

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 24, 2005

Attendance:

Tribal Council	David Lopeman, Chairman Andy Whitener, Vice Chairman Vince Henry, Sr., Secretary Patti Puhn, Treasurer Paula Henry, 1 st Council Member Charlene Krise, 3 rd Council Member
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Executive Director	Ray Peters
Deputy Executive Director	Donald E. Whitener
Recording Secretary	J. Ruby Fuller
Legal	Kevin Lyon

Andy Whitener offered the opening prayer. Dave Lopeman called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

MINUTES/AGENDA

The minutes of February 10 and the phone poll minutes of February 17, 2005 were tabled until after lunch. *(The minutes were not taken from the table.)*

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

Ray Peters will be attending the **NCAI Executive Council Winter Session 2005** in Washington, D. C. **February 28 – March 2.**

The **Council Work Session** will be **March 13-17** at Quinault Resort at Ocean Shores

NATO will be held in Las Vegas **March 29-31.** Andy and Dave Lopeman plan to attend.

Patti Puhn, Paula Henry-Krise and Charlene Krise plan to attend the **Wellness and Women's XII Conference** in San Diego, **April 3-7.** They will be renting a vehicle to visit other tribes.

Andy Whitener, Dave Lopeman and Ray Peters plan to attend **NIGA** on **April 10 – 13** in San Diego. Charlene Krise and Patti Puhn have been asked to assist with curriculum development.

The **Second Work Session** which will include the Casino, Island Enterprises and the Museum is scheduled for **April 26, 27 and 28** at Coeur d'Alene Resort.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS *(Continued)*

Andy Whitener and Ray Peters will attend the **2005 Tribal Self-Governance Conference** in San Diego **May 2-6**.

Representatives from the Natural Resources Department will be attending the **NTEC 12th Annual Conference** in Green Bay, **May 3-5**.

Senator Patty Murray's **Golden Tennis Shoe Awards** fundraiser will be held May 6 in Seattle. Charlene Krise and Paula Krise would like to attend.

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Donation Request: The Quinault Indian nation is having the 150 year Treaty Celebration from July 1 – 5, 2005. Pearl Capoean Baller, President of the Quinault Nation asked for a donation of oysters and steamer clams. Council agreed to donate 12 gallons of oysters and 200 pounds of clams.

Fuel Litigation: Dave Lopeman reported on the meeting that he and Kelly Croman had with one of the attorneys general regarding the fuel litigation.

WSLCB: Andy Whitener and Ray Peters and Dave Lopeman met with Merrit Long the Chairman of the Washington State Liquor Control Board. They are working toward better relationship between staff of the WSLCB and tribal enterprises.

Council also approved the \$1,000.00 political donation to Maria Cantwell.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Revenue Allocation Plan: Kevin Lyon presented **Resolution #05-26** approving the adoption of an amendment to the Budget Ordinance and to the Revenue Allocation Plan authorizing gaming revenues of up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per year (including \$500,000.00 for per capita payments) to be distributed with the remainder to special programs and projects other than as presently allocated in the Budget Ordinance and Revenue Allocation Plan. The amendment to the Revenue Allocation Plan must be approved by the Dept of Interior. The Department of Interior will have 60 days to approve or disapprove.

Andy Whitener made motion to approve **Resolution #05-26**. Patti seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against. This resolution modifies our budget code.

Ray Maldonado from the Bureau of Indian Affairs was present and signed the Certification of Governmental Action. The proposed amendment, resolution and certificate were immediately forwarded to the BIA, Washington D. C. for review and approval.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE *(Continued)*

Request for nomination: Ray Peters asked Council to consider nominating someone to be included in a book to be published in 2005 identifying **100 outstanding American Indian Women**.

Court: The Mary Johns Room is now used when Court is convened. Robbin Rhoades requested that court sessions be held in the Council Chambers. Council agreed to “give it a try” for a three-month period and then evaluate.

Fireworks: Thunder Fireworks has requested permission to put a satellite warehouse on Casino property during fireworks season. This request will be referred to the Fireworks Committee.

15 Passenger Vans: The insurance company no longer will cover the 15 passenger vans. One may be sold to Island Enterprises Inc. to be used as a cargo van. Transportation will be getting a 20 passenger bus.

Meeting: There will be a Housing meeting Friday, March 4, 9:00 a.m. until noon. In conjunction with the Housing meeting, Brian Thompson and Mark Allen need some time on the agenda.

SHELLFISH COMMITTEE

Julie Owen reported on the recent Shellfish Committee meeting. The Committee approved a motion to ask Council to have Law Enforcement “bump up” security on the island to protect the enhancement efforts that have been completed.

Chief Robbin Rhoades reported that he has assigned one officer to Natural Resources and that he is adjusting his schedule to coincide with the low tides.

Dave said that Council would come up with something to help this situation within the next 6 weeks.

The Shellfish Committee also asked Council to prohibit one of the buyers from buying shellfish from the tribe or its members until his debt to the tribe is paid. Council agreed. The Legal Department will draft a letter to go out to tribal members. Andy stated that a good “Buyers Ordinance” is needed and that Buyers need to have a license from the Tribe.

VETERAN’S MEMORIAL UPDATE

Glen Parker gave an update on the Veteran’s Memorial. The Committee decided that the Memorial will include the names of tribal members and tribal member spouses only. The site selected is the area between the Elders Center and the Museum. He further reported that the memorial account has been established.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL UPDATE *(Continued)*

Glen asked what the lifespan of the Veterans' Memorial Committee would be and will it last once the Memorial is complete. The Council would like to see the Committee continue.

Ray asked about a color guard. Glen said the Veterans Committee had met with another organization and may join with them.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO/HOTEL UPDATE

Doug Boon reported on the trip to visit the Leach Lake Band to learn more about their Career Development Program.

LEGAL

Contract extension: Kevin Lyon requested approval of an extension through FY 2006 of Phil Katzen's contract for fuel litigation. Council agreed by consensus.

ENROLLMENT

The individuals listed below applied for membership in the Squaxin Island Tribe. The Enrollment Clerk considered the information available and the information provided by the applicant and recommended that the evidence presented by the applicants, namely the 1900 and 1910 Census and the elder testimony of Fame Rankin, was in fact inconsistent with information otherwise available to the Enrollment Clerk and did not warrant a finding that the blood quantum known to the Tribe was in error, and discussed options for approving or disapproving the applications and the effect of each.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action taken: The Tribal Council considered further the argument of the applicants and the conflicting evidence and determined that it was consistent with the Tribe's long practice of interpreting records in a manner most favorable to Native Americans, that the inconsistencies in the record were sufficient to raise doubt about the accuracy of the record, and that it was in the best interest of the Tribe to err on the side of inclusion rather than exclusion and to accept the applicants as having met the requisite blood quantum.

Resolution #05-27: The Tribal Council accepts the following applicants for enrollment into the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Kelli J. (Vanderwal) Dahman
Jon Kenneth Vanderwal
Erik Jason Johnson

Resolution #05-27: (Continued)

Traci Jo (Johnson) VanMechelen
Jonie R. Strobe
Barbara L. (Strobe) Knudsen
Pattie L. (Strobe) Riley
Buck Gene Clark Jr.
Carmen D. (Clark) Varela
Corri C. (Carlson) Coleman
Mathew Anthony Valdes
Juana Cherati R. Nelson
Dorothy May Nelson
Jasmine Anne Nelson
Alan Steehler

Charlene Krise moved to approve the enrollment and directed Legal to prepare and return with a resolution expressing the enrollment at the next Council meeting. See **Resolution #05-27**. Patti seconded motion carried 4 for and 0 against with one abstention.

TRIBAL MEMBER CONCERNS

Terry Capoeman asked that when signs are going to be installed in various places that the Heritage Committee be contacted beforehand. She found the logo on the Tobacco Company sign offensive.

Terry Capoeman also asked for donation for canoe family dinner. Council agreed to donate \$500 for the canoe family dinner.

Sally Heath from Outpatient Center introduced some visitors from Alaska.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.