

James ‘Jim’ Manion ~ Agency District

Jim Manion is running for re-election to the Tribal Council representing the Agency District. Three years ago Jim was elected to the Twenty-Ninth Tribal Council, following a career of 42 years with Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises. At that job, in time through experience and knowledge of the Power and Water operation, Jim served as the enterprise manager.

His years with Power and Water saw the growth and many changes with the business. The hydro project re-licensing in the early 2000s was one noteworthy project, as this happens only once every 50 years, involving federal and state agencies—water resource, fish and wildlife, and energy production—plus the tribes’ Pelton-Round Butte partner Portland General Electric. The re-licensing led to the tribes acquiring a large ownership share in the operation, now and into the future providing increasing dividends to the tribes.

Councilman Manion was born and raised on the reservation. As a youth he ran cattle, and hunted and fished around the expanse of the reservation, giving



him a working knowledge of the tribes and their land. An important part of tribal policy-making, he says, “Is to know what we have, and identify what we should be pursuing.”

An area of growth for the tribes is in the renewable energy industry, such as the current projects with Power and Water Enterprises. There are challenges, of course, “We recognize many things are out of our control, but this is an opportunity for us to advance as a tribe,” Jim says.

The people and the resources of the tribes as always hold the promise to a better future. “We need to move into a self-sufficient mode, instead of relying too much on state and federal funding,” he says.

“We have almost 6,000 tribal members, many are

younger and looking for jobs.” Employment opportunities also go a long way toward helping address alcohol- and drug abuse problems: “The first thing a person needs is a reason to get up in the morning,” Jim says. “We have great programs now, and we need more opportunities for people to go to work.

“The biggest opportunity to create jobs is to utilize the land base wisely, following the Integrated Resource Management Plan.” The guiding document, he says, was developed and reviewed by the people and the committees before approval at Tribal Council. The resource team is still working on the ‘Residential’ development section of the IRMP, a very important area, Jim says.

Another possibility for growth is through the tribes’ designation of “economic development zones,” a means to provide the incentive for an outside employer to bring jobs to the reservation, just as one other example.

Stay vigilant, stay strong, pray to the Creator that He gives us strength as individuals to make the right decisions and support the right causes.
Jim Manion.

Ryan Smith Sr. ~ Agency District

Greetings,
My name is Ryan G. Smith Sr. (Smitty), son of Lepha Marie Smith and the late Raymond Gene Smith.

I am asking for your support to represent the Agency District, the largest voting district in the Tribal Council election.

I actively fish and hunt and have done so my entire life.

I have a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon, and I am employed in the Water and Soil Department.

I’ve served on Fish and Wildlife Committee from 2003-2021. On the committee we initiated expansion of off-reservation hunting, increased spring chinook production in the Hood River, and promoted the below Bonneville fishery, 2011, 2013 and 2015; and assisted in ceremonial fishing and hunting from 2003-2021. Presently I am a member Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises board and



the Water Control Board.

- An adopted Tribal Council priority plan is first order of business. The campus plan has to be a priority for this Council!
- Eliminate license plate fees (within the Oregon system) to start, ODOT built a rest stop on reservation.
- Bear Springs re-development (housing) and review housing lots (on reservation) for home ownership.
- Update all code and ordinance fines, 2022 dollars (no wholesale changes).
- Identify the professional jobs/fields we will be needing and the institutions that we want our higher education students to attend.
- Re-prioritize the discussions on the flooding of Columbia River with reservoirs.
- Consider year-around

schooling, three months on and one month vacation (intervals).

The next few years the executive, judicial, and congressional entities will complicate federal tribal trust responsibilities. We are back to: the “Congressional ask”—back to appropriations for just basic treaty guaranteed issues!

- The tribes need to be on the offense not defense, and pursue opportunities for federal land management of trust responsibilities.

If basic treaty expectations are not implemented, shouldn’t we get back the federal lands within the ten million acre boundary we ceded?

I have always strived to understand at all times how to talk and most importantly “know who I represent.” I hope these few words convinces you to vote me into tribal council.

Let me help better the lives of the people of the CTWS.

Ryan Smith Sr.,
Agency.

Speakthunder Berry ~ Agency District

“My family comes from the Columbia River, as most of our families do,” says Speakthunder Berry, Tribal Council candidate for the Agency District.

He received his Indian name at the Columbia River, at the Rock Creek Longhouse. “My earliest memories here in Warm Springs, and in my life are being in the sweat lodge.”

“As far as knowledge goes,” he says, “I think knowledge goes hand-in-hand with empathy.”

Listening to the individual people of the community, and trying

to help them are most important in his life, and the reason why he is running for Tribal Council.

He has been doing service work for his community since he was young teenager, when he went to a Native Youth summer camp called ‘On Eagles Wings.’ With the camp the team visited 16 different and diverse tribal communities across the U.S.

He heard young Indian people tell a similar story, and realized all tribal communities face similar problems. He would hear, “I grew up in an alcohol home, I grew up in a foster care system, or joined a gang.”

Speakthunder grew up in Warm Springs, though he left for a time to pursue work. He moved back to the reservation about three years ago after leaving a successful business in Tacoma.

“I wanted to come home, and for the last three years I’ve been doing service work. I didn’t come here to run for Tribal Council, I’ve just wanted to help other people.”

His dedication to community, and his people are the reason why he is asking for your vote. **Speakthunder Berry.**

Marcia Soliz ~ Agency District

Good day, My name is Marcia Soliz. I am a humble and proud Warm Springs tribal member. I am a mom, sister, aunt, and friend to many. I am the oldest daughter and sister. Family women Elders selected me to be a Family Woman Elder back in 2009. I grew up and lived amongst our people all my life. My parents were Rose Mary Smith and Roscoe Smith. My grandparents on my dad’s side were Alfred Smith Sr. and Lucinda Scott Smith. My grandparents on my mom’s side were Lawrence Smith Sr. and Gertrude McCoy Smith. My son Dorian works at the Albuquerque Regional Wildland Office. My daughter Rebecca aka ‘Jordan’ lives with and helps me. My brothers: (autwai Ronnie and Dennis Sr.) Darryl, Kenman, Bobby, Julian, Eldred Sr., Kevin Sr. My sisters are (autwai Trudie Smith and Joni Smith), Sharon (Teta) Miller, Pam Cardenas and Robin Smith.

Fun Facts: At college I was somewhat of a pool hustler to make extra college money. I was a race car driver in the Women’s bracket at Balboa, Eugene, Portland and Boise. I drove a 1970 Plymouth GTX six-pak (it was black)! I had a 20-acre ranch at Sidwalter with a small herd of horses along with two registered horses—a quarter horse and a thorough bred, who were trained by autwai Zeke Scott. I’ve had a driver’s license since I was 18 and never had a ticket. People say I am a Master seamstress. I sew many different traditional garments, make shawls, shell dresses, Wasco dresses, crochet, make necklaces, Pendleton blankets, bags and vests. I also make cloth vests and bags. I don’t make some of these anymore.

I have many years of ac-



tual experience, skills, and knowledge with developing and administering budgets, contracts, grants, writing; purchase orders, budget mods, presentations and speaking, and providing training. I developed the tribes’ travel authorization form, standard mileage chart, helped developed the tribal cash management policy, started the development of master skills bank of tribal members. Am a good data development resource because I did tribal data from 1988-2009 on population, employment-unemployment, some data in law enforcement and health areas. Also did data on victims of crime. Work experience in all phases of workforce development; management, court administration, (parole/probation, legal aid, probate, appeals court). Have held positions of supervisor, administrator, director, manager and acting COO periodically. Have presented the entire tribal budget to Tribal Council as acting COO. I loved being a public service servant and still do.

My priorities as a Tribal Council candidate are based on seven primary concerns of tribal members. Need to line up with the Treaty and Tribal Constitution and By-Laws. **Strategic planning, resources, and partnerships will help achieve these.** *Our people need to be key partners.*

Need to meet and exceed economic success with

financial accountability. What is meant—We will never have enough money due to increasing membership enrollment; new major economic needs; and must handle all our funds honestly and responsibly.

Education and Job-career outcomes. Discussion point: We need our Head Start kids ‘school ready’; support our Early Childhood program—not criticize it. What will happen if High School federal funds diminish or go away? Put in place needed parent and family services that support student success from the home to in-school services; bring back tutoring programs, peer support, put incentive-recognition of a wider variety to promote graduation and increase at all levels of education. Build better partnerships with each school because what we have been doing is not working. Even consider getting our own high school, trade school and college level schools. Provide improved educational coaching as far as what types of higher education degrees are needed on the reservation versus just going off to college not knowing which fields of education are really needed.

E m p l o y m e n t / Workforce development. Discussion point: What will happen is WAIO funds and Education College funds disappear? There has been no bridge between school work and careers. Students, high school, colleges do not work with the tribe to development, establish plans with students, so a job can be secured or even a career established through mentorship, succession, or any other means. This needs to be established and activated. We need a strong and effective apprenticeship with the State of Oregon Apprenticeship Board in both traditional and non-traditional trades. We used

to have this in WEDD when I was director. We need a full-fledged Tribal Members Skills Bank and need a full-fledged job bank established. None of the current areas know how to do this.

Families and children. Discussion point: What will happen if DHS or other federal and state funds disappear? All children and family achievements or failure start in the homes. Most of our service providers wait and expect people to go to them. There is no consistent Outreach Services that go to homes and families. When people are down and out, they do not want to go out in public, let alone go to a public office. Things need to change. Most of counseling services are under contract, not on salary. So, they come and go. Our people have to tell their story over and over. They don’t trust many people after having so many different contracted counselors who will end up leaving.

Natural resources (protection and enhancement) without damage to our rights, land, forest, fish, water and wildlife. Discussion point: Many NR positions are contracted or funded by other outside funds. What will we do if these funds are no longer available or reduced? There is not enough patrol to cover all our land to ensure there is no illegal poaching, timber theft, firewood cheating, illegal fishing

and hunting, no illegal drug planting or harvesting, or people traffic where they don’t belong.

Some membership feel the tribe can use parts of our land areas for future economic development. The Integrated Resource Management Plan needs attention. What’s the collaboration between Natural Resources, WSPD, and Public Utilities? Our people are concerned about pipelines and wind turbines coming onto our lands.

Meet and exceed housing need. Discussion point: What happens if HUD and other housing/home funds no longer exist? We need to project and plan housing based on accurate membership population data. We are never going to have enough of the varying housing type needs. While building housing, we can be producing well-qualified carpenter and construction journeymen.

Development and maintain a community-maintained driven law enforcement service. Discussion point: Need a for youth center that centralizes enhanced youth activities, sports options, education and prevention activities. Concerns about deficient medical health services and consistent health and social services.

Rap up: I have a foundation of being an ambassador, honest, trustworthy, have self-respect, able to work with others, believe in following rules, laws, tribal Constitution, look to and respect our long-standing Treaty and other and important documents and unwritten laws; and have always been a strategic thinker-doer. I further believe that when a person is elected to Tribal Council they are supposed to represent all the membership because we are ‘one’ reservation and tribe.

Marcia Soliz.

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