

# Agency District Candidates

## Dennis J. White III

My name is Dennis J. White, III. I am running for a seat on the Twenty-Ninth Tribal Council for the Agency District.

My parents are Dennis J. White Jr. and Charlene Stacona White. My paternal grandparents are atwai Dennis J. White Sr. of Compton, Calif., and atwai Bertha Elouise White of San Bernadino, Calif.

My maternal grandparents are atwai Curtis Stacona and atwai Marcelene (Gensaw) Stacona. I descend from the Stacona family.

I love my community and have served the membership for over 22 years as a protector of our community and our natural resources.

I began my career as a Cadet in high school as a summer youth worker. At the age of 21, I followed my life-long dream and became a Police Officer with the Warm Springs Police Department.

During my time at the Warm Springs Police Department, I held the following positions: Patrol Officer, Fish and Game Officer, Detective, Patrol Sergeant and Lieutenant of Patrol, and the Chief of Police.

I learned the importance of engaging with



Dennis J. White

our community, leadership, communication, chain of command and teamwork.

Currently, I work with the Warm Springs Construction Enterprise and have seen first hand the hard work and effort it takes to literally build from the ground up. I learned a broad range of trade skills in a fast pace environment to meet the budget and time constraints of construction.

My goals are:

### • Communication

Above all a leader must be present and make yourself available to your membership. Our memberships knows we face many challenges as a Nation and they rightfully demand answers as to how these challenges came to be, but also how we will work through them to a better future.

### • Accountability

A leader's service is to all of their people and all of the resources. I remain committed to understanding the issues of our community and to accept accountability for them.

Hard work, honesty, and communication are the tools needed in meeting our challenges.

### • Community leadership

Empowering our membership in working together for the welfare of the people. Extending joint ownership and participation to those who live on and off our reservation and represent the voice of all our people.

Our people have varied points-of-view and we need to listen and re-examine our approach on how we invest our time and cultivate relationships to determine the priorities and efforts that will benefit our community and future generations.

I am running for Tribal Council because I want to serve the membership, and I would be honored to represent our community.

Vote **Dennis J. White III**, Agency District Candidate.

## Reina Estimo

My name is Reina Estimo and I am an Agency candidate for the Twenty-Ninth Tribal Council.

My parents are Alfred Estimo Sr. and Mina Shike. My grandparents are at'wai Charlotte Shike and at'wai Raymond Shike Sr., at'wai Della Smith and Tom Estimo Sr.

I have one brother, Alfred Estimo Jr., and one son, Dominic, I was recently granted permanent custody of through the foster parent program.

I am running for Tribal Council because I feel like I can help advocate for changes in our laws, policies and priorities that will create positive changes for the membership. My primary goal as a leader will be to improve opportunities for tribal members to have a higher quality of life for themselves, their children and grandchildren.

I have a strong background in law and government. My experience in law comes from my time as a Public Defender, and my experience in government comes from my formal education in Political Science and lifelong 'passion' for politics. I know our Tribal Code, Constitution and By-Laws by heart, and I truly understand the purpose and role of government.

What sets me apart from other candidates with a law background is that any job I have had



Reina Estimo

has been in a form or service to the people, and I was not only put in the position to judge people.

Working with legal aid and criminal defendants, youth and families and individuals in need of services has given me a strong understanding of the overall needs of our community.

There is no way to summarize my ideas as a candidate that I have developed and fine-tuned in my head over at least a couple of decades. But I can promise you I have ideas and a plan that I will advocate for. I can promise you that I will always be able to explain my logic and motives behind any decision I make. I can promise that I will go the extra mile to be transparent, and always be accessible to all of the people, not only people that support me.

The law-making process in the state and the U.S. governments is a long, drawn out process. It is not the same with the tribe. Tribal leaders can make immediate changes and immediate impact. We need leaders that understand this and most importantly, understand and love the people.

This sounds cheesy, but as a member, it bothers me to hear how many of our elected and non-elected leaders regularly talk about our people. They don't use language that embodies 'love.' They might claim 'tough love,' but that has been our approach for decades, and given the financial and social state of our community, that approach is not working.

Our people deserve compassion and understanding. Our kids deserve people that will fiercely advocate for them, not those who can't even bother to show up for a school board meeting or advocate for our tribal members running for the school board. Our people deserve leaders that are present in the community and make an effort to come to you, and not expect you to always have to come to them.

We need leaders that understand leadership is a privilege. I want to talk with the membership. I am willing to set up in person or virtual calls with individuals or families.

I am ready to serve and I want the opportunity to prove to you that I deserve your vote.

More detailed information about me, my experience and platform can be found on my campaign website: <https://sites.google.com/view/reinaforagencydistrict/home>

Reina Estimo

## Jim Manion

I have been nominated to serve on the Twenty-Ninth Tribal Council and I have accepted the nomination.

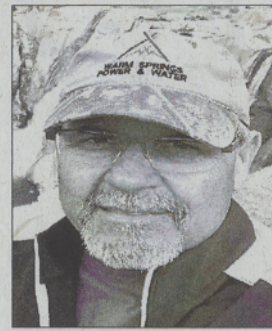
My great grandfather Jerry Brunoe served as the first Tribal Judge. My grandfather Urban Brunoe served on the Council, as have my Uncles Garland and Mickey Brunoe. It is a big responsibility with decisions that need to be made that impact all tribal members.

We are facing challenges that I believe we can overcome if we work together.

After 40 years I recently announced that I will be retiring from my job as the general manager of Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises. I believe serving on Tribal Council requires you to focus solely on that responsibility.

I have served on several boards for our tribe, which brings a perspective to what we have done in the past, which would help us advance opportunities today.

I have also served on other boards, like the school district board, nonprofits, and for-



Jim Manion

profit boards.

We are at a point in time where we need to explore how we can expand generating jobs, revenue, and community. With that we can begin creating a safe, healthy community we can all call our home.

We need to look at implementing the many plans that have been identified as opportunities for us, both economically and socially.

Issues to explore:

- What are we willing to sacrifice as individual members today to create a better community for tomorrow?

- Is per capita serving its purpose? Should we use it to build a stronger community, which is approximately \$1.5 million annually and growing as membership grows. That could be re-channelled to assist in building a better community.

- Respectfully begin using our land base to generate opportunities for membership without creating problems for the future generations.

- Establish objectives to rein in violence and drug and alcohol challenges.

- Be accountable for what we are doing. Provide a clear transparent communication process to keep membership informed on issues we are dealing with.

I do not have all the answers, but I am willing to help in finding solutions to our challenges and advance opportunities we have.

As the Lewis and Clark expedition stated in their journals when they encountered our ancestors at Celilo, "We encountered a very inviting people who welcomed all and were willing to help all who needed it regardless of who they were. They have an organized economy and run it efficiently." We are a people who care about each other.

May we have a great turn out at the polls and select the best possible Council to serve all tribal members.

Respectfully,  
**Jim Manion**

## Ryan G. Smith Sr.

Greetings, My name is Ryan G. Smith Sr., 'Smitty,' son of Lepha Marie Smith and the late Raymond Gene Smith. My grandparents belong to the Miller, Adams and Smith families, and my family relations further include the Tohet, Thompson, McCorkel, and Tufti families.

I am asking for your support to represent the Agency District in the Tribal Council election. With your help I hope to represent the largest voting district for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Agency.

I actively fish and hunt and have done so my entire life. I've served as a member of the Resource Management Inter Disciplinary Team, and Project Inter Disciplinary Team, and presently I am employed as the Water Soil manager.

I was a part of the Fish and Wildlife Committee from 2003-2021, during six Tribal Councils, and served as chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and treasurer for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission throughout these years.

In 1997 I received my degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon.

Resume highlights: Initiated expanded off-reservation hunting. Increased spring chinook production in the Hood River basin. Supported below Bonneville fishery (when numbers are high enough). Critically reviewed numerous funding priorities and strate-



Ryan Smith

gies.

I do have some understanding and practical implementation of policy at the local, regional, and national levels. I personally think middle ground hasn't been getting it done! People, We are running out of time, your lifetime, and the belief your children, and their children's children. So ask ourselves, Are we doing enough? What more can we do?

The Number One issue is to increase/maintain funding, secondarily create jobs, and address emerging climate change issues.

We need to develop better strategies on all issues. A fair expectation and manageable workload for success is paramount. Definitely many issues to cover and be knowledgeable about.

Within months of swearing in: Council will address the Integrated Resource Management Plan, Tribal Council priorities, and renew the Fish Accords. By end of 2022, I would propose to update all codes and ordinances by bringing fines into 2022 dollars.

Within the three years: Congressional ask—Tire recovery funding for the last ten to 15 years of fires on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Congressional ask—Testify about marking fish and bring to the front—

this allocation, not conservation issue.

National follow up: Flooding of Columbia with reservoirs, fishing places and homes, in fact these are some CTWS-only areas.

Continue to develop a campus plan, water infrastructure, waste water, and tribal business master plan.

By the end of the three year span: Address emerging climate change issues. The Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery acclimation ponds. Back up the Agency water source, Shitike creek.

Develop a strategy for the Power issues, maintenance, up-keep, and the price determination (lack of PUD for parts of WSIR). Expand on the history of Kah-Nee-Ta, problems and plans for the near future.

Further educate, on the tribes' reliance and over-reliance on hydro and timber funds.

Educating our younger people on where we come from and educate about the last 20 years: Hunting and fishing expansion, and tribal success.

Focus on what it was like prior to these years. Educate on climate change: Things out of our control, things we control, flash flooding, wildfire, extreme weather, loss of property, infections, allergies, heat illnesses; research monitoring, preparedness planning, outreach and education, cooling centers, tribal housing retrofitting, and capacity of the clinic.

Appreciate your support, please get out and vote!

**Ryan G. Smith Sr.**