



Executive Council

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
January 20, 2021 – 10:00 AM (Alaska Standard Time)
IN-PERSON / TELECONFERENCE MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President Peterson assumed chair without objection and called the meeting to order at 10:09 AM.

ROLL CALL

Richard J. Peterson, President	Present
Catherine Edwards, 1 st Vice President	Present
Will Micklin, 2 nd Vice President	Present
Rob Sanderson, Jr., 3 rd Vice President	Present
Tasha Hotch, 4 th Vice President	Present
Delbert Kadake, 5 th Vice President	Present
Ralph Wolfe, 6 th Vice President	Present after Roll Call
Simon Friday, Emerging Leader	Present

Also present: Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen, Chief Financial Officer Theresa Belton, Chief of Project Development Will Ware, General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy, Chief of Tribal Operations and Compact Manager Helene Bennett, Special Assistant to the President Heather Gatti, Secretary to the President Carley Jackson, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary Rebecca Lee, Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation Chief Executive Officer Richard Rinehart and Tribal Emergency Operations Center Incident Commander Jason Wilson.

INVOCATION

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. led the meeting in invocation.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. moved to adopt the agenda by unanimous consent.
M/C.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was provided.

REPORTS

President Report

President Richard Peterson provided a verbal report on his recent activities. The Seattle Archive litigation is moving forward with several other tribal entities, non tribal entities and the States of Washington and Oregon. Governing documents are housed in the facility proposed for closure and relocation, including allotment documentation. Access to the documents is imperative to the Tribe's functions.

Staff met with Alaska's Health and Social Services Commissioner Adam Crum and voiced concerns regarding the proposed separation of Social Services and Children's Services. The Commissioner has committed to completing tribal consultation on this issue.

In other news, Hawai'iloa, the Native Hawaiian voyaging canoe carved from Alaskan trees, will be brought back to Alaska this year. Representative Deb Haaland reached out and expressed her appreciation for Tlingit & Haida's early advocacy for her nomination as the Secretary of the Interior. President Peterson, along with five other tribal leaders across the nation participated in a listening session with the new Biden Administration. Land into trust was brought forward as a high priority. Discussion ensued.

General Counsel Report

General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy provided a verbal summary of her written report. Discussion ensued.

Special Assistant Report

Special Assistant Heather Gatti provided a verbal summary of her written report. Discussion ensued.

Chief of Project Development Report

Chief of Project Development Will Ware provided a verbal summary of his written report. Discussion ensued.

Chief Operating Officer Report

Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen provided a verbal summary of his written report. Discussion ensued.

Chief Financial Officer Report

Chief Financial Officer Theresa Belton provided a verbal summary of her written report. Discussion ensued.

Tribal Court Report

Tribal Court reports will be given on a quarterly basis and will include an update from Chief Justice Lisa Lang.

Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation (THTBC) Report

THTBC Chief Executive Officer Richard Rinehart provided a verbal report of recent activities. Richard discussed revenue projections.. He reported that THTBC received a Paycheck Protection Program loan, which is expected to be paid back on a five year schedule. THTBC donated \$5,000 to the Haines emergency relief. discussion ensued. 4th Vice President Tasha Hotch requested an update on the succession planning and reiterated the importance of multi-year training.

Tribal Emergency Operations Center (TEOC) Report

TEOC Incident Commander Jason Wilson provided a verbal summary of his written report.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tribal Assembly Report

Joint Tribal Assembly Coordinator Heather Gatti provided an update on Tribal Assembly planning. It was proposed that the 2021 Tribal Assembly be hosted on April 21st through the 23rd to align with the Constitution. Tribal Assembly is anticipated to remain virtual for another year. President Peterson requested feedback and input from delegates regarding the daily schedule for Tribal Assembly, whether it should convene all three days or for full days etc. The elections for Tribal Assembly will be for a second Emerging Leader who will serve two years alongside Simon Friday, two Tribal Court Associate Justices and Citizen of the Year. There was also a discussion on hosting the Memorial to cover the last two years. Requests for names will be sent out early in order to pre-record the Memorial. The President's Award Banquet is proposed to be held on Friday evening via Facebook Live.

M/S 1st Vice President Catherine Edwards moved to host a virtual Tribal Assembly April 21st through the 23rd for six hours a day. Discussion ensued, 2nd Vice President Will Micklin would like to see more discussion on the length and daily schedule.

The motion was amended to remove the six-hour request. M/C. The vote on the main motion proceeded. M/C.

Delegation Meeting Fees

5th Vice President Delbert Kadake requested an update on compensation for both the Executive Council and Tribal Assembly delegate stipends. CFO Theresa Belton provided the rough amount it costs to host Tribal Assembly annually in person and will run numbers and provide an allowable stipend amount to delegates at the next Executive Council meeting. The report regarding a potential increase in Executive Council compensation will also be reported at the next meeting.

Youth Commission Update

Shawaan Jackson Gamble reported the selections for the Youth Commission members. The members are as follows: Alayna Duncan (Juneau); Phillip Cadiente-Laiti (Juneau); Patrice DeAsis (Juneau); Rebecca Estrin (Ketchikan); Tiadola Silva (Angoon); Lilliana Demmert (Angoon); Jeanette Kaleikau-Buxton (Metlakatla); Joseph Hillaire Jr. (Hydaburg); Erika Mayer (Seattle); Christianna Edwards (Seattle); Elizah Dominy (Seattle); Kevin Isaacs (Klawock); Drew Jackson (Kake); Alissa Durgan (Craig); Laci Lowery (Craig); Patrick Frerich (Anchorage);

Lauren Walicki (Anchorage); Sydney Guthrie (Petersburg); Sabena Allen (Sitka); Marlis Boord (Sitka); Brittany Kember (Sitka).

The first Youth Commission meeting will be held February 12, 2021. Meetings will continue virtually on a biweekly basis. Collaborations with the Navigators program will also be planned for future dates.

Climate Change

2nd Vice President Will Micklin opened the discussion with concerns regarding the 2030 climate goals, including particular emphasis on transboundary mining and sustainable energy options. A proposal has been put forth to the Climate Change Committee.

Pandemic

2nd Vice President Will Micklin discussed concerns with tracing, tracking and availability of the current vaccination for first and second doses. He also brought forward information regarding the virus mutations. The new Biden Administration's goal for vaccinations are inadequate and will need to rise to accommodate the likely increase of infections due to the new COVID variants. 2nd Vice President Will Micklin maintained strong support for massive testing, tracing and vaccinations as well as reassessing ventilation and mask durability. Discussion ensued.

Break

President Richard Peterson called for a 10-minute break at 1:23 PM.

Insurrection

2nd Vice President Will Micklin expressed concerns with the spread of misinformation on social media platforms and encouraged members of the Executive Council and participants to combat misinformation by reasserting the primacy of truth and reason on its platforms.

Chehalis v. Mnuchin

2nd Vice President Will Micklin added to General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy's update on this item.

State of Alaska Actions Concerning: Pebble Mine; ANWR Leases

These items were covered in the Climate Change discussion.

Transboundary

This item was covered in the Climate Change discussion.

Transition Issues Oversight

This item was covered in the Insurrection and Climate Change discussions.

Connex for Kake

5th Vice President Delbert Kadake requested this as a status update. It was reported that the connex arriving in Kake the week prior. A concern was raised that the connex was originally scheduled to arrive the month prior. COO Roald Helgesen will look into what caused the delays and report back.

Emerging Leader Podcast

Emerging Leader Simon Friday is initiating a youth-focused podcast that will be aired monthly to discuss issues young people are facing and give them a platform to speak freely and invite others to help or get involved. Simon is working with Communications on scripts and the podcast will begin next month. The name for the podcast is still being decided, Simon provided a few ideas which include Young Eagles and Ravens (YEAR), Emerging Leader Podcast, Young Ones (YO), and Young Hearts.

Executive Council Training

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch reviewed the orientation materials and overviews of the members of the Executive Council responsibilities. Additional information is requested for Strategic Planning, Succession Planning, and Job Shadowing of the President. Succession Planning is needed to be scheduled with 1st Vice President Catherine Edwards. President Peterson welcomes anyone who would like to job shadow when it is safe to do so in person.

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Planning

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch inquired about Tlingit & Haida's plans for EP Day and mentioned that ANS is planning for a celebration if the tribe was interested in collaborating in the event. President Peterson offered assistance from the Office of the President and Communications for a collaborated event.

Community Selection Process Selection for New Jobs (ICWA Positions)

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch asked how the ICWA positions were created and expressed that Anchorage has also been interested in such positions. President Peterson reported that the positions are grant funded and grew out a collaboration with the Seattle community. Washington State currently holds 35% of the Tribe's ICWA caseload.

Process for Creating a New Delegate Community

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch requested information on how a new delegate community is established. President Peterson and General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy explained the process and requirements for establishing a new delegate community, with reference to the Rules of Election.

BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS

Tlingit & Haida Head Start Priority Criteria

COO Roald Helgesen shared the drafted document form for priority enrollment in the Head Start program. It has already been reviewed by the Parents Committee and requires the governing body's review and approval.

M/S 6th Vice President Ralph Wolfe moved to approve the priority enrollment form for the Head Start Program. Discussion ensued, M/C.

Donation Requests

Kadake Family - R. Peterson

President Peterson recommended a donation of \$1,000 to assist with the medical costs of 5th Vice President Delbert Kadake's brother Benji Kadake.

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. moved to donate \$1,000 to the fundraising efforts of Benji Kadake of Kake. 5th Vice President Delbert Kadake abstained from voting, M/C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chair called to enter into Executive Session at 2:33 PM. No objection, so ordered. Executive Session concluded at 2:48 PM.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Comments were offered for good of the order.

ADJOURN

The chair called for adjournment at 3:02 PM. No objection, so ordered.