

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 25, 2020**

**Attendance:**

<b>Tribal Council</b>	<b>Arnold Cooper</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Charlene Krise</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
	<b>Vicki Kruger</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
	<b>Jeremie Walls</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
	<b>Bev Hawks</b>	<b>1st Council Member</b>
	<b>David Whitener, Jr.</b>	<b>2nd Council Member</b>
	<b>Vince Henry, Sr.</b>	<b>3rd Council Member</b>
<b>Tribal Administrator</b>	<b>Marvin Campbell</b>	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Melissa Puhn</b>	

Bev Hawks offered the opening prayer. Arnold Cooper called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vicki Kruger would like to discuss Hotel Occupancy Tax. Arnold asked if this could be discussed at a later meeting that involves the necessary staff. Charlene Krise added that this is a bigger discussion that involves more than occupancy tax and funding tourism. This will be discussed at a future work session.

Ray added that the tribe is currently in the middle of the budget process and suggested that Council schedule a special session to go through budgets along with all of the entity CFO's and Administrators, to look at priorities and funding. This will be further discussed at the next work session.

Charlene added that Tourism has made some drastic cuts due to the loss of tourism funds. She added the importance of that program employing tribal members and allowing tribal members to be involved with local tourism. She also stressed the importance of Tourism to bring in more people to this area who want to learn more and experience true Squaxin culture.

Vince moved to approve the June 25, 2020 Council Agenda. Jeremie seconded the motion. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vicki moved to approve the March 12, 2020; April 15, 2020; March 16, 2020; May 5, 2020; March 17, 2020; May 28, 2020; June 4, 2020; and June 18, 2020 Council Minutes. Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**TRIBAL CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

**Investment update:** David Whitener handed out a report on the tribal investments that was completed in February. Arnold shared his concern of this plan going above what the Tribe already has in place. David shared that this report is specifically aimed at Council, sharing what

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their responsibility of investments are. Arnold wants to make sure Council is following the policy already in place.

David stated that he wants to share the report he has. He feels it is his responsibility to share his findings.

Jeremie asked if a separate workshop that includes the investment broker should be planned for further discussion. Bev added that she understands David's concerns and likes the idea of meeting with the Broker and Ray.

Arnold would like to have a work session to discuss investments on another day. He asked David to set up a meeting for Council to discuss this further with the Broker.

**TERO:** Jeremie brought up the minutes from January where Council approved the Tribal Employment Policy. He wanted to clarify that his intention was to approve a TERO Ordinance and not an Employment Policy, like the minutes state. He believes the minutes are incorrect and would like to move forward with TERO, and have that reflected in the minutes.

Marvin added that the initial conversation was completely about moving towards TERO. Creating a TERO Commission is the next step. He is uncomfortable with the phrase "TERO" because technically Squaxin is not TERO yet. Once a TERO Commission is created, they will build the ordinance and he will act as the TERO Officer in the meantime. Phase 1 of this plan is to approve the Employment Ordinance, which was done in January. Phase 2 is to create a Commission (or committee). Phase 3 is to create a TERO Ordinance.

After extensive discussion, David moved to move forward with the TERO Ordinance and rename the "hiring policy" as a "TERO policy." Vince seconded the motion.

Vicki asked if the motion is to move to TERO, but is the Tribe still following the same basic preference policy that was passed the last time? Marvin stated that Council read the policy as approved and a couple weeks ago, authorized creating a TERO Committee (not commission). David asked to amend the motion to include creating of a TERO Committee.

The motion was amended to include creating a TERO Committee and to rename the previously approved hiring policy as a TERO Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Marvin shared that he plans to advertise to the community to solicit committee members. LeeAnne will also work with the committee.

**FCC Update:** David shared a presentation on the FCC Licensing and the application process. He explained how the license is free and it will allow the tribe to control the airspace. He added that there are two pieces needed: one being a designated "license area" that has designated channels and the second is the license application. Charlene added that she would like to be involved with this planning process.

Marvin added that one caveat is within the first two years, 50% of the population needs to be subscribed. Council did agree to apply for the license, but still waiting to hear back on the cost to make that airspace available to use. The tribe will need to provide and set up the infrastructure. There are still a lot of unknowns and he would like to do more research before

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the tribe goes far down that path. However, the tribe is not out anything by applying for the license.

David added that once the license is obtained, then the infrastructure needs to be figured out; and that is not his area of expertise. He can assist with the licensing piece.

A draft resolution is currently with Legal for review.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES UPDATE**

Joe Peters presented the 2020-2021 Annual Fishing Regulations. He shared that they are projecting about 14,000 Chinook returning to Tumwater Falls and another 11,000 to Minter Hatchery. 34,000 Coho from the netpens and about 9,000 returning to Minter.

Chum projections are a different story. They are looking at 165,000 to return south of the Narrows. Of that 88,000 hatchery chum are projected to return. Unfortunately, that is a low number. The chum forecast for Hammersley is 11,000. Due to the low return, Washington State will be closing the purse seining and gill net fishery for the Seattle area; as well as closing commercial fisheries. Nisqually also chose to close their fishery as well. There still is a lot to do in regards to chum and Squaxin has been the lead in pushing for change in management.

August 4th will be the First Salmon Ceremony. They still are working on details on how to host that event in a safe way. Arnold shared that Council discussed opening it for Tribal Members only, but will discuss it further later.

Joe presented a change to the Hunting Regulations for consideration. The change is in regards to hunting with dogs. Currently, dogs are allowed except during a specific time of year (spring). He is seeking to change that to allow dogs year-round, but still not allowed to shoot a bear with cubs or a cougar with kittens. Jeremie asked how the hunter would know if the bear or cougar has young? Joe stated that bear can be hunted year round by tribal members, but can never shoot an animal with young, regardless; this would only allow dogs.

Vicki moved to allow hunting with dogs year round, but no shooting of bears or cougars with young. Joe will present the Hunting Regulations next month that will reflect that change. Joe shared that the Port Blakey and Green Diamond lease agreements are in review with Legal. He will bring those back next month when he presents the hunting regs.

Vicki moved to approve the 2020-2021 Fishing Regulations. Jeremie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PARKS & RECREATION UPDATE**

Janita Raham provided an update on the Summer Rec Program. They will be requiring the youth to wear a mask. The youth will be divided up into four groups, divided by age. They will have "sub families" within those groups, with no more than 10 people: 9 youth and 1 leader. These "sub families" will stay together all summer. This will alleviate the mask issue. If they play in the field, they will not have to wear their masks. The goal is to keep the kids separated at all times and in smaller groups. They will have four events that will bring the entire group

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together. Otherwise, they will be in separate areas: gym, classroom and two different playgrounds, and will rotate through the day. Meals will be staggered and will be grab & go style. Any staff not assigned to a "family" will have to wear a mask at all times. They will be doing regular cleanings and deep cleanings. Sanitizer stations will be set up.

Vicki asked about participation. Janita stated they can only accept 70 kids and the priority will be tribal members, tribal member children or if the legal guardian is tribal. She said that herself, Jerilyn and Erika will be reviewing all youth applications. They will have a COVID list of "do's and don'ts" and "don'ts" won't be tolerated. She knows that the application process will be difficult since they know they will have to deny some kids.

Since they will not be going on any field trips this year, they have extra funding to purchase backpacks and sets of supplies for each kid. They also will be purchasing porta-potties to locate at each playground. These will be locked up each night.

### **ENROLLMENT**

Tammy Ford presented three new enrollment applications. She recently met with the Enrollment Committee who approved all three: Lorena Porter, Kierah Cooper and Daniel Combes. Tammy shared that teh DNA test has not come back for Daniel Combes yet, so she asked if Council could approve his enrollment, pending the results. The pandemic has caused a delay in testing.

Jeremie moved to approve the enrollments for Lorena (#20-29) and Kierah (#20-30), but wanted to wait until the DNA results came back for Daniel. Bev seconded the motion as stated. The motion carried six (6) in favor and zero (0) against. Both Vicki and Vince supported enrolling Daniel, however they both support the Council decision. Once Daniels DNA test results come back, she can do a phone poll to enroll him.

Will Penn was present and wanted to inquire about enrollment of a family member. Council went in to Executive Session to discuss the details of that particular case. Coming out of Executive Session, Council shared with Will that particular application will be pending on the results of the enrollment moratorium down the road. No vote was taken during Executive Session.

Will shared his frustration with the moratorium. Jeremie asked of the Enrollment Committee could share the information needed to educate the community on the moratorium and allow a vote at the Winter General Body Meeting. Tammy shared that she has information ready to share. Charlene shared that she would like to see this go to the General Counsel for a vote. Marvin shared that Tammy and the Enrollment Committee has been working on sharing information to the community regarding the moratorium and what it means.

### **TRIBAL LIAISON UPDATE**

Ray shared how each year he puts together an election pamphlet showing what candidates the tribe supports. This is shared with the community. He is preparing that now and is hoping to get it sent out mid-July.

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He brought up the proclamation made by Governor Inslee requiring citizens to wear masks in public. Masks can be removed inside restaurants, once seated. He shared that the Casino is following that guideline, as well as the phase three guidelines of 75% occupancy of restaurants and 25% occupancy of bars. He would like Council approval on allowing patrons to remove their masks while in a golf cart. He feels that is the same as sitting together at a restaurant. Council was supportive of that.

Ray stated that the Casino is allowing groups of 50 to book the meeting rooms, and they are accommodating with the appropriate size space.

They have a safety plan in place for reopening the pool as well.

Ray gave an update on the stimulus package. Ray gave updates on the legislature and what he has been tracking.

## **TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

Marvin shared that TLC is planning a parade for the graduates this year on July 6th. Residents and participants will be encouraged to make signs and cheer the graduates.

**CARES ACT funds:** Marvin reported that there has been a lot of discussions regarding distributions from the CARES Act Funds. Anything those funds are used for, must be COVID related. Legal has drafted an "Emergency Disaster Relief Fund" that he will share within the next few days. Marvin shared the plan of allocating 20% to be spent on individuals, families or households. 35% to be allocated to the Casino to help pay their unemployment; however that percentage may need to be increased. 15% will be reserved for a contingency fund. The balance of the funds will be reserved for tribal government to be used to pay back purchases coded to the "911" account as well as emergency costs that may still come, due to COVID. All funds that are distributed must be applied for (including individuals and Casino) in order to ensure proper documentation. He is working on a proposal to purchase tiny homes to serve as a quarantine if needed as well as putting together "self-quarantine kits" for households, if and when a positive case comes to the reservation.

If there are no objections from Council, he would like to proceed with the plan as explained. Council did not object.

Marvin reported that higher education has a shortfall of \$34,000. The Budget Commission made a recommendation that this shortfall be funded out of the Seven Inlets Foundation as a one time payment.

Jeremie asked if he could form an ad-hoc committee to continue discussions with Olympic College. He really wants to move forward with the trade program partnership. He shared that Olympic College has partnered with the Youth Council on hosting their annual fundraising golf tournament. He also asked permission to serve on the Olympic College Board. Arnold asked that Olympic College is expecting of the Tribe? Jeremie stated that they would like to find a home for their construction trade program. Arnold asked if they could come meet with Council in the future to discuss this further. This will be further discussed at an upcoming work session.

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Council agreed to sponsor one team for the Youth Council Fundraising Golf Tournament.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.