



Executive Council

Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

March 26, 2021 – 3:30 PM (Alaska Standard Time)

VIRTUAL SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

President Peterson assumed chair without objection and called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present:

Chief of Project Development Will Ware, Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen, General Counsel Madeline Soboleff Levy, TEOC Incident Commander Jason Wilson, Communications Coordinator Raeanne Holmes, Tribal Operations & Self Governance Manager Helene Bennett, and Paralegal / Recording Secretary Martina Ruhle.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chair brought one item to the Agenda, Tribal Assembly.

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson moved to adopt the agenda. C/U

REPORTS

No Reports given.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

BUSINESS (ACTION) ITEMS

Tribal Assembly

President Peterson presented the option of postponing or deferring Tribal Assembly to late August or early September to meet in person. Jason performed CDC Guidelines research and

results are affirmative. Chief Financial Officer Theresa Belton is in favor of postponing to complete audit of CARES Act monies.

TEOC Incident Commander Jason Wilson presented for consideration a deferral of 5-6 months from now to have an in-person Tribal Assembly. He has researched the planning process for providing space that will be doable and safe.

Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen addressed possibilities of holding Tribal Assembly at Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall or Centennial Hall. New desks will be provided for safe distancing and we may be able to limit potential guest participation to YouTube, while delegates could be in and out of spaces. There would also be limitations on staff. It is also possible to, at the last minute, plan for a safer option to transition back to a virtual Tribal Assembly. Proper equipment can be paid for with the funds coming direct from BIA CARES or Rescue.

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson is in favor of in-Person Tribal Assembly

1st Vice President Catherine Edwards is in favor of September or late August with considerations made with possible travel restrictions.

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch is in favor of September. The Executive Council should look at hosting the Tribal Assembly in Anchorage, because there are venues to accommodate the group with social distancing.

The Chair noted that Tlingit & Haida will just be bringing staff back on board, so it would be pretty difficult to plan for an Anchorage location for Tribal Assembly this year.

2nd Vice President Will Micklin is in support of deferring Tribal Assembly to the August/September/October time. Considerations in favor of deferral would be financial reporting and having information available to delegates. If the in-person Tribal Assembly was not possible, then can drop back to a Virtual Tribal Assembly.

4th Vice President Tasha Hotch asked how many people reached out to ask for an in-person Tribal Assembly, because she has not heard from anyone.

The Chair has received emails, talked with several delegates in Juneau, Seattle, San Francisco as they are talking amongst themselves. The CDC has stated that those vaccinated can gather. We can accomplish this recognizing masking and social distancing. We will still adhere to guidelines of minimal contact and not having visitors.

1st Vice President Catherine Edwards had a question about whether Alaska has opened up to allowing larger groups to gather?

The Chair confirmed that Bartlett Hospital recently had a gather at the Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall.

Chief of Project Development Will Ware explained that the Bartlett Hospital gathering had 100 people in attendance and that all attending had already been vaccinated. They used the whole hall and provided social distancing for the meeting.

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson is in favor of late August or September.

5th Vice President Delbert Kadake agrees with 2nd Vice President Will Micklin that if we give ourselves time, we should offer to have delegates either attend in-person or by virtual if not comfortable in-person. We need to give our Emerging Leader, Simon Friday, more time in his position because he has not had a full year as representative.

The Chair reminded the body that the Executive Council did vote to allow Emerging Leader, Simon Friday to stay on with the new Youth Emerging Leader, about a year and a half.

TEOC Incident Commander Jason Wilson reiterated they will have a very safe plan for the facilities to be upgraded and have questionnaires circulated so that anyone exhibiting symptoms would be removed into a different area. There will be separate desks, minimal contact, sneeze guards and the crossing back and forth of people will be easy to solve.

2nd Vice President Will Micklin offered the deferral of the April Tribal Assembly for 5-6 months and then address the question of virtual or in-person at that time.

6th Vice President Ralph Wolfe is in favor of pushing off Tribal Assembly in-person until August/September.

The Chair conveyed that it sounds like consensus has been reached and asks if there is a motion. The Chair suggests September 1-3, 2021.

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson is in favor of any time the first or second week of September, but safety is paramount.

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson to have Tribal Assembly in-person the 1st or 2nd week of September.

Discussion:

2nd Vice President Will Micklin indicated carve out dates for already-set doings of September 14th – 16th for Self-Governance Quarterly meeting.

The Chair asked that Labor Day be considered in scheduling and that the motion is for September 1-3, 2021.

1st Vice President Catherine Edwards offered for consideration the specific dates of September 8-10, 2021, and that the last two weeks of August doesn't work for her.

5th Vice President Delbert Kadake provided Rural Alaska perspective that the second week in September is the time of our subsistence for our winter food (Kake, Angoon, Hoonah), where we meet to gather.

The Chair suggests the dates offered by 1st Vice President Catherine Edwards for Tribal Assembly to occur on September 8th – 10th.

3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson called for the Question.

M/S 3rd Vice President Rob Sanderson to have an in-person Tribal Assembly September 8-10, 2021. C/U

The Chair will work with Communications Coordinator Raeanne Holmes and Chief Operating Officer Roald Helgesen to get a message announced right away.

ADJOURN

The chair called for adjournment at 4:17 PM. No objection, so ordered.