

From the Chairman....

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

by Delores Pigsley

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

First of all, I want to welcome Clifford Case and Geneva Johnson who were installed as two new Tribal Council members on February 9, 1996 in a swearing-in ceremony that included Lillie Butler, who was re-elected to the Council for another term.

I appreciate being re-elected as Chairman for the Council to serve again with Jessie Davis as Vice Chairman and Dolly Fisher as Secretary and to continue the important work that the "old" Council has already worked so hard to set in motion.

I accept the Chairmanship of the Council with humility, for I am fully aware of the tremendous responsibility that goes with this office. It is my job to facilitate the decision making process of the Council - to help make decisions that are often times extremely difficult and controversial but decisions that must nevertheless be made.

The world in which we live has become increasingly complex and to keep pace with this complexity, our Tribe must make critical and timely decisions.

Like virtually every other tribe in the country, it is the Tribal Council that has been delegated the essential responsibility and authority to make timely decisions. It can't be otherwise.

As Council members, we won't always agree on the issues and may often split on decisions. But if our focus is always on the issues, differences of opinion can be enriching and healthy.

Once again, I accept the challenge of Chairmanship of the Council and look forward to another productive year in which we, as a Council can work cooperatively together for the benefit of our great Tribe!

PROGRESS AT COQUILLE

I took the opportunity of visiting our neighbors, the Coquille Tribe to the South of us, and was just amazed at what this Tribe has been accomplishing - and to think it is the most recently restored of all federally restored tribes. Frank Simmons and Teresa Miller (who have been coordinating with the Coquille on natural resources issues) had been urging us for some time, to see first-hand what they have accomplished.

On 2/10/96, we (Phil Rilatos, JoAnn Miller, Nelsen Witt, Connie Hoffman and I) were taken on a tour of the Coquille projects by Chairman Ed Metcalf and Bruce Anderson.

In addition to the gaming center (which we all know about by now), Coquille has other little known, but exceptional projects.



Left to right: Phil Rilatos, Nelsen Witt, JoAnn Miller, Delores Pigsley, & Connie Hoffman visiting the Coquille Assisted Living Facility in Bandon

A beautiful Retirement Home, panel manufacturing plant, cut and assemble plant, a new health clinic, a motel and several new homes under construction.

While visiting with the Coquille officials, we discussed the possibility of joint venturing economic development projects that would benefit both the Siletz as well as the Coquille.

OREGON TRIBES MEETING ON GAMING

Organized by Jessie Davis, Vice Chairman, the Siletz Tribe sponsored a meeting in Salem on 2/2/96 to address gaming issues. Of immediate concern was the need to conduct a study of the impact of Indian gaming on tribes, local and state governments and communities.

Seven of the eight Oregon tribes presently engaged in, or planning on engaging in, gaming sent representatives to the meeting.

It was the consensus of the group that the Oregon gaming survey should use the Minnesota study as a model with each tribe contributing what it can to the effort.

There has been a need to form a coalition of tribes to work cooperatively on common issues. This meeting was an excellent beginning for such a coalition though it was agreed that each tribe, as a sovereign entity, has unique issues that would need to be addressed on an individual tribal basis. We want to thank Jessie for getting this process started.

Results of the Advisory Vote Concerning Alcohol at the Permanent Gaming Facility/Convention Center.

The following reflects the number of votes that were received on or before the deadline of February 6, 1996 and the grand total includes ballots that were received up to and including February 12. There were a total of 520 ballots cast on or before February 6 and 29 more received after the deadline for a total of 549 ballots.

Are you in favor of having alcohol in the RESTAURANT

	YES	NO	DID NOT RESPOND
On or before deadline	318	201	1
After deadline	19	10	0
TOTAL	337	211	1

Are you in favor of having alcohol in the GAMING CENTER

On or before the deadline	197	319	4
After deadline	12	17	0
TOTAL	209	336	4

Are you in favor of having alcohol in the CONVENTION CENTER

On or before the deadline	308	210	2
After the deadline	18	11	0
TOTAL	326	221	2

Are you in favor of naming the Convention Center the Jessie Davis Convention Center

On or before the deadline	188	310	22
After the deadline	16	12	1
TOTAL	204	322	23