



Executive Council

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
VTRC ~ Juneau, AK

ADOPTED – March 19, 2009 - Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair William E. Martin called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

William E. Martin	President	Present
Edward K. Thomas	President Emeritus	12:45 pm
Richard Peterson	1 st Vice President	Present
Michele Metz	2 nd Vice President	Present
Jay Cabuag	3 rd Vice President	Present
Richard George	4 th Vice President	Present
Will Micklin	5 th Vice President	Present
Barbara Fields	6 th Vice President	12:20 pm
Ralph Wolfe	Youth Representative	Present

Also present were:

Melissa Kookesh, Recording Secretary; Raeanne Holmes, Administrative Assistant; Corrine Garza, Chief Operating Officer; Sierk Haitzma, Chief Finance Officer; Percy Frisby, Tribal Energy Department Manager; Andrei Chakine, Business & Economic Development Department (BEDD) Manager; Georgia Finau, Self Governance Director; Loretta Wallin, Financial Analysis; Albert Rinehart, Head Start Manager; Valerie Hillman, Program Compliance Manager; Le Florendo, ICWA Coordinator; Francine Eddy Jones, TFYS Director; Sasha Soboleff, Basic Education Coordinator; Robert Loescher, Judiciary Sub-Committee Chair; Juneau Delegate Floyd Kookesh; Roald Helgesen, SEARHC President/CEO; Ken Truitt, SEARHC General Counsel; Janice Sheufelt, MD SEARHC; Mark Gorman, SEARHC; Frank Sutton, SEARHC; Ricardo Worl, Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority.

INVOCATION

Invocation was provided by 4th Vice President Richard George.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S Michele Metz / Richard Peterson to adopt the agenda. C/U

ADOPT MINUTES

M/S Michele / Richard George to adopt the minutes of January 30, 2009. C/U

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported on following items:

- Joint meeting with Sealaska regarding a MOU. The format is being finalized with the lawyers from the Tribe and corporation. Andrei Chakine will elaborate on the MOU during his report.
- Elder's Advisory group had their first meeting January 20 to discuss repatriation, proper protocol during Tribal Assembly and other issues of the Tribe.
- The Energy Department has a new budget and contract of roughly \$400,000. Percy Frisby will provide more details during his report.
- Governor Palin is in the process of setting up a meeting with the Tribe and judicial services.
- Will attend the State Suicide Prevention Council in Anchorage on April 8-9, 2009, the ITMA Board meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 22-25, 2009, and providing the keynote speech at the CANAR Conference in Anchorage on may 10-13, 2009.

REPORTS

Finance

Chief Financial Officer Sierk Haitzma provided a report to the Executive Council covering the preliminary financial report ending December 31, 2008. Budget to actual was included on his report for the different departments and funding sources. See Attachment A.

Tribal Operations

Chief Operating Officer Corrine Garza provided a report to the Executive Council covering the Trust Fund, Title 03 Enterprise Statute Revisions, Draft Tribal Assembly Report, Shortfall Recommendations, Energy, VTRC, Shortfall Reduction Options, THTI, and a selection of Investment Management Proposals and its recommended changes. See Attachment B.

M/S Richard Peterson / Jay Cabuag to adopt Resolution EC 09-21, **Investment Policy Statement**, as amended. C/U

Tlingit - Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA)

Ricardo Worl presented a report regarding the Stimulus Funds, focusing on the recovery program under the Indian Housing Block Grant Formula. \$510,000 and \$210,000 will go directly to qualified individuals. Funding is restricted to employment use only. Shovel-ready projects are:

- Yakutat Senior Center (\$4.5 million fully funded)
- Saxman Tribe Senior Center (18 units)
- Petersburg Indian Association (convert office into transitional housing)

\$300 million dollars have already been received for weatherization projects. \$3.2 million was received from HUD for tribes under THRHA. Currently working on resolution to secure funding,

and need to start the employment process for recycling and neighborhood revitalizations, which will include garbage clean up and painting elder homes. Other projects that are not as shovel-ready include the pipeline in Kasaan and Klawock, and a Head Start building.

Rural areas can receive up to \$30,000 and urban areas will receive less. Because Southeast communities are on the Alaska Marine Highway they are considered urban. This has been brought to the attention of Southeast Alaska Senators and Representatives. Another solution must be found.

Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC)

President/CEO Roald Helgesen along with General Counsel Ken Truitt, Dr. Janice Shuefelt, Mark Gorman, and Frank Sutton provided a report on recent SEARHC activities.

- THRHA, SEARHC and Central Council to meet with the Alaska Congressional Delegation as one united group.
- The 2009 Omnibus Bill passed the Senate and was signed by President Obama. This bill represents a 6% increase in Tribal Funding for Indian Health. President's budget will receive another 12% in 2010, as well as increased funding to improve healthcare in rural areas.
- Raven's Way Program asks for the assistance of Central Council. They need the Tribes help in advertising the program. The Raven's Way Outpatient Program is hoping that SAMHSA will look at our record positively and support the program.
- Electronic Health Records throughout SEARHC will be expanding in October of 2009, and all exam rooms in Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital and the Juneau Clinic will have computers to ensure everything is documented properly.
- Section 330 clinics are located in Prince of Wales Island, Haines, and downtown Juneau.
- Forming a committee from Central Council's delegation to organize its own health care unit.

Richard George commented for the record that the reason for wanting representation was because of our exposure to Native health issues from our respective communities.

Road & Transportation Report

Roads & Transportation Director Gordon Jackson gave a report on the Roads & Transportation Department. Covered in his report was the Alaska Marine Highway System Planning Grant, with the announcement that the final grant document for \$250,000 was signed with the US Department of Transportation. Next steps will be to draft a resolution forming a committee to inventory the 600 miles of road needed to improve the marine highway, and negotiate an MOU with various entities.

Energy Report

Tribal Energy Director Percy Frisby gave a report on Tribal Energy Department. A grant was submitted to the Department of Energy for \$411,530 which will help all Southeast communities. The grant revenue, which will take two months to receive, will fund the department. See Attachment C.

BREAK

Break from 3:45 PM – 4:00 PM

Tribal Family & Youth Services Report

TFYS Director Francine Eddy Jones gave a report on TFYS Department and the Title IV-E programs. Preparations necessary for TFYS to apply for direct Title IV-E funding, will be to obtain a license for foster and adoptive home recruitment, and the Tribal Court will need to be up and running. The program requires a long term commitment or start up money has to be returned. See Attachment D.

Tribal Child Support

Juneau Delegate Bob Loescher reported on SB 96, which is a comprehensive bill that deals with Child Welfare Issues and medical payments among other items. They have been working on an amendment that was added to the bill to include “Indian Tribe”. The state will lose \$17 million if the bill does not pass.

Tlingit & Haida Tribal Business Corporation / Sealaska MOU Report

Juneau Delegate Bob Loescher provided a report to the Executive Council. Loescher has been working diligently with Central Council’s Chief Operating Officer on Tlingit & Haida Tribal Business Corporation. The document is currently being reviewed by the Central Council’s attorney Phil Baker Shenk with Holland & Knight.

Loescher also worked on the Draft Memorandum of Understanding with Sealaska and their attorney which will target businesses and future joint ventures between the Tribe and the corporation. The final MOU is awaiting approval from the Central Council’s attorney.

TEPAC Report

5th Vice President Will Micklin reported on the Tribal Energy Policy Advisory Committee of which he is a committee member. The Federal Communications Commission is asking for deployment on broadband in Indian Country in terms of education, exposure and fair access to media. The Stimulus Package includes a large dollar amount that Central Council should seek to get the funding for our rural areas. See Attachment E.

Executive Council Budget

M/S Michele Metz / Richard Peterson that the Executive Council budget be increased to \$200,000 for FY2009. C/U

RECESS

Recess from 5:30 PM until 8:00 AM March 20, 2009.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Executive Council Guideline Revisions

M/S Jay Cabuag / Richard George to table the Executive Council Guidelines until the April 14, 2009 Executive Council meeting. C/U

Central Council Committee Minutes

The Chair ruled that staff will post all Committee Minutes on the Central Council website.

Tribal Energy Department Budget

The Executive Council requested to receive the summary of grant funding from the Department of Energy. There is a 30-60 day window of solicitations requesting proposals from tribes to be funded (2-3 grants of smaller amount that apply to Central Council). The Executive Council would like to see what the department can and should be doing and a clear vision from the Tribal Energy Director.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session from 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM.

Tribal Assembly Draft Agenda

The Executive Council made several amendments to the draft Tribal Assembly agenda. Staff will incorporate the requested changes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session from 9:40 AM to 10:30 AM.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions

M/S Richard Peterson / Richard George to adopt Resolution EC 09-14, **Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency for Rural Alaska**. M/C

M/S Richard Peterson / Jay Cabuag to adopt Resolution EC 09-22, **Repeal and Reenactment of Statute Title 03**. M/C

M/S Richard George / Jay Cabuag to adopt Resolution EC 09-23, **Approval of Section 17 Corporate Charter**. M/C

M/S Richard Peterson / Jay Cabuag to adopt Resolution EC 09-24, **Amendment to Title 6 Tribal Courts**. M/C (4 yeas and 1 nay)

M/S Jay Cabuag / Richard George to adopt Resolution EC 09-25, **Amendment to Title 21 Audit**. M/C (4 yeas and 1 nay)

M/S Richard George / Jay Cabuag to adopt Resolution EC 09-26, **Amendment to Resolution EC 09-12 Authority to Accept 09-DC-159 Grant Waiving Sovereign Immunity**. M/C

President and Executive Council Evaluations

The Executive Council will address the process of Evaluations for the President and Executive Council before the 2009 Tribal Assembly.

Tlingit & Haida Tribal Business Corporation

Executive Council to appoint members to the board as soon as possible since the statute has already been adopted.

RurAL CAP

M/S Richard Peterson / Barbara Fields to support the RurAL CAP Teachers of Excellence Consortium Agreement. M/C

WeCAN Donation

Donations by the Executive Council are currently on a freeze and are not being granted at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session from 12:05 PM to 1:25 PM.

M/S Jay Cabuag / Richard George to continue to work with SEARHC on a positive and cooperative basis to enhance the health care of our people. C/U

NEXT MEETING DATE

The Executive Council will meet on April 14, 2009 at the Edward K. Thomas building.

ADJOURN

M/S Jay Cabuag / Richard Peterson to adjourn. M/C

Meeting adjourned at 1:29 PM.