

Petition: election would amend Constitution

(Continued from page 1)

The final number of signatures submitted to the BIA Regional Office will likely be somewhat lower than the total number submitted. This is because some of the same signatures appeared more than one time on the petition sheets; some were by non-tribal members, and some were by minors. Some signature names are those of people who were deceased at the time.

Still, there appears to be enough signatures to meet the minimum requirement, Mr. Halliday said.

Some signatures are illegible, but apparently these are valid, as the signature gatherers verified the petition sheets, Mr. Halliday said.

Some on Tribal Council feel the illegible signatures should not be counted, as you cannot prove whether the person is really a tribal member, over 18, etc.

The BIA legal counsel, though, indicates the signature gatherer verification is enough, Halliday said.

Allowing the tribal membership to vote on the question is important, Councilman Kahseuss Jackson said, but the integrity of the process is as important.

The potential of non-tribal member signatures on the petition sheets would be unfortunate, he said, considering the proposal is to change the Tribal Constitution. Councilwoman Evaline Patt expressed a similar feeling.

Councilmen Scott Moses and Carlos Smith said the process needs to go forward, so the membership can have their say.

Proposed changes

This is a summary of proposed changes to the tribal Constitution, as presented on the petition:

Tribal Council would include nine members. Under the existing Tribal Constitution, there are 11 Council members. Three of the 11 positions are those of the Chiefs, who serve for life.

One proposed amendment would make all of the

Council positions subject to a term of years, with no lifetime positions.

Under the proposal, the terms would be for three years, with the exception of some initial terms. As summarized:

"The elected members will be numbered 1-9 based on a drawing of numbers 1-9. Numbers 1, 4 and 7 will be in the first election after three years; 2,5 and 8 will be in the second election the following year; 3,6 and 9 will be in the third election the following year. The election process for Council will follow this numbered process annually thereafter."

So after the initial three-year period, there would be an election of three new Council members each year, under the proposal.

Another proposal: The Council members would be selected in BIA secretarial elections by eligible, entitled voters. This would be another significant change, as current Tribal Council elections are conducted tribally.

Under the existing Tribal Constitution, three Council members are elected from the Simnasho and Agency districts, and two are elected from the Seekseequa District.

Under the proposed amendments, the Council members would be elected by the membership at large, rather than by district.

Also among the proposed Tribal Constitutional amendments:

The Tribal Council members would be compensated as follows: Chairperson \$80,000; Vice-Chairperson \$70,000; all other members \$60,000.

If the election goes forward, then tribal members 18 years and older would need to register to vote with the BIA. The referendum would pass with a majority voting in favor; and seeing at least one-third of the registered voters participate. The petition initiators are Mike Clements, Sal Sahme, Wendell Jim, Grant Clements Sr., and Ruth "Pinky" Beymer.

Project: much to work on

(Continued from page 1)

Another early project will be the creation of a tribal cannabis commission to oversee the operation, again similar to the tribal gaming operation. In time, the tribes and the state will finalize a compact, similar to a gaming compact, in regard to the cannabis project.

Another item to be determined is the location of the greenhouse. This would be a facility about 36,000 square feet in size. The industrial park, near the mill, or some other location are all on the table.

Ventures and Council are working with the Branch of Natural Resources, the Land-Use Committee, tribal engineer and others in narrowing down the location options. Funding options for the construction are another item on the agenda during early 2016.

The site will be about five acres in size, at a secure location, and would have access to electricity

and water. Any cultural and resource requirements would be addressed immediately, Sampson said.

Another project will be development of the employee training program. Ventures and the tribes will work with partners from Colorado on this project, Sampson said. Eighty-five employees will be working at the facility when in its full operation.

"There is a lot to do, and there are different aspects moving forward at the same time," Mr. Sampson said.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs is the first tribe to pursue a cannabis project at this level, "and we're going to do it right. That's what the U.S. Attorney really liked, the transparency. They know we're heading in the right direction."

Sometime in the future, the tribes could also consider the cultivation of hemp, which has no recreational quality, but has great industrial potential.

Warm Springs Community Calendar

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Thursday 1/7

The Warm Springs Elliot Palmer **VFW Post** meets tonight at 6 p.m. at the Warm Springs Veteran's Hall. They meet the first Thursday of every month.

Warm Springs **jurors** will need to check-in at 9:30 this morning at Warm Springs Tribal Court.

There is an **Alcoholics Anonymous** meeting today at noon at Community Counseling, Alcohol Education Class is at 2 p.m., and there is a Narcotics Anonymous meeting at 7 tonight at the Shaker Church.

On today's **fitness schedule**: at noon there is Functional Fitness class in the community center social hall, turbo kick class in the aerobics room, and volleyball in the community center gym. Tonight is IBA from 6 to 8:45.

Guiding Butterflies & Mighty Warriors classes meet today from 1 to 3 in the prevention room at community counseling. The class is for adults to participate in cultural-based teachings, crafts and activities.

Friday, Jan. 8

MHS sports: The boys basketball teams have home games vs. Philomath today. Freshman and JV play at 5:30, varsity at 7.

Fitness opportunities today include: Senior fitness class at the senior center at 10:45. At noon there is bas-

ketball in the community center gym, and functional fitness class in the aerobics room. And at the Health & Wellness Center, Pilates yoga class is at noon.

Warm Springs **4-H Archers** meet today in the old Warm Springs elementary cafeteria for shooting practice at 4 p.m. They are getting ready for an archery competition, but even if you're not taking part in that, you are welcome to work on your archery skills. Call 541-553-3238 for more information.

The Jefferson County Library **film center** will show *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, rated R, on Friday, at 7:30 p.m. Films are free and are shown at the Rodriguez Annex in Madras.

The Madras Aquatic Center recreation district, Kiwanis and Lions **2016 Youth Basketball** registration is open. The season will begin January 16. This is for children in grades 3 through 6. You can register online at macaquatic.com. Or call the Madras Aquatic Center, 541-475-4253.

Saturday, Jan. 9

MHS sports: Co-ed JV/V swimming has a meet at The Dalles/Wahtonka, and varsity wrestlers travel to Bend.

There is an **Alcoholics Anonymous** meeting this morning at 10 at Warm

Springs Community Counseling.

Sunday, Jan. 10

The **Warm Springs Food Bank** is located at the Presbyterian Church. They are open today from 11:30-1:30. All food banks and pantries do take donations of non-perishable food or cash.

Monday, Jan. 11

Fitness opportunities today include: Senior fitness class at the senior center at 10:45. At noon there is basketball in the community center gym, and functional fitness in the aerobics room. At the Health and Wellness Center, Pilates-Yoga class is at noon, and there is Ladies Night Basketball tonight from 6 to 7:45.

The Warm Springs **Vocational Rehabilitation** Program has orientation today at 3 p.m. at their office in the industrial park. If you or someone you know has or may have a disability that is a barrier to employment or employment advancement, learn about the options at an orientation, or by calling 553-4952.

The **Soaring Butterflies - Warrior Spirit** class

meets today at 3:40 at the Warm Springs k-8 community room. This is for 3rd to 8th grade youth, and includes culturally based teachings, hands-on activities, as well as drug and alcohol prevention education.

Community Counseling has their **Aftercare Relapse Support Group** today at 5:30.

There is a **509-J school board meeting** at 7 p.m. in the Support Services Building.

Tuesday, Jan. 12

Today is an **early release day** for South Wasco schools. Students will be released at 2:15.

MHS Sports: Girls basketball teams have home games vs. Bend today. Freshman play at 4, JV at 5:30 and varsity at 7. Boys basketball teams travel to Bend.

On today's **fitness schedule**: at noon there is functional fitness class in the community center social hall, turbo kick class in the aerobics room, and volleyball in the community center gym. There is IBA this evening from 6 to 8:45.

The **Jefferson County Food Bank** is located at 556

SE Seventh Street. They are open for distribution this afternoon. All food banks and pantries do take donations of non-perishable food or cash.

The Warm Springs **Vocational Rehabilitation program** has orientation today at 3 p.m. at Community Counseling.

Powwow, hoop dance and drum practice for beginners and anyone who would like to practice is today from 5:30 to 7 at the community center aerobics room.

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Today at Warm Springs Community Counseling there is **Aftercare Class** this morning at 8:30 in their conference room, Women's Group meets at 1, Adolescent Aftercare Talking Circle is at 5:30 in the Prevention Room and an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting this evening 7.

Fitness Opportunities today include: Water aerobics at 10:15 at the Kah-Nee-Ta Village pool. At 10:45 there is senior fitness class at the senior center. At noon there is basketball in the community center gym, and functional fitness in the aero-

bics room. And at the Health and Wellness Center, Pilates Yoga class is at noon. Tonight is Ladies Night Basketball from 6 to 7:45.

Thursday, Jan. 14

MHS Sports: Varsity wrestlers have a meet at Crook County.

Warm Springs jurors will need to check-in at 9:30 this morning at Warm Springs Tribal Court.

There is an **Alcoholics Anonymous** meeting today at noon at Community Counseling. **Alcohol Education** class is at 2 p.m., and there is a Narcotics Anonymous meeting at 7 tonight at the Shaker Church.

On today's **fitness schedule**: at noon there is functional fitness class in the community center social hall; turbo kick class in the aerobics room; and Volleyball in the community center gym. Tonight is IBA from 6 to 8:45.

Guiding Butterflies & Mighty Warriors classes meet today from 1 to 3 at Community Counseling. The class is for adults to participate in cultural-based teachings, crafts and activities.

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