

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

My name is **Clifford W. Case Sr.**, and I am asking you to vote me onto the Siletz Tribal Council this coming February.

For those of you who do not know me, my tribal affiliation is through my grandmother, Ethel Logan. Her son, Clifford, was my father, and my mother was an enrolled Yakima from Washington state.

I had the good fortune to be elected by you, my tribe, to Council in 1996. I also had the misfortune to be recalled in 1998. Looking back on my past tenure, I can truthfully say I was a good Councilperson and did my job well. I listened to my people and represented them to the very best of my ability.

Our tribe is based on a two-party system, much like our United States government. The political job of each party is to represent themselves to the people as being the best. Unfortunately, that often means pointing out the errors of the other party, and things get personal very fast when doing so. That is politics!

Since the recall, the present Council continues to make all the same moves and mistakes that have plagued our tribe for years. Our clinic was at one time a big moneymaker and now services are being cut. Our casino is only a few years old and has already been refinanced twice and renovations seem to be endless. Our cash flow last year was around \$53 million but only \$1.5 million came back to the tribe. Where is the money going? Our programs are being cut and nothing is being done to develop our resources. Finally, the Salem property is being developed, but it has taken years. What I'm trying to say is **it's time for a change!**

We need some new and fresh decision-makers. All the decisions being made continue to pull us down. Our elders are in need of care and housing. We need an elder care facility. We need to subsidize our school here in Siletz to make it



Clifford W. Case Sr.

better for our children. We need our administration audited and put out to the people in layman's terms so we can understand what is happening to our money. **Nothing changes! Why?**

Think about it for a moment please. Nothing is changing because you the people are not changing it. Every year the same leadership is put back into power and has been there for 16 years. When you cast your vote this year, vote for a change.

They say politicians should not make promises. We have been promised good things for years and yet here we are stagnating while other tribes move upward and onward. Well, my people, I will make you a promise. I promise to you that if I am elected, I will faithfully work with my fellow constituents for the betterment of our people. We need to make changes now! We can only do this by voting to change the prevailing Tribal Council majority. It is time to move forward.

Thank you for your vote, I can and will work for you to the best of my ability.

C.W. Case Sr.

Pat Duncan

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Dear Tribal Members:

My previous service to the people of our tribe as a Tribal Council member is due to your support, and I am again asking for your support in the 2001 election. My record shows that I have listened to your concerns and have acted accordingly. I take pride in knowing every one of my decisions was based on what I believed to be in the best interest of our tribe as a whole.

Tribal Council lack of accountability and disclosure, especially when it comes to the financial security of our tribe's assets, is not acceptable. Tribal members have the right to know and determine how their money is being spent. There were a number of community meetings and opportunities for input into the Gaming Distribution Plan; yet there was no opportunity for the membership to vote on the final plan, which, in fact, virtually ignored the membership's input.

In reviewing the plan, it is clear to see that the Tribal Council, in one year, has used over five times as much money as used for the general welfare of the membership. And, how could the Tribal Council spend over \$2,000,000 in 1999 while our members are being denied health care? How much has the Tribal Council spent in FY 2000 while our members are still being denied health care? Policies should be enacted to have budget hearings with full disclosure and approval by the membership of major tribal expenditures.

I propose that the Tribal Council place restrictions on its spending if any tribal member is in jeopardy of being denied basic benefits, especially in health care and education. It has been reported that, in 1999, "the total cost of wages for Tribal Council members



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was \$81,217.16, or an average of \$9,024.12 per Council member." Yet, there is still over \$1,900,000 unaccounted for that the Tribal Council spent in 1999. Was it used primarily for travel? When I served previously on the Tribal Council, we carefully reviewed all travel, cutting unnecessary trips and limiting Tribal Council representation to one or two to attend meetings considered to be important to our tribe. Over the last two years, the usual practice has been to allow the entire Tribal Council to travel to the same meetings, along with a number of staff. How can these junkets be justified when our people are doing without?

Tribal members must ask permission to record Tribal Council meetings. This policy of secrecy must cease. Moreover, tapes should be available to the membership immediately after the meetings upon request. Non-verbatim minutes of Tribal Council meetings are sent out, upon request, quarterly. By the time the membership knows what is going on, it is old news, and the interpretation of discussion is at the whim of the secretary transcribing the meeting. I propose that the Tribal Council minutes be transcribed verbatim and available immediately upon approval. They could also be posted to the tribe's Web site.

(See Pat on page 10)