

Tribal Council OKs public records amendments

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Council approved final adoption of proposed amendments to the Public Records Ordinance during its Wednesday, Aug. 5, meeting.

The amendments include changing the name to the Freedom of Information Ordinance and giving Tribal members the ability to request Tribal records that identify them directly from the department where the record is housed, and allowing Tribal members the ability to supplement the records if they believe it contains false or misleading information.

In a July 28 Legislative Action Committee meeting, Staff Attorney Brooks Wakeland said that the proposed changes had been advertised in two editions of *Smoke Signals* and two comments had been received.

The final version of the ordinance also includes making security reports available to Tribal members identified in them if the general manager authorizes the release of such records.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the re-appointment of Anthony Texeira to the Veterans Special Event Board with a term expiring in March 2022;
- Approved an intergovernmental agreement between the Tribe, cities of Independence, Keizer, Monmouth and Salem, and Marion County, Polk County, Salem-Keizer School District and the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments concerning the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance. The purpose is for the governments to join together to support and more

effectively address the needs of those experiencing homelessness;

- Approved an application to the Oregon Criminal Justice System for a \$290,000 IMPACTS Grant, which supports Tribal members with substance use or mental health disorders;
- Approved entering into an agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation for the Tribe's allocation of public transit COVID-19 Impact Funding to help with the added costs of cleaning buses, personal protective equipment and related expenses;
- Approved an agreement between the Tribe and Restorical Research of Portland for cost recovery assistance on the Blue Heron property in Oregon City;
- And approved the enrollment of one infant into the Tribe because he or she meets the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance and denied enrollment to one infant because he or she did not meet the requirements.

Also included in the Aug. 5 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that moved \$56,000 from contingency and CARES Act funding to help pay for the Rail Depot improvement project, increased the monthly maximum benefit in the Veterans Disability Program to \$816 and OK'd \$100,000 in the 2020 budget to start a Tribal member loan program that will allow Tribal members to borrow up to \$1,000 from the Tribe.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government's website at www.grandronde.org and click on the Government tab and then Videos. ■

New casino sign



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Workers with Ramsay Signs of Portland work on the support structure for the new sign at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Aug. 11. Construction began on Monday, Aug. 3, and if things go smoothly should take a month to complete. New technology will enhance the sign's visual effects and the sign's frame is being refurbished as well.



ATTENTION ALL Tribal Members

Would you like the chance to win a raffle prize? Do you want to make a difference for your community? Now is your chance to do both!

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde values our membership and will be conducting a raffle drawing for any Tribal Household that completes their Census.

This is your opportunity to help guide federal funding that will impact future generations to come. Why your data matters? The 2020 Census is the count for all American Indians and Alaska Natives, no matter your age or where you live. Census results affect our community every day! It improves funding for many vital programs offered by CTGR. Your response will support rural areas, restore wildlife, build roads, housing, provide education, fund items like prevention services, health care and school lunches to name a few.

Have you completed the Census as **Head of Household** or were you **included** in a household Census? If the answer is yes, the next step is to respond NOW.

It's simple, quick & easy!

Deadline to Respond is September 1st, 2020. How to Respond:

- By phone 503-879-2165
- By email Itookthecensus@grandronde.org

Provide your full name, roll # and contact information. Let us know if you would like to participate in the Raffle. All information provided is confidential and never shared.

If you have not completed your Census - There is still time!
You can complete it here: <https://my2020census.gov/>
Call and let us know once your Census is done and you will be entered into the raffle.

United States Census Bureau

Drawing will be held September 8th, 2020.
All winners will be notified by phone or email.
Raffle prizes to include: Pendleton Blankets & a variety of Gift Cards

Thank you for your participation!

YOU COUNT! TAKE PART! CENSUS 2020

GOOD-MEDICINE
CIRCLE-TALK

Every Saturday 4 p.m. • Everyone welcome
This is a Sober Event • Encouraging Sobriety

Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon
Toward Spirit Mountain
At the Big Cross - Lighthouse Church • A-Ho-
503-879-3435