



Spilyay Tyme

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Council, enterprises meet early this year

Tribal Council spent most of last week meeting with the directors and managers of the tribal enterprises.

The general fund budget, with the need for continued cuts this year, is the issue.

"We've called in the enterprises, because the membership relies on them," said Council Chairman Austin Greene Jr.

Many tribal members are in hardship because of the financial situation. "It's difficult to see what the membership is going through, and we want to get back to where we once were," Chairman Greene said.

Council is asking for monthly

updates from the enterprises, which in the past provided most of the general fund revenue. Many of the enterprises have fallen on hard times, resulting in general-fund employee lay-offs, and furlough days during most of last year.

Power and Water

Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises saw a better financial year in 2013 than had earlier been expected, Jim Manion, Power and Water general manager, reported to Council last week.

The energy market was up compared to the previous year, Manion said. This was the result of an increase in competing energy prices,

and a improving economy, which increases energy consumption, he said.

The Confederated Tribes currently own a one-third interest in the Pelton-Round Butte hydroelectric dams.

The tribes and Portland General Electric became partners in the ownership and operation of the dams in 2001, when the parties entered a settlement agreement.

They jointly hold the Federal Energy Regulatory License, approved in 2005. This is the only such arrangement—involving a tribe and a utility—in the U.S. The tribes also own and operate the re-regulating dam, downstream from the

Pelton-Round Butte facilities.

Through the re-license, the tribes and PGE have made substantial improvements at the dams in order to improve fish passage. Over \$100 million has gone into this effort, including most noticeably the fish collection tower behind the Round Butte dam.

Through its agreement with PGE, the Confederated Tribes have the option to purchase a larger interest in the hydro dams. The tribes could eventually become majority owners, with 50.01 percent, in 2041.

See **POWER & WATER** on 2

Powwow at Simasho

The Thirty-Seventh Lincoln's Birthday Powwow is this Friday through Sunday, Feb. 7-9, at the Simnasho Longhouse.

Friday at 5:30 sharp is for new and re-joiners; Grand Entry is at 7:30.

The Saturday Grand Entry is at 1 p.m. There will be a supper break, no evening grand entry. Sunday Grand Entry is at 1:30 p.m.

Specials: One man hand drum contest. For information contact Kyle Queahpama at 541-553-6908.

Women's All Around, sponsored by the Greene Family. For information contact Austin Greene at 541-553-1953.

Men's Traditional special. Contact Mary Sando-Ernhoolah at 553-1910 (after 6 p.m.)

Outgoing Girls Jingle (11-13) Special. Contact Lisa Lhomas.

Powwow questions: 541-553-9230 after 6 p.m. Vendors, contact Sandra Greene-Samson at 553-6619.

The PowWow Go'er Package at Kah-Nee-Ta includes lodging and breakfast for two for just \$79 per night. Call 1-800-554-4SUN.

Processing facility progress

A Warm Springs team met with potential funding sources last week regarding a traditional foods processing facility, to be located on the reservation.

The facility would provide processing for traditional roots, berries, game and salmon. A feasibility study, funded through a \$60,000 grant, summarizes the facility as follows:

"The project aims to meet community needs, ensure the continuation of traditional food systems, and promote healthy local foods on the reservation, while providing a foundation for job creation and economic growth through the development of value-added commercial food products."

Several organizations are interested in providing funding for this project, said Bruce Jim, of the Fish and Wildlife Committee. Jim updated Tribal Council on the project last week, before the funding information meeting last Wednesday.

Some of the funding groups who are interested in the project are:

The U.S. Economic Development Association, EcoTrust, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Mid Columbia Economic Development District, One PacificCoast Bank, the Meyer Memorial Trust, Business Oregon, USDA Rural Development, and the First Nations Development Institute.

See **PROCESSING FACILITY** on 6

New signs for casino

New signs at Indian Head—for the casino and the restaurant—went up in January.

An average of 6,000 vehicles per day travel on Highway 26. "We want to get more of that traffic to stop by," said Harold Baugus, casino general manager.

Baugus, chief finance officer Sean Sadeghi, and the casino board members met with Tribal Council last week. Council reappointed Priscilla Frank and Deepak Sehgal to the casino board.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

WSFPI mill off to a good start in 2014

The Warm Springs Forest Products Industries mill began its 2014 operation, with the full crew of workers, on January 6. This was an earlier start, by several weeks, than in other recent years.

WSFPI, Natural Resources and Tribal Council worked out a plan last year providing for an inventory of wood that was stored at the mill during the temporary winter lay-off.

The inventory allowed the mill to open early, with positive sales and cash flow results, not to mention the benefit to the mill employees, said Chuck Currier, acting WSPFI general manager,

and Composite Products chief finance officer.

In another positive development: The mill is relying on timber from the reservation, as well logs harvested off the reservation, Currier said.

The off-reservation logs are of good quality meeting the high-standard criteria of the Japanese market, he said.

"Export prices are up, and we should have a solid first half of the year," Currier said.

The mill begins 2014 under tribal management, with VanPort International handling the overseas marketing. VanPort had been managing in recent years. Tribal Coun-

cil had not been happy with the VanPort arrangement, and re-negotiated its agreement with VanPort last year.

There seems to be more of a team atmosphere at the mill under the tribal management, Currier said. "There's a better relationship between the mill and Natural Resources, for instance," he said.

Currier and Composite Products chief executive officer Duane Darnell were asked last year to serve as interim management at WSPFI.

Councilman Carlos Smith asked what percentage of the logging operations on the reservation are done by tribal operators.

Claude Smith, WSPFI timber manager, and Currier estimated that 83 percent of the logging is done by tribal operations, and 17 percent by non-tribal operators.

In other WSPFI business, Tribal Council approved Resolution no. 11,842, providing a Business Investment Revolving Fund loan of \$500,000 (see page 8).

Composite Products

Darnell and Currier also updated Council on the status of Warm Springs Composite Products.

See **COMPOSITE** on 6




The Museum at Warm Springs is hosting the Twenty-First Tribal Youth Art Show, this year called *Young at Art*. The show runs through March.

The youth art show features individual art works, and those created as class room projects.

At left is a block art project by a Madras High School class. At right, ceiling tile art by students at the high school. (More on page 2.)






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SEE PAGE 12 FOR DETAILS