

Fish named new Gaming Commission director

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Longtime Tribal employee Tanner Fish was named the director of the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission on Wednesday, March 23, succeeding Michael Boyce in the position.

Tribal Council approved elevating Fish, who has been working as the interim director, during its meeting.

Fish started working for the Grand Ronde Tribe in April 2006 in the Information Systems Department.

"I have the highest confidence in his ability to do this job," said Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. during the Tuesday, March 22, Legislative Action Committee hearing.

"He has always been an outstanding employee," added Tribal Council member Denise Harvey.

Fish will be in charge of the Tribe's regulatory entity for all gaming enterprises and supervise a staff of 12 employees. Boyce retired on Feb. 11 after leading the Gaming Commission since May 2008.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Health Service that will bring the Tribe \$421,000 in federal funding to construct water and sanitary facilities for the second phase of building at the home ownership property located at the end of McPherson Road east of Grand Ronde Road. In addition, Tribal Council approved the Engineering and Planning Department applying for a \$2.5 million Economic Development Administration grant that would



Tanner Fish

construct infrastructure and utilities for the 32 home lots in Phase Two;

- Approved the Health and Wellness Department applying for a three-year,

\$450,000 Centers for Disease Control Nutrition and Wellness in Indian Country grant that would fund the Tribe developing initiatives to support wellness and nutritional education relevant to the Tribe's culture and community;

- Approved a \$241,686 design-build contract with Triplett-Wellman Inc. of Woodburn for a health care and vaccination clinic to be built on the Tribal campus;

- Approved applying for a maximum \$150,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services grant that would fund the Tribe developing approximately 10 more culturally relevant books that would be distributed to Tribal families and placed in the Tribal Library;
- And approved enrollment of 11 individuals into the Tribe because they meet the requirements outlined in the Enrollment Ordinance and Tribal Constitution.

Tribal Council also set the agenda for the 11 a.m. Sunday, April 3, General Council meeting, which will feature a presentation on the Tribe's capital improvement projects.

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

GRAND RONDE GAMING COMMISSION POSITIONS

The Grand Ronde Gaming Commission is seeking applications for two positions. The positions are for three-year terms beginning June of 2022. The terms will expire June of 2025. The Grand Ronde Gaming Commission regulates all gaming-related activities associated with Spirit Mountain Casino. The Tribal Gaming Ordinance requires both positions to be filled by Tribal members. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age. Commissioners may not hold elective or managerial Tribal positions, and may not be employed in or own any interest in or gamble in a gaming operation authorized by the Tribal Gaming Ordinance. Commissioners are independent contractors and expend approximately 30-40 hours per month to fulfill their responsibilities. The Commission generally meets on the second and third Fridays of each month. Appointment is contingent upon successful completion of a background investigation. Applications may be obtained by calling Kathy Doane at 503-879-2393 or e-mail at kathy.doane@grandronde.org.

Closing date is April 30, 2022, by 5 p.m.

Smoke Signals seeking perspectives from incarcerated moms

Are you a Tribal member and a mother who has been in the correctional system? What were some of the challenges and obstacles you faced trying to mother from the inside of prison walls? Were you able to reconnect with your children upon release and mend fractured relationships?

If so, *Smoke Signals* would like to hear your story. Staff writer Danielle Harrison is writing a series on mothers who have been in prison and the effects on family relationships, and would like to talk to Tribal members who are in various stages of the process, from incarceration to post-release.

What has worked for you to stay an active/engaged part of your children's lives and why? What services do you wish were more readily available for mothers in prison?

Your story is important and we would like to hear from you, no matter where you are at in the process.

Please contact Danielle Harrison for more information at danielle.harrison@grandronde.org or call 503-879-4663. ■



Save the Date

2022 Grand Ronde
Education Summit

Wednesday August 24th
9:00am-4:30pm
Location: Spirit Mountain Casino

LOOKING FOR WORK? SIGN UP FOR THE TERO SKILLS BANK!

**CARPENTERS, GENERAL LABORERS,
CONCRETE MASONS & LABORERS,
ASPHALT LABORERS, AND MORE!**

HOW? Contact the TERO Office at 503-879-2188 or email tero@grandronde.org

WHO CAN SIGN UP? Grand Ronde Tribal members and members of other federally recognized Tribes. Must be 18 years or older.

WHAT IS NEEDED? TERO Skills Bank application and Tribal ID



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