

Tribal Council Actions

Wednesday, August 17, 2005

ACTIONS continued
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Brown [Army], Deputy Director and Val Conley [Army], Administrator of Veteran Services, both for the state of Oregon. In addition, Jim Willis presented the Grand Ronde Honor Guard an honorarium thanking the members for their efforts on behalf of Veterans in the state of Oregon. The Grand Ronde Honor Guard honored Jim Willis with an honorarium gift of a ribbon shirt similar to those worn by the Grand Ronde Honor Guard on behalf of his efforts to Oregon Veterans.

NEW BUSINESS

LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

■ **Tribal Member Review Board Appointments.** Reyn Leno moved, Valorie Sheker-Robertson seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 124-05** approving the following individuals to serve as a slate of Tribal Members from whom the Chief Judge shall appoint to serve on Tribal Member Review Board for the purpose of reviewing cases of children in Tribal custody: Donna Lux and Christine Contreras. **Motion carried 8-0-0.**

■ **Nanitch Sahallie Advisory Board Ordinance Rescission.** Jan D. Reibach moved, Reyn Leno seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 125-05:** 1) rescinding the Nanitch Sahallie Advisory Board Ordinance; and 2) making the rescission effective as of the date of the resolution. **Motion carried 8-0-0.**

■ **NPAIHB Tribal Representative Delegate/Alternate Selection.** Valorie Sheker-Robertson moved, Jan D. Reibach seconded to adopt motion appointing Cheryle Kennedy as delegate and Bernadine Shriver as alternate to represent the Tribe on the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board of Directors, effective until amended by Tribal Council. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 7-0-1. Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

■ **Coast Thin Logging Unit Timber Sale.** Valorie Sheker-Robertson moved, Reyn Leno seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 126-05** approving the sale of timber on the Coast Thin Logging Unit. The proposed sale of timber contains approximately 61.8 acres to be thinned and 16.9 acres to be clearcut harvested. Timber volume to be harvested is approximately 2131 MBF. The minimum bid rate set for this sale is \$407.35/MBF for conifer Sawlogs, \$474.15/MBF for red alder and other hardwoods, and \$58.10/MBF for conifer wood logs and other wood products. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 8-0-0.**

■ **Golder Associates, Inc. Contract/Cowlitz.** June Sell-Sherer moved, Jack Giffen, Jr. seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 127-05:** 1) approving an agreement with Golder Associates, Inc. to assist the Tribe in reviewing the proposed Cowlitz casino in Clark County Washington; 2) authorizing the limited waiver of sovereign immunity in favor of the arbitration provision contained in said agreement; 3) authorizing the funding of said agreement with those funds transferred to the Tribal Council Diversification Project budget by Resolution No. 078-05; and 4) authorizing the Tribal Council Chairwoman, with the assistance of the Tribal Attorney's Office, to finalize and execute said agreement. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 5-1-2. Chris Mercier voted no. Angie Blackwell and Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

■ **Golder Associates, Inc. Contract/Cascade Locks.** Jack Giffen, Jr. moved, Reyn Leno seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 128-05:** 1) approving an agreement with Golder Associates, Inc. to assist the Tribe in reviewing the proposed casino in Cascade Locks; 2) authorizing the limited waiver of sovereign immunity in favor of the arbitration provision contained in said agreement; 3) authorizing the funding of said agreement with those funds transferred to the Tribal Council Diversification Project budget by Resolution No. 078-05; and 4) authorizing the Tribal Council Chairwoman, with the assistance of the Tribal Attorney's Office, to finalize and execute said agreement. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 5-1-2. Chris Mercier voted no. Angie Blackwell and Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

■ **Contract for Judicial Services Court of Appeals.** Valorie Sheker-Robertson moved, Reynold L. Leno seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 129-05:** 1) approving renewal of the Contracts for Judicial Services between the Tribe and Robert Miller, David Thompson, and Mark Johnson for 2005-07, and 2) authorizing the Tribal Council Chairwoman, with the assistance of the Tribal Attorney, to finalize and execute these contracts. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 7-0-1. Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

■ **Title Insurance Claim Settlement.** Jack Giffen, Jr. moved, Valorie Robertson seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 130-05** approving the settlement agreement between the Tribe and Transaction Title Insurance Company involving property located in Bonney Lake, Washington and authorizing the Finance Officer to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement. **Motion carried 7-0-1. Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

■ **Enrollment Infant Determinations.** June Sell-Sherer moved, Angie Blackwell seconded to adopt **Resolution No. 131-05** approving four (4) infants numbered #5497 through #5500 for Tribal membership, because, based on the investigation and recommendation of the Enrollment staff, the infants have been found to meet the eligibility requirements for enrollment as defined in the Enrollment Ordinance and Tribal Constitution. **Motion carried 7-0-1. Wesley "Buddy" West abstained.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 52nd Annual Conference and Elections** is scheduled for September 19-23, 2005, in Worley, Idaho. Registration and room arrangements need to be made. **Angie Blackwell, Jack Giffen, Jr., Jan D. Reibach and Wesley "Buddy" West plan to attend.**

■ **Oregon Native American Chamber of Commerce** is holding a fundraiser on October 1, 2005. Cost per ticket \$75.00. Tickets available through the Oregon Native American Chamber of Commerce at 503-654-2138.

■ **National Congress of American Indians 62nd Annual Conference and Elections** is scheduled for October 30 through November 04, 2005, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Registration, airline, and room arrangements need to be made. **Jack Giffen, Jr., Jan D. Reibach, and Wesley "Buddy" West plan to attend.**

OTHER BUSINESS

■ **Angie Blackwell moved, Jan D. Reibach seconded to authorize out-of-state travel** for Education Committee member Shelby Olson Rogers to attend National Education Indian Association (NEIA) conference in Denver, Colorado and for the Education Committee Chair Patsy Pullin to attend Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 52nd Annual Conference in Worley, Idaho. **Motion carried 7-0-0. Jack Giffen, Jr. not present for vote.**

■ **Tribal member expressed concerns regarding her daughter's employment at Spirit Mountain Casino and services rendered at the Grand Ronde Station.** Discussion followed.

■ **Tribal member Brenda Gray asked council to consider requesting that council member Angie Blackwell offer a public apology to her family members and provided to the general membership through the Tribe's newspaper regarding comments made by council member Blackwell on the REZ News website.** The e-mails were read aloud. Council member Blackwell spoke to her reasoning behind the e-mail.

■ **A Tribal member asked that council consider prioritizing emergency housing for Tribal members as there is a family currently in need.** Councilwoman Kennedy directed the member to contact Social Services and Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority for assistance.

■ **A Tribal member commented on the concern of Tribal employees retaining their jobs.** There is a need for more mentoring to build the skills of Tribal members to enhance their employment retention. In addition, the member asked that the sound system be improved.

■ **Reyn Leno moved, Jack Giffen, Jr. seconded to adopt Resolution No. 132-05** approving the Committee Bylaws presented to the council for the Enrollment Committee. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 6-1-1. Wesley "Buddy" West voted no. Angie Blackwell abstained.**

■ **Valorie Sheker-Robertson moved, Angie Blackwell seconded to adopt Resolution No. 133-05:** 1) authorizing the allocation of \$6.5 million from the Tribe's Economic Development Fund to the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority with \$3.8 million to be used to fund the construction of market rate housing units and \$2.7 million to be used to fund construction of the related sanitation treatment facility; and 2) that gross revenue received from the rental of the market rate housing units by Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority (GRTHA) be distributed to the Tribe on a periodic basis to be determined by the Finance Officer. Discussion followed. **Motion carried 8-0-0.**

■ **A Tribal member stated the following:** Raised concern over the negative campaigning by candidates for this year's Tribal Council elections. Believed that the endowments are in a strong position, in particular, the Elder's. Finance Officer Larry Kovach identified that Isler & Co. settlement was placed into the Elder's Endowment. The Kalispel settlement has been directed through the Appropriations budget.

■ **Several Tribal members spoke to the negative comments or perceived personal attacks at council meetings, on the internet and within Tribal Council candidate letters.** Discussion followed.

■ **A Tribal member stated the following:** Raised concern over a potential conflict with Denise Harvey's position with the Tribe and her position on the Gaming Commission. Ms. Harvey responded that she is currently employed in a coordinator position, not a management position, and therefore not a conflict. Asked whether there are plans to tear down the current Gaming Commission and Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc.'s Human Resources offices. Vice-Chairman Leno stated that when the Tribe considers an expansion at the casino, room is being considered to house the Human Resources administrative offices. No plans are currently authorized to tear down the building at their current location. Sought clarification regarding the composition of Tribal versus non-Tribal members sitting on the Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. Board of Directors. Chairwoman Kennedy stated that the Non-Tribal positions bring outside expertise to aide the board. Discussion followed.

■ **A Tribal member sought clarification on political activity on Tribal Property, in particular campaigning materials.** Tribal Attorney Rob Greene spoke to the campaigning in a public forum/event versus campaigning in a work environment generally during business hours. Discussion followed.

■ **Several Tribal Council candidates spoke to campaign signs being removed, even after permission gained from land owner.**

■ **A Tribal member asked about the Tribe's policy regarding usage of Tribal equipment for maintenance purposes off site of Tribal grounds.** General Manager Cliff Adams and Finance Officer Larry Kovach both offered to look into the matter.

■ **A Tribal member asked the following:** Noticed the placement of benches at the Tribal offices and sought the reasoning behind the decision. General Manager Cliff Adams responded. Asked that council consider more transportation choices available to Tribal and Community members without vehicles. Suggested that Tribal Council meetings start earlier.

■ **Jan D. Reibach moved, Jack Giffen, Jr. seconded to adopt a motion to limit campaigning tables for Tribal Council candidates to 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 20, 2005, only.** Discussion followed. **Motion carried 4 yes (Jack Giffen, Jr., Reyn Leno, Jan D. Reibach, and June Sell-Sherer), 3 no (Angie Blackwell, Chris Mercier, Wesley "Buddy" West), and 1 abstained (Valorie Sheker-Robertson).**

■ **A Tribal Elder raised concern over the booth charges at this year's pow-wow.** Discussion followed. Vice-Chairman Leno advised all to fill out comment cards and turn them into the Pow-wow Special Event Board for its review.

7:40 p.m. — **Angie Blackwell moved, Valorie Sheker-Robertson seconded to adjourn the meeting.** Motion Carried.