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July - Pat'ak-Pt'akni - Summer - Shatm

Motorsports vote falls short by 46

There are three ways to vote: yes, no, and no show. "People can vote with their feet, by not showing up at the polls," Jo Ann Smith was saying earlier this week.

When the polling place closed on Tuesday evening, a little more than two-thirds of the eligible voters had not cast their ballots.

This resulted in the official conclusion: "Did not meet the Constitutional requirement of one-third qualified voters casting their ballots."

Tribal Council certified the motorsports referendum results Wednesday morning; and there was discussion that the matter would not be put to another vote of the membership.

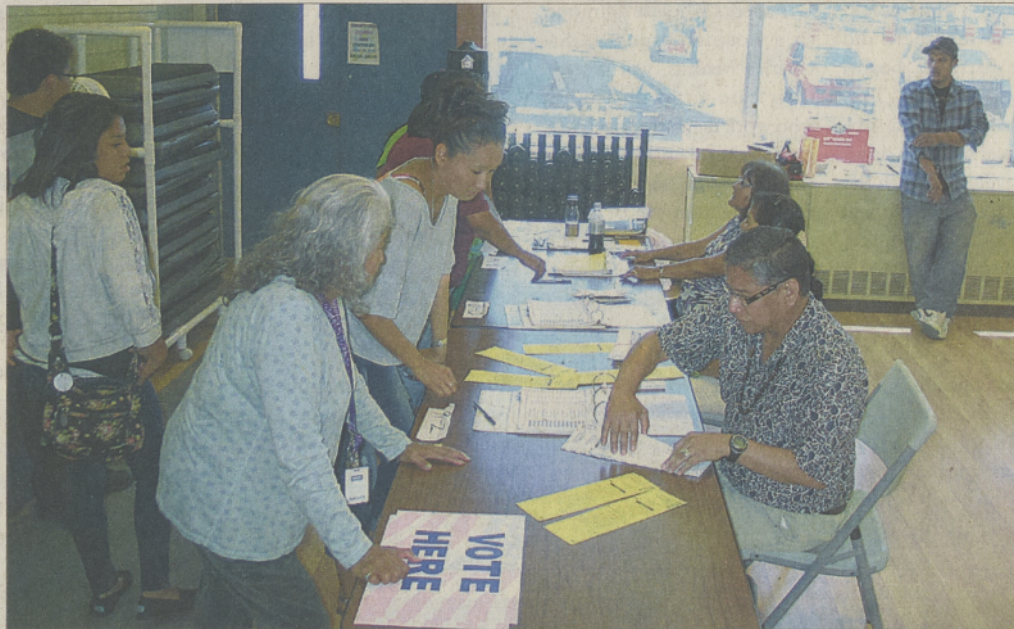
The official results were 550 in favor and 459 against, for a total of 1,009 total votes cast.

There were 3,165 eligible voters, which would have required a turnout of at least 1,055; so the referendum fell short by 46 ballots.

Ordinance 44

Tribal Council earlier in the week discussed the tribal voting process, specifically Tribal Ordinance 44. There has been some confusion about the ordinance, as it appeared there were two different versions of Ordinance 44.

Tribal attorney Howie Arnett clarified that one of the versions was a draft that a previous Tribal Council had amended; and yet the draft



Tribal election worker William Rhoan prepares ballots for Peggy Poitra and Sisily Scott.

version was still being circulated. Council directed that this situation be corrected.

Councilman Carlos Smith suggested that the ordinance be amended in order to reflect the current voting practices of the Confederated Tribes.

For instance, there is a two-witness requirement for absentee ballots, which has not been enforced for many years. At the very least, this requirement should be removed from the Ordinance, said Council-

man Scott Moses.

Councilman Smith suggested that the tribes consider switching to a vote-by-mail system for all tribal member voters. "The point is to make it as easy as possible for members to vote," he said.

Councilman Raymond Tsumpti said such a change in the voting method would require consultation with the membership.

Councilman Reuben Henry said the voting age requirement should be looked at. Presently, a member

must be 21 years old or married in order to participate in a tribal election. The tribes should look at setting the voting age at 18, Councilman Henry said.

Changing the voting requirement would require an amendment to the tribal Constitution, said Councilwoman Evaline Patt. This matter, and the vote-by-mail suggestion, warrant further Council discussion, she said.

— Dave McMechan

Work starting on water line

Work is scheduled to begin this month on the new waterline and reservoir that will serve the Simnasho-Schoolie Flat residents.

A completion date for the work is scheduled for late December.

For several years the Simnasho-Schoolie Flat water system has tested high for the presence of arsenic, which is a health risk and can cause cancer.

While the tribes have worked to secure funding for the new well and pipeline, the Simnasho-Schoolie Flat residents received bottled water for domestic use.

Funding for the waterline project was achieved through a combination of tribal and federal dollars. Last month the tribe held a pre-bid meeting and awarded the new Simnasho waterline and reservoir project. (See the Public Notice on page 8 of this publication.)

Insurance matter at Council

The Tribal Council voted on Monday to establish a board to review health insurance issues facing the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

The board will consist of the members of the review board for the tribal Pension program. The members are the Council chairman, the secretary-treasurer, chief operations officer, and representatives from Kah-Nee-Ta and Warm Springs Forest Products Industries.

The Confederated Tribes and its enterprises, like other employers in the U.S., face a potentially complicated challenge in coming months regarding implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act. Under these circumstances, the tribes need to assure that all health-care insurance options are being considered, said Councilman Carlos Smith.

Councilman Smith made the motion to appoint the Pension board as the tribal insurance review team, seconded by Councilman Scott Moses. Also in favor were Councilmen Kahseuss Jackson, Reuben Henry and Raymond Tsumpti, Warm Springs Chief Delvis Health and Wasco Chief J.R. Smith Jr.

The vote was 7-1-1. Council Chairman Austin Greene Jr. did not vote, as the chairman votes only in case of tie. Councilwoman Evaline Patt voted against. She said the formation of a new board could duplicate a role being carried out by the tribal Health and Human Services Branch, as the branch implements the Affordable Care Act.

See HEALTH CARE on 2

Pi-Ume-Sha



The Confederated Tribes hosted the Forty-Fourth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha Powwow in late June. See page 6 for more on the powwow. Stick Game and Parade results in the next Spilyay.



Yvonne Iverson photos.



GET YOUR KICKS ON HIGHWAY

26

Warm Springs Oregon

The Heat is Rising!

MORE THAN \$50,000 IN CASH & PRIZES!

See page 12 for details.

