

Agency District Candidates

Mike Clements

My name is Mike Clements "Iso." My desire is to serve the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes once again on the Tribal Council. I am a resident of the agency district and had the honor of serving from 1980 to 1986.

First I want to express my appreciation to Maxine Switzler for nominating me as a candidate for the 2007-2010 Tribal Council. Also, a thank you goes to Mr. Lyle Rhoan Jr. for the second that allowed me to be a candidate. These folks have been lifelong friends and I appreciate their support and expressed confidence.

Many of you voters in the agency district know that we are in a critical time in our history as our nation is amid some great challenges today. I believe it is critical that we take this election extremely serious because the outcome of whom we elect will be felt for many years. I say this because we all know and can see the trying situations that are upon us. The poverty, social problems amongst our people, multi family home living conditions, lack of jobs and the non-existence of community infrastructure are in need of change.

Do we want the same the next three years?

I've watched for many



years now our effort in the agency district in selecting our leadership has changed. I have no complaint as to the sincerity of those elected and their desire to get things done but I have a problem with the results of the efforts and where we are as a tribe today.

I know many of us want things to get better, "So why do we keep putting the same people back in so they can give us more of the same?" I have to admit I am frustrated like most and I recommend change now so we can give others a chance to make a difference.

I don't believe those that are in there are going to be able to get us where we need to be for the younger generations to progress now and later. I mean no disrespect and openly give credit for the successes, but we need to let others step in and take the lead. We all have our

place and purpose as we have learned from our elders. Please take the time to seriously consider your vote and select representatives from our district that are going to have the ability to get things done.

Do we want things to continue?

I know you all drive around and visit in the community and see the living conditions of our friends and relatives just like I do. Poverty is alive and well in our community. I hear of the multi-family living where there are 10 to 20 family members in one home. I watch as our jobs disappear and are filled by outside people. We do not seem to believe our people have the talent to do the work that is available. We have no town center where we can place our commercial or retail stores to service our people and community. There are no schools or institutions where we can teach our youth and younger generations so they can fill the workforce we say we need. I do not see the welcoming community we all talk about as part of our culture and tradition. We need to do more and we can do more if we put our minds and hearts to it.

Mike Clements

Alfred Smith Jr.

My name is Alfred Smith Jr., but most people around the reservation know me as JR. I am a candidate for Tribal Council from the Agency District.

I want my people to know that I don't make promises to do things to please everybody because it takes a majority of the council to pass any action. But I will cast my vote in council on matters that will benefit most tribal members and speak my piece at the table.

I feel that the number one priority for Warm Springs is economic development. Without it, we can't function as a government, nor can we become financially secure. We need to develop businesses that are sure to make money for us.

I feel also that drugs and alcohol need to be dealt with,



whether it's by seeing that violators receive treatment or be detained. Alcohol and drugs contribute to the social problems we have. As violators go through the system, they need speedy trials and fair judgment. There should be jobs for them after treatment to help promote self-esteem so they can become self-sufficient.

I strongly believe in a successor program of placing young tribal members alongside man-

agers as assistants to learn the ropes and eventually take over the position. There was a strong message from the people at our March 12 meeting to eliminate employees from serving on council. Concern was also expressed about excessive council travel. If elected to council, I would support addressing these issues.

These are my top priorities. I know there are many problems that need to be taken care of, but we need to start with the basics. We should always have funding for housing, health care, and education as these are ongoing needs.

We are setting the stage for our children and the future. I would appreciate the confidence of your vote for me at the polls.

Thank you.
Alfred Smith Jr.

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Eugene Austin Greene, Jr.

Good day my people. My name is Eugene "Austin" Greene, Jr. and my Indian name is Mus-ta-lik. I am proud of my bloodlines which include the Warm Springs, Wasco and Paiute. I am 46 years of age, and have been alcohol free for the past 18 years, and that is vitally important to me and the people that I serve as an active community member, and an employee of the tribal organization as Recreation Supervisor.

I have been working in the Recreation field as a human service provider for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs since I got my high school diploma. I began as an entry level Activity Aide, later a Fitness Coordinator, and finally reaching my goal as the Recreation Supervisor in 1997. This job has spanned 27 years and involves working with the people of the Warm Springs Tribes on a day to day basis. And working with the youth has been a highlight - our future is our youth. Through the years, I have learned the process of the Tribal Organization, through Human Services projects, Financial, Human Resources, and of course Tribal Management. I strongly support education, but for myself although I realize that education was important to me, once I got into Recreation - I had to consider doing the job I have, or going back to school. I chose to stay where I was. But through the years I have always kept my ears and heart open to all. I have grown a lot, learned a lot, and am ready to serve my people on a higher level.



Many issues have overcome our once prominent reservation. And we have to make advancement in being able to address these issues. I understand the Tribal Council has to first be open to their constituents and make reports to the people. That could be through the local media or monthly newsletters to the community and enrolled members. District meetings have been happening regularly, but maybe we could consider quarterly General Council Meetings, bringing everyone together, including the Council for reporting. This might vastly improve the poor image of communication that the people have expressed. Once in Council - never forget who got you there! If elected I would follow my word, and report to the membership, clans and families as requested. And the Council has to be open to the people, there are many concerns that arise that the Council should consider. I can I am a good listener, and as a Councilman you are representing each enrolled individual and tribe as a whole, of our reservation.

The tribal economy is a concern for all, and we need to think about our children. What does their future hold? We know the tribe cannot depend on the timber industry as that itself has

done its part for now, and we need to sustain it for our future. The tribes need to look at other options, and I would strongly support economic development - that which is economically viable for the Tribes, and would provide jobs for our people. That, of course, is in addition to current tribal enterprises, as well as small businesses. We have to support small business owners, for they also provide jobs to our local people, and support those owners - so our dollars stay here! Tourism can be a significant factor to the tribes, yet we have to be environmentally sensitive to protect our lands within the reservation boundaries for our future.

Youth development should remain a top priority of this Tribe, as our future leaders are molded by this priority. We need to continue to support our education system, work directly with the various youth clubs and organizations and provide adequate funding to support those programs.

As a tribe, the selected council has to be very conscientious in dealing with our current situation and business of this tribe and we cannot give up on the future. We have many challenges and for anyone that sits on the Tribal Council, times ahead could be extremely challenging.

Thank you for your time and I would like to thank those elders who have asked me to consider the nomination - this says a lot in regards to their views of me and my accomplishments. And I would also wish all candidates good luck.

Eugene "Austin" Greene, Jr.

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