ROLL CALL: 10:01am

PRESENT: Joe James, Chairman; Sherri Provolt, Orick District; Mindy Natt, Pecwan District; Ryan Ray, Requa District; Wes Crawford, East District; Phillip Williams, North District; Toby Vanlandingham, Weitchpec District; Lana McCovey, South District

ABSENT: Frankie Myers, Vice Chairman (travel, water meeting)

STAFF: Don Barnes, Executive Director; Taralyn Ipiña, Chief Operations Officer; Kori Cordero, Office of Tribal Attorney; Georgiana Gensaw, Council Operations Coordinator (recorder).

QUORUM: 8 present, 1 absent, quorum present.

OPENING PRAYER: Provided by Chairman James.

REVIEW AGENDA/ADDITIONS/APPROVAL:

Motion made by Councilmember Vanlandingham/Councilmember McCovey to accept the agenda with additions of WILD23-013- Dr. Seafha Ramos Manuscript Review, WILD23-014 – National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Funding, and FISH23-094–Fisheries Agreement with Chico State Enterprises. Motion carries by consensus.

REVIEW CALENDAR/ADDITIONS:

Office of Self Governance

OSG23-012, Humboldt Bay Harbor District 2024 Election
Submitted by Megan Siaosi

Request a work session with Tribal Council to consider nominating a candidate to represent Division 5 in the upcoming Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District elections. Directive to Taralyn, COO to work with Megan, OSG to identify a date.

Natural Resources Division

Wildlife Program

WILD23-015, Conservation of Steve’s Prairie
Submitted by Preston Taylor

Council consensus to set November 29, 2023, for a Planning Session with Council and Natural Resources Department to discuss the conservation of Steven’s Prairie for Elk and intended goals for the management area.
INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE(S): None provided.

COUNCIL CHECK IN:
Councilmember Williams: Pass.
Councilmember Natt: Pass.
Councilmember Vanlandingham: Pass.
Vice Chairman Myers: Not present.

Councilmember Ray: I had my district meeting last week. We had an update on community projects. The Wellness Coalition was requested to be re-established. Discussion on Community Center in Klamath/Senior Center, the membership understand that it has been transferred over to a church and they are being excluded from using it. They are wondering if the building can be transferred to the Tribe instead, I have paperwork that OTA can possibly review.

Councilmember Provolt: My Orick District meeting is Saturday November 18th at Trinidad Hall and we have invited Language to provide Yurok Language Bingo and invite everyone to attend. Also attending will be Amos Pole from the Office of Emergency Services. Lunch will be provided.

Councilmember Crawford: I will be attending the CEC Meeting at Blue Lake tomorrow.

Councilmember McCovey: I attended the CRIHB Annual Meeting in Sacramento to move along initiatives we are trying to move forward regarding health issues. Halloween Carnival was well attended, approximately 200 youth showed up. We had the Grand Opening of 3rd street which was also well attended. Some Council met with the UIHS Board and Staff regarding expansions of clinics. Issues of people not being paid for services and processing of the firewood that was mean for Yurok elders, concerns ICWA court matters continuing when office are closed.

Chairman James: A lot of overlapping of happenings this past week. We had a MMIP Roundtable which is held bi-monthly to prepare for the Feb 12th and 13th Summit in Sacramento. We met with Chuck Bonham regarding invoices and billing to try to streamline the process. Attended AB338 ceremony yesterday which was unveiled yesterday representing Native people. There were about 300+ in attendance.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:
Isaac Kinney:
- Skue-yeun’ ‘ue koy, I have prepared five Points here today so please bear with me. I appreciate the time to make a Tribal Council comment today. I appreciate the hard work that you all are putting in, it is not easy to be in leadership and know that my four points here today are to be constructive and not to critique.
- The first few will be regarding my recent candidacy for tribal council. The incumbent is he's doing the job. He's been elected again. But I did not have any previous issues with the incumbent, but his comments during the election questioning my residency were
disrespectful to my family. We have been communicating to resolve this matter. I've not had communications with the incumbent even though I've moved home to prioritize building and fixing a house. I was focused on getting my degree and graduating and then I came home.

- I do want to further say that I do think it's a responsibility for the Council to work with outside third-party organizations to have candidate forums for every single election of the Yurok Tribe. A part of our strength rather than a weakness to undermine and try and blame and point fingers at each other, we can't start beating each other up because we are stronger together.

- I think we need to start a ride share program. The Tribe should do it or put a letter of support for me to do it as a business. I couldn't keep my current job because the ability to ride in the GSA's was cut off. That was rough. That hurt a lot and it impacted my life and my livelihood to be able to provide for my family.

- My next bullet point is that we need to create monetary incentives for people working in our corporations, for example, things like Yurok Connect. Contracted consultants doing those jobs are very unclear. Who is working for the tribal government and who is working for a corporation is not clear. If you're out there helping other corporations or the tribal government, you should get compensated for that monetarily.

- My last comment is on public safety, which is still a need in Weitchpec. We desperately need more resources around mental health, substance abuse, and addiction. Thank you.

Elizabeth Davis:

- East District, I wanted all Council to be aware of an employee wide e-mail just received from the HR director stating that we are not allowed to log into the Council meetings. We're not allowed to make comments and I want to know if this is a new policy. And whether the council is aware of it. Maybe the meetings need to be held during non-working hours. So, us tribal member employees can log in and make our comments and know what's going on in the Travel Council and follow the agenda.

- The other thing is that I feel like you are picking and choosing which policies to enforce. That's wrong. You're taking away my right as a tribal member to make comments on issues that concern me or that I'm interested in you open it up for tribal Member comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Personnel (Ray)
Personnel (Vanlandingham)
Personnel & Legal (McCovey)
Litigation update, Government Shutdown (Barnes)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:
Council
CA23–288, PG&E Charitable Donation
Submitted by Jodi Hoone
Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to authorize retro acceptance of a $33,000 donation from PG&E for purchase of generators. Motion carries by consensus.

CA23-289, PG&E Charitable Donation
Submitted by Jodi Hoone

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to authorize retro acceptance of a $20,000 donation from PG&E for community food provision. Motion carries by consensus.

CA23-290, October 9, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sherri Provolt

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to approve edits and corrections Council Planning/Action meeting minutes for October 9, 2023. Motion carries by consensus.

Natural Resources Division
Fisheries Department
FISH23-091, Fisheries Funding Submissions
Submitted by Barry McCovey, Jr.

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to authorize the Fisheries Department to submit funding requests identified in attached documentation for high priority restoration projects. Motion carries by consensus.

FISH23-092, Fisheries Budget Modifications
Submitted by Barry McCovey, Jr.

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to authorize the Fisheries Department to modify Budget #7200 as described in attached documentation. Motion carries by consensus.

FISH23-093, Request for Support Letters
Submitted by Barry McCovey, Jr.

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Williams to retroactively authorize Chairman to sign a letter requesting support letters from other governmental organizations for a large fisheries funding proposal. Motion carries by consensus.

AGENDA ITEMS:
Administration Division
Human Resources Department
HR23-021, Human Resources Department Job Description & Org Chart
Submitted by Daraxa Mattice

Motion made by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Provolt to approve Human Resources Job Description and Organization Chart: Human Resources Assistant Director, Human
Resources Manager, Human Resources Generalist, and Human Resources Recruiter. Motion carries by consensus.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:
Lori Hodge:
- I want to address the answering the phones. You said the call goes to the desk of who is there, but I don’t think it’s working for the membership. You should have someone specifically assigned to answer calls.
- I also want to support what Elizabeth said. When I was on Council, you could listen to the meeting to know what’s going on with the other departments. I think it makes employees better informed.

Health & Human Services Division
Tribal Court
TC23-024, W. Bowers Contract Renewal
Submitted by Abby Abinanti
Motion made by Councilmember Williams/Councilmember Vanlandingham, pursuant to the Constitution, for Chairman to appoint William Bowers to associate Judge, with advice and consent from the Tribal Council, and to authorize Chairman to sign the attached contract. Motion carries by consensus.

Council
CA23-287, Tsurai Ancestral Society
Submitted by Taralyn Ipina
Presentation request from Tsurai Ancestral Society (TAS) on trail concept for the Axel Lindgren memorial trail. Set for November 8, 2023, at 1:30PM. Discussion only, no action.

Planning & Community Development Division
Planning Department
P23-062, ICDBG Planning Process
Submitted by Ray Moisa
To engage in a planning process at every council meeting to discuss project ideas for the 2024 Indian Community Development Block Grant application. Item pulled.

Office of Tribal Attorney
OTA23-063, Stanford Grad Publishing Article on Data Sovereignty
Submitted by Annie Perry
Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Councilmember Williams to approve Stanford Law Graduate Bailey Ulbricht’s request for Tribal Council permission to publish her article on Indigenous Data Sovereignty in a law journal. Motion carries by consensus.

BREAK: 11:14am -11:26am
EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS

CA23-013, Dr. Seafha Ramos Manuscript Review
Submitted by Tiana Williams-Claussen

Motion made by Councilmember Vanlandingham/Councilmember Ray to approve submission of two draft manuscripts developed by Dr. Seafha Ramos of Northern Arizona University regarding wildlife and Yurok traditional economical knowledge and culturally sensitive wildlife allergy research conducted according to UROC Principles and necessary Chairman signatures. Motion carries by consensus.

Motion made by Councilmember Williams/Councilmember Vanlandingham to suspend the rules and add WILD23-015. Motion carries by consensus.

WILD23-015, B-100 and Stevens Road Restoration Area Protection
Submitted by Tiana Williams-Claussen

Motion made by Councilmember Vanlandingham/ Councilmember Williams. To approve the installation of a gate on the B-100 for management of the road and the Stevens Prairie Restoration area. Motion carries by consensus.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:

Richard Nelson:
- I've asked a few times to have gates put on the property because of the agreements that we signed with the agencies to purchase phase one and phase two properties which basically stated that we would do proper stewardship protect the roads out there. That we would make sure that people did not drive on unlocked roads that contribute sediment to the resources and to the fish spawning habitat.
- I have seen what our members have done to the resources out there and it's not right. We'd go out there during work and see 60 deer because the fire pushed him onto our resources or onto our lands. And then a few weeks later you go out there and you see nothing but gut piles. And when the gut piles are the size of shoe boxes, we have an issue. You know, nobody should be out there shooting a fawn. It's not right. Currently we've been blocking the road with our excavator to make sure it doesn't happen.

Lori Hodge:
- I just wanted to show support for putting up the gates because it would be great if, as a tribal member, if at some point, you know, all tribal members were able to enjoy the elk and the deer. I think for the for the rest of us who would like to see the populations come back to the point that we can all enjoy, then I would fully support putting up a gate. Thank you.

Seafha Ramos:
- South District. Thanks for this discussion. I just happened to stay on today as I was curious about this topic. A complex situation because as a community member, my
immediate gut response is don't put up the gate, but I also understand the concerns here. I would just like to ask if they could, whoever is making these decisions, if you could consider in your planning what assessments or at what point you would decide that the gates were no longer necessary. You know say it's we have a healthy population of Elk or deer, and we have some parameters for what that looks like. So now it's OK to take the gate down. I'd really like to see that as part of this as well, not just that we need a gate. And I understand there are some immediate concerns, but I guess that's my comment. Thank you.

Raymond McQuillen:
- I'd like to echo what Ms. Ramos just said, but you know, to come up with a plan, have your Planning Department lead that. Use the land use plan. Put it together.
- Involve all your natural resources, your culture. You know all your departments that are involved and put something together because you know it seems just seems like this is, you know, kind of always reactionary to problems that come up. But it, you know, the problems never seem to get taken care of. So that's my comment.

Richard Nelson:
- I would like to add something, like as a tribal member, I used to be a hunter. I probably hunted more than I did or took more fish from this river than I did before. Then, the Tribe gave me a job and I said that I would protect our resources until you fired me or told me I passed away. I think it was my quote to aawok Troy Fletcher.
- Stevens Prairie is such a beautiful place out there, and I think that we should protect it for eternity from what is happening right now. There's over 100 miles of road out there that we're not asking to shut down. There's another 50 to 60,000 acres. However, many acres there are out there that we're not looking to shut down, we're just looking to shut down one little footprint that is seed for elk and deer for the rest of the property out there and I would hope that we, as tribal members are not so greedy. Thank you.

Jackie Mix:
- My comment is if we don't care for our own land, the way that we should, the way our elders taught us, who’s going to care for our land? We need to.
- Think about our animals and our prayers. Soon with the growth of cities and towns, they're going to be coming right into our preserved areas. I know this is long term projecting, but that's how we got to look at stuff is our long-term projections.

WILD23-014, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation funding
Submitted by Preston Taylor

Motion made by Councilmember Vanlandingham/Councilmember Williams to approve Wildlife to apply for funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation Western Big Game Seasonal Habitat and Migration Corridor request for proposals to support Phase 1 of
Steven’s Prairie restoration, and all necessary Chairman signatures. Motion carries by consensus.

FISH23-94, Agreement with Chico State Enterprises
Submitted by Barry McCovey, Jr.

Motion made by Councilmember Provolt/Councilmember Ray to authorize the Fisheries Department to enter into the attached agreement with Chico State Enterprises for Sacramento River restoration projects and to approve Resolution #23-126 Granting a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity in favor of Chico State Enterprises. Roll call: Vice Chairperson Myers-np, Councilmember Crawford-yes, Councilmember Ray-yes, Councilmember Vanlandingham-yes, Councilmember Provolt-yes, Councilmember Natt-yes, Councilmember Williams-yes, Councilmember McCovey-yes. Yes-7, no-0, Abstaining-0, not present-1. Motion carries.

LUNCH: 12:03pm-1:00pm

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:
Rose Sylvia: Pecwan District.
- The Yurok Tribe spent quite a bit of time in doing a restructuring of the organization. And in that restructuring, the Fire Chief made the determination that he did not want to be in the Natural Resource Division and requested to be in a separate division, which is now Emergency Services. That is where they put Tribal Police, Fire, and OES. I kind of question why you have the Fire who didn't want to be there doing natural resource work. The whole idea behind the division was for collaboration and coordination and communication. And so, you have someone outside of the division, doing work that’s natural resource work.
- I believe there is a continuance of bullying happening in the organization. And so, in your Personnel Policy 6.5, it speaks of bullying. And in that section, it talks about exclusion, where a person who's bullying another, they exclude them and will perform exclusion methods.
- I missed the whole conversation regarding tribal member comment. Apparently, your employees are not very pleased with that because I've had three employees contact me. And so, whether you're a tribal employee or not, you're still a tribal member.

Jackie Mix: East District
- Our tribe is very important, whether you guys like it or not. We're from small towns. We're all related. We all know what's going on. So even if we have something horrible to say or mean to say, you still must listen to us.
- You're trying to create rules to preserve our natural way of wildlife, putting in gates. We don't want people to go there. That's including you guys, you guys are not above us. You guys are tribal membership also.
Rose Sylvia:

- I also want to say this, so since I'm not at the tribe anymore, sometimes I feel like I'm totally disregarded because I'm now a disgruntled employee. I'm not a disgruntled employee. I'm an intelligent, hardworking person. I know how the systems are supposed to be or what the idea was behind them.

- I asked Toby when he ran for council. No hard feelings. I saw it on Facebook where you posted that you've had three complaints against you under the Council Ordinance. And under the Council Ordinance, you are all responsible to ensure that that council ordinance is followed. That's your responsibility. You took an oath of office. You took an oath of office to ensure that the constitution, the ordinances, the policies, the rules of the organization are followed. If they're not any good anymore, then put the rules out to change them, but we don't. We just keep making more rules, and nobody complies with those rules, and nobody does anything about it. Thank you.

Lori Hodge:

- East District. I just wanted to say a little bit in support of those two comments. I see picking and choosing what policies and rules are going to be enforced. I've heard many times the council ask to get employees back to the office. But then I see a certain department like the Planning Department. No one's ever there because they're all still allowed to work from home. Why is our Executive Office allowed to bypass and let certain departments work at home. I don't see the rules being followed across the board for everyone, and that bothers me.

- I see disrespect from certain council members to their co-council members. It saddens me to hear that, and nothing ever happens with those kinds of issues. I hear about a councilmember harasses employees, harasses female employees, and nothing ever happens regarding that. I see him over and over make snide disrespectful remarks to co-council members.

- I think our tribe is doing wonderful things. We're known throughout the state, throughout the United States, throughout the world, and yet we have problems getting our departments to answer the phone. Thank you very much.

Raymond McQuillen:

- North District. The previous comments are pretty much right on. It starts at the top. You have got to start as a Council, you as a body, have the power. Not necessarily the Chairman, but the Council has the power to implement these changes that your tribal membership is talking about. A few of us sat on that side of the table.

- As tribal council members, we know how difficult it is, but you have got to hold the staff accountable when we're talking about consistency with upholding the policies. I would like the Council to take a hard look at that and really try to make sure everything is done consistently across the board. I think that's going to eliminate a lot of your problems.

Office of Self Governance

OSG23-013, Calstrat Lobbyist Contract for Services
November 8, 2023, Council Planning/Action Meeting

Submitted by Megan Siaosi

To approve contract for California State Lobbyist firm. Motion to include funding source. Item tabled.

Council

CA23-270, Title VI Elder Nutrition Program
Submitted by Councilmember Vanlandingham

Discussion/Action on the Title VI Elder Nutrition Program funding and Grant Restrictions. Item tabled to a work session.

CA23-272, Tribal Council Secretary
Submitted by Taralyn Ipina

Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Councilmember McCovey for pursuant to constitutional authority of Chairperson, Chairman James appoints Councilmember Provolt Yurok Tribal Council Secretary with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council. Motion carries by consensus.

CA23-273, District Committee & Board Members
Submitted by Taralyn Ipina

Motion for pursuant to constitutional authority of Chairperson, Chairman James appoints Requa, Weitchpec, and North District Committee and Board Members with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council. Item tabled to December 13, 2023.

CA23-274, Council Liaison & Delegate list for 2024
Submitted by Taralyn Ipina

Motion made by Councilmember Provolt/Councilmember Williams to approve the Council Delegate and Liaison list for 2024. Motion carries by consensus.

CA23-276, YEDC Board Appointment
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

Motion made by Councilmember Provolt/Councilmember Vanlandingham for pursuant to constitutional authority of Chairperson, Chairman James appoints Councilmember McCovey to the YEDC Board of Directors with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council. Motion carries by consensus.

CA23-278, YEDC Board Appointment-Chairperson
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

Motion made by Councilmember Williams/Councilmember Vanlandingham for pursuant to constitutional authority of Chairperson, Chairman James appoints Councilmember Provolt as the Chairperson of the YEDC Board of Directors with the advice and consent of the Tribal Council. Motion carries by consensus.
AGENDA ITEMS:
CA23-286, Travois Presentation at 3pm
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt
A meeting with Travois regarding new market credits that may be available for the Wellness Center Development. Set for November 8, 2023, at 3pm. Discussion only, no action.

CA23-291, Food Commodities/Food Sovereignty
Submitted by Councilmember Vanlandingham
Council consensus to set a work session for January 2024. To have all pertinent staff included.
Action/Discussion on the reorganization/restructure of Yurok Food Sovereignty and Yurok Food Distribution under the Yurok Dept of Agriculture (formed under YTC 22.05.110)

CA23-292, Requa Resort
Submitted by Councilmember Ray
Directive to the Executive Director to schedule a work session. For a discussion/action on the upkeep management of Requa Resort.

BREAK: 4:00pm-4:11pm

AGENDA ITEMS:
CA23-293, Margaret Keating School Update by Victoria Carlson
Submitted by Ryan Ray
Update from Education Department (Victoria Carlson) regarding projects at Margaret Keating School. Discussion only, no action.

CA23-294, Klamath Tank Project
Submitted by Ryan Ray
Update from staff regarding the Klamath Tank Project, progress report and timeline for completion. Discussion only, no action.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 4:37pm-6:26pm
4:55pm- Councilmember McCovey leaves
Personnel (Ray)
Personnel (Vanlandingham)
Personnel & Legal (McCovey)
Litigation update, Government Shutdown (Barnes)
No action out of Executive Session.

AGENDA ITEMS:
CA23-296, Taxation on the Yurok Reservation
Submitted by Chairman James

Directive to staff to provide options to the Tribal Council on initiating a referendum taxation on the Yurok Reservation to support Government functions. Item tabled for 90 days.

CA23-297, Legal Opinion on Executive Session
Submitted by Wes Crawford

Directive to General Counsel to provide the Tribal Council with a legal opinion on when a Councilmember can be excluded from Executive Session. Item tabled.

CA23-298, Klamath Elder Firewood
Submitted by Ryan Ray

Request update from staff regarding the Klamath Elder Firewood Event that was Postponed. Discussion only, no action.

CA23-299, Koi Nation Land into Trust Support
Submitted by Chairman James

Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Councilmember Williams to approve support for Koi Nation’s Land into Trust in Sonoma County. Roll call: Vice Chairman Myers-np, Councilmember Crawford-no, Councilmember Ray-yes, Councilmember Vanlandingham-yes, Councilmember Provolt-abs, Councilmember Natt-abs, Councilmember Williams-yes, Councilmember McCovey-np. Yes-2, no-1, abstaining-2, not present-2. Motion carries.

CA23-300, Support for Mark Macarro for NCAI President
Submitted by Chairman James

Motion made by Councilmember Vanlandingham/ Councilmember Mccovey to approve support for National Congress of American Indians President from Pachanga Chairman Mark Macaro. Motion carries by consensus.

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE: None provided.

LITIGATION UPDATE: Discussed in Executive Session.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT: None provided.

CLOSING PRAYER: Provided by Councilmember Williams.

ADJOURN: 6:56pm

MEETING MINUTES APPROVED ON: December 13, 2023

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Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary       Date

12.15.23  12.15.23  12.15.23  12.15.23

November 8, 2023, Council Planning/Action Meeting