



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Construction workers prepare the foundation of one of the duplexes in the new Creekside Elder housing site at the southwest corner of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Tribal Council approved an agreement with the Indian Health Service to fund the installation of sanitary infrastructure during its Sept. 14 meeting.

Tribal Council approves elder housing agreement with Indian Health Service

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

With only one week passing since its last meeting, Tribal Council had a light agenda on Wednesday, Sept. 14, dealing with only one action item. The shorter one-week period between meetings occurred because Tribal Council traditionally holds a meeting after new members are sworn in to office. Earlier in the day, incumbents Denise Harvey and Kathleen George and former Tribal Council member Brenda Tuomi were sworn in for new three-year terms after taking the top three spots in the Sept. 10 election. Jack Giffen Jr., who served 18 years on Tribal Council, officially became a former Tribal Council member. The one action item saw Tribal Council approve a memorandum of

agreement with the Indian Health Service that will bring the Tribe an additional \$156,614 to fund sanitary and water services at the Creekside Elder Housing Phase III project at the southwest corner of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads. The development will feature 24 two-bedroom, one-bath, energy efficient units with approximately 1,120 feet that will include all appliances. The homes will have solar panels, unit specific batteries to store the solar energy and plug-ins for emergency use of generators. The expected completion construction date is spring 2023. With Tuomi re-elected to Tribal Council, for the first time Tribal Council now has a 6-3 female majority. Tuomi, Harvey and George will serve through September 2025. ■

Cultural sharing



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal member Anthony Hudson, a recipient of the 2022 Indigenous Place Keeping Artist Fellow, discusses his work during a cultural sharing event at Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center on Wednesday, Sept. 21, with approximately 35 people in attendance. Hudson is a multidisciplinary artist and writer best known as Portland’s premier drag clown Carla Rossi and his play “Looking for Tiger Lily,” which follows his quest to find validation as a Native artist and be at peace with a confused identity. The Grand Ronde Tribal fellowship was created this year to develop Indigenous artist capacity within the Tribe’s homelands, and it provides up to \$20,000 to each selected artist to help the fellows become more competitive for local, regional and nationwide funding opportunities.





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