

(4) Petition to Liquidate All Tribal Assets for a Per Capita Payment.

I believe that "Per Capita" will always be an issue within our tribe, as it is in all of Indian Country. I also believe that a Per Capita payment or payments to our tribal members will become a reality in the future. However, the liquidation of all tribal assets now, for the sole purpose of a Per Capita payment would be devastating to the Tribe to say the least, and certainly contrary to all the goals and objectives established by the Pre-Restoration and Restoration Heroes, the Reservation Plan submitted to Congress in 1979, and Public Law 95-195 95th Congress dated November 1977.

I'm sure that the architects of the petition to liquidate all tribal assets for a Per Capita payment mean well by their efforts, but have not researched the impact it would have on the entire tribe. It could mean losses of jobs for some 40 tribal members, possible loss of some programs and services to tribal members, and some devastating effects on the tribal government's ability to negotiate financial matters.

The funds that are currently held in trust would first go towards liquidating the mortgages on the Tribal Community Center (\$500,000.00), Aldridge House (\$50,000.00), and all remaining encumbrances. By then, there would be little, if any, funds left to Per Capita out. Whether the Tribe could sell the buildings and land assets is questionable and whether the Tribe could sell the standing timber is also questionable. What is not questionable is the Tribe would simply be out of business as a financially stable tribal government.

I trust that I have provided you with some factual information you have not heard before. I personally have a lot of faith and confidence in the tribal membership as a whole. To date only about 200-300 vote in the elections every year. That means that there is another 1,100 out there that the Council does not hear from or about. You are as important to the Council and to those of us that work for tribal improvements, as the few that is heard constantly. Don't let the squeaky wheel get all the grease. You have a stake in our tribe not only for ourselves but for your children and future generations that will follow us.

Don't let anyone kid you, we have a good Tribal Council that has the future and enrichment of our tribe and its membership as its number one priority.

To the Editor:

On Nov. 23, 1985, my grandmother, Augusta Evans Alicante passed away peacefully in Los Angeles, CA. She would have been 87 years old on Nov. 28, Thanksgiving. She is a member of the Siletz Tribe and grew up in the Siletz area. Her brother, Gale Evans, still lives in Siletz. She also leaves behind 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. To the Evans family and friends she was affectionately known as "Gustie".

She will be missed. A loving granddaughter, Catherine Paez Willette P.S. If there is anybody in the Tribe or in the area of Siletz who remembers my grandmother, Gustie, I would love to hear of their memories of her as a young girl. Please write. Thank you.

Candidates'

SILETZ — January 4, 1986 — 1:00 p.m., Siletz Central Office, Government Hill. Call Nancy for more information at 444-2532 or 1-800-922-1399.

PORTLAND — January 10, 1986 — 7:00 p.m. Older Native American Building/Urban Indian Council, 5938 N. Greeley (3 blocks North of Killingsworth). Call Lori Johnson at 289-6391 (10th only) if you need directions.

SALEM — January 11, 1986 — 2:00 p.m., Highland Grade School, 530 Highland N.E., Salem (corner of Broadway & Highland). Call Sue at 393-3903 for more information.

Fairs

SPRINGFIELD — January 17, 1986 — 7:00 p.m., Springfield Office, 1293 N. 18th Street, Suite B, Springfield, Oregon. Call Alice at 746-9658 for more information.

THE LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 31st, AT 5:00 P.M.

IF YOU'RE NOT SURE HOW YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THE TRIBAL ROLLS, PLEASE CALL SHIRLEY AT 444-2532 or 1-800-922-1399, OR ANY AREA OFFICE.

To the Editor:

The Tribe's Newsletter is open for opinions, questions and concerns along with any other items of interest whether it is a baby's birth or commercial advertising. I was amused to read the lengthy personal opinions from persons who rarely attend but are well informed while others' opinions are denounced for taking up valuable space. I did not know the slurs department was reserved especially when words such as goat, red-neck and barstool are very mild compared to vague, half-truths, sour grapes, rumor mongers, low-road, mute, mind poisoning, cheap shots and poison pen. I am familiar with poison pen as I received one of those notes in my personal mail and did find where it originated.

If all the turmoil in the letters to the editor robs the council of doing something constructive then they better take a good look at what they are doing. If the letters to the editor dividing families and causing senseless feuds then something is definitely wrong. For the record my feuding family has nothing to do with the letters to the Editor or the Tribal Council.

One thing I did not find amusing is the decision (who's) for lack of space to not print the Sept. 21, 1985 Regular meeting minutes while one page names the employees and their locations, 1/2 page contains a fuzzy picture and 3/4 page contains election news and a lengthy campaign letter. I understood the Election news would be covered in a special edition (duplication?) and is there a limit to the pages of our newspaper? However, I did buy the Sept. 21 minutes for \$3.55, they are lengthy and probably the only minutes recording all pauses, signs and stammers that we will ever see. Reduced to the usual, small, fine print of the minutes and time sheets, those minutes would fit in the 12 pages of our paper.

The recent socio-economic study which cost thousands of dollars to tell us our unemployment rate, poverty level and age is a big joke — is that the one that contacted a 9 year old Tribal member? Of course he is unemployed, under 40 years of age and poor.

Greed is not the reason for want of a per-capita payment. When you look at the figures and see we received over 2 1/2 million dollars for our timber and have about 1/2 million dollars left you get suspicious. Tribal Council's expenses have more than doubled in 2 years, from \$30,000. in 1983 to \$61,000 in 1985. The attorneys' expenses have risen from \$9,000 in 1982 to \$54,000 in 1985. This is all timber dollars. The lawyer also receives a similar, hefty amount from Contracts and grants. What do we have for this amount of money spent

(2 million dollars)? Studies, surveys, committees, commissioners still trying to come up with something solid to show us.

We will not go bankrupt if a per-capita payment is given, we are already bankrupt. We have been led to believe that we would lose all of our benefits, this is absolutely not true. Our Health, Education, Housing and other Federal benefits were assured when we became restored in 1977. Accelerated timber sales was voted in so we could build a nest egg for our economic stability but you can see the nest-egg is almost gone.

Attendance records do not tell the true story, some in attendance are not listed, some of us have to work for a living and some have to attend or participate in sports events instead of Council meetings. No questions asked. Availability for Tribal functions and availability for Tribal members is two different things. Priorities enter here. Unanimous voting does not always show that a unanimous decision has been reached with open arms. Many times the motion or recommendation is cut & dried so there is nothing to gain by casting a dissenting vote or trying to discuss the situation, you get shot down by the pre-informed and some of those glares are ugly. Maybe you could be removed from the Council for asking questions and voting the wrong way too.

I have put in many free-gratis, thankless hours for our Tribal survival. I have never said it was easy and I have never griped about what I had to do. My concerns, opinions, questions and statements may be vague but I have a right to a personal opinion too and I also have tablets of documentation on what I say and do as far as this Tribe is concerned.

Mary A. (Dolly) Fisher

To the editor:

I would like to respond to the gold fingered lawyer and the six (6) Tribal Council Members who expelled me from the Tribal Council. When Alfred Lane III (Bud) made the motion to expel me, we sat there in silence for at least 1 (one) minute. I thought the motion would die for lack of a second, then Delores Pigsley (Lane) spoke up and seconded Bud Lane's motion.

As a Christian and a pastor for the past twenty years I have stood for the truth and honesty. I can say that I did not abuse my position while I served on the Tribal Council. I did not solicit money for my own gain as I have been accused. When Jane John questioned my four (4) hours for attending a culture meeting. I did not fraudulently try to obtain timber money in this manner. It was an honest mistake on my part. For these reasons I was expelled

from the Tribal Council for gross misconduct.

What constitutes gross misconduct? On my last Tribal Council trip to Reno, Nevada I witnessed what I believe is gross misconduct. I witnessed a General Manager fly down to Reno on indirect funds and gambled the first half day instead of attending the workshops he was supposed to attend. Some of the tribal officials wine, dine and danced the night away and showed up hours later for roll call and missed half days of the workshops. Does their time sheet reflect the gross misconduct? I believe tribal officials who fly around the United States to represent the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, should be sober and alert in order to gain information to better help all our tribal members. As of now our timber money is being abused by tribal officials who conduct themselves in the manner stated in the above. I have spoken out against such abuse before and confronted our Tribal Chair more than once concerning these matters.

The Bible teaches us that, "He that is without sin, Let him cast the first stone." Needless to say my whole family was hurt and humiliated by this mess.

Well, February will soon be here which means voting time again. Three (3) chairs are up for bids and I will say that our Tribal Council is presently going down the wrong lane in the wrong direction. At the polls we can elect the officials who will head us in the right way. Quite frankly, changing from any Lane will head us in the right direction. Thank you for taking the time out to read the second side of the story of my expulsion.

Here are the thoughts of the Tribal Judges trained by the Tribal lawyer, Leroy Wilder concerning my expulsion.

Vernon Brown

IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ**INDIANS OF OREGON IN THE MATTER OF:**

Vernon Brown, Petitioner.
And on behalf of his minor daughter:
Debbie Brown.

TC-86-01

ORDER

The members of the Review Panel were provided copies of the Amended Petition, of case number TC-86-01, and on November 30, 1985, decided by individual review, that the Petitioner Vernon Brown, failed to present a reviewable issue as to his first and second claims for relief. However, the panel found that the Petition presented a reviewable issue on behalf of his minor child, Debbie Brown.

The Review Panel considered the Petition only and the everything contained in

the Petition is true.

The panel found the Petitioner's right to appeal expulsion was barred by section 53, of the Tribal Council Rules and Procedures, as it was filed later than ten (10) days of his expulsion. Therefore, first and second claim for relief, for Debbie Brown, in section 1, 2, and 3 contains sufficient allocations of violations of her rights, to present a reviewable issue.

The panel found that Debbie Brown was entitled to the protection of the Indian Civil Rights Act, 25 USC, section 1302, section 8 and the Tribal Constitution, section 8, article 7, section 4 and 5. The same as Petitioner would have been if he filed his Petition in a timely manner.

Her claim for relief presents a reviewable issue and will be scheduled for a Hearing on the Merits.

/s/Beverly Owen

INTERIM ALTERNATE
ACTING CHIEF JUDGE

Dear Editor:

As a tribal member, I am sick and tired of other members stabbing each other in the back and running everyone down. It's no wonder people cannot think of us as a united people — we can't even get our act together amongst ourselves! We want respect from outside people, government agencies and other tribes, but how can we hope to obtain that when we don't even respect ourselves, our tribe or the law that is laid down by tribal council? I was raised to always respect my elders and listen to what they have to say, but lately it seems some of the elders in this tribe are acting like selfish children, am I to respect them?

I think our chairman had a tough decision to make recently, but there must have been some sufficient evidence somewhere to back up the decision. I don't know all the facts, I wasn't there, but what's done is done and we should stand by our tribal council through thick and thin. What's right is right and wrong is wrong. I for one, think Dee Pigsley is doing a great job. And who cares where the chairman lives as long as the job gets done? I am under the impression from the minutes of meetings that she attends the meetings and takes care of the business that she was appointed to. I see no reason why someone from Siletz has to have the job. Living outside of Siletz a person has a more open mind to be objective and not be swayed by people in the community.

Our chairman should be a person who can make decisions on their own, not be a puppet for someone else to pull the string! our current chairman pulls her own strings, and maybe that's what some people don't like.

Shelley M. Loop

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