



*Executive Council*

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Tuesday-Wednesday, February 25-26, 2020 – 9 AM (Alaska Standard Time)

IN PERSON MEETING

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Peterson assumed chair without objection and called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

**ROLL CALL**

Richard J. Peterson, President	Present
Yodean Armour, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Present
Jackie Pata, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Present at, 9:21 am
Will Micklin, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Present
Rob Sanderson, Jr. 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Present
Ralph Wolfe, 5 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Present at 11:09 am
Catherine Edwards, 6 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Phone
Shawaan Jackson-Gamble, Emerging Leader	9:42 am arrival

Also present: Chief Financial Officer Theresa Belton, General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy, Chief of Project Development William Ware, Tribal Operations & Self Governance Manager Helene Bennett, Executive Assistant Cara Gilbert, Special Assistant Heather Gatti, and Recording Secretary/Secretary to the President Carley Jackson.

**INVOCATION**

4th Vice President Rob Sanderson provided the invocation.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

M/S Robert Sanderson moved to adopt the agenda by unanimous consent. M/C

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment was provided by Anchorage Delegate Tasha Hotch and Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council member Mary Marks.

## **REPORTS**

### President's Report

President Richard J. Peterson provided an oral report on his recent activities. President Peterson recognized Helene Bennett for her work on Tribal Assembly. This year Tlingit & Haida will have 116 delegates. The Keynote speaker for Tribal Assembly will be Fawn Sharp, the President of the Quinault Indian Nation and newly elected President for the National Congress of American Indians. President's Award Banquet will honor Dr. Dennis Demmert with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The Everyday Hero Awards will be presented to Virginia Oliver – Culture Bearer, Simon Friday – Emerging Leader, Matt Carle Sr. – Hold Each Other Up, Mary Cruise – Inspiring Educator, David R. Boxley – Language Warrior, Colleen Echohawk – Tribal Ally and Kyle Worl – Youth Mentor.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata and President Peterson attended the BIA Tribal Consultation in Juneau on January 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the amendment of the Alaska Indian Reorganization Act. Tlingit & Haida was the only tribe that was present and who testified. Part of that was due to the ferries and winter travel. President Peterson also testified before the Senate Education Committee on SB 136, before the House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs regarding HB 221 and before the House State Affairs and House Tribal Affairs Committee on the REAL ID. Discussion ensued about REAL ID. In addition, President Peterson reported that Public Safety Manager Jason Wilson provided testimony regarding public safety matters and Head Start Manager Amber Frommherz will be providing testimony regarding Head Start.

President Peterson reported that a meeting between him and the Governor of Alaska had been scheduled, but due to the Governor's unavailability, President Peterson met with the Governor's staff. President Peterson will be inviting the Governor and his staff to come and meet at the Tlingit & Haida offices.

In other news, President Peterson joined a tribal meeting with Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere regarding the bombardments of Angoon, Wrangell and Kake. He reports there was a lot of productive discussion, with a strong emphasis on clan involvement in future meetings. The President was appointed to the new board for the Friends of the Alaska Marine Highway System. The President then recognized 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr., a member of the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, for his diligent work regarding suicide prevention. Finally, President Peterson recognized employee Will Ware, who was recently promoted to role of Chief of Project Development.

### Special Assistant Report

Special Assistant Heather Gatti summarized her written report. Discussion ensued.

### General Counsel Report

General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy summarized her written report. Discussion ensued.

### **Break**

The Chair ordered to take a break at 10:27 AM for five minutes. No objection, so ordered.

### Chief of Project Development Report

Chief of Project Development Will Ware presented to the Executive Council regarding the Tribe's social enterprises and other ongoing projects.

Sacred Grounds will be opening a new location in Bartlett Regional Hospital. Sacred Shine staff will be attending a new certification program in response to requests for services involving motorhomes and boats. Sacred Shine also recently entered into a contract with SEARHC in Sitka. The Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall has partnered with KTOO to install a fiber optic cable that will allow KTOO to live-broadcast events to their statewide channel. The tribe's internal Courier Service just purchased a new vehicle in December.

The LEARN Child Care Center has opened and is accepting two new kids per month, as it ramps up to full capacity.

Planning has resumed for the Cultural Immersion Park Project. The park is anticipated to employ 200 employees and provide a space for tribal citizens to express their art, culture and our way of life. A small contaminated area has been identified and is being addressed.

Tlingit & Haida has begun renovating the third floor of the Southeast General Contractors building, formerly known as the Triplette building. Part of the space will be utilized for a print shop.

Finally, the Tribe is creating a real estate committee to address land use and planning, including the Kowee acquisition. Discussion ensued.

### Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Report

President Peterson met with the auditors and is pleased to report there were no findings. CFO Theresa Belton summarized her written report. Theresa presented an opportunity for Tlingit & Haida to resume bingo operations in cooperation with Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council. Discussion ensued.

M/S 6<sup>th</sup> Vice President Catherine Edwards moved to that Tlingit & Haida proceed with resuming bingo operations. M/C

### Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation (THTBC) Report

THTBC Chief Executive Officer Richard Rinehart presented a report on THTBC operations. Discussion Ensued.

### **Break**

The Chair ordered to take a break at 12:16 pm for 45 minutes. No objection, so ordered.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### Tribal Assembly Update

Tribal Operations & Self Governance Manager Helene Bennett presented. The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal Assembly that will take place April 22-24 in Juneau. The theme for the Assembly is "Our

People, Our Land, Our Purpose.” There are 116 delegates. Delegate elections are underway. The Emerging Leader application will be due April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Intent to Serve for the President and Vice Presidents are due April 12<sup>th</sup>. Delegates travel will be coordinated by an external agency. The Keynote Speaker will be Fawn Sharp. The Tribal Host will be Bill Martin and the Tribal Hostess will be Corrine Garza. Helene then reviewed the draft “at a glance” agenda for Tribal Assembly, for approval and/or amendment. Discussion ensued.

The Executive Council members will preside at Tribal Assembly as follows:

- Wednesday Morning – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata
- Wednesday afternoon – 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin
- Thursday morning – 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr.
- Thursday afternoon – President Richard Peterson
- Friday morning – 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President Ralph Wolfe
- Friday Afternoon – 6<sup>th</sup> Vice President Catherine Edwards
- Memorial – 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr.
- Tribal Host Bill Martin will be introduced by Emerging Lead Shawaan Jackson-Gamble
- Tribal Hostess Corrine Garza will be introduced by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata

Discussion ensued.

#### Elections Update

Program Compliance Manager Valerie Hillman provided an update on the delegate elections. All 21 communities are voting electronically. A YouTube video will explain the electronic voting process, for those who need assistance. For citizens that have questions, the best advice to give them is to have them call the Program Compliance office. Ballots were mailed out on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. A vendor error resulted in citizen’s in many communities having the middle initial “R” in mailouts. A notice has gone out on social media to disregard the middle initial.

In advance of elections, Program Compliance sought to have citizens with a voting community of “other” identify an existing voting community. More than 1000 responses were received. Discussion ensued.

#### **Break**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Yodean Armour called a break at 1:58 pm for five minutes. No objection, so ordered.

#### VAWA Taskforce Request

President Richard Peterson presented a request forth from the VAWA Taskforce, to make a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women presentation and rally an annual event at Tribal Assembly. Discussion ensued. It was decided to support the request from VAWA Taskforce this year while allowing flexibility in future years.

#### B.C. Pipeline Project

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin provided information and history on the British Columbia Pipeline Project. Discussion ensued.

### Introduction

Chief of Project Development Will Ware introduced the new Tribal Transportation Manager John Hawkins. John is Eagle Wolf from Hoonah and has worked for Tribal Transportation department for the past six years. He also recently completed his Master's degree.

### Tribal Assembly Resolutions

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin initiated discussion regarding potential Tribal Assembly resolutions. Discussion ensued.

### Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Tribal Priority Window

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin reported on the FCC opportunity allowing tribes to apply for broadband. The application window is open from February 3, 2020 through October 3, 2020. Discussion ensued.

### Transboundary Mining

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin re-opened the transboundary mining discussion from the previous Executive Council. Discussion ensued.

### Yukon and BC Enrollments

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin updated the Executive Council on his visit to Canada regard climate change. He reported there was continued interest in enrollment. Discussion ensued.

### **Break**

President Peterson ordered a break at 3:16 PM and to reconvene at 9:00 am tomorrow. No objection, so ordered.



## *Executive Council*

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Tuesday-Wednesday, February 25-26, 2020 – 9 AM (Alaska Standard Time)

IN PERSON MEETING

**DRAFT MINUTES Day 2**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Peterson called the meeting back to order at 9:07 AM.

#### Fisheries Update

4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. provided a fisheries update. He attended the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), which included a forum to address bycatch. He reported that the NPFMC is considering adding a staff member that deals directly with tribes. Discussion ensued.

### **AGENDA**

At President Peterson's request the Youth Commission report was moved to 11:00 am and a donation request from the Prince of Wales Native Youth Olympics was added to the agenda.

#### Public Comments

Public comment was provided by Anchorage Delegate Tasha Hotch.

Sealaska Heritage Institute President Rosita Worl reported on the Baby Raven Reads program and the Native Youth Olympics Traditional Games. Rosita expressed gratitude to Tlingit & Haida for its support of both efforts.

#### Introduction

Cultural Heritage & Education Director Sarah Dybdahl introduced her new staff member Miriah Twitchell as the Cultural Coordinator. She is Iñupiaq and adopted Daḱl'aweidí and grew up in Oregon.

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

#### Resolutions

M/S 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin moved to adopt EC 20-06 CONFIDENTIAL. M/C

M/S 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to adopt EC 20-07 Authorization to Transfer Funds. M/C

M/S 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to adopt EC 20-08 Authorization to Create a Second Employee 401(k) Plan. M/C

M/S 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr moved to adopt EC 20-09 *Confidential* M/C

M/S 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Yodean Armour made a motion to approve the minutes from September 25, 2019, October 31, 2019, November 26, 2019 and December 12-13, 2019. M/C

### Donations

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata initiated discussion to standardize donation requests. At President Peterson's suggestion a subcommittee of the Executive Council will propose donation criteria to the full Executive Council.

### Aak'w Kwaan Cultural, Heritage and Land Council

M/S 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to have this request be reviewed internally to see if Tlingit & Haida has programmatic resources to support this request, but if such resources do not come to fruition, to donate \$1,000. M/C

### Rudy Soto Campaign Contribution

Request by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to table this request until after the subcommittee has been able to resolve criteria for contributions. M/C

### Xhei'ghaa (Warrior) Veteran Canoe Journey

M/S Vice President Ralph moved to contribute \$1000 for this event. M/C

### Fundraiser Congresswoman Deb Haaland

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Will Micklin moved to table this request until after the subcommittee has been able to resolve criteria for contributions. M/C

### Educational Trip to Germany

M/S 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to table this request. M/C

### Craig Native Youth Olympics

M/S 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jackie Pata moved to contribute \$500.00. M/C

### **Break**

President Peterson ordered a break at 10:07 am to reconvene at 10:32 am.

### **Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by tribal citizens Rachel Moreno and Carolyn Martin.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Chair ordered to enter executive session at 10:36 AM. No objection, so moved

Executive session concluded at 11:11 AM.

## **Youth Commission**

Emerging Leader Shawaan Jackson-Gamble provided a report on the progress of the committee working to reestablish a Youth Commission. Discussion ensued.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The Executive Council offered comments for good of the order.

## **ADJOURN**

President Peterson ordered to adjourn at 11:49 am. No objection, so moved.