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January
2005

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SILETZ



NEWS

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Vol. 33, No. 1 January 2005



Police Chief Denis Bosque of the Siletz Tribal Police Department is named Employee of the Year for 2004. He was honored at the employee winter all-staff meeting for his "stabilizing and positive influence for the Tribal Police Department. His is consistently understaffed and yet the department still manages to respond to critical calls, no matter what day or time it is. Often it is Denis himself who is called out in the middle of the night to respond, and without fail he always makes himself available."

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2005 Election Sees Electronic Ballot Counting

On Dec. 8, the Siletz Tribal Council approved a revision to the Election Ordinance to allow electronic counting of the ballots beginning with the 2005 election. This will allow for a faster counting of ballots on Election Day.

The revision of the Election Ordinance allows for electronic counting and changes the voting procedures **only** on how tribal members will mark their ballot. Instead of placing an "X" next to the names of the three candidates for whom you are voting, you will use a #2 pencil to draw a line (fill in an arrow) next to the names of your three candidates.

The ballot will then be placed in a ballot envelope and this envelope will go into a signature envelope for mailing. The process will be similar to the voting procedure used by the state of Oregon and many other states in their mail-in ballot elections.

Tribal members who wish to vote in person on Election Day will still be able to do so and will complete their ballot and enter it into the ballot counting machine themselves. After the polls close

on Election Day, mailed-in ballots will be counted using a machine that reads the votes on each ballot. This process should take considerably less time to perform and receive final accurate election results.

The Election Board has contracted with Automated Election Services to provide this service. This business has provided this service to states for their elections as well as other tribes, including Grand Ronde.

The ballots will be mailed from Automated Election Services offices located in Albuquerque, N.M., and ballots still will be returned to the Siletz Election Board address in Siletz. The remaining Election Board procedures will remain the same per the Election Ordinance.

If you would like a copy of the Election Ordinance, please contact the executive secretary to Tribal Council at 1-800-922-1399 or 541-444-2532.

If you have any questions on the electronic ballot counting procedure, please contact Dan VanOttten, tribal election director, at 1-800-922-1399 or 541-444-2532.

See sample ballot and tribal election deadlines on page 14

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