

Agency District Candidates

Gabriel Walker

Dear Tribal members of Warm Springs. I'm Gabriel Walker from the Agency District running for the 26th Tribal Council election. I'm blessed and honored to be nominated for such an important role in the Tribe's Democracy. I would like to thank Foster Kalama for the nomination and other tribal members plus my family for their support.

As previous, this is an important election for our people and the reservation. I'm ready for new direction and change internally with real obtainable goals for our Tribe. I'm passionate with the plan I have in place for our Tribe's Council. It holds the Council, Management, and our tribe accountable to our decision and actions.

We need to focus on the realistic issues our tribe's facing, the financial budget and economy. I've talked with tribal members concern and this is their consistent



topic. I know this has been talked about and looked into previously. Nothing has been reported to our people and we still sit in a financial deficit. I believe it's time to voice the people concerns and stand up as a future leader for the tribe.

My focus for this Tribal Council term is primarily on the financial budget and economic development for the tribe. It's time to focus, plan, and execute our business model. Exercise our Sovereignty and do what's right for our people, our reservation and future generation to come. My plan if elected; Audit, understand and inves-

tigate our Financial Budget, business development – New enterprises and small businesses, Job creations – current enterprises and tribal departments, Saving Senior benefits (pensions etc.), woman rights, and final Tribal member job development – Tribal member preference. I am taking a stand with our people. We all need stand together. With focusing on our financial leakage and budget, we can come up with realistic ideas for development.

These are important decision our tribe is facing. It's time your voice is heard and respected. Let all your family and friends know Voting is crucial and their votes are needed.

I am interested to hear from you and I hope the other candidates do as well. I hope to gain your support and vote. Together we will fight further more into the future. God bless our tribe and the people.

Claude H. Smith III

Seeking God's will, secure economy, and healthy natural resources is what I strive for everyday, and will be my goal and vision as a Councilman. I love seeing and helping people succeed. I will support what I know is beneficial; will bring growth, and better opportunities for Warm Springs. My name is Claude H. Smith III, and I am running for the Twenty-Sixth Tribal Counsel Agency District.

Just so you can get to know me a little better, I grew up in Warm Springs and was raised by my parents Claude H. Smith Jr. (Snuff), a man I call a decorated Vietnam War Hero and Versa J. (Fuentes) Smith another decorated war hero for Jesus! My Grandparents on my father's side are the late Claude H. Smith, Sr. (Popeye) and Victoria J. (Charley) Smith, and Great grandparents, Wesley and Annie (Jackson) Smith, and Frank Charley. My grandparents on my Mom's side are the late Ernestine David and Tony Fuentes, Sr. and Great Grandparents, Andrew David & Winona (Katchia) David! I thank God every day for all of them and their prayers.

I was raised to be a logger, a businessman, a spiritual man, hunter, fisherman; Indians first, to honor all veterans, and most of all to work hard and always look for opportunities to better myself, and prosper.

After graduating high school, I started my education at Chemeketa Community College, and made my way to Oregon State University. By God's Grace, I graduated at OSU in 2002 receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Engineering from the top Forest Engineering Department in the world! During and after college, I worked for two Fortune 500 Timber companies, a great sawmill, and did a lot of Cadastral Land Surveying.

My career carried my family and me from the Willamette Valley, to North Idaho, and as of 2007, back to Warm Springs where I am currently the Timber/ Logging Manager for Warm Springs Forest Products Industries. With-in all of this, God has blessed me with several successful business opportunities;



from log appraiser, and timber marking, to a Crossfit Gym owner, just to name a few!

The past four years in our U.S. economy have been exceedingly challenging, especially 2008 to 2012, and has affected my industry and department greatly. However, regardless of how tough it got, and the hard and difficult changes we had to make, we have still made a few million dollars for the tribe when the rest of the world wasn't making any money. We did have one unfortunate lay off, but we did not have any contractors go out of business under my watch, if anything we grew more tribal contractors into the community of Warm Springs.

When one seeks God our Creator first, then all our needs will fall into place. With this, comes sobriety – leading to less alcohol, drugs, and gangs. Also we will have stronger and healthier families, hard working men and women will see and utilize their full potential and the community will be a desired place to live and work in, which leads to more joy, safety, and fun in our community!

We the people need to see what we can do for the tribe, and not what the not what the tribe can do for us.

We as a tribe need to pay special attention to our local economy and how it is affected with our Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP). I personally like and agree with a lot of the purposes behind the IRMP, but there needs to be some changes in order for the tribe to make more money. We all need to be concerned about our Natural Resources such as, our forest, water, fisheries, huckleberries, wildlife, and fire to name a few. We need to be aware of how much of our natural resources are literally burned every year and not fully utilized due to forest fires. By changing how our natural resources are managed, via Fire and Forest Management, we can minimize the loss that occurs to our natural resources.

In addition, we as a tribe need to protect and keep the jobs we do have with the en-

terprises that are already viable and operating, such as, Ventures, Power and Water Enterprises, Kah-Nee-Tah, Warm Springs Composite Products, Warm Springs Forest Products Industries, and especially the Credit Enterprise. Keeping these Enterprises also means changing how they are structured to get them operating at breakeven status or better and see where exactly the money goes with in these Enterprises.

This also means putting trust into our CEO's and the teams they put together. In addition, we need to get more qualified Tribal Members into these high ranking positions and have a plan of action to promote a better work ethic in our tribe. We also have the opportunity to employ more tribal members in our Natural Resources Departments with proper training and hands on experience. We need to encourage tribal owned small business growth through our current enterprises and departments, but we all need to support them.

Health and wellness is yet another big need for our tribe. The unhealthy, inactive lifestyles, obesity, drug and alcohol continuing to rise, and our people are left with little hope. We must give them real solutions to maintain and live healthy lifestyles. This isn't done through Government Operated Programs where success rates and completion rates are extremely low. We need to be open to well established programs such as Teen Challenge, and Celebrate Recovery, that aid those struggling with drug and alcohol addictions. As we begin to change lives, we begin to change our tribe.

Even with all of the other issues and concerns are tribe is facing, I fully believe that a strong, educated team of business minded leaders working together on tribal counsel, can help to make the changes necessary to turn our community around. With God our Creator as our center, we can do all things. Now that you have a better understanding of who I am, it is up to you the voter to decide if you would like me to be one of your Councilman!

Best Regards,
Claude H. Smith III

Ryan Smith

I am presently employed as tribal hydrologist. As a college graduate, a fish, wildlife, and environmental advocate, I feel qualified to progress this tribe and its members in the coming years. The experience I gained and shared through the years on the Fish and Wildlife Committee, Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission, Resource Management Inter-disciplinary Team, and Project Inter-disciplinary Team, has helped foster this move. Many of times larger decisions determined the larger picture, yet, significant opportunities were available for the finer details of assignments. We as tribe will have to come up with better finer details soon!

With a shrinking and uncertain tribal budget, possible future tribal philanthropy will be a very important endeavor. There has to be some flexibility to use dollars to benefit our tribal people!

Setting our budget the next two to three years has to allow for growth and expansion. Historically this tribe has always valued and utilized outside recommendations and insights, Oregon State study, consultants, legal council, and the like have all had their opportunities to contribute. Yet, we are still waiting for the very low hanging fruit to be funded and implemented. Limited funding is the largest issue and any platforms for this Council will have to maintain what money we are receiving. The next year, four years, and definitely by year 10 we will



be adjusting to very outside influences once again. Other tribal nations have truly raised the bar on what CTWS will need to do in the future in regards to educating congress!

I fully grasp the realization that the lack of dollars and the unrealized priorities are not excuses for the job at hand! As candidates for Tribal Council are considered I truly feel I have the experience to carry out any and all CTWS business asked of me!

The CTWS people come from (the river). We are smart, common sense minded, people, before gaming (nationwide respected leaders), post gaming (not as prominent). There is nothing wrong with making adjustments with what we got. Additional, revenue or resource extraction is not the total answer! I believe our system is set up where nobody really has to put any reputation, smarts, or jobs, on the line. I believe there is not enough professional opinion developed that supports our informed decisions.

Educating congress will require travel just to maintain what we have. This needs to be better organized for sure! I believe, we as a tribe need not worry about past letter of law, resolution, or ordinance, but instead concentrate on the original intent of that language. Some of my initial leg-

islative ideas: 50 percent of the time (month) Council has to be on reservation with a quorum. New employment first offered within house, than advertise if not filled. Sub-contracts Indian preference required or tribal department developed to do work. Other studied endeavors: Ski resort (Jefferson), Bear Springs (condos), NASCAR, not be revisited or implemented. Review of salary at federal government level revisited (everybody or nobody). Revisit the necessity to include non-tribal members on our boards.

We have to become accustomed to other peoples' opinions for our lively hoods and the present-future potential is: year around hunting (not likely to happen), bonus payments (not likely substantial), trust funds (in jeopardy), per cap (in jeopardy), lack of jobs (happening), housing shortage (happening), summer work experience (not happening), and a tribal high school (not likely to happen).

Like to thank you for your time and please vote for your candidate. I bring to the table, common sense, strategic abilities, and a fair and concise recommendation when needed or required. I believe there are many statements the tribal public is anxious to hear. Being polite, aggressive when need be, open to new information, and due diligence at all times, are strategies needed to develop and support well informed decisions.

Resolution of Tribal Council

(Note: The following is a recent resolution of Tribal Council.)

Be it resolved by the 25th Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, pursuant to Article V, Section (1) of the Constitution and By-Laws and 203.001 of the Warm Springs Tribal Code that:

Marielle Florendo, Thor Hoyte, Cynthia Starkey, Elmer Ward, Matthew Johnson, Douglas Nash,

Chief Judge.

The Tribal Council hereby appoints the Appeals Court Judges for the Warm Springs Court of Appeals, and are appointed for a three year term by Tribal Council and that per 203.100(5) during the first year from their initial appointment appeals court judges shall be on a probationary status, during the probationary period, appeals court judges may be removed from the bench at any time without cause by Tribal Council, Further, failure to

pass the Tribal bar examination during the first six(6) months on the bench will result in immediate disqualification from hearing cases and, if not corrected within 90 days, automatic removal from the bench; and,

Be it further resolved that each of the Judges shall be compensated at the rate of \$150.00 per hour for the time they spend serving as Judge. (Resolution No. 11,715.)