



## *Executive Council*

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska  
November 2-3, 2017 – 11:30 AM (Alaska Standard Time)

IN-PERSON MEETING

**MINUTES Day 1**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Peterson, assumed chair without objection and called the meeting to order at 11:40 AM

### **ROLL CALL**

Richard Peterson, President	Present
Rob Sanderson, Jr. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Present
Will Micklin, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Present
Ralph Wolfe, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Present
Jackie Pata, 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Present
Marvin Adams, 5 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Present
Wilbur Brown, 6 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Present
Keenan Sanderson, Emerging Leader	Present

Also present: COO Corrine Garza, CFO Theresa Belton, Deputy COO Ken Truitt, Special Assistant to the President Heather Gatti, Secretary to the President Carley Jackson, Cultural Heritage Education Manager Sarah Dybdahl, Executive Assistant to the COO Helene Bennett, General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy, and Administrative Assistant to the General Counsel/Recording Secretary Laura May Whistler.

### **INVOCATION**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. provided the invocation.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to adopt the agenda as amended. M/C

Additions:

- Donation Request
- RurAL CAP Update

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Gail Dabaluz expressed congratulations to Corrine Garza for her upcoming retirement, and words of gratitude to the Executive Council for their efforts in supporting the Higher Education Program.

Kamal Lindoff stated he was in attendance to the Executive Council meeting to listen to the Transboundary discussion item.

## **REPORTS**

### President's Report

President Peterson gave a verbal report on his recent events and activities, including: the Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration, visits to all compact communities with the exception of Haines, attendance at the Elders and Youth Conference in Anchorage, attendance at the AFN Convention and the joint reception with Sealaska, and attendance at the U.S. Forest Service Tribal Relations Workgroup,. President Peterson also provided an update on Governor's Tribal Advisory Council (GTAC), the Native Issues Forum regarding public safety, and an upcoming meeting in D.C. to speak about transboundary matters.

### General Counsel Report

General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy provided an update of the Alaska Tribal Child Welfare compact, and the recent issues with the Bureau of Vital Statistics (BVS), in which the Tribe has been filing comity petitions with the State of Alaska due to BVS' lack of recognition of Tribal Court orders. The Tribe is working to find a more efficient and permanent resolution in this matter. General Counsel also spoke to the Tribal Relations Workgroup hosted by U.S. Forest Service, and attended the compact community visits to Saxman and Wrangell. In addition, General Counsel announced that the Constitution Committee initiated efforts to reconvene, and the Judiciary Committee made a recommendation to have a joint meeting with the Cultural Heritage Committee to move forward with TA 17-12 *Develop Culturally Appropriate Guidelines for Repatriation*.

### Special Assistant Report

Special Assistant to the President Heather Gatti reported her attendance at the Indigenous Peoples' Day Celebration, Elders & Youth Conference, AFN Convention and the Native Issues Forum - Criminal Justice Reform and Public Safety.

M/S Marvin Adams to support President Peterson in his effort to encourage the AFN to handle the Elders & Youth resolutions during the AFN convention. M/C

### Deputy Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

Deputy COO Ken Truitt provided a report on the Tribe's trust fund, Tribal D's program capabilities and reporting systems, and his attendance at the Native American Finance Officers' Association Fall Finance (NAFOA) and Tribal Economies Conference. As a result of what was learned at the Tribal Economies Conference, the Deputy COO expects to be in communication with the Investment Committee on several matters.

### Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Report

CFO Theresa Belton reviewed her written report.

### **BREAK**

The chair called to take a 15 minute break at 1:45 PM. No objection, so moved.

### **REPORTS CONTINUED**

#### Public Safety

Public Safety Manager Jason Wilson provided a report on the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program and the Second Chance program. He informed the Executive Council about the challenges VPSO's face with recruitment, the decision whether to arm, or not, each VPSO (a community decision), and other program limitations. He also advised the Executive Council a request has been made to create a new position, a VPSO Recruiting Officer, and announced that Kake will soon have part-time VPSO. Finally, he stated that the Second Chance program will be communicating with the Department Corrections and Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority to potentially form a partnership to house people, similar to a halfway house, and provide in-house re-entry support services.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### Language Update

Cultural Heritage Education Manager Sarah Dybdahl provided an update of the Language Immersion Daycare and took the Executive Council members on a tour of the Immersion classroom.

#### Haida Gwaii Report

General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy reported on the Tribe's delegation to Haida Gwaii to meet with the Council of Haida Nation (CHN). She stated that the purpose of the trip was primarily to reconnect with those clan brothers and sisters, tribal citizens and relatives who reside in what is now known Canada, across that invisible border that was drawn over the Haida people. General Counsel also stated that it was her understanding that President Peterson had a similar plan to schedule a visit across the more northern border that now similarly separates the Tlingit community.

General Counsel highlighted the intentional language choices used by the CHN in many contexts and the messaging those choices convey, the CHN enrollment process, which is based on the clan system and not blood quantum, and the way the CHN monitors its resources. General Counsel also informed the Executive Council about the Youth Assembly hosted by the CHN every year. She explained that, as expected, the Youth Assembly drafts and votes on resolutions, but also works in small groups to tackle real projects, and the groups of youth are each paired with an existing CHN department (e.g. Communications or Fisheries).

Finally, General Counsel reported that the delegation toured the Kay Llnagaay (Haida Heritage Center), which houses artifacts of cultural significance. The Center also accommodates a carving

shed large enough to support multiple large scale carving projects (e.g. more than one totem pole or canoe at a time).

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to investigate and develop a draft peace treaty with the Council Haida Nation. Amendment: include other tribal nations. M/C

#### Transboundary

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin reported on the status of an MOU between the State of Alaska and British Columbia pertaining to transboundary issues. He stated that the current draft allows for combined efforts to protect and study shared rivers. He also reported that there are prospects for more collaboration with Tribes to research transboundary waters.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson announced the United Tribal Transboundary Mining Work Group changed its name to Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SAITC). SAITC hopes to have regular meeting with tribal first nations.

Without objection, the discussion item “ICWA Out of State Cases” was moved into Executive Session, so moved.

### **BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS**

#### Meeting Minutes

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams to adopt Executive Council Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2017, August 17-18, 2017, September 22, 2017 and October 17, 2017. M/C

The chair relaxed the agenda to allow public comment. No objection, so moved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marie Olsen spoke in favor of how Tlingit & Haida identifies its citizens and expressed gratitude of how the Executive Council articulates themselves.

John Martin spoke of memories of his good friend from Haida Gwaii and is interested in the ICWA report. He also enjoyed the Cultural Heritage Manager’s report pertaining to the Language Program and the Transboundary Report. He expressed respect for our culture and the ways to honor our culture.

### **RECESS**

The chair moved to recess at 4:50 PM. No objection, so moved.



## *Executive Council*

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska  
November 2-3, 2017 – 11:30 AM (Alaska Standard Time)

IN-PERSON MEETING

**MINUTES Day 2**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

### **DISCUSSION CONTINUED**

#### RurAL CAP Update

5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams announced RurAL CAP will be sending a request for proposal (RFP) to the “10 Regions”. The RFP will ask for support in creating “tiny houses” for the homeless throughout southeast Alaska.

#### Constitution Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin reported on the resumption of Constitutional Committee activities and welcomed the Executive Council’s comments on the Committee’s work.

The chair relaxed the agenda to allow public comment. No objection, so moved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Carolyn Martin spoke about the strength of a recent presentation to the Juneau Tlingit and Haida Community Council regarding the opioid addiction crisis.

M/S 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ralph Wolfe moved to create a relationship with SEARHC to collaborate regarding the opioid addiction crisis. Amendment: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin recommended that the collaboration include discussion as to whether the Bill Brady Center could be re-opened. M/C

Andy Gambell raised a concern about Tlingit Haida Regional Housing Authority.

## **DISCUSSION CONTINUED**

### Subsistence Position with Tlingit & Haida

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ralph Wolfe brought forward a general concern regarding subsistence rights. He specifically mentioned the recent fishing closures in certain communities and then recommended more engagement on subsistence issues broadly.

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to create a line item in the Tribe's budget to allow focus on subsistence issues. Withdrawn.

M/S 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ralph Wolfe moved to realign priorities within the Natural Lands and Resources department to allow that Department to focus more on subsistence. M/C

## **BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS**

### Resolutions

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to adopt EC 17-67 *Authorization to Apply for Environmental Protection Agency State and Tribal Response Program Funding*. M/C

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to adopt EC 17-68 *Authorized Signers for Charles Schwab & Co*. M/C

M/S 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to adopt EC 17-69 *Authorization to Apply for U.S. Department of Justice Enhanced Training Services to End Abuse Later In Life Project Funding*. M/C

### Announcement from President Emeritus

M/S 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson moved to fund President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas's lifetime membership in the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). M/C

### Donation Request – Totem Heritage Center via Holly Burns-Churchill

M/S 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Marvin Adams moved to donate \$2,000 towards a display case for the Totem Heritage Center. M/C

## **BREAK**

The chair called to take a break at 10:22 AM

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

M/S 6<sup>th</sup> Vice President Wilbur Brown moved to enter to Executive Session at 11:55 AM. M/C

Executive Session adjourned.

## **BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS CONTINUED**

### Native Peoples Action Presentation

Native Peoples Action Executive Director Grace Singh spoke about the mission of this new organization, to mobilize voters and tribes. She stated that by unifying and empowering tribes we may find greater results at election time.

### Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR)

The Executive Council discussed whether it should take a position regarding the proposal for opening the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge for economic development, what that position might be and the timing of a decision, if made. No formal position was taken.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The chair provided an opportunity for “Good of the Order”.

## **ADJOURN**

The chair called to adjourn at 2:30 PM. No objection, so moved.