

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2020**

Attendance:

Tribal Council	Kristopher Peters	Chairman
	Charlene Krise	Vice Chair
	Vicki Kruger	Treasurer
	Jeremie Walls	Secretary
	Andy Whitener	1st Council Member
	David Whitener, Jr.	2nd Council Member
	Vince Henry, Sr.	3rd Council Member
Tribal Administrator	Marvin Campbell	
Tribal Liaison	Ray Peters	
Recording Secretary	Melissa Puhn	

Charlene Krise offered the opening prayer. Kris Peters called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vicki Kruger requested to add a WWIETP update, COVID update and relief funds. Jeremie asked to provide an Olympic College update. Vicki brought up the Constitution Committee, Marvin will provide an update later. Vicki moved to approve the agenda with those additions. Jeremie seconded the motion. The motion carried five (5) in favor and zero (0) against.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charlene Krise pointed out a typo. Vicki moved to approve the October 8, 2020 Council Minutes. Andy Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

November 7: **Annual Potlatch Gala – Virtual.** Charlene spoke to the importance of the Potlatch Foundation and how they have been a large supporter of Squaxin. The Gala is their major fundraiser each year and she encouraged Council to participate.

October 9-23: **MLRC Art Auction**

October 23: **MLRC Art Auction virtual gala, 7pm.** Vicki will be bidding for Council.

November 8-13: **NCAI Virtual Annual Conference, Jeremie, David, Ray**

November 10: **Veterans Day**

November 19: **31st Annual Centennial Accord Virtual Meeting.** The work session scheduled for that day will be postponed so Council can attend this event.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Kris stated that he would like to start having the work sessions regularly on the third Thursday of each month. He would like to consolidate the current three day meetings, into one day. The work session will include the Executive Teams from all entities and will discuss current topics.

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The Executive Staff will create the agenda and include necessary staff if needed. Kris would like to get away from general reports and actually have real topic discussions. The Executive Staff will work together on the plan and coordinate the sessions. If this format doesn't work, Kris is open to changing it. Council agreed to that plan.

Collier House: Kris brought up the idea of renaming it. It's a place where to gather and to get work done while seeing the Island. He would like to see that location have a proper name. He asked the Council if they should ask cultural staff or the community to help help with that. He means no disrespect to Dr. Collier, but it is Squaxin. Andy would like to honor some of the Elders who have passed away; past leaders, public figures, mentors. Vicki asked if the Museum could help with naming it a Lushootseed name. She would like to see all the properties renamed. Charlene offered that she and Jeremiah to work on naming. They will do research on the history and lushootseed. Kris appreciated that and wants to be thoughtful about it.

Meetings shared publicly: Vicki would like to invite DIS to speak with Council about the possibilities and pros/cons. Kris shared that he liked the idea of sharing their online Council meetings, but does not know what it would entail. He likes the idea of working with DIS, but also being able to protect council members, sensitive information and intellectual property. Charlene brought up the importance of Zoom etiquette and learning what is a proper way to conduct selves during a recorded meeting. She feels it is important to allow Tribal Members to listen in, however, there runs a risk of sensitive information getting out.

Andy shared that past Councils would have multiple separate meetings. Many tribal members complained about this because business was conducted that nobody knew about. He feels that the current Council is very transparent, and doesn't feel that is an issue. He also reminded, that when the Tribe was open, only one person ever sat in on Council meetings. Other than staff, they were not attended.

Jeremie shared that large organizations are conducting online meetings, with large audiences. He feels that with the current times and climate, it is something that Council should be moving towards.

Kris asked Marvin to look into the options and have his staff bring a plan back for Council to consider.

WWIETP: Vicki shared an email she had received regarding the feasibility of the WWIETP program continuing. She would like to ask permission to ask Dave Babcock to look into the issues this program is having. She explained how there is \$1.5M that was spent and will be disallowed.

Vicki would like to remove Squaxin Tribe from the WWIETP program by resolution and move those funds to SPIPA and have them handle those programs. Council had an extensive discussion about this. Kris shared that he is fine with asking Dave Babcock to assist.

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Kris reminded that this issue is not on Squaxin to figure out. He recommended to Vicki that the WWIETP Board needs to meet and come up with a plan. If they want Squaxin's assistance, they need to ask. Vicki will set up a board meeting for next Tuesday.

Olympic College: Jeremie shared that the staff he has been working with at Olympic College has been appreciative of the support from Squaxin. A Squaxin artist has partnered with the college to create a sign for the new Shelton YMCA. This is one example of a collaborative project with the college that he would like to see continue. The college has trade programs that he would like to see the tribe partner and train tribal members.

Jeremie asked about having the One Percent Commission make a contribution to the College trade programs, as well as looking to provide them space to house the programs. He shared his ideas of different trades and tribal projects that could work with the College. He feels that the tribe does not provide career paths for tribal members, and this is an opportunity to recruit and train tribal members.

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR

Photo request: Nate Schriener is asking on the behalf of the City of Olympia, for permission to use the Cecelia Bob Historical photo on their website. This would be on the heritage section of the City of Olympia website, and they will work with the CRD and MLRC on proper verbiage. That photo was used as an exhibit during the US v. WA court case. Council is fine with the use of the photo.

COVID update: Marvin shared that there is a case of a community member testing positive. The primary contact tracing reached out to about 30 people and pretty much touches everywhere within the tribe. The household was tested yesterday so more will be known soon. John is conducting the contact tracing: if someone gets a call from him, they are being asked to get tested, and until they receive their results, to self isolate until their tests come back.

Vicki asked about excluding tribal members who intentionally put the community at risk. Marvin suggested perhaps issuing a fine first, then look at exclusion ordinances if necessary. Council discussed the issue of staff using this as an excuse to self isolate and get time off.

Marvin shared that the staff did a good job with the COVID Relief distribution. There were a few errors on applications, and they have a list of folks that still will be getting checks due to errors.

Kris asked about a physical gate to the community. With the amount of money that is being spent on staffing the entrance, they should be able to install a gate. This is something that is being looked at.

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Jeremie asked about Halloween. Marvin shared that staff are working on Halloween plans such as a costume parade and encouraging residents to have a table at the end of their driveways with candy packets. Barriers around Kaya Circle will be installed to protect the elders. Jeremie asked about private Halloween parties and haunted houses and if the tribe could ask those families to re-think their plans. Marvin stated that if everyone doesn't take the correct measures now, it will only get worse.

CARES Funds Update: Marvin has been meeting with Bill Taylor regarding the well. He shared that Family Services will be set up as a makeshift hospital. There is probably going to be a good amount of funds left over since the deadline to receive services for those funds, is 12/31/2020. He shared an idea of using some of the money as a "one time special pay" for staff. There are so many non tribal member staff who are working hard during this pandemic and he would like to provide a type of "hazard pay." Unless anyone objects, Marvin plans to work with Finance and Legal to put a plan together.

Charlene asked about IEI Staff and if they would be receiving anything similar. Ray shared that the Skookum Creek Board did approve a one time bonus for the workers who continued working, to meet the increase in demand for the product. This was for SCT Factory workers only.

Jeremie asked about LCCR staff. Ray added that LCCR did a pay adjustment to increase to the industry standard. That also, was not across the board.

Marvin will proceed with looking into a relief fund, or hazard pay, for tribal government staff.

Marvin is working with the Clinic on a care package list that the pharmacy can provide families affected by COVID. Over the counter drugs such as Vitamin C, D and Zinc.

Marvin spoke with James Mills regarding the constitution committee. He will continue working with him to create the committee.

The Boardwalk construction will start up again and three tiny homes are ready to be used. They will add fencing around them for safety.

Marvin asked Council about mailing the next per capita distribution, instead of handing them out. Council said that is fine.

ENROLLMENT

Tammy Ford presented three enrollment resolutions:

Resolution #20-51 enrolls Daniel Combs

Resolution #20-52 enrolls Nanalaeya Unalalaya

Resolution #20-53 enrolls Allen Mosier

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Jeremie moved to approve all three enrollees, Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Vicki was not in the room for voting.

Tammy shared that the Tribal ID card has changed. The upcoming KlahCheMin will have an article about the new ID cards. The article will include the history of the hologram that has been added and how the new card will be more widely accepted, including the Casino and TSA.

Veterans Day: Marvin stated that his intention is to provide a short video message from each Council member addressing the tribal veterans. He also would like to provide Squaxin Veteran face masks to all Veterans. Council liked that idea.

TRIBAL LIAISON

Ray gave a quick political update. He also gave an update on the Mohegan pellet plant project on Shelton.

The Mason County Commissioners have been planning on how to handle vaccines and the freezer space needed to handle the quantity of vaccines once developed. He and Marvin have a planning meeting set up with Sharon Trask and will come up with some type of agreement.

Charlene shared several staff members attended a medical training, and she suggested Ray talk to John Taylor about that training and she knows there are tribal members ready to help with that disbursement.

Investments are doing well.

ISLAND ENTERPRISES UPDATE

Dave Johns and Rod Schuffenhauer presented a facility update on Salish Seafoods. Rod shared his "wish list" of equipment for Salish. Included on the wish list is an urgent request for a shell machine.

Vicki would like to table this discussion until the FY21 budgets have been reviewed and approved. Rod would like a quicker answer on his request for the shell machine.

Vicki reiterated that Council needs to review the IEI budget, every year. Kris asked how the shell machine will be paid for. Vicki reiterated her desire to table this until the budget is reviewed. She knows the machine is important, but waiting two more weeks isn't going to

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make a difference. Andy, Jeremie and Vince all believe that Salish needs to get what it needs to have the tools necessary, and figure out the rest later.

Dave asked Council if they would consider approving the shell machine and the upper deck for the sink boat so they can be on the manufacturer's schedule. Charlene supported doing what was expedient to what needed to be done to move the business forward. David was in agreeance. Kris reiterated Vicki's concern of spending money without seeing the budget. Kris is trusting that IEI has the money. however he would like to see the budget at the next meeting.

Vicki asked Richard what the bottom line projection was for Salish for FY21. Richard shared that information. Kris supports this, however he is trusting that IEI has the funds available.

Kris called for a motion to approve these expenses: \$167,000 for the shell machine and \$93,000 for the upper deck, and in a timely manner will review their FY21 budget. Jeremie moved to approve. Andy seconded the motion. Vicki responded and stated that she absolutely supports the safety of employees and support of our clam diggers, and asked that the FY22 budget be submitted to Council by August of 2021. She asked if those are such urgent needs, why is it waiting until the final hour? She is voting no, not because of what it is, but the process that it went. Motion carried five (5) in favor and one (1) against.

Dave assured that he will get the information that Vicki is looking for. Vicki asked that they are following the procurement policy; Kris stated that yes, they have been getting bids and went to Council. Jeremie added that some of these things are only built by one or two people. Vick just wanted to make sure the policy is being followed. Dave Johns added that they do not have multiple bids on the upper deck, because they are using the previous contractor who specializes in just that.

Dave Johns provided an update on the Arcadia parking lot. With the weather coming, they are worried about the timeframe. He is still waiting for an answer regarding privatizing part of the lot. One of the things he's been wanting to ask is if Council would be open to asphalt and striping the parking lot. It would have to wait until spring. The asphalt would eliminate the maintenance and every environmental consideration would be taken. However, asphalt would not be able to be completed until late spring, at the earliest. Jeremie would like to see some type of assistance on the maintenance of the ramp, by those who use it commercially. He does not want to charge the sport fishers, but asked about an agreement with Taylors and other companies. Dave mentioned that years ago, Taylors donated that property to the tribe, in exchange for the use of it.

Vicki asked about geoduck distributions. She would like to discuss that at the next board meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.