

Tribal Council OKs Elders' Retirement Trust Fund policy

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council voted 7-0 on Wednesday, March 13, to approve a Tribal Elders' Retirement Trust Fund Policy.

The policy sets a minimum amount of money that will remain in the Elders' Retirement Trust Fund to ensure payments continue in the future as the number of Tribal Elders potentially increases.

In response to an audience member question, Tribal Chairman Reyn Leno said the policy does not affect current Tribal Elder pension payments, but puts in writing a policy that did not previously exist.

"This basically identifies a core that will guarantee an X amount of money if something would happen, say a fire at the casino," Leno said. "It would identify what the core is in our Elders' endowment and guarantee that we would be able to give that even though we wouldn't have the gaming dollars coming in."

Tribal Council member Cheryle A. Kennedy said that the creation of the policy ensures longevity "into

perpetuity" for the account.

"The idea is make sure this continues on," she said.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the Upper Coast Thin Logging Unit timber sale. The contract was awarded to the Tribe's Round Valley LLC.

- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with the state Bureau of Labor & Industries agreeing to have the state fund a construction training course in Grand Ronde.

- Approved applying to the U.S. Department of Justice for a Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation grant, which is a combination of four grants (COPS, Indian Alcohol Substance Abuse, Violence Against Women Act and Tribal Youth Program) worth \$1.2 million.

- Approved membership for one adult and five infants.

It was the first meeting in which Tribal Council implemented its new consent agenda, which allows blanket approval of items that received unanimous support during the Legislative Action Committee process. ■

Annual fish distribution

Attention Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal members

CTGR Annual Fish Distribution

Powwow Weekend

Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013, 1-5:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 16, 2013, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013, 9 a.m.-Noon

Tribal members in the Portland Area - Portland Satellite office

Tuesday, Aug. 20

Look for detailed information in future articles.

Veterans SEB schedules meeting

The Tribe's Veterans Special Event Board will meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, in the Tribal Community Center.

For more information, contact Chair Gene LaBonte at 503-583-5222. ■

NonTribal spouse premium contribution increase

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon will be increasing the nonTribal member spouse's premium contribution from \$50 monthly to \$100 monthly. This change will become effective May 1, 2013.

Amendment: Because of insufficient time to notify the affected members in a timely manner, the change in premium for nonTribal spouses covered under the Skookum Health Program will begin May 1, 2013. The premium is billed out a month ahead of time so your new invoice will show the new premium amount beginning with your April billing.

For those members using ACH, the automatic withdrawal will begin in April as well. Health Plan staff apologizes for any inconvenience.

This change was approved by Tribal Council during the 2013 budget process. The premium contribution increase from the current \$50 to \$100 monthly will be for all spouses on the Skookum Health Plan and any new enrollees to the Plan.

The effective date will be 5/01/2013.

Thank you for your understanding of this change. The Tribe continues to be committed to providing care to its Tribal members and Elder spouses.

If you should have questions or concerns you may contact either of the staff members Barbara Steere at 1-800-749-2928 or 503-879-2487 or Jim Holmes at 503-879-2221. ■

2013 Tribal Marketplace dates

- April 5-6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; April 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 3-4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- June 7-8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; June 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- July 12-13, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; July 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- July 19-20, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Elder Honor Day)

Dates subject to change due to conflicting Tribal or SMC events. Located across from Cedar Plank Buffet.

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunt Board** meets as needed. Chair: Shonn Leno.
- **Cultural Trust Board** meets at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in Modular No. 2. Chair: Perri McDaniel.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Modular No. 3. Chair: CeCe Kneeland.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Adult Education Building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders' Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gladys Hobbs.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Building. Chair: Sharon Hanson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the Tribal Wellness Center. Acting Chair: Patti Tom-Martin.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets at 5 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Rodeo Special Event Board** meets at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Rodeo Office. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Social Services Committee** meets at 4 p.m. the second Monday of the month in the Social Services Conference Room. Chair: Jenny Sanchez.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Bob Mercier.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 4 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gene LaBonte.

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD VACANCIES

The following Committees and Special Event Boards have vacant positions.

Education Committee	4 Vacancies
Health Committee	4 Vacancies
Cultural Trust Board	1 Vacancy
Culture Committee	3 Vacancies
Education Committee	3 Vacancies
Election Board	4 Vacancies
Enrollment Committee	4 Vacancies
Fish & Wildlife Committee	2 Vacancies
Powwow Special Event Board	3 Vacancies
Rodeo Special Event Board	2 Vacancies
Social Services Committee	2 Vacancies
Timber Committee	3 Vacancies

Please send completed applications to Stacia Martin, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

Transportation to Grand Ronde for Tribal members

The Portland Office has transportation day to Grand Ronde once a month for medical, dental appointments or enrollment cards. We need a minimum of 3 people to sign up. Please call Lisa

503-235-4230

We will leave at the Portland Office at 8 a.m.

Please call in advance for the scheduled monthly date

