



Council Chairman's Report

Delores Pigsley

Chairman's Report:

On September 21, the Tribal Council, for the first time, expelled a member under the Tribe's Constitution for gross misconduct. Vernon Brown, a top vote-getter in the last election, was expelled for soliciting money from local merchants in the name of the Tribe, and depositing it into his own account. In addition, he attempted to be paid for attendance at a Culture Committee meeting which he did not attend.

At an open hearing before the Council and numerous tribal members, Vernon admitted that he solicited over \$200 which he deposited into his own account. In his defense, he maintained the money was used for purchasing princess tickets from his daughter. He testified that he only kept 25% of the money, which was allowed under ticket sales procedures. Local merchants testified however, that no mention of princess tickets was made during Mr. Brown's solicitations.

Sometime back, Vernon submitted time sheets requesting payment for four hours for attending a Culture Committee meeting in March. The evidence showed that he did not attend that meeting but never made a satisfactory explanation why the hours appeared on his time sheet.

In my opinion, the conduct of Vernon Brown constitutes gross misconduct and I voted for his expulsion without hesitation. If I stand for nothing else as Tribal Chairman, I want to stand for honesty and integrity. I believe that Tribal Council members need to take their responsibilities as seriously as I do.

What also is disturbing is what I have heard to justify Vernon's conduct. Some expressed the opinion that what Vernon did simply was not wrong. Some say that, since the Pow Wow Committee did not have written procedures to govern solicitations, it is okay to convert money solicited in the name of the Tribe to personal use. Evidence at the hearing showed we all are bound by tribal laws which prohibit this kind of conduct.

One individual wrote a letter and testified that, in her opinion, everybody else does it so Vernon should not be punished. In other words, in this person's opinion, Vernon's misconduct was not dishonesty but his misfortune in getting caught. I find this justification to be particularly shocking. I also believe the accusations against other council members are false.

I am proud of our Council for taking a stand and making a clear statement for all to hear that this kind of conduct will not be tolerated. I trust that the opinions to the contrary reflect only a minority of our membership and that most of you agree with the Council's stand.

Delores Pigsley
Chairman

Regular General Council Meeting

NOVEMBER 2, 1985
TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER
BEGINNING AT 1:00 P.M.

AGENDA

- CALL TO ORDER 1:00 P.M.
- INVOCATION Vernon Brown
- ROLL CALL
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- TRIBAL MEMBERS CONCERNS
- TRIBAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Delores Pigsley
- GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT ... Phil Rilatos
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ADJOURNMENT

NO POTLUCK

Letters To The Editor

Smoke Screen?

Dear Editor:

Saturday, September 21, 1985 at the Regular, monthly Tribal Council meeting a Kangaroo Court was held with charges of misconduct against a Tribal Council member. The misconduct being, claiming 4 hours for the wrong meeting and soliciting in the name of the Tribe for the Pow Wow. The 4 hours issue should have been resolved by the Chairman in March 1985. All it takes is the stroke of a red pen before the timesheet went to the Accounting Office. This has been done in the past, but, for 6 months now the 4 hour issue has been a lengthy topic for discussion at every meeting. The soliciting charge is just another smokescreen to divert from infractions elsewhere. The Pow Wow people have solicited the businesses as long as Pow Wows have been held here. Who kept a record of what was donated and how it was used? No one kept an accurate record of those donations. Did some of that fall into empty pockets and outstretched hands?

Our Softball team, sponsored by the Tribe, with \$2500.00 from Timber Revenue, overspent their budget but they came back to the Council and got \$600.00 more (\$3100.00 altogether) they also canvassed the County for cash donations. How much did they collect? How is it documented and who collected in the name of the Siletz Tribe?

In January and September 1984, March and June 1985 Council timesheets reflected hours spent at meetings. This is baloney, but these persons are still on the Council and pointing fingers.

What prompted these insidious charges against another Tribal Member and Council member? Is it because he speaks from his guts rather than the top of his head, is it because he may have witnessed misconduct and negligence or is it because he can vote "No" instead of following the leader?

How many hours will be claimed for time spent on this ridiculous, uncalled for action? How many days at \$450.00 a day will the gold-fingered lawyer be paid for this undercover investigation? How many hours of staff time will be claimed for discussing and perpetuating this action? How many hours will the Chairman claim for seconding a motion to start expulsion action?

You can see the inside job and vigilante process that was introduced on September 10, 1985 to the surprised victim. He was expelled from the Tribal Council on September 21, 1985 and I pray he will come back with a legal counter-attack to clear his name and possibly indict the ones that are truly guilty of gross misconduct and actions not becoming to Leaders of this Tribe.

Sincerely,
Mary "Dolly" Fisher
Siletz, OR 97380

Pow-Wow Thanks

Dear Editor:

I read the comments made by Don Pigsley in the September 1985 Siletz News. I share many of Mr. Pigsley's observations and concerns.

I, too, was honored when asked to serve as master of ceremonies for a portion of the celebration. I was asked by a tribal member who numbers among those who hold my deepest respect. I served to the best of my ability, without compensation, even though I would have desired to spend more time visiting friends and relatives.

I thank the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of my parents who returned to Siletz to participate with and honor my father and mother. I am aware of the great distance some of you traveled and your demonstration of respect and devotion is appreciated.

I thank Pauline Ricks for her unlimited participation in coordinating a successful celebration. A casual and uninformed observer of the multitude of problems and questions fielded by her during the celebration could come to the conclusion that she was the chairman.

One of the highlights of the celebration for me was the display of pride and dignity demonstrated by our Indian People who served as flag bearers in the parade, grand entries, and the retiring ceremonies. The emotional impact on the heart of this Indian cannot be described.

I thank the contest judges. We can count ourselves fortunate to have judges capable of rendering fair decisions coupled with the willingness to sacrifice visiting and socializing in favor of serving our people. One cannot fully appreciate the level of service provided until you have observed other celebrations.

I thank Paul Whitehead for his participation, especially for the services of Whip Man. This celebration and many others I have attended would surely be lacking without Paul's participation. We Siletz People can be proud to count him among our supporters and friends.

Many people working behind the scenes are deserving of thanks. One such person comes to my recollection in the person of Delbert Bell. I observed Delbert working with precision calculating the results of the contest judging to carry out the wishes of those tribal members who expressed a desire to retain contest dancing as a part of the Pow Wow.

Carlene Easter holds the respect and love of my family that words cannot describe. Her participation in this celebration was equaled by no one. Carlene dug into her limited resources to purchase ball caps and proceeded to bead each one. At the conclusion of the parade, without fanfare and almost unnoticed, she honored the participating veterans and others by presenting them with a beaded ballcap. I know I speak for each person Carlene chose to honor in extending our appreciation for her demonstration of love and respect.

Carlene has provided me many opportunities to be Indian proud and to count my blessings. One of my proudest experiences happened many years ago. Carlene was attending Camp Easter Seal, a summer camp for crippled children. Our dancing "for" them was short-lived because Carlene's participation motivated those beautiful children to dance with us. The entire group, some with braces, some with crutches, some in wheelchairs, and some with the assistance of counselors danced the afternoon to the singing and drumming of my father. I reflect on this experience each time I get the opportunity to demonstrate my Indian Pride through dance.

In closing, I thank my people for the opportunity to serve as Master of Ceremonies. I trust my services met with your satisfaction. In the event, during the course of serving, I caused embarrassment or feelings of disrespect to anyone by act or omission, I apologize.

Sincerely,

Ed Ben
1075 Sharon Loop SE
Salem, Oregon 97306

HIDES

If you are interested in purchasing a tanned deer or elk hide for the cost of the tanning, you can contact Everett Butler. Everett has a number of hides he has had tanned and a number of green hides. The hides that are tanned can be purchased for the cost of the tanning, and the green hides can be picked up for nothing. He can be contacted in Siletz at 444-2301.

Baby News



Carmichael

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Carmichael are the proud parents of a new baby boy born September 14, 1985. His name is Scott Richard Carmichael, and he weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. He was 21 inches long. His mother, Cheryl, is a tribal member.

Thompson

Pam Thompson is the proud mother of Apollonia Monique Thompson, born August 7, 1985 in Corvallis, Oregon.

She weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. at birth. Welcoming Apollonia's arrival at home were her three brothers — Jimmy, William and Joseph — and two sisters — Heather and Rosie.

Austin

Clayton Lewis Austin was born on August 24, 1985 to Paula and Randy Austin of San Diego, California. He weighed 8 lbs. 0 oz., and was born in Chula Vista, California. His grandparents are Alfred and Clarice Lane of National City, California, and Bill and June Austin of Portland, Oregon. Congratulations Paula and Randy!!