

Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

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PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBAL COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - INCOMING Tribal Chambers ~ Nixon, NV January 4, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anthony Sampson Sr., Tribal Chairman

Alan Mandell, Vice Chairman

Janet Davis

John Guerrero

Judith Davis

William Miller

Nathan Dunn

Sharon Shaw-Keever

Sherry Ely-Mendes

Michele Smith

Following adjournment of the outgoing Pyramid Lake Tribal Council, the incoming Tribal Council, Anthony Sampson Sr., Alan Mandell, Judith Davis, Sherry Ely-Mendes, William Miller and Michele Smith were sworn into office by Christopher Parson, PLPT Police Chief.

CALL TO ORDER

Tribal Chairman Anthony Sampson Sr., called the January 4, 2019, Regular meeting of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council (Incoming) to order at 6:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Brenda A. Henry, Tribal Secretary. All Councilmembers were present at roll call and a quorum was established for this meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Janet Davis made a motion to *approve the agenda*. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion. Votes were **nine (9)** for and **zero (0)** opposed with **zero (0)** abstentions. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leona Collins. Ms. Collins congratulated the newly seated Council and asked that there be more interaction with the Tribal Council and to remember they represent the membership. In regards to the Council passing the 2019 budget earlier and to departments having to take cuts, the Council will have an issue bringing the budget back in line again but there are resources out there and the Council will have a lot to do. A few years back there was mention of transparency and has since

gotten foggy. She doesn't think there is transparency on Council anymore and needs to be brought back so the membership is informed. For Chairman Sampson Sr., she would like to see the Directors meetings again, after Council meetings or once a month. Chairman Sampson Sr., assured Ms. Collins that transparency needs to be the Tribal Council's foremost duty, that he needs to take the Tribal Council on tour, meaning they would go to each community to see what they need to do to help them. Tribal Council needs to be an open book and they need the information from the people. As far as the budgets it will be his duty to see what they can bring to light in regards to transparency. He understands programs will suffer and he needs to understand why. If there is anything this Council can do for the people then they will do what they can for the people.

Rosemary Joe Kinale. Ms. Kinale congratulated the new Tribal Council and is glad the Tribal Council will be going to the communities because they have been complaining about Sutcliffe for a long time. The community building has totally deteriorated and needs to be demolished and replaced with a mobile building. They also have issues with the water that comes down from the mountains, flooding and damaging the road. We need to be looking at Pyramid Lake to be bringing in finances for the Tribe. Chairman Sampson Sr. commented that it has gotten back to Tribal Council multiple times that the infrastructure of the communities, the Tribal Council needs to look at it and find out what they need. That's part of restructuring, will have community meetings where the members can convey what is needed in each area. He knows they need economic development and that is what Numu Inc is looking at but they still have the Tribal Enterprises that they need to be revised and brought back to life, but it's going to take the Council to agree that they need to do that. They need to concentrate on the unity of the Tribe.

Michelle Ruize. Ms. Ruize congratulated the new Tribal Council. She commented on transparency for Numu Inc. It's not listed on the board in the lobby with all the other committees and it's a serious matter to members when they are discussing their financial policies, and changing the governing documents in favor of Numu Inc. She was told they had their meetings during the day, those meetings should be held in front of the Tribal people, it shouldn't be a secret, there's nothing to hide but it seems the public is not invited to the Numu Inc.

Chairman Sampson Sr., commented that he remembered when Chairman Burke took Tribal Council to the different communities to address different concerns because each community is different as far as law enforcement, infrastructure of safety, safe guard walks for children, and the buildings, we need more.

To answer Mr. Mix's question regarding Numu Inc., he is going to look into it and get back to him on what Numu Inc can do for them

Cassandra Darrough. Ms. Darrough congratulated the new Council members and stated it was an honored and privilege to be seated on Council and to take part in some of the actions they had in economic development. She was appointed as the ex-officio Tribal Council representative on the board of directors for Numu Inc. The initial meeting was held on December 17th, they had quarterly meetings and she can assure Council and the Community that now that they've had one year of strategic planning on all seven components of the economic development plan inside and out. And the next phase is coming out to the community, educating the community, meeting and introducing themselves and telling them what Numu Inc. is for and how it will provide benefit to

all tribal members and the Tribe. And the strategies will take place and the members will have input on what will be taking place. Her role as an ex-officio member was to not have a vote on the board of directors but to be a liaison between Numu Inc. and Tribal Council, so there is a separation between the political end of the Council and to be able to operate on the business side of all things in economic development. She wanted to remind the Council to appoint the ex-officio Tribal Council to Numu Inc. Their meetings are 8+ hours when they meet, they are public but at this time they will be rolling out the community meetings and would like to see Tribal Council in attendance if they are able. There is no secrecy around Numu Inc., there's just been a lot of work to get Numu Inc., off the ground to get the infrastructure in place so they can do the work that WILL to benefit the Tribe and tribal members.

James Phoenix. Mr. Phoenix commented the Tribal Council is the driving force and they need to make the hard decisions for the Tribe and members. Since he lives in Sutcliff his main concern is the Sutcliff community.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Selection Tax Commission (1 vacancy).

Chairman Sampsons Sr. encourages the community to put in for vacancies when there are openings on committees and boards.

Tribal Council voted by ballot for three (3) applicants for the one vacancy on the Tax Commission: Sherry Ely-Mendes, Carla Molino, and Brian Wadsworth. With five (5) votes Carla Molino was chosen by Tribal Council to fill the vacancy on the Tax Commission. Sherry Ely-Mendes received two (2) votes and Brian Wadsworth received one (1) vote.

2. Approval Wadsworth Multipurpose Cultural & Wellness Center ICDBG Resolution. Johnnie Garcia, Transportation Planning & Wadsworth Gym Committee Chairman

Mr. Garcia provided an overview of the Wadsworth Multipurpose Cultural & Wellness Center. The grant is due on Monday, January 7th and the resolution tonight is an updated version. On November 16, 2018, the Tribal entered into a Contract with Resource Associates to develop a ICDBG Application. The contract called for the Tribe to pay Resource Associates \$5,500 for the writing of the grant. A letter was read from J. Guerrero regarding needing a place for youth to hang out in Wadsworth. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development is accepting applications for the Indian Community Development Block Grant and the maximum amount the Tribe can apply for is \$800,000. There is no match required for this grant. The center will include basketball court, meeting rooms, a kitchen, and wellness center. It can also be used as an emergency shelter during future disasters. The total cost estimate of \$4.6 million for the total construction cost for the building. With the grant of \$800,000, there is a need for additional funding. An option is a USDA loan to borrow funds for the development of Community Facilities but the maximum the Tribe can apply for is \$75,000. The disadvantages of the a loan is the term of the payment is long and the interest cost to the Tribe over the length of the loan is significant. The next option is the preferred option which is to access the Economic Development Plan (EDP) fund, apply for the \$800,000 grant and work with the EDP to access \$1,416,912 per year from the EDP

fund, complete the project over 3 years. The work will begin with the property work and engineering planning and construction will begin in year 2 & 3. While the Tribe would use the EDP fund to cover the construction and they would request Council designate a group of people to work together to identify private funds to use to offset the cost of construction. Because of delay in submitting the grant, work on engineering, construction will not begin until 2020. Project completion date is expected to be in the Fall of 2022.

Councilmember Janet Davis said that she is in contact with the Native American Girls & Boys Club, they would just have to apply and it would open the door to more funding. Councilmember Dunn stated that it may be restricted, they only pertain to those groups and not everyone else in the community.

Vice Chairman Mandell stated that it's a great idea and to start the process and fine tune it because at the end of the day we're not sure if we're going to receive the \$800,000 to start. We can at least start the project and it's a good model for the other communities. There are resources out there that we can access and we need to be more active with our banking partners that we can potentially leverage funds from and there's the diabetes program we can possibly get assistance from.

Mr. Garcia commented that with access to the economic development funds, they can request those funds.

Councilmember Judith Davis asked if this resolution was only for the ICDBG Grant and not for the USDA loan. Mr. Garcia confirmed it is for the ICDBG Grant submission. Councilmember Davis asked about the ninth WHEREAS, there is no match for this requirement but in-kind leverages in the amount of \$948,431 are to be contributed, is that after the grant is received? Mr. Garcia answered in this project there are two portions 1 is building a parking lot and for an infrastructure and those are going to be paid for by that \$948,431 and those are through the Transportation program. Councilmember Davis had one more question which was on the NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, the last sentence is to utilize general funds derived from the IDC on all grants & contracts to pay for O & M Costs, would we need to have that on this resolution? Mr. Garcia stated they want to know that the building is going to be maintained. Councilmember Davis had one more question, the \$5,500.00 was for the association resources to develop the grant and were paid already? Mr. Garcia answered that was already contracted.

Mr. Garcia commented the rooms haven't been designated out yet with the assistance in funding from the Sumunumu program, there will always be someone in the building.

Councilmember Guerrero commented that they really need to support because funeral support requirement in the community.

Councilmember Miller spoke about checking out the Boys and Girls club vendor when they were at NCAI and it's good for the kids.

Councilmember Judith Davis made a motion *to approve the Wadsworth Multipurpose Cultural & Wellness Center ICDGB Resolution*. Councilmember Dunn seconded the motion. Votes were nine (9)

forward because it is one of the main economic development funding they receive but they can do better.

Councilmember Dunn commented with all the Christian schools popping up, they are excelling way better than we are now and we need to step up our game, that's why he submitted his name for the school board.

Mark Mix, newly elected member of the Pyramid Lake High School Board of Directors, introduced himself, he grew up in Nixon and graduated from Pyramid Lake. His vision is for the students to graduate and have the confidence to want to become a leader for the Tribe and to have the academics to be on par with the state.

Chairman Sampson Sr. asked for a consensus for the January 17, 2019 workshop regarding NextEra from 10 am to 4:30 p.m. Tribal Council gave their consensus regarding the workshop.

Rosemary Joe Kinale requested that the minutes and budget be placed on the website. Vice Chairman Mandell responded that only the approved documents are to be posted.

Lynda Ciceu, Comptroller, commented that part of the government shutdown includes the Department of the Interior. We are in a holding pattern right now, we have enough funds but will need to relook at it if the shutdown continues. Councilmember Dunn asked does that affect Social Services, anyone who gets IGA. Ms. Ciceu answered only if they don't have the funding but she thinks they're ok right now. They did draw down some funds that they didn't give us yet because they're not in the office. Vice Chairman Mandell asked what departments will be impacted if this shutdown continues? Ms. Ciceu answered the programs that will be affected first are the ones who get reimbursements.

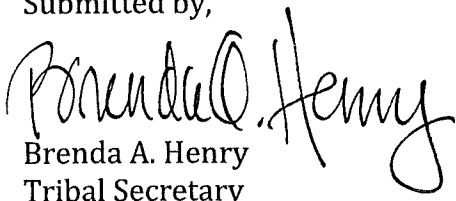
Chairman Sampson Sr., commented that he will no longer use the gavel as long as the public is respectful, they will listen to the community's concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Tribal Council, Councilmember Ely-Mendes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dunn. Votes taken were all in favor, **motion carried.**

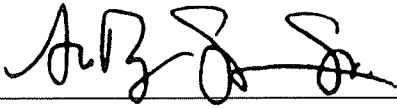
The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Submitted by,


Brenda A. Henry
Tribal Secretary

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing minutes were adopted by the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council, governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, at a meeting duly held on the 1st day of February, 2019, having nine (9) members present, constituting a quorum, by the vote of eight (8) FOR and zero (0) OPPOSED with zero (0) ABSTENTIONS.

Minutes attested and concurred by: 
Anthony Sampson Sr., Tribal Chairman
Pyramid Lake Tribal Council

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