NOVEMBER 1, 2021 smok signəlz 5

Tribal Council approves Grand Ronde land purchase

By Dean Rhodes

 $Smoke\ Signals\ editor$

Tribal Council approved the purchase of six acres in Grand Ronde that used to be part of the Tribe's original Reservation during its Wednesday, Oct. 27, meeting.

The Walton property is located southeast of the Grand Ronde Fire Station off Grand Ronde Road. It was part of the original Richard Cook allotment and adjacent to property the Tribe owns.

"While the property is not in a prioritized area of land acquisition, it does fall within our land acquisition strategy in that it is adjacent to existing Tribal lands," the staff report states.

The purchase price was not disclosed during the meeting.

In other action, Tribal Council:

• Approved the addition of 24 more Tribal members to the Restoration Roll, bringing this year's total to 164. The Tribe added 204 names to the historically important roll in 2019 and another 127 in 2020. The names will be forwarded to Interior Secretary

Deb Haaland for approval;

• And amended the Tribe's contract with Elder Demolition of Portland regarding work at the former Blue Heron Paper Mill site in Oregon City. The amendment increases the contract from \$847,852 to \$931,527 so that the firm will demolish additional structures at the site. Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said that even with the increase the contract is still within budget. Work on tearing down the more than 50 structures at the Blue Heron site started on Sept. 21.

Tribal Council also approved the agenda for the 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, General Council meeting that will be held using the Zoom teleconferencing application. The meeting will feature Finance Officer Chris Leno reviewing the draft 2022 Tribal budget in executive

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

Certified Application Assisters at the Health & Wellness Center

Cassandra Rhamey is available to assist with recertification and applications for the Oregon Health Plan. She can be reached at 503-879-1359 or cassandra.rhamey@grandronde.org. Leah Bailey also is a Certified Application Assister available to help. She can be reached at 503-879-2197 or leah.bailey@grandronde.org. ■

ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the Oct.13, 2021, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments will (1) add the ability to use genetic testing of other family members if a parent is unable to be located or refuses to provide DNA; (2) removes the requirement for affidavits when other genetic testing is used; (3) makes DNA results confidential; and (4) may include other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. ■





