



Spilyay Tymoo

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Council hears 2009 budget concerns

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal members had an opportunity to voice concerns regarding the 2009 budget to Tribal Council members during an Agency District general council meeting this week.

Tribal Council Vice Chairwoman Aurolyn Stwyer spoke to the crowd gathered at the Agency Longhouse and said, "Nothing has been established as of yet."

While council members have heard numbers and input from the finance

department, she said, they were waiting to make final decisions until they heard concerns from tribal members.

Tribal Council met to discuss the 2009 budget two days after the general council meeting (after the deadline for this paper).

Stwyer said they plan to have the budget finalized and posted by the end of the month. Tribal members received information in the mail regarding the 2009 budget, and many took the time during the general council meeting to discuss specific concerns.

Many tribal members agreed that

more money should be put toward youth-based programs like the WED program.

Seniors were another topic of discussion, as many tribal members believed that not enough money is being put toward programs to care for local elders.

The Language Program and the museum are two other departments that tribal members said should be receiving additional funds than what is currently projected.

Tribal Council travel is something that several tribal members expressed

concern about, as well as increases in pay only being made in certain departments.

Improvement on the reservation, such as building fences along the local roads, was another suggestion for inclusion into the 2009 budget.

A general council meeting was also held recently at the Simnasho Longhouse to hear tribal member concerns.

Stwyer said all of the tribal member concerns will be taken into account as they determine the final budget for 2009.

W.S. sees large voter turnout

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal members voted in large numbers during the November 4 election. A total of 543 residents in the Warm Springs area—or more than 56 percent of those eligible to vote—cast their ballots in the election.

For comparison, 34 percent of Warm Springs area residents voted in the 2004 Presidential election.

Also this year, many more people on the reservation registered to vote.

There was a focused effort by the tribes this year encouraging members to register and to vote. That effort—and the overall importance of the election—no doubt contributed to the large number of votes that were cast.

Besides the tribal members in the Warm Springs area, precinct 14 of Jefferson County, another 92 people living in the Simnasho/Kah-Nee-Ta area (Wasco County) cast their ballots. Many other tribal members, living off the reservation, cast ballots in various districts across the state, region, and the U.S.

The candidates

Of the many questions on the ballot, the reservation vote reflected the overall consensus on most issues, but was markedly different on some questions.

The Warm Springs precinct voted heavily in favor of Barack Obama for President. The Warm Springs precinct voted 451 for President-elect Obama, and 62 for Sen. John McCain.

The contest for the open U.S. Senate seat for Oregon was much closer. Warm Springs voted 263 for Democrat Jeff Merkley, and 228 for Republican Gordon Smith.

Statewide Merkley also narrowly won this election. In the Senate race, 30 Warm Springs people voted for Dave Brownlow of the Constitution Party, and a handful for various other candidates.

The Warm Springs area voters favored Republican incumbent Greg Walden for the U.S. House of Representatives. The vote was 272 for Rep. Walden, to 199 for Democrat Noah Lemas. Walden won the district-wide vote.

Warm Springs voted 415 for Democrat Kate Brown for Secretary of State, versus 81 votes for Republican Rick Dancer. Brown also won the statewide vote.

The Warm Springs voters favored Democrat Ben Westlund for State Treasurer. He received 407 votes versus 74 for Republican Allen Alley. Westlund also won the statewide vote.

Warm Springs voted 369-71 in favor of Democrat John Kroger for Attorney General, over J. Ashlee Albies of the Working Families party. Kroger also won statewide.

For state senator, the Warm Springs voters cast 316 ballots for Republican Ted Ferrioli, who was running unopposed on the ballot.

The tribal vote was narrowly against the Jefferson County initiative to make the county commissioner positions non-partisan. This initiative passed countywide.

The tribal vote favored annexing parts of Crooked River Ranch into the Jefferson County Library District, and this initiative passed countywide.

Residents of the Warm Springs area favored Democrat Walt Ponsford for County Commission.

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Celilo Falls revealed

Celilo Falls is the subject of the latest *Oregon Field Guide* program on Oregon Public Broadcasting.

The show airs this Thursday evening, Nov. 20 at 8:30 p.m.; and will re-air on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Before the dam

Celilo Falls was the oldest continuously inhabited community on the North American continent, a place of civilization from time immemorial.

It was the great fishing and trading place of the Northwest, and home of the Wasco Indians.

The Warm Springs bands lived on the nearby tributaries of the Columbia, and had strong ties to the Wasco.

Many of these tribal members were moved to the Warm Springs Reservation after the Treaty of 1855, though the bond to Celilo remained.

The tribes today maintain fishing and other traditional rights at the Celilo area, as part of the Ceded Lands.

In 1957 The Dalles Dam backed up the Columbia River and buried the falls under 40 feet of water, an enduring disaster for the tribes.

Celilo today

A difficult question to ask is what remains of the place that was Celilo Falls.

Oregon Field Guide seeks to answer the question, using new technology to see what Celilo Falls look like today, underwater.

"For several years, stories have circulated that the U.S. government



not only flooded Celilo Falls in 1957, but that it blew them up with dynamite," according to the preview of the show.

"*Oregon Field Guide* seeks to answer the lingering questions with an examination of historic film, never-before-seen photos and long-lost evidence of explosions that caused damage to tribal homes.

"Plus, for the first time in 50 years, it is possible to actually see Celilo Falls as they exist today—40 feet under water. The new images reveal remarkable details many thought they would never again see."

Effigy Beach

Viewers of the program will also learn about a new approach to protect some ancient rock art.

The Native rock art is located at the sand banks of the Columbia River east of Vancouver. The area is called Effigy Beach. An increase in development, vandalism and theft has put the rock art at risk.



In these historic photos of Celilo Falls: Don Croy ropes salmon on Chief Island (top); and Charlie McKinley and Tom Rock fish on Big Island. These photos are from the R. Methany Collection, reprinted here courtesy of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and the Museum at Warm Springs.

In the past, archaeologists have tried to keep the locations of prehistoric carved rocks secret. Now, there is a new effort to actually expose the art to

the public, as a means of preserving them, according to the *Oregon Field Guide* preview.

— by Dave McMechan

Students from Celilo help Dufur go undefeated

Five young members of the Confederated Tribes play on the undefeated Dufur High School football team.

The Dufur Rangers have advanced to the state Division 1A semifinals game, following their victory last Saturday.

Cousins Jason Begay and Steven Begay, and brothers Grant, Clarence and Lane Meanus play for the eight-man Rangers.

The students live in Celilo Village and ride the bus 40 minutes to and from Dufur High.

About 20 Dufur students live in Celilo, which is at the northern edge of the school district.

The Dufur Rangers last Saturday won their final game of the regular season, 28-6, over the St. Paul Buckaroos.

The game was the Class 1A Playoffs; and as the winning team, Dufur will play this Saturday, Nov. 22, in the OSAA/U.S. Bank/Les Schwab Tires State Semifinals.

Dufur has not lost a game this football season.

In the upcoming semifinal game on Nov. 22, Dufur will play Imbler at the Wilsonville High School field. The game begins at 2:15 p.m.

The winner of that game will then play either Joseph or Perrydale in the

championship game on Saturday, Nov. 29 at Hillsboro Stadium.

In the game last Saturday against St. Paul, Steven Begay intercepted a pass early in the game. On offense, Begay, as a back on fourth down, took a lateral from the quarterback and then threw a 26-yard completion for a first down. Begay also caught a touchdown pass.

Steven Begay began the season as quarterback, and now plays receiver. Lane Meanus is another receiver. He had 135 receiving yards in a recent game, and is a key player on defense.

Clarence Meanus, who plays center on offense, is another key player on

the Rangers' defensive squad.

Jason Begay plays guard and defensive lineman. He earned a First Team Defense All League Award.

Jason Begay and Steven Begay earned Second Team Offense All Star Awards. Lane Meanus received a Second Team Defensive Lineman Award. Steven Begay won Honorable Mention Defensive Back Awards.

Steven Begay is a sophomore, and his cousin Jason is a junior. Brothers Clarence and Lane Meanus are seniors, and their younger brother Grant is a sophomore.