

Candidate visits Tribal Council

Kulongoski shares views on expansion of tribal gaming

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Staff

The Tribal Council met last week with Ted Kulongoski, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Council members asked Kulongoski for his positions on issues of tribal sovereignty, and cooperation between the state and tribes in management of fish and wildlife.

The main topic of discussion, though, was Kulongoski's position on expansion of the Confederated Tribes' gaming enterprise.

Through the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) of 1988, the governor has authority to negotiate with tribes regarding development of off-reservation tribal casinos.

For casino development proposals on tribal trust property acquired after 1988, the governor has a veto authority under IGRA.

If tribal members were to approve construction of a casino at the Columbia River Gorge, then tribal leaders would much prefer to develop at the town of Cascade Locks, rather than at the Hood River site.

Unlike Gov. Kitzhaber, Kulongoski indicated his willingness to support a casino at Cascade Locks. However, Kulongoski said he wanted to be sure that approval of a casino at Cascade Locks would not open the door to other Oregon tribes building casinos around Portland.

An exception allowing the Cascade Locks casino plan, he said, would have to be narrow



Kulongoski speaks with Chief Heath before the council meeting with the candidate.

so as to preclude other tribes from purchasing property near Portland, and then seeking approval based on the Confederated Tribes' Cascade Locks approval.

Olney Patt Jr., council chairman, said the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs was in a unique situation in regard to the Cascade Locks site.

Approval of this proposal, said Patt, would set no precedent for any other tribes in the state.

The Cascade Locks site is within the ceded lands of the Confederated Tribes. Of the nine Oregon tribes, only the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Umatilla have not constructed off-reservation casinos.

Other tribes in the state had lost their reservations through termination of tribal status. After being reinstated, each of the tribes has constructed one

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casino. Each casino was provided through a specific act of Congress.

Allowing the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to construct one off-reservation casino, at Cascade Locks, would be fair and equal treatment, said Rudy Clements, chairman of the gaming expansion committee.

Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath said to Kulongoski that the Confederated Tribes were not looking to expand gaming because tribal members like to gamble.

"We're doing this for the same reason as the state," said

Heath, referring to importance of the Oregon Lottery to the state budget.

Like the state, said Heath, "We need the money." The tribes, he said, need to build new school buildings, and invest in education for young people.

Kah-Nee-Ta, because of its location, cannot generate the revenue necessary for these projects, said Heath.

He said that former governor Vic Atiyeh has been a great friend of the Confederated Tribes, and the hope is that Kulongoski, if elected governor, would also become a friend to the tribes.

Kulongoski said he supported any effort the tribes were making toward economic development. He said he also respected the sovereignty

of the tribes. In dealing with the tribes, he said, is approach would be on a state-to-state basis.

After meeting with Kulongoski, council chairman Patt said the discussion had been a good one.

The race for Oregon Governor begins in earnest in the spring, when the political parties choose their candidates in the Primary Election.

The general election is in November and the new governor will take office in January of 2003.

Tribal officials have indicated that a referendum among tribal members on expansion of gaming could be held during the middle part of next year.

(In the next edition of the Spilyay, look for a story on the different opinions that tribal members have on the gaming expansion options.)

Holiday concerts set

This Christmas season brings out the sound of music. Local school Christmas concerts have been scheduled in Warm Springs and Madras.

Dec. 13 the Warm Springs Elementary will have their annual Christmas Carnival in the gym starting at 6 p.m.

Dec. 17 the Madras High School band and choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the gym. December 18 the Warm

Springs Elementary Christmas concert will be held in the gym, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades at 10:00 a.m., and 3rd and 4th grades at 1:15.

December 18 the Jefferson County Middle School 5th and 6th grade band, and 7th and 8th grade band and choir will perform in the commons beginning at 7:30. Winter break will begin December 20, 2001 and end January 3, 2002.

Timber sale figures released for 2003

By Bill Rhoades
Spilyay Staff

The Resource Management Interdisciplinary Team has released a draft project assessment covering the 2003 Timber Sale for public review.

The document was prepared by the Project Interdisciplinary Team to provide options for timber harvest in the Clackamas and Beaver watersheds.

Three alternatives were formulated and numerous logging methods were considered for this project, taking into account present resource conditions, forest health and public input. The 2003 Timber Sale is expected to yield approximately 49 million board feet of timber.

The document is divided into sections explaining the purpose and need for action, resource-based indicators used to help the technical staff analyze and mitigate environmental impacts, and details of the three alternatives.

There are maps showing the harvest blocks, quick reference tables to compare the alternatives, a list of measures needed to mitigate environmental consequences, and the Project Interdisciplinary Team's recommended alternative.

The goal of Alternative A is to continue current management. Activities such as hunting, recreation and cultural food gathering would continue as in the past.

The only harvest proposed under Alternative A would be through conventional salvage operations.

Alternative B is designed to harvest approximately 49 million board feet of timber from approximately 2,347 acres. The emphasis of Alternative B is to treat older timber stands with high priority forest health problems and to commercially thin young stands to reduce competition for limited resources.

In the older timber there is a high occurrence of stem decay, there are root disease pockets, and patches of Douglas fir dwarf mistletoe. In the young stands growth is slowing down because the stocking is too dense. Commercial thinning would benefit huckleberry plants that are common to this area.

Alternative B contains approximately 56 percent regeneration harvest, 30 percent commercial thinning, and 14 percent partial overstory removal in existing shelterwood units. This alternative would also treat stands within two long term productivity (LTP) islands including 190 acres of commercial thinning in the Bucksin Butte LTP (978 acres), 43 acres of shelterwood in the Mt. Wilson LTP (1,876 acres) and 30 acres of commercial thinning in the Mt. Wil-

The three alternatives would have varying impacts on water, fish, wildlife, cultural, timber, range, soil and economic resources...

son LTP.

The management emphasis for LTP islands is to maintain late-stage successional plant communities; an attempt to maintain old-growth systems. A plan to reach this objective will be developed for each of these LTP islands prior to any treatment.

Alternative C is designed to harvest approximately 49 million board feet of timber from approximately 2,200 acres.

The emphasis of this alternative would be to regeneration harvest older timber stands with high priority forest health problems and commercially thin young stands to reduce competition for limited resources.

Alternative C contains approximately 63 percent regeneration harvest, 22 percent commercial thinning, and 15 percent partial overstory removal in established shelterwood blocks. This alternative would not include any harvest within the LTP islands.

The three alternatives would have varying impacts on water, fish, wildlife, cultural, timber, range, soil and economic resources and there would also be some changes to the transportation system.

Once the allowable cut has been reached for 2003, all of the remaining volume associated with this project will be harvested in future years.

The actual volume to be harvested under the project will depend on which alternative is selected subject to approval by the Confederated Tribes.

The tribal public has been involved in the planning process for the 2003 Timber Sales over the course of several months. Scoping meetings were held during 2001 for the Agency District (July 5), Seekseequa District (July 9), and Simnasho District (July 11) to solicit tribal member input on the proposed project.

Timber tours were conducted during July 2001 for Tribal Council and for the tribal public. Comments received during the scoping process are used to identify issues that are relevant to the 2003 Timber Sales. A summary of the comments is on file in the Forestry administration office.

For more information or copies of the documents contact Rich Lohman in the Forestry Branch, or call 553-2416. Tribal members have 30 days to comment on the proposed sales.

Hinstalas scrape \$297 for B&G club

The Hintsala family managed to scrape up \$297 for the Boys and Girls Club of Warm Springs.

That's literally scrape up, as they traveled to Bend for an Oregon Lottery promotion of scratch-off tickets that benefited a number of community organizations in Central Oregon.

Laurain Hintsala and son Jason weren't using the edges of coins - instead, they used ice-scrapers to clean up about 500 of the lottery tickets in just five minutes.

Harry Hintsala said he recently won big in a play at home game.

"So I like the lottery," he said.



Harry and Jason Hintsala hold the mock check. The real one will be sent from Salem.

COCC Selects student scholar nominees

Central Oregon Community College has selected six nominees for the 2002 "All-State Academic Team." The event, organized by the Oregon Community College Association, recognizes community college students for their academic achievement, leadership and service.

The COCC nominees are

Dayle Tufti, Marlo Bourquin, Cindy Baumgartner, Ann Dyas, Danielle MacBain, and Cheryl O'Donnell. In April, two finalists will be chosen to represent the college at a luncheon hosted by Gov. Kitzhaber. Each scholar will be eligible for a scholarship from any of Oregon's 21 public and private four-year institutions.

The names of the COCC student scholar nominees will also be included in the 2002 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges." Outstanding students have been honored in this annual directory since it was first published in 1966. Elsewhere at COCC:

The college will be closed

Saturday, Dec. 22 through Tuesday, Jan. 1.

The Central Oregon Community College Library and its computer lab will be closed Dec. 8, 9, 15, 16, Jan. 5 and 6. It will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 10 to 14, Dec. 17 to 21 and Jan. 2 to 4. The library and lab will be closed for the holidays Dec. 22 through Jan. 1.