

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
January 22, 2015**

**Attendance:**

<b>Tribal Council</b>	<b>Dave Lopeman</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Arnold Cooper</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
	<b>Andy Whitener</b>	<b>Treasurer (<i>travel</i>)</b>
	<b>Pete Kruger, Sr.</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
	<b>Whitney Jones</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Jim Peters</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Vince Henry, Sr.</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Council Member</b>
<b>Legal Counsel</b>	<b>Nate Schreiner</b>	
<b>Operations Director</b>	<b>Kathy Block</b>	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Melissa Puhn</b>	

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Jim Peters asked to discuss a donation for the Stand up for Science Reception at the Waterstreet Café on February 11<sup>th</sup>. He also would like to further discuss Billy Frank Jr., Day as well as the Salmon Defense Golf Tournament. Whitney wanted to discuss the Drug & Alcohol Awareness Dinner. Arnold Cooper moved to approve the agenda. Jim seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Arnold moved to approve the January 7<sup>th</sup> Council Minutes. Jim seconded. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

**TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS**

**Tomorrow, January 23: Founders Day**, Wa He Lut School at 10 a.m. Dave will try and make it, Pete will attend.

**January 30: Mason County Officers Breakfast**, LCCR, 8:00 a.m. Pete and Arnold will both attend.

**February 2-5: ATNI Winter Session**, Lincoln City, Whitney, Pete and Ray will attend.

**Feb 10: Talking Circle / General Body meeting**, Community Kitchen 4:30.

**February 10: Capital Land Trust Breakfast**, St. Martins. 7 a.m. Pete, Whitney, Jim and Ray will attend, along with staff from Natural Resources.

**February 22-25: NCAI**, WADC. Whitney and Ray will attend.

**March 9: Billy Frank Jr. Day**. Council would like to discuss the plans for this day later today.

**March 8-13: Reservation Economic Summit**, Las Vegas. Pete will attend.

**March 30 – April 2: NIGA**, San Diego. Andy will attend

**April 19-22: NAFOA**, Austin, TX. Whitney will attend.

**April 26-30: Self Governance Conference**, Reno. Ray and Pete will attend.

**May 2: General Body Meeting**, LCCR.

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### TRIBAL CHAIRMAN UPDATE

**Geoduck Budget:** Arnold wanted to bring this topic up for discussion, he wanted to know what the plan is for the geoducks once they're harvested off Squaxin Island. He also worries about the lack of security and lack of involvement from the government. He would like Council to sit down with IEI to discuss the plan. Jim stated that he believed IEI had a geoduck plan. Arnold said that he has asked and nobody seems to know. He knows a lot of the money made will need to be put back in to the program but what about the rest of the money? He would like to discuss this with IEI soon. Vince suggested to bank all the funds until there is a plan in place. Arnold added that he would like our Natural Resource Department to be a part of the harvest to ensure accountability.

**Green Diamond Gate fee:** Arnold wanted to make sure this issue is worked out before hunting season begins. He added that game wardens are targeting the Elson Road gate. He added that previously Kevin Lyon was directed to research the pros and cons of signing the proposed agreement with Green Diamond. Jim would like to discuss this issue with the Skokomish Council also, before signing the agreement since the hunting areas overlap. Nate added that Kevin has been working on this. Jim felt that the request from Green Diamond is negotiable and would like to work out an agreement.

### TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Don brought up the two houses on the reservation that now belongs to the Tribe, and being rented out. There are tribal members who are looking for rentals and are not low income. The houses need to be rehabilitated before they're occupied and it will cost roughly \$60k to do that. Don suggested renting these houses out at market value. Don would like authority from Council to develop a rental policy for these two houses. It would be a separate program from Housing and it would be strictly tribal funds. Jim would like the tribe to reserve the right to do regular housing inspections on these homes to make sure the renter is keeping the house up per their contract. If that is the case, he supports it. Don felt that the tribe has done a good job in maintaining the duplexes. Council said fine. Don will find the funds to make it happen.

Don shared that the tribal center received a call from a missionary asking permission to knock on doors around the reservation. Council said no.

**Tailgate Party:** Council will sponsor a tailgate party on Friday the 31<sup>st</sup>. Council will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. Island Enterprises will BBQ oysters and KTP will provide drinks. Council approved Jim to spend \$500 at the Seattle Team Shop to buy door prizes.

Jim brought up the Forest and Fish Report. The state has not had long term funding for that and with the current budget cuts it has not been funded adequately. There will be a legislative session at the Waterstreet Café on February 11<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for that program. Council agreed to donate \$250.

Nate shared at the Council monthly work sessions with Legal. This topic will be one of the first discussions.

Jim shared that he and Joe Peters announced BFJ Day to the NWIFC. He would like to see a lot of education and events around this day and hopes that other tribes adopt the day as well. He emphasized the importance of teaching our youth the importance of his life to Indian Country. The Commission was very excited about this and will donate \$5000 to Squaxin to help host an event that day. Jim would like to

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put a planning group together to organize an event on that day and pinpoint some tribal leaders to speak. The event could be hosted at the Natural Resource Building or the Event Center depending on the size.

Whitney brought up the Drug & Alcohol Awareness Dinner. Don mentioned that he spoke with Christine Semanko about this. Council supports her event, but feels that it has grown quite a bit. They would like to see it be a smaller event at the Community Kitchen, like it used to be.

**Salmon Defense Golf Tournament:** Jim shared that they are renaming the tournament to the Billy Frank Jr. Memorial Tournament. Council decided to sponsor the same as last year: one hole plus one team, for a total of two teams.

Dave brought up the monthly meeting with Legal. He said it would be a half to full day, whatever is necessary, and be held on the third Thursday of each month. This will start on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Dave told Nate that he would like an in-depth discussion regarding marijuana during the first meeting.

### TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

Vicki Kruger came in to ask Council to buy their door prizes for the tailgate party from local artists. She shared that there are a handful of local artists who craft Seahawks related art. She would like to see local artists supported. Council approved the purchase of a beaded medallion from Jay Hall for \$100, a Seahawks bolo for \$65 and Seahawks necklace for \$195 made by Rose Tageant, five pairs of Seahawks earrings made by Patricia Green for \$25 each, two pairs of earrings made by Elizabeth Campbell totaling \$90 and five sweatshirts from Maylynn Foster for \$40 each. Council will still spend \$500 at the Seattle Team Store for Jerseys, tshirts, etc.

Vicki also wanted to discuss the issues with the tribe's disability insurance. She feels it's a difficult process and the company is not easy to work with. She wishes the tribe would find a different provider.

Vicki shared that she heard Tribes are now allowed to grow marijuana and thought this would be a good avenue for the tribe to look at. Council told her they are already researching the possibility.

### SAFE STREETS REPORT

Evan Welkin, Rene Kluhsman and Taylor Krise were present. Rene handed out the draft bylaws for the Explorers Program. She is hoping to have this program in place by this fall. For now, she is she is looking to have Council review the Explorer Program by-laws which create the Explorer Committee. Rene will send the draft bylaws to Legal for review, and the final step would be approval via Tribal Council Resolution. Council approved the resolution to be reviewed by Legal.

Squaxin Safe Streets Advisory Board has approved a community project and Taylor Krise has stepped forward with a plan to carve a mural. Taylor showed a small scale drawing of his proposal. The art portrays some of his experiences and will be reaching out to the youth. He has met with the youth and elders regarding this project, and now is seeking approval from Council for this public piece of art. The overall size will be 16' x 8' and will include input and participation from other artists in the community. Possible locations include the north exterior wall of the gym, 10' off the ground or inside the gym. Taylor shared that Evan has been a big help with this project and he's excited to get working on it.

Evan shared that if a public art piece is proposed on tribal property, Council would need to approve the project and design. Council felt this was a great idea and is excited to see it happen. Jim suggested that if

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the mural was hung outside, that it be lighted. Evan added that it will be mounted on a removal panel and there is a lot of wall space so the mural can always be added to. Evan explained that they are asking for two pieces: first is the approval of the idea to have Taylor create this mural, second is the approval of the outdoor location on the gym wall. Vince added that maintenance is always available to help with the hanging. Council suggested to create the mural first, then decide where it would best fit, outside of the gym or inside of the gym. If it is to be hung outside, they like the idea of it being lighted.

The contract will be charged to the Safe Streets Grant and Family Services will be helping with the material costs. Lighting and installation will be another cost. Arnold wanted to see the budget to help identify where all of the funding is coming from and if Council needs to donate any funding.

### **MASON COUNTY SHERIFF**

Sheriff Casey Salisbury came by to thank Council for providing a great location at the LCCR for the Sheriffs Department to hold their monthly meetings. He explained how he tries to have a guest speaker at each meeting, and this month the most highly decorated General McCatherty will be there. He invited Council to attend if they wish. He said explained how during his 8 years as Sheriff the obstacles that have been overcome with the City, County and Tribal Law Enforcement relationships. This relationship was a big deal at one time, but now other agencies are starting to accept this mutual agreement and are even now reaching out on how to create a mutual agreement with their local Tribes. Squaxin and Mason County were the first in the state to establish a mutual agreement. Tribal and county officers even train together and offer mutual respect.

Jim added that Squaxin has always been a tribe to take the lead on new ideas. Jim offered if Casey ever needed help with reaching out to other tribes, to let Council know. Squaxin is always willing to assist in teaching other tribes to work with federal and state agencies.

### **LEGAL**

Nate handed out a copy of the hunting legislature bill that was discussed earlier.

Nate wanted to discuss the leasing of tribal lands. The ordinance he is proposing is to take over the leasing agreement ourselves. The example is the property that is leased for the rail company. There needs to be a notice and comment for environmental reviews. If approved, he will send it to BIA for approval, then brought back to Council to be formally approved. Council says its fine.

### **ISLAND ENTERPRISES, INC**

Dave Johns, Cameron Goodwin and Richard Sweeney were present

Cameron handed out a financial report for Skookum Creek Tobacco and went through it with Council.

Cameron shared the progress they've made with working with Chehalis on selling SCT products.

Jim thanked SCT for supporting Salmon Defense.

Richard provided a detailed financial statement for KTP as well as the gas volumes for December. He reported on the falling gas prices which was very beneficial for the store. They are able to control the labor at the store which help with savings. Customer counts are up.

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Jim asked how the Steamboat Drive-thru is doing. Richard stated that it's taken a big hit with STP going in, but they are seeing a leveling off of customer counts. It's still in IEI best interest to run that site. The trend is not declining, but everything is still going okay.

Richard discussed Franks Landing Store and how they're doing. Dave Johns told Council he will keep them updated at all times. Dave Johns added that there was a slight impact when there was a reduction of labor at JBLM, which has impacted that store. Jim suggested it might be a good time to set up a meeting with the FLIC Board and Council. Dave Johns said they are looking at other business opportunities outside of the Landing.

Dave Johns gave a quick update from Salish. Next week they'll start fitting in all the parts for the flupsy. Excited to get that installed. They're working on ordering oyster seed through Taylors.

Dave brought up the Truck and RV stop. All the DOT work is complete and IEI is still planning on developing that property. Based on traffic counts, they're trying to determine the feasibility of another truck fuel stop.

### **TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST**

Kezia Wentworth came in to share that she is attending The Evergreen State College working on her Bachelor's Degree. She is studying the decolonization of the Pacific Rim and has an opportunity to visit New Zealand to study. She is requesting financial assistance to help with the cost of her trip. She has received funding from the One Percent Commission. Council stated that generally they provide funding through One Percent only, and not Council. They wished her luck and is looking forward to a presentation upon her return.

### **COMMUNITY MEMBER REQUEST**

Elizabeth Satiacum handed out a flier for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual American Lobby Day which is tomorrow from 9-3pm in the Columbia Room of the Legislative Building. There will be a drum circle in the Rotunda of the Capital. She is asking for donations to help fund this event and to invite Council to attend. Due to the timing, Council agreed to donate a Pendleton Blanket to her to use as a gift.

There being no further business, the Council meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.