

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
August 28, 2008**

**Attendance:**

**Tribal Council**

<b>Dave Lopeman</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Arnold Cooper</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>Vince Henry, Sr.</b>	<b>Secretary</b> ( <i>left at 3:00</i> )
<b>Russell Harper</b>	<b>Treasurer</b> ( <i>absent 10:45-12:50</i> )
<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> ( <i>absent 11-1:00</i> )

**Executive Director**

**Ray Peters**

**Legal Counsel**

**Kevin Lyon**

**Recording Secretary**

**Melissa Puhn**

Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:25 p.m. Charlene Krise offered the opening prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the August 28, 2008 Council Agenda. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Arnold Cooper moved to approve the August 14, 2008 Council Minutes. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS**

**August 28: Second Public Budget Hearing, 4:30 p.m., Council Chambers.** This hearing is primarily for the Casino and Island Enterprises to present the budget and operating plan.

**September 7-10: Bringing Civil Rights to Indian Country,** Great Wolf Lodge, Arnold will attend.

**September 9: Tribal Consultation, Office on Violence against Women,** Hollywood, FL. Misti and Marcella will attend (*trip cancelled due to weather*).

**September 15-18: Native Wellness Conference,** Reno, NV. Dave will attend.

**September 16-18: National Tribal Gaming Commissioners/Regulators Conference,** Tulalip. Arnold, Russell, Marcella, Misti and Charlene will attend.

**September 22-25: ATNI Annual Conference,** Confederated Tribes of Umatilla. Misti, Marcella, Charlene and Ray will attend.

**TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS** (*continued*)

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**September 25: All Staff Appreciation Dinner**, 6:00 p.m. at the Skookum Creek Events Center.

**September 29: Meeting with Olympia City Council**, 5:30 p.m. at the Casino.

**October 3-5: Basket Weavers Conference**, Quinault Beach Resort. Charlene and Misti will attend. Ray stated that at the next meeting he will present options of how Council can support the tribal members who are interested in attending. Charlene stated the attendees last year agreed to come back and teach weaving and she has a list of those who followed through with that agreement. Russell would like to see a ceiling set on those who attend. Arnold would like to prepare for the 2012 Canoe Journey, and those who attend should help make gifts.

**October 19-24: NCAI**, Phoenix, AZ. Dave, Arnold, Misti and Ray will attend.

**November 18-19: Tribal Self-Governance Strategy Session**, Phoenix, AZ. Misti, Marcella and Charlene will attend.

**January 17-21, 2009: Presidential Inauguration**, Washington DC. Dave, Russell, Misti, Charlene and Ray will attend.

### CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

**Political Donation:** Council agreed by consensus to donate \$1,500 to Rob McKenna for his re-election for Attorney General.

Arnold stated he will be attending the Cowlitz Tribal First Salmon Ceremony, September 13.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

**Tribal Liaison:** Ray shared the four letters received by interested tribal members. Two of the applicants are Casino employees therefore are ineligible. Council agreed by consensus to appoint Sue Henry as the Casino Tribal Liaison (*Sue declined the appointment*).

**ATNI Representative:** Arnold Cooper moved to approve **Resolution #08-90** which appoints Charlene Krise as the ATNI delegate, Misti Saenz-Garcia and Marcella Castro as ATNI alternates. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Charlene, Mist and Marcella abstained from voting).

Council briefly discussed the elders. Misti would like notification on the elders meeting dates. Council directed Whitney Jones to work with the Elders Coordinator and assist with uniting the elders with each other and re-invigorating the program. Whitney will also be available to assist the elder's officers with updating and revising their by-laws and other policies as needed.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE (*continued*)

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**Fishing Season Leave of Absence Policy:** Ray handed out the draft policy for fishing season leave. One change made was to have the ability to take up to sixty (60) days of leave, and if a set amount of leave is scheduled the employee will not be able to return until the scheduled leave is completed. This will allow for a temporary hiring of that position while the employee is on leave. Beginning next year, the deadline to submit leave requests will be by June 1, this will allow accommodations to be made ahead of time. If only a small amount of annual leave is available, the employee will be allowed to take leave without pay. Council agreed by consensus to adopt this policy.

**Whistleblower Policy:** Ray reported that this policy is in place at the Casino. If any Casino employee needs to contact him his desk and cell number are available. This policy will protect employees from any retaliation for information provided. The governmental policy will direct employees to the Personnel Committee.

### DEPUTY DIRECTOR UPDATE

**Housing Support Team follow-up:** Whitney Jones provided an update on a request from the previous meeting. Council would like to see the individual get help, and would like to work with them in keeping their house. Council directed Whitney to move forward with the process and to continue working with the individual and the support team.

### LEGAL

**Island Enterprises:** Bob Whitener, Jr. handed out the Squaxin Sign Ordinance. He is working to get in place rules pertaining to signs, including elements that they must compliment the resort/casino and enhance enterprises. The Planning Department will be part of the design and review of all sign requests. Bob is providing this ordinance for review and will present a resolution for consideration at a later date. Council discussed earmarking revenue generated from signs for specific projects. Council approved the ordinance draft by consensus.

**Child Development Center:** Misti requested that she would like to see eligible kids at the CDC be utilizing HHS or DSHS funding to tuition. She also would like to see the CDC expand to nights and weekends. Marcella will provide a list of HHS & DSHS eligible families for the CDC.

Council requested an update on Salish Seafood's at the next meeting. Ray is working on improving the parking at Arcadia Point.

Council would like updates on Salish seafood's seed sets. Dave Johns will be at the next meeting for an update. Marcella asked about parking at arcadia point, additional spots are needed. Ray will work on that. Expand the parking by gravel and request Taylors to help with the costs.

Council directed Ray to look in to GSA purchases for tribal members.

### ZEKE ZAHIR

Zeke Zahir, Language Instructor presented a resolution which would establish a Master and Apprentice Program to teach apprentices the language of its ancestors known as the Southern dialect

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of Puget Salish. This program will expose the apprentices to twenty hours of language per week under the supervision of the language instructor. Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve **Resolution #08-91**. Marcella Castro seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and (0) against. *Vince was out of the room.*

Zeke presented a second resolution which will support and enhance the existing language program through enhancing the Puget Salish language instruction and exposure to pre-school and kindergarten children. With parent approval, a predetermined number of children could be transported between the Squaxin Island Child Development Center and the Language Center for full-immersion classes, for a minimum of ten hours each week. Misti Saenz-Garcia moved to approve **Resolution #08-92**. Russell Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

Russell questioned the logistics of how the program would work. Whitney stated that many issues would need to be addressed including center staffing ratios, who would transport and how, curriculum planning, funding for activities and teachers onsite, background checks on apprentices, meal and nap schedules as well as other variables. Russell stated that he thought the staff would be able to work out the details.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE** *(continued)*

Council discussed the Indian Child Welfare Program. Marcella shared her concerns of the current program and the Family Wellness Team. It was suggested that Council meet with the Family Wellness Team so Council fully understands what they do.

### **TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST**

Council agreed to make a \$500 donation towards a tribal member's airline ticket, and agreed to purchase a bus ticket for another tribal member so they can attend a funeral.

Dorinda Thein shared a housing concern with Council. Ray will look in to this situation and see about an exception for her case because of the safety involved.

### **LEGAL** *(continued)*

Per request of Council, Kevin Lyon presented a team management objective list that was signed by Cameron Goodwin, Mike Peters and Mark West. He compiled a set of principals and goals for all of three to work towards. Included will be the previously approved delegation of authority, Council approved the common objective list and the three will sign. Kevin will bring back for the Chairman's signature.

Charlene requested that Council, Ray, Deb Stoehr, Little Creek Casino and Island Enterprises meet to discuss ways to decrease the tribe's debt.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE** *(continued)*

Ray handed out Cameron's evaluation for review and input. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

Council agreed by consensus to purchase a beaded wallet made by Tribal Member Virginia Beruman for \$100.

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Misti requested that Council purchase three Pendleton blankets, one each for Jeremiah George and Davey Krise for skipping the canoe journey; and one for Charlene Krise for her participation.

Community Member Lynn Foster came to Council with an ICW request. Dennis Bear Don't Walk and Whitney Jones resolved the issue.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Coming out of executive session, Council agreed by consensus to appoint Whitney Jones and Bob Whitener, Jr. to the Island Enterprises Board; and Misti Saenz-Garcia to the Little Creek Oversight Board.

There being no further business, the August 28, 2008 Council Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.