

**YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL
PLANNING MEETING
WENDSDAY, APRIL 26, 2023
WILLOW CREEK TRIBAL OFFICE**

ROLL CALL: 10:00am

PRESENT: Joe James, Chairman; Frankie Myers, Vice Chairman; Sherri Provolt, Orick District; Mindy Natt, Pecwan District (10:09); Ryan Ray, Requa District; Wes Crawford, East District; Phillip Williams, North District; Toby Vanlandingham, Weitchpec District; Lana McCovey, South District

ABSENT: None.

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

QUORUM: 9 present, 0 absent, quorum present.

OPENING PRAYER: Provided by Vice Chairman Myers.

REVIEW AGENDA/ADDITIONS/APPROVAL:

Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Vice Chairman Myers to accept the agenda with additions of CA23-138 and CA23-123. Motion carries by consensus.

CALENDAR: Item tabled.

COUNCIL CHECK IN:

Councilmember Williams – Pass.

Councilmember Crawford – An individual told me that their family had five (5) baskets that their grandfather had received/collected while working in Pecwan in the 1950s. They wanted to give them to the Tribe, they don't want money. They just would like to be recognized. With our Wellness Center, maybe we could display them there, because you have to have our culture and traditions to be well. That's apart of wellness.

Councilmember Natt – Pass.

Councilmember McCovey – I had a meeting with United Indian Health Services Staff and with Peggy O'Neill to discuss the Wellness Center. They also applied for a 10 million dollar grant for a healing center that will be located next to the Potawot Health Village. We were discussing the kinds of services that each entity would be providing. They are very excited about us doing an inpatient center and would be dedicate to helping patients go there for services.

43

44 We need to be planning for the staffing and operations because it takes that long process to get
45 licensing and everything that's associated with that type of project.

46 Another thing I was told was that United Indian Health Services received money for a generator
47 in Weitchpec to provide emergency power to the whole building.

48 **Councilmember Ray** – Pass.

49 **Councilmember Vanlandingham** – Pass.

50 **Vice Chairman Myers** – Pass.

51 **Councilmember Provolt** – Pass.

52 **Chairman James** – We need to start the discussion of fall fishing. We have the dams coming
53 down this year and next year. We need to make sure we are getting the information out to our
54 members. I want to continue with the momentum of job fairs, I know we had one in Hoopa. We
55 also want to look at the number of applications handed out or received. What is the results of
56 those job fair? We also need to look at a 10 day turn around for services to our members.
57 Whether you're in a department that's providing services, we're going look at implementing a
58 10 days response time to help those who reached out. We need shake it up a little bit, not get
59 too comfortable. And I mean this in a good, positive way. But again, if you're providing services,
60 we want to look at changing the internal system to provide more timely service.

61 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

62 Lori Hodge:

- 63 • Thank you for being here today.
- 64 • The Career Fair held at Hoopa High was awesome
- 65 • Great turn out by Yurok, it was a really great event.

66

67 Jewel Frank:

- 68 • We have 26 participants online today
- 69 • I like the video, but the audio could use some improvement

70

71 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

72 Pre-go-neesh 8a (Vice Chairman Myers)

73 CA 23-134, Land for sale (Councilmember Ray)

74

75 **AGENDA ITEMS:**

76 **Executive Division**

77 Public Relations

78 PR23-001, Salmon Festival Budget

79 Submitted by Matt Mais & Micki Moon

80 **Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Councilmember Vanlandingham to approve the**
81 **proposed date is Saturday, August 19, 2023. The Salmon Festival has occurred on the third**

82 **Saturday in August for most of the last two decades or more. To approve that the Salmon**
83 **Festival will be set for the 3rd Saturday of August of every year. Motion carries by consensus.**

84
85 **Council**

86 CA23-125, Councilmembers Sitting on Corporation Boards

87 Submitted by Councilmember Williams

88 **Discussion on Councilmembers sitting on Tribal Corporation Boards, should issue be sent out**
89 **for Tribal Membership vote. No action, discussion only.**

90
91 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

92 Jackie Mix:

- 93 • I believe that the the tribal council members should really read their charters.
- 94 • A corporation is not a tribal government
- 95 • I really feel that our tribal council that we vote in to office really needs to take care of
96 our tribal government instead of our corporations.
- 97 • These tax credit programs that are coming up, you know, we, we have a lot to learn
98 each one of us, no matter how experienced we are in our jobs, that's why we have to
99 have our charters set up.
- 100 • I just truly feel that there's a separation of power has to be in place. That is my concern.

101
102 James Dunlap:

- 103 • I admire you guys. I may not always say so, but I'm thankful that you take the time to
104 pay attention to some of these items that come up on social media.
- 105 • I still have concerns for the need of seven varying different corporation boards.
- 106 • The tribal members have asked repeatedly, repeatedly, where's the audit? What is the
107 profit loss statement for the brewery? What is the profit loss statement for the YAC?
- 108 • The Mad River Brewery has 20 employees, but only one of them is a tribal member and
109 not qualified to be a general manager.
- 110 • My question is that we already had a Yurok Economic Development Council. Why aren't
111 we using them for these expenditures and oversight?
- 112 • Once you leave the reservation boundary, all that tribal sovereignty stops, you can
113 check with Blue Lake and see how they, they found out how hard it is in the real world
114 without that tribal sovereignty
- 115 • Why are we going through creating massive expenses? Are all those positions for all
116 those corporation boards have new positions like HR Director, Finance Director, and
117 paying for attorneys?
- 118 • You can't use tribal funds. You can't use the OTA for that corporation. So, they all have
119 those expenses. I think these businesses need to be moved under the YEDC Corporation.
120 That would be my vote.
- 121 • I strongly feel that Councilmembers should not be sitting on all these corporate boards.
122 One, they're not qualified to be making the decisions for successful corporations. Thank
123 you.

127 Rose Sylvia:

- 128 • One of my questions is, who are the stakeholders to the corporations?
- 129 • If the tribal membership is considered a stakeholder of a corporation, then do we have
- 130 the right to vote out the boards if we're unhappy with them?
- 131 • I've stood up in council meetings and how I felt that Council being on corporations was a
- 132 conflict of interest.
- 133 • I specifically pointed out that if the President of the Corporation is also a Council
- 134 Member and they put an action item before the full Council and speaking to it, then
- 135 voting on it, I see that as a serious conflict.
- 136 • I stated that you were elected and it was your fiduciary responsibility to the Yurok Tribal
- 137 Council, not the corporations. I also asked for an outside opinion. I was later told on
- 138 teams by OTA that you have an outside opinion about that conflict of interest.
- 139 • I think that we are spread too thin. Nothing is going to be successful unless you can
- 140 really put your time and energy into it. And if you're not putting your time and energy
- 141 into one thing and you're putting it into a whole bunch of things, then none of them are
- 142 going to be successful.

143

144 Jewel Frank:

- 145 • I'm going to respectfully request that you immediately closed the MRB doors because of
- 146 their losses.
- 147 • Some of you guys are guilty of being rude to your own tribal members who have
- 148 elected. You are here to serve us and we are here to tell you when you are failing and
- 149 when you are doing a good job.

150

151 Jackie Winter:

- 152 • There is a place for council to be on the board but as a non-member. Part of the
- 153 responsibility of a Councilmember on that board is to provide updates to the full Council
- 154 on what's going on as far as that corporation is concerned.
- 155 • I don't see anybody in the corporation going out and trying to find tribal members to be
- 156 on the board. And I don't see them going out to hire tribal members.

157

158 Lori Hodge:

- 159 • I would like to see more advertisement of the Corporation meetings with the links and
- 160 the days and times of the meeting so that we can get more tribal member input because
- 161 from my experience, no one ever shows up. I think it would be really great to make
- 162 them a focus to get the links out there so people can join meeting.
- 163 • I think that we have many tribal members who are very educated, very experienced. If
- 164 you're interested, please call so these board positions can be filled.

165

166 Anita Bussell:

- 167 • I got a phone call this morning about today's meeting. I tried to call here to this office
- 168 and there is no answer. There should be someone to help people to meetings.
- 169
- 170 • I'm concerned about the MRB and find out that we didn't buy the building. What you do
- 171 we buy ad how much are we paying in rent. Is it worth it?

- 172 • There are issues about trusting people, and trusting you. I really am concerned about
173 where are we going in the future and this corporation thing.
174

175 CA23-126, Tribal Member Request to Use Tribal Vehicle
176 Submitted by Councilmember Crawford

Discussion on Tribal Member request to utilize a large capacity Tribal Vehicle to transport 8th grade students to the Bay Area for their end of year trip. Discussion only, no action. Council Operations will follow up with Councilmember Crawford & Tribal Member to follow application process.

181
182 **LUNCH:** 12:03pm-1:03pm
183

184 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

185 Frances Vedolla:

- 186 • My generator was stolen - the one I was given from the Yurok Tribe.
187 • The Tribe used elder's money to build the casino and we were supposed to get \$100 a
188 month when it started making money. What is happening with that?
189

190 Lottie Ammon:

- 191 • Why is this building here, and there's no internet no phone number.
192 • What about a training for our members to learn how to check on elders.
193

194 **CA23-123, Reimbursement for Kepel Construction**
195 **Submitted by Vice Chairman Myers**

~~Motion made by Councilmember Natt/Vice Chairman Myers to reimburse Kapel Construction for work completed during the 2023 Winter storm disaster declaration. Motion withdrawn. Item moved to executive session. Item tabled.~~

199
200 Rose Sylvia:

- 201 • I'm not a tribal member with the expectation that the Tribe's is going to do everything
202 for me, but if the tribe is going to do things for tribal members, then I would hope that
203 you do get a little more organized.
204 • I wanna request that somebody from our area be responsible to check on people. My
205 brother got stuck on side of the road and had to walk home.
206 • I used to live in Hoopa and they had a big snow storm. They sent out their firefighters to
207 everybody's house to cut out debris on their roads with their chainsaws. We have
208 firefighters, we could do the same. It doesn't always have to be like some contractor.
209 • We were without power for over a week with all of the power lines that was down.
210 Whoever the incident commander was, didn't even come to the area. And so I just
211 wanna say, if you're going to appoint somebody to an area, have it be somebody from
212 that area who knows people and knows where to go to check on them. Thank you.
213

214 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 1:59pm -2:44pm

215 Kapel Construction Reimbursement, discussion only, no action.
216

217 **AGENDA ITEMS:**

218 **Council**

219 CA23-128, Redwood Region Tribal Climate Resilience Network

220 Submitted by Chairman James

221 **Motion made by Vice Chairman Myers/Councilmember Williams to approve participation and**
222 **engagement with Tribal Climate Resilience Network. Motion carries by consensus.**

223

224 CA23-135, Meeting w/ LiUNA! Laborers' Union

225 Submitted by Vice Chairman Myers

226 **Meeting with LiUNA! Laborers' Union on April 26th @~~1:00pm~~ 3:30pm. Discussion only, no**
227 **action.**

228

229 CA23-138, Community Donation

230 Submitted by Councilmember Crawford

231 **Motion by Councilmember Crawford/ Councilmember Natt to provide donation to Tribal**
232 **member who needs to travel to and from Sacramento. \$250 to come from East District Travel**
233 **line item and \$250 to come from Pecwan Travel line item. Motion carries by consensus.**

234

235 **BREAK:** 3:45pm-4:00pm

236

237 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 4:00pm -4:20pm

238 CA23-134, Properties for Sale in Klamath

239 Submitted by Councilmember Ray

240 **Executive Session: Discussion regarding two properties for sale in Klamath. Discussion only,**
241 **no action.**

242

243 4:13pm - Vice Chairman Myers leaves meeting for the day.

244

245 **PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** None provided.

246

247 **LITIGATION UPDATE:** Item tabled to Action meeting.

248

249 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None provided.

250

251 **CLOSING PRAYER:** Provided by Councilmember Williams

252

253 **ADJOURN:** 4:25pm

254

255 **MEETING MINUTES APPROVED ON:**

May 25, 2023

256

257

258



5/30/23

259 **Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary**

Date

260