

General Council Minutes**November 5, 1994**

Transcribed and Submitted by the Tribal Council Secretary

MEETING: General Council

DATE: Saturday, November 5, 1994

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Siletz Tribal Center

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Delores Pigsley, Chairman

Jessie Davis, Vice-Chairman

Mary Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer

Lillie Butler

Mike Darcy

Bensell Breon

Rosemary Landis

Phil Rilatos

JoAnn Miller

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nelsen Witt, CEO

Brenda Bremner, Assistant CEO

Connie Plagmann, Executive Secretary

Please See Attached List

Chairman, Delores Pigsley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Invocation by Elouise Case.

Roll Call was taken with 9 Present and 0 Absent.

MOTION #1 - Rose Bremner moved to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Mary Fisher. Motion carried.

MOTION #2 - Laura Bremner moved to approve the August General Council minutes as Amended. Seconded by Selene Lynch. Motion carried.

Mike Darcy handed out Certificates and awards to the following:

Tom Staggs-Outstanding Service

Denise Wilson-Outstanding Service

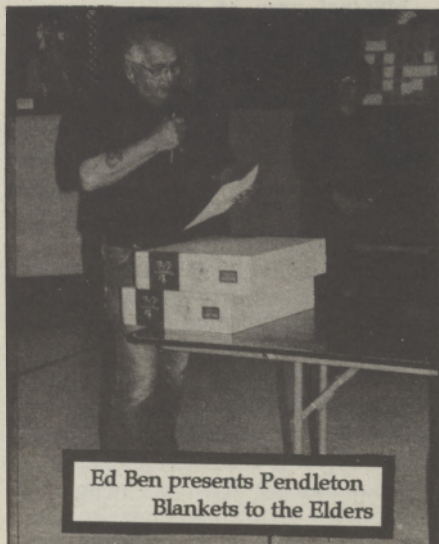
Dr. Leman-Outstanding Service

Bob Tom-Outstanding Service

Arliss Chatterson-Outstanding Service

Melvin Guardipee-Outstanding Service

Dorene Mason-Employee of the Quarter

**TRIBAL MEMBERS CONCERNS:**

Ed Ben made a presentation for his son Gerald Ben. He stated that the Ben Family would like to donate two Pendleton blankets to the tribe in the memory of Victoria and Archie Ben. The blankets will go to the elder's.

Ed gave a special thanks to Pauline Ricks for her special efforts. He requested giving the blankets to Gladys Bolton to hold until the elder's decide what they would like to do with them.

Gladys Bolton thanked Ed and the Ben Family for the donation.

Elouise Case is concerned that there are no tribal members being employed in the Portland area. She stated that some tribal members are working 10 hours a day and are not getting the benefits, such as health.

Maxine Rilatos checks on an elder who is 80 years old. She stated that the HIP man was called to check the home because it was leaking. The elder was given documents to sign and she did not sign the documents because of the personal questions being asked. The elder told Maxine about the meeting with the HIP man. Maxine talked to Brenda which sent somebody to the elder's home to check things out, but nothing was done. The 80 year old lady was left with a leaking roof and was told by the HIP man that the committee had denied her help. The HIP man did put a tarp over the roof himself.

Dee stated that this was a discussion at the special meeting this morning. She stated that the council committed to getting this fixed and the funds will come from somewhere. Jessie stated that the HIP committee did not deny her help, they had never seen an application, there was nothing on file. She stated that she talked with Brenda the next day and they were working on getting something taken care of through another direction. Jessie suggested that maybe an elder that she trusts could explain to her that she does need to sign an application.

Selene Lynch wrote a letter to the HIP Committee that requested redoing the point system on the committee policies to help better serve their people and the programs. She stated that other tribes have housing loan programs such as Category "D" homes. The Siletz Tribe made a resolution to no longer have the category "D" homes.

MOTION #3 - Selene Lynch moved to approve to bring back the Category "D" Program for Tribal Elders. Seconded by Don Hudson. Motion Carried.

Jessie stated that a waiver has been submitted to the secretary of the interior so that the tribe would be able to use their own guidelines for emergency funding. Dee let them know that we still did not have a response. The Tribal Attorney stated that the department has a certain

period of time in which to respond, so the council is watching that time period. Selene asked Jessie to explain the Category D home. Jessie stated that a new home is built when needed or renovation up to 20,000.00.

Maxine stated that when it comes to filling out an application and the income guidelines, she now makes too much money, more than she has ever made. The HIP man told her that she could call the Farmers Home Administration for a \$5,000.00 loan, so she called and asked about the income guidelines. She feels that the HIP man knew she would be denied.

Joe Lane felt that it is very unfortunate when an 80 year old elder needs assistance from the Tribe when their home is leaking, but the Tribe cannot get the help, yet they celebrate the departing BIA staff thanking them for their support. This doesn't seem right.

Tina Retasket does not disagree to the Category "D" homes, but we need to also explore HUD, because that can be used on scattered sites instead of just HIP.

Denise Barker stated that for the last 6 years she has been trying to find her biological parents. She stated that the records are sealed and she has been denied access to the records. She has been going through the appeals process to have the records opened, but she has been denied access to her records by the Enrollment Department and her next step is to come to the Tribal Council with her concern. She feels that it is important to know who we are and where we come from. She has been searching for her mother who gave her up when she was five days old. She does not understand why. She would like to know who her mother is and what kind of a person she is. Denise stated that she has no medical records. She has such a void in her life and she will until she knows. She stated that it took four years to be enrolled into the Tribe. She is asking Council to allow her to know who she is and where she came from. Denise thanked the council for listening to her concern.

Dee stated that one of the things the tribe has had to struggle with is that when the parents do not want the records open and if they are sealed by the state they must remain that way. Without the State approval of opening the records the State can deny the Tribe future records.

MOTION #4 - Shirley Walker moved to approve for Tribal Council to examine the Records of Denise Barker, open them and meet with her to provide her with the information regarding her parents. Seconded by Gladys Bolton. Motion failed.

Ed Ben stated that in order for Denise to get on the rolls that somebody had to see this information.

Wilma Strong stated that the Tribal Council had to provide the information to Enrollment in order for Denise and her children to be enrolled.