

# Squaxin Island Tribal Council

## Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2005

### Attendance:

<b>Tribal Council</b>	<b>Jim Peters,</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Andy Whitener,</b>	<b>Vice Chairman (absent in afternoon)</b>
	<b>Vince Henry, Sr.,</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
	<b>Patti Puhn,</b>	<b>Treasurer (Absent in a.m.)</b>
	<b>Will Penn,</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Pete Kruger,</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Council Member</b>
	<b>Charlene Krise</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Council Member</b>
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Ray Peters</b>	
<b>Deputy Executive Director</b>	<b>David Whitener, Sr.</b>	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>J. Ruby Fuller</b>	
<b>Legal</b>	<b>Kevin Lyon</b>	

Jim Peters called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. Charlene Krise offered the opening prayer.

### MINUTES/AGENDA

Pete Kruger moved to approve the agenda. Vince Henry seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against.

Andy moved to approve the November 17 minutes and the November 22 and November 29 special phone poll minutes. Charlene seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 in favor and 0 against.

### TRAVEL REPORTS AND PLANS

All staff **Christmas Party** will be held in the LCCR Showroom beginning at 10:00 a.m. December 22.

**Native Leadership Forum** will be held **January 9–11, 2006** in Honolulu. Pete Kruger and Ray Peters plan to attend.

The **ATNI Economic Summit** will be held **March 28-30** at the Wildhorse Casino Resort in Pendleton. Jim Peters, Pete Kruger, Charlene Krise and Ray Peters plan to attend.

Also coming up soon is the **ATNI Winter Conference, February 7-10** in Portland, OR; The **NCAI Executive Conference February 27– March 1** in Washington, D. C. and a **Self Governance Budget Formulation Meeting, January 10-11** in Las Vegas.

Approved 2/23/06

## CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

**Mason County League of Women Voters:** Jim Peters reported that the Mason County League of Women Voters is creating a directory of elected officials and is requesting the names of the Council in this directory. Council agreed by consensus. (*Patti Puhn was contacted later in the day*)

**Firewood for elders:** Council discussed the possibility of providing firewood for the elders. Ray will look into what the cost would be to buy firewood for that purpose.

**Children's Conference:** Charlene Krise gave a brief report on the What about the Children conference at Lummi.

**Committee Appointment:** Council appointed Rose Krise as an alternate member on the Fish Committee.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

**Property Acquisition Update:** Ray Peters gave a brief property acquisition update and that they are moving forward with on-island acquisition.

## LEGAL

Kevin Lyon reported that he had examined the records of the enrollment resolutions since Council adopted Resolution #04-49 and the October, 2004 Council Meeting minutes.

**Resolution #04-49** states "...the treaty harvest privilege for fish and shellfish (including but not limited to clams, oysters and geoduck) and per capita and dividend payments for new enrollees, other than those born to or adopted by a current tribal member, shall be suspended for five years from the date of his or her enrollment.

The October 2004 minutes pertaining to enrollment state "...new tribal members who transfer into the tribe be required to wait two years for education benefits." There was discussion as to what Council's intention was with regard to **Resolution #04-49**. Kevin Lyon will draft a resolution

## PLANNING

**Award:** Ken Bowering from HUD presented Council with an award for "Best Practices and Innovation." He gave a power point presentation featuring the Tribe's vision and strategic planning. He said that Squaxin has done a good job of leveraging; the Tribe has broadband; a transit program. He went on to say that having a vision seems to be a critical element. To date over 120 housing units have been built. He ended the presentation saying that there may be other tribes that do their planning and

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## **PLANNING** *(Continued)*

implementation as well as the Squaxin Tribe but none do it better. Theresa Henderson will be instructed to write an article for the Kla-che-min Newsletter

## **LEGAL**

Kevin Lyon reported that as of this date 34 members are on the 5-year wait list. Kevin asked Council to whom they wanted the 5-year wait to apply and if relinquishment from another tribe or shopping for a tribe was what they were looking for. There was discussion regarding children not being able to make the decision of relinquishing from or shopping for a tribe. Charlene made a motion to make the Squaxin Tribal members under the 18 years eligible for per capita and dividend distribution effective with the next distribution. Pete Kruger seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 against with one abstention. *(Legal Department will prepare a resolution for council approval.)*

## **ELDERS' REQUESTS**

Glen Parker reported to Council that the Elders have two requests for Council. The first request is for permission to have a silent auction at the general body meeting. Council approved having the silent auction but reiterated that something of this nature should always be for tribal benefit.

Glen then presented Council with a Business plan for a latte business. The Senior Coordinator owns the equipment and will allow the elders to use it. If approved, volunteers will be needed to work the stand. Jim Peters, Chairman asked Kevin Lyon to draft an agreement.

## **LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT UPDATE**

**Bonuses:** By consensus Council approved bonuses for LCCR employees based on time served.

Doug Boon presented conceptual drawings and actual plans for the Event Center *(Tobacco Factory remodel)*.

**Financial Report:** Doug presented financial reports for September and October.

**Construction Costs:** Doug is still negotiating dollar amounts for construction contracts for the Event Center. He expects costs to be refigured since he decided to contract out the sound and seating.

Approved 2/23/06

## **LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT UPDATE** *(Continued)*

Doug stated that he received an offer from another architect but that he wants to use Ambia and Korsmo. He also said there is a need for someone to do a master plan and that he recommends doing it sooner rather than later. More confirmation is needed from the lender. Some adjustments need to be made. They may be ready to move forward the first of January. He would like council approval

The event center will be a non-smoking area. The spa would be included.

**Island Grill remodel:** Doug presented plans for Island Grill. Plans are to create a seafood bar and to go to a more casual motif. He would like to do this last week of February and the first of March.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Rhonda Foster and Larry Ross presented the programmatic agreement with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the Dept. of Agriculture and the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Rhonda said they have an agreement with the Department of Transportation, but this would be the first programmatic agreement with NRCS. Charlene made a motion to approve the programmatic agreement subject to Legal review. Vince seconded the motion. The motion carried 5 for and 0 against.

Rhonda said she would be willing to do a celebration here. Jim told Rhonda to contact the Mason and Thurston Conservation Commissions.

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Connie Whitener explained that Medicare Part A covers hospital stays, Part B is for doctor visits and that the new Medicare Part D is for pharmaceuticals. She said that it is very new and confusing. If a tribal member has insurance that is better than or equal to Medicare Part D, then Medicare Part D coverage is not needed. If the tribal member has no insurance or the insurance coverage doesn't equal Medicare Part D then Health and Human Services wants to get those people covered and would most likely pay the premium.

## TRIBAL MEMBER REQUEST

**Request for exclusion modification:** A tribal member asked for modification to an exclusion order so that he could have access to tribal properties. Jim Peters told him that it is a court matter and that Council does not have authority to modify the court order. The tribal member has access to the clinic and to Natural Resources.

## EDUCATION

**Pizza Social:** Kim Cooper and Walt Archer from the Education Department invited Tribal Council to a pizza social and discussion about education with tribal high-school students, grades 9-12 on Wednesday, December 14 at 5:00 p.m.

They also let Council know there would be a "Christmas tree raising" tomorrow, December 9 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

**Youth Christmas Party:** The Youth Christmas Party on December 16, 2005.

**Meeting:** Kim is working to schedule a meeting with the Shelton School District Board of Directors, Tribal Council and the Education Department and will look for dates in January for Council to meet with school board

**List of High School Seniors:** Kim has put together a list of seniors; 10 tribal members and 2 descendants. Of those 12, four will be graduating (3 tribal members 1 descendant). Two are working on their GED. One is not attending and for five it is unknown.

Will Penn would like a report on grades 9-12.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Patti made a motion to approve the changes to Little Creek Casino Resort's Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. Charlene seconded the motion the motion was approved 5 in favor and 0 against.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Approved 2/23/06