

Casino Update Highlights October General Council Meeting

■ Housing Program, director win top honors from National Indian Housing Authority.

By Toby McClary

The October General Council meeting was held on Sunday, October 9, at the Tribal Community Center. Here are the highlights:

Tribal Chairwoman Cheryl Kennedy called the meeting to order. Tribal member Jackie Provost offered the invocation.

General Manager for Spirit Mountain Casino and Tribal member Randy Dugger reported on casino revenue from 2004 to 2005 and major projects for 2005 such as lodge expansion, remodels, new slot machines, upgraded accounting systems for new slots, slot replacements and upgrades, table games expansion training area, HVAC system replacements and a new marketing system to track player activity.

Human Resources Director for Spirit Mountain Casino and Tribal member Camille Mercier provided statistics on Tribal member employment at the casino. Human Resources Employment Manager for Spirit Mountain Casino Daphney Colton reported on the hiring process and listed open positions at the casino.

Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Director Carina Kistler Ginter presented Kennedy and Tribal Council



Human Resources Director for Spirit Mountain Casino & Tribal member Camille Mercier

with the "Tribe of the Year" award from the Northwest Indian Housing Association (NIHA). Acting General Manager and Tribal member Chris Leno presented Kistler Ginter with "Executive of the Year" award from NIHA.

Kennedy introduced the Tribes' new Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor.

The discussion then turned towards Tribal Council salary raises.

Tribal member Deanna Johnston asked if their raises were based on the Oregon Tribes' market rate, in which Human Resources Director Judy Zettergren stated that she would follow up on that question. Johnston then asked what the travel budget was for Tribal Council and Budget/Treasury Manager Rick Anderson stated that he will make that information available.

Tribal member Betty Bly had several concerns including Tribal Council term limits, administration of the Meth Grant, reducing Tribal staff, increasing Tribal member employment and consideration of giving Tribal Elders a cost of living raise.

Tribal Elder Val Grout expressed her ideas and concerns. She feels that Tribal Council salaries are fair as long as the members are putting in adequate hours. She also discussed issues such as Tribal Elder cost of living raise, safety problems in Elder housing and disturbing rumors she has recently heard.

Tribal Elder Chips Tom feels that the Tribal Council salaries are too high.

Tribal member Frank Hostler stated that we can not afford to ar-

gue amongst ourselves and asked that the Tribal membership take their thoughts out of our community and look at the big picture from a business stand point.

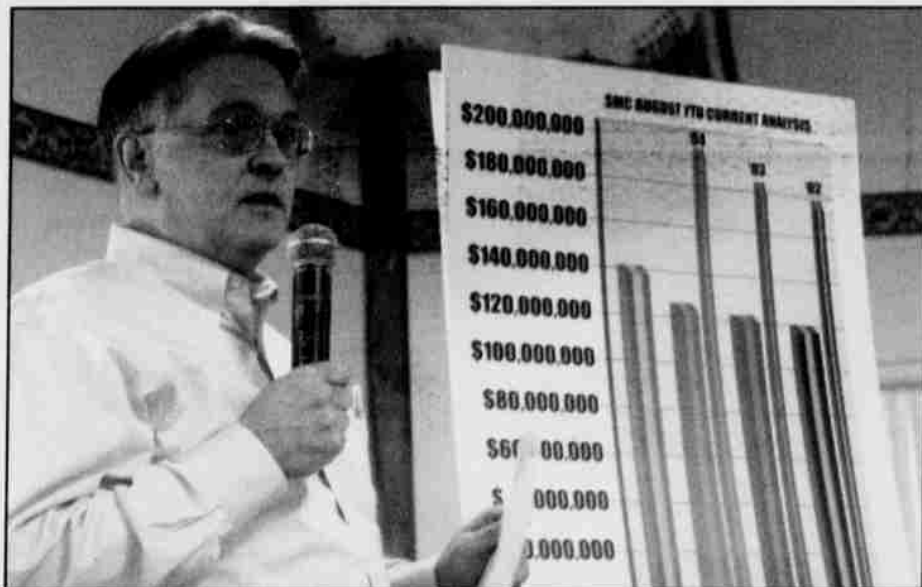
Tribal member Rebecca Crocker asked about the General Manager position and Kennedy stated that Cliff Adams separated employment with the Tribe and that Chris Leno will serve as the Acting General Manager. Crocker also stated that Tribal Council members should be treated with respect and given a chance to answer questions.

Tribal Elder Sharon Hanson said that she was happy to hear that Tribal Council now reports on their activities.

Tribal Elder Gloria Sundahl said that she is extremely pleased with the activities at the Eugene Satellite Office.

Albert Jeffers, Tawnya Reibach and Alyssa Long each won a \$50 door prize and Claudia Leno won the \$100 door prize.

The next General Council meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2005 at 11 a.m. at the Tribal Community Center.



Bottom Line — General Manager of Spirit Mountain Casino and Tribal member Randy Dugger reported on casino revenue from 2004 to 2005 and major projects.



Tribe Of The Year Award — Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Director Carina Kistler Ginter (left) presented Chairwoman Cheryl Kennedy and the Tribal Council with the "Tribe of the Year" award from the Northwest Indian Housing Association.

Photos by Toby McClary

Linfield Players Visit Before & Aftercare



Photos by Toby McClary

"Show Me The Way" — On Friday, October 14, members of the Linfield football team visited the K-5 Education Program in Grand Ronde. Former Linfield player and current coaching staff member Zach Flemming (above) hands the football off to Tribal member Isabell Bobb while coaching staff member James Yen helped Tribal member Michael Reyes with passing plays.

