



Executive Council

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
November 18, 2020– 10 AM (Alaska Standard Time)
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 at 10:25 AM
Ralph Wolfe, 6 th Vice President	Present
Simon Friday, Emerging Leader	Present

Present Guests: President Emeritus Thomas, Community Council Member Janice Hotch, Sealaska Officers President Anthony Mallott, Chairman Joe Nelson and Vice President of Policy and Legal Affairs Jaeleen Kookesh, THTBC CEO Richard Rinehart, Saxman President Lee Wallace and Legal Counsel Niel Lawrence and Kate Glover.

Also present: Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen, Chief Financial Officer Theresa Belton, Chief of Project Development Will Ware, Chief of Tribal Operations and Compact Manager Helene Bennett, Special Assistant to the President Heather Gatti, Secretary to the President Carley Jackson, Executive Assistant Cara Gilbert, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary Rebecca Lee and Tribal Court Administrator Frances Andrews.

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, moving the Sealaska discussion item up to follow Public comment in order to accommodate schedules. M/C

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was provided by Janice Hotch and President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas. President Emeritus Thomas commented on the pandemic and expressed appreciation to President Peterson and leadership for keeping the Tribe moving forward in a positive direction.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Sealaska Corporation

Chairman Joe Nelson and Chief Executive Officer Anthony Mallott presented on Sealaska's recent activities. They invited discussion in hopes of working together in the following areas: CARES Act funding and Alaska Native Corporations, landless communities, subsistence, and the Guardians Program. Discussion ensued.

REPORTS

President Report

President Peterson provided a verbal report of recent activities. President Peterson recently met with the Southeast Native Veterans who expressed understandable frustration that the Alaska Native Veteran's Allotment bill did not allow veteran's to select land within the Tongass National Forest. The limitation is perceived as disrespectful and Tlingit and Haida and Sealaska Corporation are supporting the veterans who has stated they will not select land until the Tongass becomes eligible. On a related note, recruitment for a full-time Veterans Allotment Specialist has begun. This position will assist veterans in selecting land and support their enrollment in other assistance programs of which they might not be aware.

The Census Bureau confirmed that Tlingit & Haida's efforts to improve census response rates have resulted in a \$4 million funding increase. President Peterson presented to one of the local Rotary clubs . He was also asked to serve on the Governing Board for the Juneau Chamber of Commerce. Tlingit & Haida is working with Sealaska on federal transportation policies and will provide a draft this afternoon.

Congratulations were offered to newly elected officials and a reminder was given that it is important to remain cordial and non-partisan regardless of results during elections. President Peterson is working with Janie Hipp and Kevin Washburn on the Presidential transition team. With the Alaska legislature's return on the horizon, the Alaska Regional Coalition meetings are reconvening. President Peterson now sits on the Steering Committee for the Sustainable Southeast Partnership with Sealaska.

Gail Cheney has been promoted to Senior Director of Organization and Development and Mary Johnson was recently hired as the Tribal Family & Youth Services Director. During the

Executive Council reorganization meeting, a Climate Change Committee was established and 2nd Vice President Will Micklin has been asked to chair it. President Peterson will be selecting members for the committee soon.

Discussion ensued.

Special Assistant Report

Special Assistant Heather Gatti provided a verbal summary of her written report. Discussion regarding SEARHC's new protocol for COVID testing ensued.

M/S 5th Vice President Delbert Kadake moved to approve the Executive Council sending a letter to SEARHC regarding the changes to COVID testing protocols. M/C.

Chief Development Officer (CDO) Report

CDO Will Ware gave a verbal summary of his written report.

Chief Operating Officer (COO) Report

COO Roald Helgesen gave a verbal summary of his written report.

Break

The chair called for a 10-minute break with no objection. Regular session resumed at 1:20 PM.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Report

CFO Theresa Belton gave a verbal report of recent activities regarding the Tribe's finances.

Tribal Court Report

Tribal Court Administrator Frances Andrews gave a verbal summary of her written report.

Tlingit Haida Tribal Business Corporation (THTBC) Report

THTBC CEO Richard Rinehart provided a verbal report on recent activities with THTBC.

Tribal Emergency Operations Center (TEOC) Report

COO Roald Helgesen gave a verbal report of the Tribal Emergency Operations Committee on behalf of Public Safety Manager/Incident Commander Jason Wilson. State COVID numbers have doubled in the last 30 days and there have been 100 deaths, 126 hospitalizations and the reproductive rate is now 1.2 people. The Southeast Alaska numbers are also rising with Juneau at 760 people reported infected, Ketchikan 181, and Sitka 135.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CARES Act Funding

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch requested a report on how the CARES Act funding is being spent and asked whether remaining funds could be distributed to Community Councils. President Peterson shared that in the event of funds remained, they would be distributed to individual applicants as an additional portion of funding.

Executive Council Compensation

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch requested an update on researching comparable compensation for the Executive Council members. President Peterson hopes to have a proposal to present at the December meeting, but is facing challenges finding the comparable information requested by the Executive Council.

Talking Points

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch requested a set of talking points for use when Executive Council members are interacting with elected officials. President Peterson confirmed that a draft would be available after the next Alaska Regional Coalition meeting. 1st Vice President Catherine Edwards requested talking points be made available to department managers as well.

COVID Resources for At-Risk Citizens

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch inquired about any resources available to for citizens who are at high-risk for contracting COVID.

Alaska Roadless Rule – 12:30 PM

Lee Wallace provided an introduction to the Alaska Roadless Rule upcoming lawsuit. Niel Lawrence of Natural Resources Defense Council and Kate Glover of EarthJustice are the co-counsel for this case and made themselves available for any questions during the discussion. It was reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has not acknowledged the tribal voices speaking against recent changes by the Trump administration. The attorneys hope that the incoming administration will work closer with the tribes and reverse the actions taken by the Trump administration. The communities of Hoonah, Kake, Ketchikan and Saxman have signed on to the lawsuit. Further discussion will take place during Executive Session.

BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS

Resolutions

The following resolutions were presented for consideration:

EC 20-82 Authorization to Apply for Indian Housing Block Grant

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. moved to adopt resolution EC 20-82. M/C.

Meeting Minutes

The following meeting minutes were presented for review and consideration:

July 28, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2020 Reorganization Meeting Minutes

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. moved to adopt minutes as a block. M/C.

Donation Requests

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch asked if there was an allotted amount for donations. CFO Theresa Belton provided the numbers for the donation budget and current YTD amounts.

Alaska Innocence Project

There was not a set amount requested for donation. M/S 2nd Vice President Will Micklin moved to donate \$1,000 to the Alaska Innocence Project. M/C.

Seattle Community Council

This request is for a Christmas donation. Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of Anchorage and San Francisco Community Councils for holiday donations. Program money for Southeast Alaska will not be used.

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson, Jr. moved to donate \$2,000 to each community. 1st Vice President Catherine Edwards discussed the number of citizens in Seattle and moved to increase funding to \$2,500 to each community. M/C. The main motion became to donate \$2,500 to Seattle, Anchorage and San Francisco Community Councils. M/C.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

M/S 2nd Vice President Will Micklin moved to enter into Executive Session. Entered Executive Session at 2:59 PM. Executive Session concluded at 4:11 PM

Rise and Report

It was reported that the Executive Council adopted a motion to send a letter to the congressional delegation providing support for the Landless legislation and encouraging the amendment of the Alaskan Veterans Allotment Program to allow veterans to select land within the Tongass National Forest.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Comments and well wishes were offered for the good of the order.

ADJOURN

The chair called for adjournment at 4:14 PM. No objection, so ordered.