

Tribal Council reappoints committee, board members

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council voted to reappoint one member each to the Culture Committee and Veterans Special Event Board during its Wednesday, July 14, meeting, which featured a light agenda of action items.

Grand Ronde Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose was reappointed to the Culture Committee with a term expiring in March 2023. She has served on the committee since April 2015.

Marine Corps veteran Cecil Donahue was reappointed to serve on the Veterans Special Event Board with a term also expiring in March 2023. He was appointed to the board in January 2020.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the enrollment of one infant into the Tribe because he or she meets the requirements outlined in the Enrollment Ordinance and Tribal Constitution;
- And approved applying to the Administration for Children and

Families for a five-year Tribal Personal Responsibility Education Program grant that would bring the Tribe at least \$1.75 million over the life of the grant. The federal funding would help pay a full-time teen pregnancy prevention coordinator, staff trainings, and contracting with the Willamina and Sheridan school districts for the health education to teach the course and the purchase of curriculum.

Also included in the July 14 Tribal Council packet was an approved authorization to proceed that OK'd the Education Department's two-year proposal for funding from the Oregon Department of Education's Youth Community Investment grants. The department will use the requested funding for youth enrichment activities and youth employment.

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

ODOT planning chip sealing on Highway 22

The Oregon Department of Transportation will be chip sealing Highway 22 between Valley Junction and Hebo from mileposts 10 to 24 beginning Wednesday, July 21, through Thursday, Aug. 5.

The chip seal work is scheduled to occur between July 21 and Thursday, July 29, and the following week will involve completing the fog seal.

Scheduled work hours will be 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and the public should expect up to 20-minute delays. Traffic control resources, such as flaggers, will be in place during the work. ■

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Join us for a QPR training!

Provided by Native Connections and Project I-LAUNCH.

Question **P**ersuade **R**efer

A brief training on how to recognize possible signs of a person being suicidal. Gives you the tools needed to talk with a person at risk and for directing that person to further support.
Break the Silence. Save a Life.

Join us on Zoom!

Wednesday, July 21st from 9:00 am - 10:30 am

If you have questions or to RSVP, please call:
Amber Mercier at 503-879-1476
Nancy Versaw at 503-879-1396

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tax Preparation Request for Proposal

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is being conducted by the Member Services Department for the purpose of obtaining a licensed contractor who has 5+ years of experience preparing tax returns.

Qualified applicants shall possess the ability to:

- Provide tax preparation services to Tribal Elders and foster youth living on and off Tribal lands.
- Assist Tribal members in completing tax-related paperwork.
- Serve as a resource to Tribal members who have questions regarding payment and filing of state and federal tax returns.

Preference will be given to members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and/or Indian-owned businesses registered with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde TERO office.

Please contact Veronica Montano for information. All proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16, 2021.

Veronica Montano, Member Services Department

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Photo by Timothy Sofranko, Linfield photographer

Linfield University Facilities Department employee Darrell Driver recently erected a new street sign after the school decided to rename a street that was named after a former science professor who stole Native American burial artifacts. The new name, Lakamas, means “camas,” which is a traditional Native American first food.

Board of Trustees unanimously approved the name change

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people of the Willamette Valley.”

The committee considered six possible names and unanimously voted to support Lakamas Lane as the new street name.

“It has been a privilege to support members of the renaming committee ... with this effort,” Harrelson wrote in a letter to Linfield University President Miles K. Davis. “Their commitment to learning and inclusion was always at the forefront of our conversations. After much thoughtful deliberation, the committee has selected Lakamas Lane. I am writing to enthusiastically support the recommendation of the committee to rename Brumback Street to Lakamas Lane.

“Lakamas is the Chinuk Wawa name for the blue-flowered camas plant that was and continues to be an important food of our people. At the time of early Euro-American settlement of the Willamette Valley, camas was so thick in areas that the patches of blooming flowers were confused as lakes from a distance. This name honors the people and lifeways of the Kalapuya people who are the Indigenous

While the word “lacamas” exists in other parts of the Pacific Northwest, such as Lacamas Lake is Clark County, Wash., “lakamas” is unique to Chinuk Wawa and makes Linfield University the only place in the world where one can find Lakamas Lane.

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the name change at its May 1 meeting. Since then, signage has been updated and all students living on campus will have their mail delivered to the new address.

“David was instrumental in providing leadership, guidance and knowledge, and was generous with his time,” a committee statement said. “His willingness to engage with the university in this renaming effort has led us to envision a fruitful and collaborative future between Linfield and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.”

Linfield's McMinnville campus also is home to large remnant patches of camas that, under intentional management, thrive around Cozine Creek. ■

Includes information from Linfield News.