



Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News, est. 1976

November 19, 2009 Vol. 34, No. 24

P.O. Box 870
Warm Springs, OR 97761

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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General councils address 2010 budget

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

The tribes held general council meetings this month in Warm Springs and Simnasho to gather input from tribal members before the 2010 budget is finalized.

The general fund tribal budget for 2010 was posted in September. That budget is based on the 2009 approved tribal budget.

The proposed budget has a projected increase for operations of \$195,000, and a corresponding reduction in capital projects and transfer to the senior pension fund to maintain a no-change total expenditure level.

The proposed budget includes a projected use of the "rainy day" fund of \$3,612,297, resulting in a balanced posted budget.

Tribal government will continue to try to balance the essential community needs with the current and forecasted revenue base. The proposed 2010 budget will not be finalized until meetings with the tribal membership are completed, according to officials.

Issues of concern

Tribal members in attendance spoke about the local economy, adoptions, suicide prevention, and possible ways to remedy the homeless situation on the reservation.

"We used to have a treatment facility in Warm Springs," Neda Wesley said. "That was in *atwai* Prunie's days. We fought for our people... carried that to the fullest. It was very respectful."

The issue of trust funds was also raised. In some cases, Dorteia Smith said, people received half of what they

were expecting. Smith asked about the minutes to previous general council meetings. She also asked about affirmative action, training for non-tribal members, employment for the summer youth workers, and the attendance of various departments at budget meetings.

"Everyone keeps asking for that every year," Smith said. "It is our money, we're here concerned about it... [some departments] are not here."

"Rather than have resolution [to affirmative action]," Council vice-chairwoman Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham said, "we want to upgrade to ordinance—the law."

Other tribal members were concerned about the conduct of tribal police officers.

Gerald Smith, chief operations officer, said that anybody concerned over

the conduct of tribal police officers should meet with him. The tribes meanwhile are in the process of hiring a general manager of the Public Safety branch, Smith said.

There have been tribal members recently hired in Public Safety, Smith said, with an addition of two people in the Fish and Game Department.

Casino, settlement

Emma Smith asked about the status of the proposed Gorge casino, and the wording of the compact. "Since you're promising all of these non-Indians 20 cents out of every dollar, shouldn't you be able to promise us, the tribal members, 20 percent?"

See GENERAL COUNCIL on 9

Kennel sought for loose dogs

By Terri Harber
Spilyay Tymoo

Dr. Ben Brown was walking around the reservation, between the dental clinic where he works and the market, when he saw someone walking with a pitbull about 18 months ago. The owner and dog were about 40 feet apart and the dog wasn't on a leash.

"I didn't know you weren't supposed to look at dogs," said Brown, a commissioned officer with the public health service. He has worked at Warm Springs for about three years. "The dog took offense."

He discovered a little too late that dogs could interpret direct eye contact with a human as a challenge, not just curiosity.

"I kept looking to see what he would do; he took a bite out of my wrist," he said. "It was just a scrape, he bit mostly into the metal of my watch."

Though Brown's injury wasn't serious, it was "frightening nonetheless."

Kennel project

Nancy Collins, Warm Springs' sanitarian, wants to see a place established to house the numerous loose dogs running around the reservation.

"It's a big problem," Collins said. "We see a lot of bites for the size of our population."

Dogs wildly running into the street and in front of vehicles, rummaging through trash, attacking other animals, and biting people are just some of the problems that come with large numbers of free-roaming canines that sometimes travel in packs, tribal officials say.

Collins said she and the tribe intend to obtain grant money by garnering non-profit status for a kennel operation, or partnering with an area agency already considered a non-profit. Either would allow access to grant money from a wider variety of sources. A larger number of available grants would make financing more likely.

In the past, Collins has housed dogs picked up by police and other tribal authorities at her home, up to 19 of them at one point, but the problem has become too big and the cost too prohibitive for her to continue, she said.

Tribal police and Environmental Health have picked up several dogs recently. Officials are routinely hard-pressed to find enough time for the task. Other animal service providers either won't come to the reservation or often don't have time to pick up dogs here. Sometimes the other agencies don't have space to hold them.

15 bites this year

People on the reservation had been suffering fewer dog bites in recent years, but the problem has been again worsening. Dogs have bitten 15 people so far this year, some of them children. Officials estimate the number might reach 20 by year's end.

Spaying and neutering of dogs has been encouraged on the reservation since the 1980s, but the challenge is "getting people to do it," Collins said.

Sometimes puppies are taken home, but then allowed to run loose around the community. And once they are fully grown, the animals are ignored. Other people see these dogs, feel pity, and feed them but take no other responsibility for the animals.

"If you feed a dog, it's yours," Collins emphasized.

See DOG Bites on 9

Tribes, BPA meet for signing

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the Bonneville Power Administration signed an historic \$17 million right of way agreement on Monday. The agreement extends the BPA right of way of a transmission corridor within the reservation.

The terms of the agreement are beneficial to the BPA and to the tribes, said Jody Calica, secretary-treasurer of the Confederated Tribes.

A benefit to the tribes, for example, is an ownership interest in a section of the transmission line. This provides the possibility of patching into the power grid if and when the tribes develop new energy producing ventures.

Through the agreement, the tribes will also secure \$100,000 in funding for the First Foods project, which explores restoration and preservation of traditional foods.

The tribal-BPA agreement of 1978 gave certain rights to the BPA, allowing for transmission lines in two differ-



Duran Bobb/Spilyay

BPA administrator Steve Wright, Tribal Council Chairman Ron Suppah, and BIA Northwest Regional Office Director Stanley Speaks (from left) sign the new corridor agreement.

ent corridors on the reservation, one in the north and one in the south.

It also gave the tribes the potential to ask Bonneville to move one of the

transmission lines from the south corridor to the north corridor.

"Since that time the tribes realized the importance of having certain types

of infrastructure available," said Ken Johnston, BPA transmission services account executive.

See AGREEMENT on 10

Parade Honors Veterans



Prosanna Katchia rode in the Veterans Day Parade.



Terri Harber photos

The parade march was from the Veterans Stone by the courthouse to the Agency Longhouse. See page 7 for more photos.