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**YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL
PLANNING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2023
KLAMATH TRIBAL OFFICE**

ROLL CALL: 10:02am

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 (11:33)

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

STAFF: Don Barnes, Executive Director; Jodi Hoone, Grants & Compliance Director; Melodie Meyer, Office of Tribal Attorney; Michael Maranger, Chief Financial Officer; Georgiana Gensaw, Council Operations Coordinator (recorder).

QUORUM: 8 present, 1 absent, quorum present.

OPENING PRAYER: Provided by Councilmember Williams.

REVIEW AGENDA/ADDITIONS/APPROVAL:

Motion made by Councilmember Williams/Councilmember Crawford to accept the agenda with no additions. Motion carries by consensus.

REVIEW CALENDAR/ADDITIONS:

Yurok Health & Human Services

Tribal Court

TC23-020, Friendship Housing Planning Session

Submitted by Jessica Carter, Tribal Court

Council consensus to schedule August 23, 2023, at 2pm for a Planning Session with Friendship Housing regarding the Wellness Center partnership. Motion carries by consensus.

TC23-021, Work Session with Chief Judge

Submitted by Jessica Carter, Tribal Court

Council consensus to schedule September 11, 2023, at 10am for a Work Session with Chief Judge Abinanti regarding succession plan pursuant to Clause 2.H.a of Judicial Services contract. Motion carries by consensus.

Council

CA23-214, Meeting with True North Organizing Network

Submitted by Taralyn Ipina, COO

45 **Council consensus to schedule September 13, 2023, at 1:00pm for Planning Meeting with True**
46 **North Organizing Network to discuss the Promise Neighborhood Initiatives. Motion carries by**
47 **consensus.**

48
49 CA23-222, Meeting with Chris Peters: Strawberry Rock
50 Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

51 **Council consensus to approve meeting with Chris Peters, 7th Generation Fund on August 23,**
52 **2023, at 11am regarding the Tribes position on Strawberry Rock. Motion carries by**
53 **consensus.**

54
55 **CALENDAR:**

56 August 21st - Stanford Youth Mental health & Wellbeing Presentation in Weitchpec.

57
58 **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE(S):**

59 Kurtis Nulph, IT Services
60 Raul Zepeda, IT Services

61
62 **COUNCIL CHECK IN:**

63
64 **Councilmember Williams** – I had an eventful past couple of weeks. There was a search and
65 rescue mission conducted in the North District for a missing tribal member and I assisted on
66 that search. It opened my eyes to the homeless encampments, the subculture that is in there,
67 and I don't know if anybody else is aware that there's a whole subculture in the homeless
68 encampments with their own hierarchy, their own systems. I've known many of the people that
69 live there. We have a lot of tribal members living in homeless encampments. I kind of had a
70 tour from the tribal member perspective, and it's very, very disturbing. It's very scary. There are
71 people losing their lives in the homeless encampments. There's abuse that our tribal members
72 are being exposed to.

73
74 And on my journey through the homeless encampment, all I could hear in my mind was the
75 mother of this tribal member telling me, find my daughter, please. Do your best. And I put six
76 miles in that day. I was the last person out of that encampment because I was determined to
77 help this family. Unfortunately, I didn't find anything significant, but opened my eyes to abuse
78 that is happening in the woods that we don't see. I'll continue to work on helping these people
79 get out of that cycle they're in. It took me a couple days to decompress from that. I still feel a
80 little in my heart. It hurts.

81 I also attended a meeting here at the tribal building with the under Secretary of the Interior and
82 the Chief of Six Rivers National Forest, talking about opportunities to partner with the tribe. And
83 during our meeting, they made an announcement that there's 25 million tribal set aside for
84 forestry management partnerships. I spoke a lot about workforce development opportunities
85 and how important it was for Yurok tribal members to have an opportunity to become foresters.
86 For higher education opportunities, to share their knowledge and we as Yurok people are born
87 with the instinct to take care of the land and how important that was for us to be involved in

88 managing our forests and it went over well. They have a lot of opportunities for internships to
89 pretty much open the door for us and are eager to open the door for young tribal members to
90 work in that field.

91 I also attended a meeting with NOAA and the National Marine Fisheries Organization to help us
92 in our water fight and the management of our fishing. They have money also to contribute to
93 help us manage our water, and manage it after the dams come out, manage our fisheries, they
94 were eager to help us. I talked about how one time at the turn of the century, 1900, 1890, 1910,
95 up into the 1920s. Where we had the strongest fishery on the coast, and I want to be on the
96 front line to restore that glory to where it once was, so that we have hundreds of thousands of
97 fish to harvest. Anyway, that's what I did for the last couple of weeks. Thank you.

98 **Councilmember Crawford** – I had the opportunity to attend the Tribal College a couple weeks
99 ago down in Placerville, other tribal employees also attended. It was a good program and ran
100 well professionally, they had some very knowledgeable, reputable speakers there, professors
101 from across the country. It was nice to review a lot of tribal policy to understand where we're at
102 now today as Indian people across the country, and how we need to combine and unite our
103 efforts to fight the good fight. Public law 280 getting that looked at also with our water issues,
104 gaming issues, land back. They covered pretty much the gamut of what's going on in Indian
105 country. I recommend it to anyone. Thank you, Council, for recommending that training for me
106 and again, I recommend this training for anyone who wants more knowledge in Indian country.
107

108 They want to try to have it up in this neck of the woods next year. They mentioned maybe Bear
109 River. They also had a component for youth. I paid for my 2 daughters to go. They thoroughly
110 enjoyed it and got a lot out of it. Their discussions when I saw them again was really a pleasure
111 to listen to them talking about issues in Indian country that were brought to their attention at
112 this conference at such a young age. It's empowering. We need to get more youth down there
113 or at the next one.

114 As far as East District news, I reached out to Mr. Maranger and asked about how I was going as
115 far as finding funding for a kitchen. I haven't got anything back yet, in that regard. The East
116 District needs a kitchen up there in that building and to offer services equal to all the other
117 areas. So, I kind of want to investigate that.

118 I'm a little disappointed about the TANF money is going to school children and a lot of school
119 children are left out because they're out of the service area. I really do look at this as a great,
120 great thing for the children to get an opportunity to get a voucher for school clothes. It seems
121 like it was put together quickly and thrown out there at the last minute. I'm just wondering if we
122 could do better next time and service those students who live outside the service area. Because
123 there's a need and I'm hearing that need from many constituents, their families. Hopefully we
124 can do better next time. Thank you.

125

126 **Councilmember Natt** – Last week I attended the meeting with Congressman Huffman, and we
127 talked about the MMIP and lands legislation and offshore wind. I think it went well. I was

128 excited to meet and visit a little bit, because it's important to continue to open discussions and
129 our problems and concerns.

130

131 **Councilmember McCovey** – Not present.

132

133 **Councilmember Ray** – I can provide an update on the Klamath Community Center project. We
134 have the contracts in place. Right now, we are looking for a contractor to do the site prep for the
135 Klamath Tank project. We're also looking for a cleaning company to come in and clean the
136 building.

137

138 My timeline for a Grand Opening is this next winter for the community celebrations. We have a
139 lot of PPE in the building that we need to start getting out. We need to start clearing everything
140 out of the building. We need to start getting staff to move into the building within the next
141 couple of months. We are looking at November, mid-November for the tank to be up, the water
142 to be on. I have until then to get this building fully equipped with computers; with everything
143 we need inside it. We need to start working towards getting this building ready for moving in.
144 So that when the water is turned on, it's ready to go. I don't know, Don, if the connex boxes
145 have any room in them, but we got a couple of months to move everything out in the same
146 timeline to move everything in. We need to move all the PPE and all the stuff that's stored in
147 there needs to come out so like Boys and Girls Clubs can start outfitting their room up and all
148 that stuff and get the computers all set up and get departments moved in. Thank you.

149

150 **Councilmember Vanlandingham** – Pass

151

152 **Councilmember Provolt:** I wanted the membership to know that I'm working with our Council
153 Operations Team to post Advisory Committee meetings, Corporation meetings and Council
154 meeting on the council calendar website so that people can attend those meetings. Hopefully
155 in the next month or so we'll get that worked out with the staff involved so tribal members can
156 attend these meetings. We want to be able to have membership attend, make comments and
157 be informed of all the great work that we're doing across Yurok Country. Thank you.

158

159 **Vice Chairman Myers** – Not present.

160

161 **Chairman James:** Pass.

162

163 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**

164 **Jewel Frank:** Thank you for the Councilmember check in. It was good to hear what's up. I'm
165 doing like three different things here besides canning fish. I just wanted to ask if the agenda
166 needs to be on the screen because I was hoping to be able to see who's all participating. I don't
167 have to go like, back and forth. That's my only comment. Aside from that, good job. Thank you.
168 Have a good day.

169

170 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
171 Litigation updates (Maggie Poffenbarger OTA)

172
173 **CONSENT ITEMS:** None provided.

174
175 **AGENDA ITEMS:**
176 **Administration Division**
177 Executive Director
178 ExDir23-017, California Indian Heritage Center Presentation
179 Submitted by Don Barnes, Executive Director

180 **To provide California Indian Heritage Center 15-30 minutes @2:30pm for a presentation to**
181 **Council about their outreach efforts for the development of a State-Wide Cultural Center and**
182 **Park. Discussion only, not action.**

183
184 **Natural Resources Division**
185 Wildlife Department
186 WILD23-010, Condor Use of Prairie Creek Restoration for Avian Flu
187 Submitted by Tiana Williams-Claussen, Director

188 **Motion made by Councilmember Provolt/Councilmember Williams to approve the use of a**
189 **clearing at Prairie Creek Restoration area for building a set of pens for short-term holding of**
190 **pre-release birds and birds held for testing for avian influenza. Contingent on receiving any**
191 **further land management authority's approval required. Motion carries by consensus.**

192
193 **Office of Tribal Attorney**
194 OTA23-049, Rights-of-Way and Utility Franchising Ordinance
195 Submitted by Gage Hensen, Office of Tribal Attorney

196 **Motion made by Councilmember Williams/Councilmember Crawford to adopt the YUOK**
197 **TRIBE FRANCHISING AND UTILITY LICENSING ORDINANCE on an emergency basis and to**
198 **schedule a working session to discuss standard adoption of changes to Title 24 and 25 of the**
199 **Yurok Code. Roll call: Vice Chairman Myers-np, Councilmember Crawford-yes,**
200 **Councilmember Ray-yes, Councilmember Vanlandingham-yes, Councilmember Provolt-yes,**
201 **Councilmember Natt-yes, Councilmember Williams-yes, Councilmember McCovey-np. Yes-6,**
202 **no-0, Abstain-0, Not present-2. Motion carries.**

203
204 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:**
205 **Jewel Frank:** Regarding right of way and that you guys are at the beginning stages, are tribal
206 members able to be a part of this? Because I live behind a locked gate and with the issue raised
207 about MMIP and safety factors, it would be good to know more about this. I don't know if you
208 guys heard about that serial killer who was an architect over in New York. I just wanted to
209 mention that because it's important. Thank you.

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211 **Council**
212 CA23-209, Elder Servicer Representative Positions
213 Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

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For staff to provide a report on if positions have been filled, services delivered, number of contacts made, training provided and status of Elder Coordination Meetings. Update to be provided on a schedule Council Planning Meeting. Item tabled for next Planning Meeting, August 23, 2023.

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD:

Councilmember Natt: I've been saying in the various elders' services meetings we don't have an advocate for the Pecwan area. The job description said for other places, but it didn't specify the Pecwan area. And so, a lot of people didn't apply. I don't know if there's only 2 positions open for elder advocates and where those positions are located. Will there be any new positions coming about through a grant? So those are the kind of updates that I would like to see. I will continue to advocate for our area because we have a rural area where you live the furthest away from anything.

BREAK: 11:33am-11:43am

11:33am- Councilmember McCovey joins the meeting.

CA23-217, Elders Firewood Program
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

To direct staff to develop a comprehensive plan for Elders Firewood Program in preparation for 2023-2024 Winter. Staff to provide update to Council in September. In coordination with Forestry and Executive Office. Item tabled to next Planning Meeting, August 23, 2023.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT: Jewel Frank: Good job. Everyone is going to be warm. If you could throw in a food voucher, then you would be golden.

LUNCH: 12:00pm-12:45pm

CA23-218, Public Defender to Tribal Members
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

Discussion/Action to work with Tribal Court regarding a Public Defender to provide legal consultation and advice to Tribal Members who need representation. Council Operations to work with Tribal Court to schedule a work session. Set for September 13, 2023, 1030-12pm.

CA23-219, Prairie Creek Redwood State Park Celebration
Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

Discussion/Action regarding the Tribe & Tribal Departments participation in the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park 100 Year Birthday Celebration on August 26, 2023. Discussion only, no action. Council Operations will follow up after August 15 (waiting on travel confirmations).

CA23-223, Yurok Tribal Lands Bill
Submitted by Vice Chairman Myers

Discussion: Yurok Tribal Lands Bill. Item tabled to next Council cycle.

257
258 CA23-224, Update: Yurok Language Program
259 Submitted by Council Operations

260 **Update regarding the Yurok language Program. Discussion only, no action.**

261
262 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 3:50pm-4:30pm
263 Litigation updates (OTA)

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265 No action out of Executive Session.

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267 **PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:**
268 Indian Community Development Block Grant Update & Discussion (P23-040)

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270 **LITIGATION UPDATE:** Executive Session.

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

273
274 **CLOSING PRAYER:** Provided by Councilmember Natt.

275
276 **ADJOURN:** 4:34pm

277
278 **MEETING MINUTES APPROVED ON:**

September 14, 2023

279 

09/18/2023

280
281 **Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary**

Date