

Squiemphen-Yazzie joins Multnomah Education Service District

First Native American elected to the district board



Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie

Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie is a dedicated advocate for Indigenous and underserved communities, with a strong commitment to advancing social change through culturally grounded leadership.

She's Wasco, Navajo, Yakima, and a Citizen of the Confederated Tribes of

Warm Springs.

Ms. Squiemphen-Yazzie was raised in Warm Springs

on her family's cattle ranch. She holds a Master's degree in Social Work with a concentration in Practice and Leadership with Communities and Organizations from Portland State University. Amanda has a robust background in community organizing, public policy, and Indigenous advocacy.

Throughout her career, she has been recognized for her strategic leadership in campaign management, coalition building, and project development, all while advocating for the needs and rights of underserved populations.

She ran for a position on the Multnomah Education Service District Board of District, won her election, and took office this past February. Her father Edison Yazzie administered the Oath of Office.

She is first Native American to serve on the Multnomah Education Service District Board of Directors.

"I'm extremely honored to be joining a circle of pas-

sonate and dedicated community members who work to ensure all youth achieve excellence," Amanda said.

The service district has a long history of serving the educational needs of the Portland community, with roots dating back to the 19th century.

The district has over 800 staff who primarily serve the eight public school districts across Multnomah County.

The school districts are Portland, Corbett, Centennial, David Douglas, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose, Reynolds and Riverdale.

The district staff facilitates inter-organizational coordination amongst education, social services, health care and employment training agencies.

They are an educational cooperative that provides a wide variety of programs and services on a regional basis to school districts in Multnomah County and beyond.

Summaries of Tribal Council

March 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jonathan W. Smith Sr. Roll call: Chief Joe Moses, Chief Jefferson Greene, Vice Chairman Raymond 'Captain' Moody, Wilson Wewa, Lincoln 'Jay' Suppah, Carlos Calica, James 'Jim' Manion, Alvis Smith III, Rose Graybael. Sandra Danzuka, Recorder.

Invocation given by Chief Jefferson Greene

- Bureau of Indian Affairs update with Bodie Shaw and Ken Boechart (acting): Ken Boechart will be acting BIA Superintendent, as Bodie is retiring.

- Realty items with Greta White Elk. Motion:

Jim Manion made a motion to approve Resolution no. 13,221, Fire and Safety Campus Lot 6 (added on to previous Lot 7). Raymond Moody seconded the motion. Question called for. All in favor. Motion carried 9-0. Chairman not voting.

Motion: Homesite lease. Carlos Calica made a motion to approve. Seconded by Jim Manion. Question called for. Motion carried 8-0. Chairman not voting.

- Other business: Motion: Alvis Smith III made a motion to approve Resolution no. 13,216A to add Election Board and Count Team alternates. Seconded by Raymond Moody. Question called for. Motion passed 8-0. Chairman not voting.

Motion: Jim Manion made a motion to support Miss Rodeo Oregon, tribal member Mary Olney, and be a Silver Spur Donor. Seconded by Alvis Smith III. Motion passed 7-0. Chairman not voting.

- Tribal attorney update: Executive session.
- Legislative update.
- Mixte update, 2024 year in review, and 2025 action plan.

Motion by Alvis to adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

Monday, March 10

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Raymond 'Captain' Moody. Roll call: Jonathan Smith, Lincoln 'Jay' Suppah, Alvis Smith III, Jefferson Greene, and Rosa Graybael. Sandra Danzuka, Recorder.

Invocation given by Chief Alvis Smith III.

- Attorney update: Executive session until 11:20 a.m. Motion:

Alvis III made a motion to approve the letter to the Army Corp of Engineers re: the Water Quality and Planning Work Group as amended to include Branch

of Natural Resources employee Jennifer Graham. Seconded by Raymond Moody. Question called for. Motion passed 5-0. Chairman not voting.

- Motion: Josh read into record a letter dated today, addressed to the Oregon State Senate re: SB-1011. Alvis Smith III made a motion to support the letter as written. Jonathan Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Chief Greene abstained.

Board appointments

Credit board: Alvis Smith III made a motion to approve Resolution #13,233 appointing Ruth 'Pinkie' Beymer (tribal member/class I), Bruce Engle (non-TM/class I), Valerie Squiemphen (TM/Class II), and Juanita Kalama Santiago (Non-TM Class II) to the Credit board. Raymond Moody seconded the motion. Question called for. Motion approved 5-0. Chairman not voting. (Raymond Moody/Yes, Lincoln Suppah/Yes, Alvis Smith III/Yes, Jefferson Greene/Yes, Rosa Graybael/Yes)

Warm Springs Telecom: Raymond Moody made a motion to approve Resolution #13,224 appointing Lonnie Macy, Terry Macy, and Jaime McCleod Skinner. Raymond Moody seconded the motion. Question called for. Motion approved 5-0. Chairman not voting. (Raymond Moody/Yes, Lincoln Suppah/Yes, Alvis Smith III/Yes, Jefferson Greene/Yes, Rosa Graybael/Yes)

Warm Springs Housing: Alvis Smith III made a motion to appoint Rain Circle to the Housing board. Raymond Moody seconded the motion. Question called for. Motion approved 5-0. Chairman not voting. (Raymond Moody/Yes, Lincoln Suppah/Yes, Alvis Smith III/Yes, Jefferson Greene/Yes, Rosa Graybael/Yes)

Composite Products: Alvis Smith III made a motion to approve Resolution #13,227 appointing Farrell Bryant to the Composite board. Jefferson Greene seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0. Chairman not voting. (Raymond Moody/Yes, Lincoln Suppah/Yes, Alvis Smith III/Yes, Jefferson Greene/Yes, Rosa Graybael/Yes)

- University Washington law program presentation

Chief Judge Gayleen Adams presented resolution #13,228, the adoption of a tribal member minor child. Alvis Smith III made the

motion to approve resolution no. 13,228. Jonathan W. Smith seconded the motion. Question called for. The motion passed 5-0. Chairman not voting. (Jonathan Smith/Yes, Rosa Graybael/Yes, Jefferson Greene/Yes, Lincoln Suppah/Yes, Alvis Smith III/Yes).

Motion by Alvis to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.

March 17

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jonathan W. Smith Sr. Roll call: Lincoln 'Jay' Suppah, James 'Jim' Manion, Chief Jefferson Greene, Wilson Wewa Jr., Alvis Smith III, Chairman Jonathan W. Smith Sr., Chairman Raymond 'Captain' Moody, Carlos Calica, Rosa Graybael. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

Invocation given by Jay. Secretary-Treasurer update with Robert Brunoe.

Draft agenda: Motion by Captain approving the April agenda. Second by Jay. Question: Jim/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Jefferson/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Lettersand draft resolutions with the S-T:

Support letter for Senate Bill 815, with Michael Collins and Sara Monkton:

Motion by Jim approving the letter; Second by Captain. Question: Jim/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Jefferson/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0m Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

Willamette Falls trust letter, discussion with Jim Manion:

Motion by Captain approving the letter be sent to Representative Sanchez. Second by Wilson; Question: Jim/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Jefferson/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried

There are no resolutions this month.

- Other business: Executive session, 11:54-12:40.

- Enrollments with Lucille Suppach-Samson, Vital Statistics:

Motion by Alvis adopting Resolution No. 13,299, enrolling 11 applicants. Second by Carlos; Question: Jim/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Jefferson/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Senate Bill 841 discussion with Candice Jimenez, chief of staff, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board; and Sujata Joshi, project director/epidemiologist, Improving Data and

Enhancing Access (IDEA-NW).

Consensus supporting Senate Bill 841, Health and Welfare Committee will share on behalf of the tribes.

- Indian Health Services update with Tammy Wilson and Diane Fuller.

- Warm Springs Managed Care update with Michael Collins.

- Health and Human Services update with Tav Foltz.

- Other business with Tribal Council.

With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

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Summaries continue on 3

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