

**SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUINCIL
MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2005**

Attendance:

Tribal Council	Jim Peters, Chairman
	Andy Whitener Vice Chairman
	Vince Henry, Sr. Secretary
	Patti Puhn Treasurer
	Will Penn 1 st Council Member
	Pete Kruger, 2 nd Council Member
	Charlene Krise, 3 rd Council Member
Executive Director	Ray Peters
Deputy Executive Director	David Whitener Sr.
Recording Secretary	J. Ruby Fuller
Legal	Kevin Lyon

Jim Peters called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and offered the opening prayer.

MINUTES/AGENDA

Oath of office: Andy asked Council to consider taking an **Oath of Office**. It was recalled that Rhonda Foster had participated in this. Ray will contact Rhonda and report to Council with a plan for a "swearing in" ceremony.

Community Member Concern: A Community tribal member brought an ICW Concern to Council. The matter will be looked into and someone will get back to the Tribal Member.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

ATNI will be held in **Tacoma, May 16 -18** at the Sheraton Hotel, Ray, Andy and Pete will be attending. Ray will also be attending the **Tribal Trust Reform and Legislative Meeting** in Olympia on **May 19**.

The **NCAI Conference** will be held **June 12 -13** in **Green Bay**. Andy W., Vince H., and Ray Peters plan to attend.

The **Washington Tribal Economic Summit** will be held at the **Quinault Beach Resort, August 21-24**. Ray Peters and Pete Kruger plan to attend.

TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS *(Continued)*

On **Monday, May 16 the Governor's Office** is requesting a **Planning** meeting. Jim Peters and Robbin Rhoades will attend.

Council directed Ray Peters to attend the symposium "**Sovereignty in Crises**" in **Las Vegas on May 26 – 27.**

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

Drug Screening: Jim Peters instructed all Council members to have the drug testing completed by Wednesday of next week. Patti Puhn will provide the necessary paperwork for drug testing.

SquiGwi: Council approved by consensus to donate 4 gallons of oysters to the SquiGwi dinner.

Boats on Squaxin Island: Jim Peters asked to be updated on the status of the boats that are on Squaxin Island. He was informed that the boat owners have been contacted and had agreed to remove them from the Island but have not followed through. Per Council direction the boat owners are to be notified that if they have not been removed by the end of 60 days, Council will hire a contractor to remove the boats

NWIFC: The former Chairman was planning to host a meeting with NWIFC to discuss hiring procedures. The Commission has set up a meeting tomorrow to address the issues involved. The meeting will be held here.

Chairman's philosophy: The new Council Chairman, Jim Peters offered his philosophy on being Chairman. Jim stated he will post his office hours and will have a calendar outside his office so that those interested can see what his schedule is.

Jim stated that he would like to know the issues in which each council member is interested.

Jim further stated the he will work with staff to make sure there is adequate time for presentations and that he wants to make sure Council has all the information needed in order to make good decisions.

Jim also stated that the agenda needs to be clear and show action items; that each person's views should be respected. He went on to say that Council's policies and vision should reflect that of the Tribe and that he wants to include many people as possible in the decision making process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action to be taken:

1. Council would like to have an assessment of salaries across tribal government to find disparities and/or inequities. An outside entity is to be used to complete the assessment.
2. Ray is to return with a policy on *Leave to serve as full-time paid elected official*.
3. Set the starting salary for the new Council Chairman based on prior council experience. Council would like to see how comparable we are to other tribes.

Council resumed its regular meeting at 11:30 a.m.

PLANNING

Resolutions: Brian Thompson, Planning Director, presented **Resolution 05 – 48**, which authorizes the preparation and submittal of a grant application to the Department of Justice for the FY05 Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grant Program for up to \$300,000 over a three year period. Andy Whitener moved and Charlene Krise seconded to approve the resolution. The motion carried 6 in favor and 0 against. Brian noted that there was a companion grant application approved at last meeting for a drug court. No matching funds are required.

The second resolution for Council approval was **Resolution 05-49** which approves Change Three to the Eligibility, Admissions and Occupancy Policy of the Housing and Utilities Commission. Patti Puhn moved to approve the resolution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion carried 6 in favor and 0 against.

Grants Status Report: Brian gave a report on the grants that are pending and where they are in the process.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Treaty Based Income: Julie Owen provided council with a report on **Treaty-Based Income** and a Standard Deduction Allowance Schedule with two standard deduction allowance percentages (see attachment "A") to be used by the Housing Commission in reporting income.

Andy made a motion to approve. There was discussion. Andy withdrew his motion.

NATURAL RESOURCES *(Continued)*

Patti made a motion to approve the **Standard Deduction Allowance Policy** using the higher percentages listed. Pete seconded the motion. The motion carried 6 in favor 0 against.

Break for lunch

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Child Development Center entrance beautification: Ray Peters reported that Mike Poier has spoken with some landscaping companies to have the entrance to the Child Development Center Landscaped and should be able to have the work done within the next 30 days. Cement blocks will close off access to the vacant lot. It was noted that someone needs to be responsible for maintaining the landscaping.

Training session: Ray reported that the Legal Department has put together a Resource Guide for Council and that there will be a Council Training Session scheduled.

Property Acquisition: Ray reported on property acquisition activities.

Health Services Meeting: The Region 10 Health and Human Services meeting will be held at Quinault Resort,

Turning Pointe: Rob Wilson-Hoss, President of the Board of Directors and other officers of Turning Pointe, a non profit agency made a presentation to Council about the facility they are seeking funds to build. They are asking for a significant contribution from the Squaxin Island Tribe. Mason County does not have shelter for domestic violence survivors and their families.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO/HOTEL UPDATE

Financial: Doug Boon gave a preliminary financial report for April. Doug said he believed the name *Island grill* has missed the mark. He believes it should be renamed.

SHELTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Early College High School: Several people arrived at the Council Meeting to speak with Council and offer their support for the Shelton Early College High School Native Studies Initiative for Native Youth. College courses are free to students. When students graduate they also have an AA degree or many college credits. The funds for this project are from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Ford Foundation, also the Carnegie Foundation.

SHELTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Early College High School: (Continued)

Dawn Stevens from Shelton High School reported that eight schools now participate and that 260 students are taking courses. They are now focusing on the 11th and 12th grades but plan to include lower grades.

Other members of the group spoke briefly about the program.

Jim asked about the transferability of course credits. Olympic College has accepted the credits and they are working on acceptance from Northwest Indian College and maybe The Evergreen State College.

They would like people from community to be guest speakers, mentors, role models. They are in the process of getting teachers that are interested, making sure they are accredited.

LITTLE CREEK CASINO/HOTEL UPDATE (Continued)

Andy made a motion to approve the terms of Bank of America in order to obtain a line of credit for future expansion. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. There was discussion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against. Charlene was not in attendance.

Pete then made a motion to approve the construction of the expansion of the gaming floor and gift shop. Vince seconded the motion the motion carried 6 in favor and 0 against.

Council approved Doug Boon's request to attend a meeting on casino design at the end of next month.

ISLAND ENTERPRISES

Skookum Creek Tobacco: Bryan Johnson reported on the cigarette sales for Skookum Creek Tobacco. Bryan asked for council to help other tribes implement their program. Jim and Andy agreed to help.

Vocational and management training programs. Bryan would like to start exploring vocational and management training programs.

Skookum Creek Tobacco will need to link up with Natural Resources in order to lessen the impacts of contaminants in the creeks around the Tobacco Factory.

Restrooms: The restrooms beside the HUB have been shut down. The restroom in the store is available. There will be an open air market beside the HUB Visitor Center. Word will go out to tribal community that they will be able to sell their wares.

LEGAL

Kevin asked Council to bring their Resource Guide notebooks to the training session on June 17.

Kevin provided copies of three codes: Chapter 9.20, Public Health and Welfare Code; Chapter 2.20 Tribal Employment Rights; Chapter 9.14 Probation and Parole.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.