

PROPOSED ELECTION ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council, in consultation with the Tribal Attorney's Office, has proposed amendments to the Election Ordinance. The first reading of the proposed amendments was made at the April 17, 2019, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments to the Election Ordinance provide procedures for Constitutional amendments proposed by Tribal Council and General Council. The proposed amendments address: (1) development of proposed amendments; (2) submission to BIA for review; (3) the authorizing resolution; (4) calling of the election; (5) petitions by General Council; (6) designation of Tribal members for the Secretarial Election Board; (7) procedures for preparing, assembling and certifying election documents; and (8) duties of the Secretarial Election Board.

For a copy of the proposed Election Ordinance amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664. The Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, or by email to legal@grandronde.org. Comments must be received by May 31, 2019. ■

New study faults feds' consultation with Tribes

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Government Accountability Office released a report entitled "Tribal Consultation: Additional Federal Actions Needed for Infrastructure Projects" on Friday, April 19, that is the first-ever comprehensive review of 21 federal agencies' Tribal consultation processes for the development and implementation of federal infrastructure projects.

The report identifies federal agencies' flawed Tribal consultation mechanisms for development and implementing infrastructure projects and found that many federal agencies have neglected Tribal input when making key decisions on proposed infrastructure projects and failed to consult Tribes until late in the project development stages.

Ultimately, the report found that many federal agencies lack the necessary policies and implementation mechanisms to consult Tribes affected by federal infrastructure projects.

"This report confirms what we've heard from Indian Country all along, that Tribes are often left in the dark on projects that directly impact their

daily lives," said Democratic California Rep. Raul Ruiz. "Failing to meaningfully consult Tribes is a clear violation of the federal government's trust responsibility. The federal government must re-evaluate and reform its Tribal consultation processes, and I intend to hold our federal agencies accountable to the recommendation made in this report."

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who is running for the 2020 Democratic nomination for president, said the federal government cannot "continue to trample on Native American sovereignty."

"We must instead fight for a new relationship between the federal government and the Native American community until they are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve," Sanders said.

The report recommends the federal government strengthen its Tribal consultation process, improve transparency and ensure Tribal input is given meaningful consideration.

The Government Accounting Office provides fact-based, nonpartisan information to Congress. ■

Chinuk Language Program Students Present:

Coyote & Turkey Buzzard

The Play

Please join our program students and families in the enactment of one of our traditional stories about coyote and turkey buzzard. Our Chinuk Kindergarten through Fifth graders will act out the story told in Chinuk Wawa along with songs by our Early Childhood Language Nest students. Dinner will be provided.

May 30th
Tribal gym
5:30 Play, dinner to follow

Starring:



t'alapas



ham-latet

Need something notarized?

Tribal Court staff is available at no charge for notaries 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with the exception of noon to 1 p.m. Please be sure to bring a photo ID with you. If you have any questions, contact the court at 503-879-2303. ■

West Valley Veterans Memorial was dedicated in 2003

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a memorial song, Tribal youth JC Rogers will sing the national anthem as she did in 2016, '17 and '18, and Grand Ronde Royalty and Veterans Royalty will perform "The Lord's Prayer."

The Grand Ronde Honor Guard will post the colors and speakers will include Navy veteran Sheronne Blasi, director of Statewide Veterans Services at the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and Army veteran Eric Enderle, the Polk County Veteran Services Officer.

Blasi is responsible for providing advocacy and benefits to veterans, their dependents and survivors to ensure all veterans obtain benefits to which they are entitled from their military service.

Enderle holds both state and national veteran service officer accreditation through Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs and the American Legion. He began working in veteran advocacy as an intern at Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs in Salem while still in school. Prior to joining Polk County, he worked as a Department Service Officer with the American Legion in Portland.

In addition to the aforementioned Tribal members, names being added to the West Valley Veterans Memorial are Navy veterans Donald Marten, Ralph Fillible, Walter Van Orden and Mark Carl; Air



Smoke Signals file photo

Grand Ronde Honor Guard member, Army veteran and Tribal Elder Raymond Petite posts the Grand Ronde Tribal flag at the beginning of the 16th annual Memorial Day observance held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on the Tribal campus in May 2018.

Force veterans Jeremy Fillible and Charles Cinnamon; Army veterans James E. Black, James E. Black Jr., Gordon Calder Jr. and Edwin Roten; and Marine Corps veteran Mark Dolan.

Former Tribal Council Chair-

man Reyn Leno, a Vietnam War-era Marine Corps veteran, will read the names.

Spohn, who lives in Roscommon, Mich., served in the Army from 2007 to '14. He started as an interior electrician and then became a combat engineer, serving one tour of duty in Iraq and two tours in Afghanistan. He was wounded in both countries and is now retired, living on disability from Veterans Affairs and the Tribe. He is 43 and left the military as a sergeant.

Kurns, 37, served in the Army from 2001 to '13. He was a scout and saw two tours of duty in Iraq, including during the initial invasion, and one tour of duty in Afghanistan. He also was stationed stateside in Georgia, Colorado, Washington and Texas.

He left the Army as a staff sergeant and lives in Gearhart where he cares of his children.

Riddle, 67, served in the Navy as a data processing technician from

1971 to '81. He was stationed in San Diego, Wales and Maryland and retired as a petty officer first class.

"I enjoyed the 10 years I was in," he said from his home in Livingston, Texas. "I have no regrets."

He said the highlights of his military career were seeing many countries while serving aboard the guided missile cruiser U.S.S. Chicago and touring much of Great Britain while stationed in Wales.

Smith served in the Marine Corps from 1967 to '74 and served two tours of duty in Vietnam, where he worked in the ammunition dump loading bombs on to planes.

After leaving the Marine Corps, he worked primarily as a truck driver and lived in Lobster Valley near Waldport. He walked on March 2, 2019, at the age of 69.

The addition of 15 names brings the number of veterans honored on the pillars to 2,362.

The ceremony will close with Bud Abbott reciting his traditional poem "Remember Me, America" and Robert Thornburg performing taps on the trumpet.

The West Valley Veterans Memorial, which was dedicated in 2003, was designed by Bobb and features a man and a woman dressed in traditional Native clothing standing side by side reaching to the sky. Surrounding them are four black granite pillars, which feature the names of Tribal and community veterans from Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan. ■