

# Tribal Council OKs annual 11-Tribe housing agreement

By Dean Rhodes  
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved the annual O-Link agreement between Grand Ronde and 10 other Tribes during its Wednesday, July 11, meeting that will net an estimated \$115,350 in additional housing funds.

The agreement nets eight of the 11 participating Tribes increased funding, Housing Department Manager Shonn Leno said during the Tuesday, July 10, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

The annual agreement is necessary because the Grand Ronde Tribe's Indian Housing Block Grant service area overlaps with 10 other Tribes in Oregon and California.

The federal government requires that Tribes in overlapping service areas agree on how to distribute the \$15.7 million in funding and the 11 Tribes have agreed to use Tribal enrollment data instead of Bureau of Indian Affairs labor force statistics.

In doing so, the Grand Ronde Tribe sees its funding increase to approximately \$2.65 million.

The agreement includes the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Siletz, Klamath, Coquille and Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribes in Oregon and the Karuk, Quartz Valley, Tolowa Dee-ni', Yurok and Fort Bidwell Tribes in California.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a Natural Resource Damage Settlement Agreement with Astoria Marine Construction Co. that also includes the Siletz and Nez Perce Tribes. The company agrees to pay up to \$130,000 for removal and disposal of the dock and associated pilings that have been located on the east bank of the Lewis and Clark River and Jeffers Slough since 1924.
- Approved \$45,835 in funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service to conduct pre-commercial thinning on 110 acres of the Coal Creek property in Tillamook County. The Tribe purchased the property in 2016.
- And approved the enrollment of three infants and two minors into the Tribe because they meet the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance.

The entire meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and clicking on the News tab and then Video. ■

# Dental staff attended to offer veterans examinations

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which are usually skewed toward white males.

"I don't want to replace that, but just want them to add us in," she said, adding that there are approximately 28,000 female veterans who live in Oregon.

In the afternoon, veterans had several activity choices that included male and female sharing circles hosted by Tailfeathers and Estabrooks, respectively; a "Managing Trauma" discussion hosted by Courtney, who also is a suicide prevention instructor; an "Employment Services" presentation moderated by Richard Sanchez, a Disabled Veterans Outreach representative with Worksource Yamhill; or a trip to Lebanon to view an All Nations Native American Veterans Memorial.

A closing ceremony was held before the summit segued into the Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow.

As with other Veterans Summits, many organizations surrounded the powwow arbor and staffed resource tables, offering help and services to veterans. Among those organizations were the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center, Veterans Affairs' mobile Vet Center, the Portland-Vancouver chapter of the Northwest Indian Veteran Association, Native American Cultural Association of Oregon, Worksource Yamhill, Military Helpline, Oregon Health & Science University's Casey Eye Institute and Willamina Post 4211 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Tribal Dental Hygienist Sheila Blacketeer and Dental Assistant Shelby Hoyt were on hand to give dental examinations and Community Health Events Coordinator Kandee Little transported those in need of medical attention from the powwow grounds to the clinic.

In addition to George, Tribal Council members Lisa Leno and Brenda Tuomi, an Army veteran, attended parts of the summit, as did former Tribal Council chairman and Marine Corps veteran Reyn Leno, who started the Veterans Summit in 2013 after attending a planning meeting held in San Diego.

The summit was sponsored by the Native Wellness Institute of Gresham, Office of Tribal Government Relations with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Grand Ronde Tribe.

Social Services Department Manager Dana Ainam was the lead Tribal employee in organizing this year's event. She said approximately 100 people attended.

All attendees received a gift bag that included a T-shirt designed by Bobb. ■

## Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. Board of Director's Position Opening

Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. ("SMGI"), a Tribal corporation chartered by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde ("Grand Ronde"), operates Spirit Mountain Casino – the largest casino in Oregon. Spirit Mountain Casino offers Las Vegas-style slots and provides superior entertainment and resort amenities. Spirit Mountain is one of the Pacific Northwest's premier casinos. Grand Ronde invites applications to serve on the **Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. Board of Directors**. There is one open board position. Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

The SMGI Board of Directors is responsible to the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. The Board oversees strategic planning, overall fiscal accountability, budgets and operations of Spirit Mountain Casino.

The SMGI Board meets monthly. From time-to-time, additional special meetings may be held. Board members are expected to attend all meetings in person, which are held at Spirit Mountain Casino – although participation by telephone will occasionally be permitted. Each board member receives a monthly stipend for attending meetings. Travel reimbursement is limited to travel within the six counties of Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Tillamook, Multnomah and Washington.

Board members must have a superior understanding of and experience with financial statements, strong communication and analytical skills, experience in a hospitality or customer service driven environment, ten (10) years of experience in a senior management position, and a solid understanding of the Portland-metro and Salem-area economies. Experience in the following areas is also preferred: gaming, tourism, corporate finance and accounting, marketing and promotions, human resources, and management of senior executives. Experience with and knowledge of Native American organizations is also preferred.

Ability to pass a thorough background check and obtain a gaming license from the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission is required.

Submission deadline: Friday, July 27, 2018

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest describing their qualifications, a résumé, and three references to:

Stacia Hernandez, Chief of Staff  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347  
Phone: 503-879-2304  
Email: [stacia.martin@grandronde.org](mailto:stacia.martin@grandronde.org)

## Medicine Wheel & the 12 Steps to Wellbriety



WHO? ALL ARE WELCOME

WHAT? WELLBRIETY TALKING CIRCLE

WHEN? EVERY SATURDAY AT 1:00 P.M.

WHERE? LIGHTHOUSE RECOVERY ON GRAND RONDE RD. GRAND RONDE OREGON