the Associates Program in place through Grays Harbor Community College here on site.

**Budget Work Session Agenda:** Ray handed out and went over the agenda. This is scheduled for next Thursday and Friday.

**Highway 108:** Ray reported that the easements are in place. The turn lane project is being funded through stimulus funds and Indian Roads money; the balance is being paid by the Casino.

**Family Services Director:** Ray updated on the hiring process. Arnold stated the initial interview process went well. The individual who the committee offered the position to declined for health related reasons. Council would like to re-advertise for native applicants. Misti and Pete will be on the interview panel. Charlene would also like to participate if she is able to.

**Pool usage charges:** Whitney handed out the draft pool fee schedule. Council discussed rental fees for outside agencies and charges for non community members. The rental fees would cover life guards and maintenance charges. Charlene would like to see a damage deposit added to the rental charges. Andy suggested limiting the amount of rentals each month. The rental cost for outside agencies will be \$100 for the first hour and \$80 each additional hour, with a damage deposit. Council discussed charging tribal members “at cost” and the damage deposit when tribal members rent the pool for personal use.

Council agreed to allow Skokomish Summer Recreation program rent the pool each Monday for the next six weeks; there are no Squaxin scheduled activities on Mondays.

**Property Update:** Ray briefly updated on his meeting he had with a homeowner in Kamilche Valley. He will continue working with the homeowner on the price.

Island Enterprises is looking at a piece of property in Taylor Town. This will go to the IEI Board for consideration.

Ray and Deb are working together on the property budget.

**McCoy/Kauffman fundraiser reception:** Council agreed by consensus to donate \$250 each to McCoy and Kauffman campaign. Misti, Marcella and Charlene will attend the reception.

Kevin Lyon handed out **Resolution #09-67** which selects the Northwest Indian Treatment Center as the third party entity to perform any and all testing and reporting functions as set out in Resolution #03-18B, together with any of all testing and reporting functions as set out in all Tribal entity Drug Free Workplace Personnel Policies. Charlene Krise moved to approve the resolution. Misti Saenz-Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**LCOB:** Ray briefed on the LCOB by-law change. Council stated that they decided not to make the changes discussed. Andy brought up the idea of not having LCOB made up by positions. Council discussed Ray’s participation on the board and decided that he is better served at the Government therefore will remove him from LCOB. The by-laws will be changed to reflect that change.

## SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

**NIMS Training Schedule:** Ray provided Council with their Emergency Management Schedule.

**Tribal Gaming:** Council received a letter regarding a TGA employee.

Council went in to executive session.

Coming out of executive session Council decided to say no to the request and would like TGA to continue following policy.

### TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

A Tribal Member explained to Council that she at one point signed a contract that states that she no longer can work for Squaxin Island Tribe. She requested that Council pardon her “non employment” status and allow to be employed with the casino. Council directed the tribal member to discuss this with TGA; Kevin will find that contract and per Councils request, will destroy it.

Marcella requested that the Child Care Board report to Council at the second meeting of each month.

**IEI Business Plan:** Dave and Arnold signed the business plan at the last IEI Board Meeting.

Misti would like to see language back on Councils radar for discussion. She also would like to have a “Councils corner” of the Klah-Che-Min to provide updates to the community from Council.

Council discussed integrating language at the Child Development Center and The Learning Center. Ray will talk to Barb Whitener about language.

Misti requested that Kevin do an audit of the Child Development Center to be sure that the Center is utilizing DSHS to pay for eligible families child care. Ray and Kevin will look in to and report back to Council.

Charlene would like to make sure that the tribal youth are employed; she knows that there are non tribal youth employed with the Summer Youth Program. She would like to see a report of the number of kids employed including how many are tribal, descendents and non tribal. Misti stated that there are a number of youth on the Stepping Stones Program that are non tribal (*Ray checked and provided an email to Council with the accurate break down of Stepping Stones and youth hire participants*).

Council discussed the receptionist position at the Outpatient Center. They would like to see this as an entry level position in order to allow tribal members to be hired.

There being no further business the July 9, 2009 Council Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.