

On the Council agenda in January

The following are items coming up at Tribal Council for the rest of January (subject to change at Council discretion):

Wednesday, January 12: Committee Reports.

- 9 a.m.: Timber Committee report.
- 10: Health and Welfare Committee.
- 11: Land Use Planning Committee.
- 1:30 p.m.: Range & Ag Committee.
- 2:30: Water Board update.
- 3:30: Appeals Court update.

Monday, January 17

- 9 a.m.: Indian Head Casino and Plateau Travel Plaza update with Jeffrey Carstensen.
- 9:30: February agenda, and review minutes with Glendon Smith, Secretary-Treasurer.
- 10: Draft resolutions with the S-T.
- 11: Covid update with the Response Team.
- 1:30 p.m.: Enrollments with Lucille Suppach-Samson, Vital Statistics.
- 2: Human Resources update with Carol Funk.
- 3: Administrative Services update with the S-T.

Currently, voting districts of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are planning to hold **Tribal Council nominations** on Thursday, February 3. Simnasho District nominations will be at the Simnasho Longhouse; and Seekseequa at the Fire Hall. For Agency, the Wasco Chief is considering nominations by written form, as a precaution during the pandemic. More details will be shared ahead of nomination time. Covid protocol applies. The Tribal Council election is planned for the start of April.

3:30: Health and Human Services discussion with Caroliine Cruz.

Tuesday, January 18

- 9 a.m.: Governmental Affairs update with Louie Pitt.
- 9:30: Managed Care update with Mike Collins.
- 10: Administrative Services update with Glendon.
- 10:30: Procurement update with Libby Chase.
- 11: Tribal Court update with Lisa Lomas.
- 1:30 p.m.: Public Safety update with Nancy Seyler.
- 2:30: Natural Resources update with Robert Brunoe.
- 3:30: Finance update with Isaac George.

Wednesday, January 19

- 9 a.m.: Education Branch update with Valerie Switzler.
- 10: Public Utilities with Chico

- Holiday.
- 11: QLife discussion.
- 1:30 p.m.: Credit discussion with Lori Fuentes.
- 2:30: Warm Springs Housing Authority update with Danielle Wood.
- 3:30: Warm Springs Timber LLC discussion with Michele Stacona.

Monday, January 24

- 9 a.m.: OSU Traditional Foods project discussion with Rosanna Sanders.
- 11: Secretary-Treasurer update with Glendon.

Tuesday, January 25

- 9 a.m.: Akana update with Said Amali.

Wednesday, January 26: Open agenda.

- Item for further consideration: November and December, 2021 financials.

Summary of Tribal Council

January 5, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman Raymond Tsumpti Sr. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Glendon Smith, Chief Joseph Moses, Anita Jackson, Vice Chair Brigitte McConville, Lincoln Jay Suppah, Wilson Wewa Jr., Raymond 'Captain' Moody. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- Akana update with Said Amali.
- January agenda amendment by Tribal Council:

Motion by Brigitte approving: Water Treatment Plant update at 1:30. Blue Stone and Akana to January 10 at 1:30. Warm Springs Ventures—Kah-Nee-Ta discussion with update—on January 10.

Human Resources and Payroll regarding personal time off carry-over on January 17. Q-Life on January 19 at 11 a.m. Appeals Judges meet and greet, and Housing and Credit are cancelled, to be rescheduled. Second by Wilson. Discussion. Glendon/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Delvis/yes, Anita/yes, Brigitte/yes, Wilson/yes, Jay/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Willamette Falls Trust Update with Gerard Rodriguez.
- HVAC system update with Chico Holliday.
- January agenda amend-

ment with Glendon Smith, S-T:

Motion by Glendon to include Public Safety budget discussion today at 3 p.m. Second by Brigitte. Discussion. Glendon/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Delvis/yes, Anita/yes, Brigitte/yes, Wilson/yes Jay/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Water treatment plant update with tribal attorney, Utilities' Chico Holliday, and Barry Buchanan.

• Public Safety 2022 budget discussion with Nancy Seyler and Ron Gregory:

Public Safety, Secretary-Treasurer, Carol Funk at Human Services, and William Sam, Payroll, will work together on a proposed salary chart and recommendations, then bring it back.

- Fire and Safety is no longer held in abeyance.

- Paid time off carry-over due to Covid-19:

Motion by Glendon approving the temporary amendment to PER 702(3), as noted. Second by Anita. Discussion. Glendon/yes, Joe/no, Delvis/no, Anita/yes, Brigitte/yes, 3/2/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Glendon to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

From the desk of the Veterans Service Officer

Ranking masks: Good, better and best

Health officials and experts are increasingly saying it's time to upgrade your face masks, especially in light of the omicron surge. With the increasing airborne spread of the coronavirus, it's important to improve the fit of masks and their filtration—making enhancements that go beyond old, loose, cloth face coverings that have become popular since the pandemic began in 2020.

Since omicron is perhaps twice as infectious, an encounter that you could have tolerated for delta may well infect you with omicron. Knowing this, it's worth upgrading the protection you get from your mask.

Here's the latest advice from leading health officials, ranking the protectiveness of certain kinds of masks:

Best masks

The best masks are N95, KN95 and KF94 masks. Don't wear an additional face covering on top of these masks.

Better masks

Less effective, but still better than loose cloth masks alone, are surgical masks—commonly called blue masks because there's usually a blue-tinted color on the outside of the masks.

They can be made more effective by placing a cloth mask over the surgical mask, which make the fit of the face covering more snug. Officials don't recommend wearing two surgical masks.

Throw the mask away if it is wet or dirty or after a day of use, whichever comes first.

Gaps around the sides of a surgical mask make them less protective than a tighter-fitting mask.

With gaps, air that has virus particles can easily leak in or out around the sides of the mask. Good fit forces the air that you breathe out and breathe in to go through the mask and be filtered.

Good masks

Cloth masks can work well if they are tight-fitting and made of materials that filter out small particles. Regarding these masks, health workers say look for the

following properties:

—Two layers of tightly woven cotton with a third layer of non-woven fabric. The third layer could be a mask filter insert or a synthetic fabric such as polypropylene.

—Nose wires to reduce gaps from the nose.

—Adjustable ear loops or straps that go around the head to reduce gaps from the face.

Face coverings without these properties should not be used in higher-risk situations if other options are available. Examples of less-effective face coverings are two-layer cotton masks, bandanas and gaiters.

Still, any cloth mask is better than no mask at all.

Why masks are important

People who are vaccinated and have received their booster are well-protected from severe illness, hospitalization and death, unless they have weakened immune systems—even against the omicron variant.

Officials say the newest variant's highly mutated strain likely means that more vaccinated people will get infected compared with earlier variants, including delta. But even if vaccinated



Frankie Williams, W.S. Veterans Representative

people do get infected, they are more likely to show either no symptoms or only mild symptoms.

Nonetheless, vaccinated, boosted people remain the least likely to suffer a coronavirus infection.

Unvaccinated people have the highest chance of getting infected and being hospitalized with Covid-19.

For more information on getting masks, contact the Tribal Veterans Service Officer, **Frankie Williams**, 541-460-0605.

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