

(General Council Minutes Cont.)

of gaming. Marketing Studies have been done to show that Siletz area is not a viable operation, but in order to continue the compact negotiations the Judd Property was listed as a site for gaming because that property was purchased before 1988. The Court Case is still pending in Portland, which the Tribe has appealed and Judge Burns ruled that the Tribe was right and that the Governor does not have veto authority over the Federal Government and the proposal to do gaming in Salem was based on the fact that Secretary Lujan had approved our right to do the gaming and then later rejected it because the Governor did not concur, so the tribe appealed that. She stated that they are exploring another route around that and are hoping that it is successful. Ron Hudson asked how much money has been spent on the gaming. Jessie stated that over 2 million has been spent so far. She stated that we need gaming because there is only so much timber. Hudson asked why the community center could not be used for a gaming center. Dee stated that the advisory opinion from the Elder's were that they were opposed to it.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Dee stated that she attended the Forest Conference in Portland and she had the opportunity to shake President Clinton's hand and tell him where she was from and welcome him to Oregon and the meeting at the Whitehouse was truly inspiring. One of the most remarkable presentations was from the Chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux. He represented the United Sioux and he spoke from the heart and that received a standing ovation. There were 388 Tribal Chairman present. They toured the White House and as the meeting ended, there were reporters interviewing the Tribal Chairman. Dee stated that she was interviewed by KGW TV in Portland and one other channel and their biggest concern seemed to be what the President meant by supporting Indian Gambling. Dee stated that the President went on record to say that he supports Indian Tribes and Indian Gambling and he is aware that the Governors have problems with this, but he was a Governor, but they have to realize that Indian Tribes need this from of Economic Development and he truly supports it and supports the Inouye-McCain Task Force. Dee stated that Jessie has been sitting on that Task Force and getting valuable input for the Tribe. The President also signed an Executive Order that tells all of the Federal Agencies that every Federal Agency that has anything to do with Indian Tribes then they must consult with the Tribes before they implement anything, if it has any affect on the Tribes. Dee stated that he signed the order in front of all the Tribal Leaders and that has a lot of meaning for our Tribe because all our dealing aren't with the BIA, IHS or even the Department of the Interior. The Tribe has problems with JTPA, Head Start, Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service and BLM and this should make it easier for tribes to deal with those organizations. The tribes can't afford to not be aggressive and you have to know what you want and go after it and this is what is being expected of most Indian Tribes. He also signed an Executive Order supporting the repatriation of Indian Burial Sites. Indian Tribes would have the rights to obtain eagle feathers and other ceremonial items. After a lot of ceremony the Cabinet Officials along with Vice-President Gore, Secretary Babbitt and Janet Reno and Dee took the opportunity to talk with them and they seem to be supportive. The Administrative Office Building is close to being finalized and we have had a lot of discussion over what is going into it, the size,

and the programs. Then somebody raised the issue of a museum and it was always a plan somewhere that the present Community Center would become a museum. After receiving a memo from the Culture Committee requesting that the Council begin the planning process for developing a museum on the side of the Community Center where the Administrative offices currently are. That issue is not high priority. There are a lot of artifacts to display and promises from a lot of people donating articles to the Tribe once it is in place. Another issue that was raised today was the CEO, that Tribal Council appraises the CEO once a year and with Nelsen, he has been an intergovernmental Personnel Act that we call an IPA over from the BIA to the Tribe. This Council and everyone sitting on it has the opportunity to appraise that CEO once a year and we just went through that process. Some of the items brought up were some of the items that the council brought up regarding confidentiality and professionalism. A request has been sent in to Secretary Babbitt for a Secretarial Election on the issue of the Constitutional Change on the Section of who shall be a Tribal Members and changing the rolls to change blood quantum's upwards only. Dee stated that the Constitutional Amendment is to adopt the 78 Roll as the base roll. She stated that in regards to blood quantum that if you are on the roll you can not be taken off, but corrections can be made upwards only. Lisa Norton asked Dee to expand on why Council chose not to re-vote on the Blood Quantum issue. Dee stated that a resolution was passed to lower the Blood Quantum by election to 1/16th and it passed 5-4-0 and at the last meeting there were only seven present and the issue came back onto the table and the motion was to rescind that resolution and it was rescinded by a vote of 4-3-0. Lisa asked if the only reason that it did not go through was because somebody was absent. Dee stated no. Lori Johnson stated that it was a long process and it wasn't just the process of the Council going through, but with her perspective as a voter, that was put on the ballot for us all to vote on. That did not pass that way and whenever you bring things out for Tribal members to vote on then that is the way it should be. The way she took it was Council did not like the outcome of the vote so they made a motion to change it. Lisa stated that there were a lot of options and that was great. Dee stated that she felt that the majority of the people wanted the blood quantum reduced and the motion that was passed initially would have given the option of a yes or no vote to either leave the blood quantum the same or lower it to 1/16. Phil stated that there 158 people that voted to leave it the same and there were 228 that voted to lower it to something. Lori stated that from what she heard was that it was brought to council's attention that the way the ballot was structured what was going to happen to it. Phil stated that his motion was to put it out to the membership on that vote to lower the blood quantum to 1/16, yes or no. He also told the Council that he will bring that motion up for the next 3 years because he feels that he owes that to a whole lot of people out there, "my own grandkids and all of your grandkids and kids that have not had the rights", the basic right like he has or you do. Lori asked what that does to the process then of the people voting on something. There were a lot of people upset about the other part that passed because they did not understand it. She stated that if you are on the roll and there is proof that some people aren't an eighth but they are enrolled as a 1/4 and somebody else's kids would be eligible if it was based on the same things as those that are on there being enrolled. Allison Simmons stated that at the Salem Area Community Meeting the majority of the people

there wanted to look into it more. Lori stated that the Portland Area wanted more time also. Bensell stated that when the vote came in, the members did vote to keep it as it is, but he is still for the issue of decendancy he does not feel that it solves an issue that we have. He feels that anytime you have to measure the amount of Siletz Blood that a tribal member or a potential tribal member has, it is still going to create inadequacies and he will bring this issue up again. He voted no on the 1/16 because it does still create a problem of looking at the amount of blood issue and decendancy does not. He stated that we need to teach our children Indian ways. Lori stated that we should be instituting strong cultural programs, which we do not, especially out in the valley. Dee stated that the community meetings were not well attended and she received many calls from people on the issue of wanting the opportunity to vote and it was not the issue of wanting more time or that they did not understand. Lisa wanted to know how Council can make a motion and then turn around and rescind it a month later. Rosemary stated that she is for decendancy, but she felt that she made a mistake because she felt that if the General Council wants to bring it up again, then there is another General Council election coming up in February of next year. Phil stated that you have to honor a vote of the people, but there are over 2,000 tribal members out there and 60% of those are legitimate voters and he does not believe that he agrees with the 25 that terminated this Tribe in 1956. Mary Fisher stated that there were more than 25, there were over 100 in attendance and no dissenting votes for termination. Dee stated that the real issue is not money and it shouldn't be money, it shouldn't be we need to serve people outside the county, it should be based on who we want as tribal members. Gladys Bolton stated that some of the people on the Tribal Council got on because they said they wanted the blood degree lowered and they got votes for that reason. Lisa stated that in 20 years she does not feel that the Tribe will be growing. Reggie Butler stated that when the Council was voted in they need to work for the whole Tribe and not just their own families. Frank Simmons stated that during termination the Tribe was going to be terminated regardless who or how many voted. Bensell stated that this is his personal opinion, but he feels that the way he reads all the information is that we are breeding ourselves down to termination. He feels that if a person feels that they are Indian in there minds and hearts then that is good enough for him, but he sees the problem that some tribal members do not feel this way so we need a solution whether we keep it the same and in his mind it is decendancy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chemawa Pow wow is taking place today.

The Coming Home Celebration will be taking place Rush, Oregon.

The Memorial Day Celebration will take place on Monday, May 30th. It will be starting at 11:00 a.m.

Bensell stated that he is trying to get information on Indian friendly candidates.

JoAnn stated that she attended the Community Team Training Institute in Washington, D.C. and she wanted everyone to know that the staff that attended this training did an exceptional job.

Meeting Adjourned 4:15 p.m.