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**YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL
PLANNING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022
<https://zoom.us/j/92549693537>**

ROLL CALL: 10:03am

PRESENT: Joe James, Chairman; Frankie Myers, Vice Chairman; Sherri Provolt, Orick District; Lori Hodge, East District; Ryan Ray, Requa District; Toby Vanlandingham, Weitchpec District; Phillip Williams, North District; Lana McCovey, South District

ABSENT: Mindy Natt, Pecwan District (no internet)

STAFF: Don Barnes, Executive Director; Taralyn Ipiña, Council Operations Director; Dawn Baum, General Counsel; Georgiana Gensaw (recorder)

QUORUM: 8 present, 1 absent, quorum present

OPENING PRAYER: Provided by Councilmember Williams.

REVIEW AGENDA /ADDITIONS /APPROVAL:

Motion by Vice Chairman Myers /Councilmember Williams to accept the agenda with no additions. Motion carries by consensus.

REVIEW CALENDAR/ADDITIONS:

March 12-Orick District Meeting at Westhaven Fire Hall

March 21-South District Meeting

April 4-5-NAFOA @ Seattle, WA

April 3-6-CM McCovey travel for NAFOA

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES: None provided.

COUNCIL CHECK IN:

Councilmember Provolt: Chairman we might want to think about a meeting soon regarding our Telecom Corporation and add that to the calendar. It's exciting to see this work starting and we will need to have a meeting soon to finish the development of our corporation board. Thank you.

Councilmember Natt: Not present.

Councilmember Ray: Pass

44 Councilmember Hodge: Pass

45

46 Councilmember Williams: Pass

47

48 Councilmember McCovey: Pass

49

50 Councilmember Vanlandingham: Pass

51

52 Vice Chair Myers: Pass

53

54 Chairman James: As Councilmember Provolt mentioned this morning, I swore in two Tribal
55 Members for our new Telecommunication Board. The corporation is set up and the Tribe is
56 deeply involved in broadband, and cell phone tower service. We look forward to that
57 corporation involved in direct services to our membership on and off the reservation. So that's
58 exciting work and hopefully we'll hear some news here real soon regarding infrastructure for
59 these projects. That's all I have for right now, George.

60

61 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

62 Bertha Peters: Good morning. How are you today? I'm going to talk about this. Do you censor
63 newsletter, do you edit it Joe? Okay. One thing is says is that the Tribe is taking care of the
64 tribal members. I wish you wouldn't put that in there because a lot of people believe that but
65 really you're not. The tribal members are taking care of their self, it isn't the tribe taking care of
66 them. So you putting it out there to whomever and people belief that you are helping but it's
67 not happening. It's not a good thing to make them think that that the Tribe is going to help
68 them. So I wish when you put things in the paper that it is really looked at and take it out
69 because it's false information. And another thing is that I got notice last Wednesday that elder
70 lunches are no longer going to delivered to the elders. There are a lot of guys who depend on
71 those meals, they maybe will cook a little something but often they just go without. I can name
72 them off. There are a lot of people that live alone and now with gas prices to \$4.89, it's hard to
73 travel. One family member told me that they cannot afford to go down to pick up the lunches.
74 So I would like to see if the transit would pick up the elders and take them down to eat their
75 meals. And it would be a good thing if they could take them there and then take them home. I
76 would like to see if that could be coordinated. Okay.

77

78 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

79 CA22-052, Land Negotiations

80 Personnel

81

82 **AGENDA ITEMS:**

83 **Council**

84 CA22-050, Presentation from Humboldt County Supervisor Madrone

85 Submitted By: Vice Chairman Myers

86 **Presentation from Humboldt County Supervisor Madrone for support for re-election to the**
87 **Humboldt County Board of Director for 5th District. Discussion only, no action.**

88
89 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

90 Elizabeth Davis: I have a couple of comments I'd like to make to Mr. Madrone. I don't know
91 how much influence he has with law enforcement but I feel like our law enforcement is lacking.
92 I feel like we have a revolving door for criminals. They police tend to cite and then release. I
93 can cite the specific incident where an individual was charged for providing illegal drugs which
94 resulted in an overdose of a resident. They had that individual in custody. He was released. And
95 a few weeks later when he was supposed to be in court, but he didn't show up. Fortunately,
96 they were able to apprehend him again, but it just seems like the law enforcement system is
97 lacking because all they do is slap these criminals on the hand, and then they cite and release
98 them. You know, our community is very unsafe at this time in regards to that. But on the other
99 hand, if somebody violates their probation for being drunk in public, you better believe they'll
100 be doing a 30 to 90 day stretch in the county. I really feel as community members and residents
101 of Humboldt County we need to ask our law enforcement to pick up the pace and make
102 stronger laws to penalize these criminals. I feel it's time to speak up and say that because if you
103 read the news, you know would know they're cited and released, and that is a problem because
104 they come right back to the community where they do crimes. The other thing that I'd like to
105 make a comment on is that we really need some restrooms and rest stops on our highways.
106 Maybe you could work with Caltrans and the Tribe to find funding sources to get some
107 bathrooms. There is no bathroom between Willow Creek and the coast. We have elders that go
108 over the hill at least once a month, families with children, and it would be nice to be able to pull
109 off and use the restroom. We also need bathroom downriver river. It's a long way to the end
110 of the road. We have a lot of traffic there these days because of ceremonies and going from
111 Willow Creek to the coast. We pumped a lot of money into the economy, buying groceries,
112 shopping, and we would just like to be able to use the restroom. And the third thing I'd like to
113 comment on is regarding the Bald Hills road. I really think that the logging companies ought to
114 be taxed. They've used that road and made millions of dollars over the years, and they've never
115 had to contribute one dime to the maintenance that road. I'm sure they'd probably still use that
116 road if they had some timber sales in the area. And why does project always have to fall on the
117 Tribe or the county to maintain that road. Those companies have made millions of dollars using
118 that Bald Hills row. That's all I have to say today. Thank you.

119
120 CA22-051, Presentation from Local Candidates Running For Office
121 Submitted By: Council Operations

122 **Presentation from Local Candidates. Discussion only, no action.**

123
124 **11:15am Councilmember Natt arrives**

125
126 CA22-039, COVID Response Update
127 Submitted By: Councilmember Natt

128 **Planning session to discuss COVID response efforts and how to improve services to the**
129 **membership. Discussion only, no action.**

130
131 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

132 Linda Gillette: I have heard a lot about the Elder Nutrition Program and want to see it expanded
133 to off reservation. My mom is 90 years old and I go to prepare meals for her. This would
134 benefit many more families if it could be expanded. I also want to advocate for me COVID items
135 to give to tribal members like thermometers and test kits. I understand from Hollie, the Public
136 Health Nurse that she only has three staff so we need to get more information and stuff out.
137

138 Amanda Wilson: I want to encourage an Elders Program. Everyone is still getting Covid, those
139 who are vaccinated and those who are not vaccinated. I think you need to move some of the
140 positions into Community Health Aids verses having one Nurse. Also, need to have more
141 efficient heaters for our elders, because some of them cannot lift or cut up their firewood.
142

143 Elizabeth Davis: I never understood the reason for a Public Health Department. Maybe we
144 need to partner better with UIHS. Let's instead use those dollars to support an Elders Program.
145

146 Annelia Hillman: We need to consolidate our elder response and services. There is not clear
147 communications regarding services to elders.
148

149 CA22-041, Council Retreat Agenda
150 Submitted By: Taralyn Ipina

151 **Discussion on March 3 & 4, 2022 Council Retreat Agenda; 1) Old business and how to track**
152 **those, prioritize those agenda items (Provolt), 2) Elder care including elder wood and security**
153 **of that wood pile (Williams), 3) RHC Loan and Repayment of Loan (Chairman James), 4)**
154 **Referendums (Vanlandingham), 5) Continuation of Planning's Presentation from the last**
155 **Retreat (Natt), 6) Museum (Chairman), 7) Wellness (Natt), 8) Schatz Lab HSU-Solar Power**
156 **Infrastructure, 9) 30x30 10) Law enforcement/District Attorney Humboldt & Del Norte**
157 **Counties.**

158
159 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

160 Bertha Peters: What I haven't heard about in a long time is a museum for those baskets that we
161 got tucked away. We need to be putting that up before they get mildewed or something. I don't
162 know if anybody's checking them regularly and talking care of them. I don't know just where
163 the baskets could be put, but maybe there is a in a little room at the Visitor's Center. So, if that
164 could be discussed.
165

166 Elizabeth Davis: I just wanted to see if the council could possibly make having restrooms
167 available to the coast and also down river to the end of the road with ceremonies coming up. I
168 think it's a real priority. Elders and family members need to have a place to go to the restroom.
169 And I noticed that membership doesn't really know where we stand on our ARPA dollars. How
170 much money is left? Maybe some kind of prioritization for what is left of those dollars. And the

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171 other thing I mentioned before regarding crime, how are we as a Tribe going to push Humboldt
172 County system to retain these people that are committing crimes. I'm really tired of it and I
173 don't feel safe in my community anymore with the site and release process that happens. I
174 think as a Tribe we need to speak up and say that. Just look at the incident that happened right
175 here in Weitchpec. I'm sure you all know which one I'm talking about. That's just one case in
176 point. People stealing cars and the vandalism that goes on, and then people just get slapped on
177 the wrist, cited and released. I think as leaders and community members, we need to speak up
178 and then let them know that as citizens and members of this community and county, we don't
179 like it. I for one don't like it. We need to have more repercussions for those who are
180 committing serious crimes within the reservation and off the reservation.

181
182 Anita Bussell: When my cousin was deemed as missing here from this area, I know that the
183 Sheriff's department went through three different investigators, and each of them had to start
184 over three different times. I don't know who the investigator is now but again they have to start
185 over again. And it's frustrating when they keep switching around and not coordinating. And
186 those are the things that we are talking about, I think it was a couple of months ago, that we
187 were going to creating our own protocols within the tribe for missing individuals. We want to
188 make that awareness right away and not to avoid the series of steps, but like what you just said
189 with the county.

190
191 Celinda Gonzalez: We have one Officer down here that is on mostly on duty in the daytime. So,
192 there is no law enforcement at night on the weekends. I've been told that we got other Officers
193 who are in the Police Academy. They're in training. To me, there should be an equal amount of
194 Tribal Police Officers in Klamath and down river. We have to wait for County Sheriff to get down
195 here. I live kind of close to the road, so I'm always hearing sirens and seeing lights. We have
196 multiple car chases that come down to our area, I guess because there's a lot of back roads.
197 And once they reach a certain speed, the police have to give up. And I really feel like it is kind of
198 unfair how many Officers are in Klamath compared to down here. And if our Officer has to go
199 up there to help, I think are officers that there need to come down here and cover too. We
200 have a lot of reports of break-ins. People coming down from Hoopa stealing down here and it's
201 on a video camera. I think that there's a lot of people coming in from out of our community. It's
202 like they case out places and know where the generators are. If we only have one officer that
203 only works during the day and not on weekends and people know this we pretty much don't
204 really have coverage. I would like to see that change. I don't know about having contracts with
205 people that we're sending to the academy. I don't know how binding that is or if we can hold
206 them to work with us. Even a year of being with us and staying with our department then
207 provide a raise and help pay their benefits. I don't know what the solution to that problem is,
208 but I would like to see it addressed that.

209
210 **LUNCH:** 12:20-1:20pm

211
212 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None provided.

213

214 **AGENDA ITEMS:**

215 **Council**

216 CA22-043, Training Program

217 Submitted By: Councilmember Williams

218 **Planning session with the Yurok Tribal Training Program. (Requested attendance from TERO,**
219 **Watershed, Education and Western Rivers). Discussion only, no action.**

220

221 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

222 Bertha Peters: It is good idea to do a training program. I am very interested in training for
223 computers stuff, but I also think that you need to think about small engine repairs. So if that
224 could be added on, thank you.

225

226 Celinda Gonzalez: Sorry, I was having problems with my mic. I would like to see more groceries
227 in our store down here. There's no fresh vegetables and the shelves are pretty bare. I was told
228 there's problems with suppliers, but couldn't we build up a more supply options. Maybe we
229 find out who the Hoopa store get their supplies from. When the community garden is here,
230 could there be fresher vegetables brought in from the community garden and people could buy
231 them the same day. The shelves down here are really empty all the time. I either go into Hoopa
232 or I make a one big shopping trip to Eureka. I think most of us from down river make at least
233 one good trip to Eureka once a month and load up out there. I would rather that money go into
234 my community and my store down here. I've been commenting to the employees that there are
235 no healthy foods options. There's stuff to make quick and fast meals, and there is lots of junk
236 food. I would prefer to have our store be able to provide more food options to the community.
237 Thank you.

238

239 CA22-044, 2021 Referendum #1 Implementation

240 Submitted By: Chairman James

241 **Directive to OTA and appropriate staff to draft and modify tribal ordinances, regulations and**
242 **policies to provide framework for implementation of 2021 Advisory Referendum #1 Personal**
243 **Medical Marijuana Cultivation.**

244

245 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

246 Bertha Peters: I do agree that you need to get information out to the public again on this
247 matter, because a lot of people think they can grow six plants and nobody's going to bother
248 them. And staff keep saying, no, and that they can come and cut it down. That's my
249 understanding and that is what you said to me before, but there are some Council people who
250 have told different people different things about growing. So I would like to see something out
251 there that says that you can get your plants cut down.

252

253 Elizabeth Davis: Thank you Chairman. I agree. Whatever is put out there has to be crystal clear.
254 Individuals need to know what they're signing up for and also I think the part of enforcement
255 has to be crystal clear. Where does our tribal police play into the whole equation? And also,
256 what other departments will be involved? Now we have a water department, where do they

257 play into the equation? How much water is going to be allowed by each customer to use? I
258 think they should be charged more for basic use. There's a lot of factors that have to be pulled
259 in and discussed. It's got to be written in a language that everybody can understand. And so
260 there is no, "I didn't know", or "Nobody told me". You need basic language that everybody
261 understands.

262
263 CA22-048, Healing Hands
264 Submitted By: Councilmember Hodge

265 **Update on status of contract with Healing Hands. Directive to Executive Director to follow up**
266 **with the contract within 1 week.**

267
268 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 2:20pm -3:04pm
269 CA22-052, Land Negotiations
270 Personnel (Provolt)

271
272 **Action Out of Executive:**
273 CA22-052, Land Negotiations
274 Submitted By: Chairman James

275 **Update from staff on negotiations for purchase of property in Ancestral Territory. Discussion**
276 **only, no action.**

277
278
279 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None.

280
281 **CLOSING PRAYER:** Provided by Chairman James.

282
283 **ADJOURN:** 3:07pm

284
285 **MEETING MINUTES APPROVED ON:**

April 21, 2022

286
287 
288 _____
289 **Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary**

04/25/2022

Date