

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe  
Special Council Meeting  
Monday, April 29, 2024  
Administrative Office, 2255 Green Vista Dr. Ste. 402, Sparks, Nevada

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the Special Meeting of Monday, April 29, 2024 to order at 1:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Secretary/Treasurer, Eugene Mace, Sr. called the roll: Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle, present; Vice-Chairwoman, Nedra Crane, present; Secretary/Treasurer, Eugene Mace, Sr., present; Council Member Philip Frank, present; and Council Member, Steven Crane, present.

**STAFF:** James Simmons, Director Natural Resources Department; Madison Hutchinson, Environmental Specialist, NRD; and Audrey Dufresne, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, NRD; Dalgadina Gonzalaz, Enrollment Coordinator

**GUESTS:** Susan Mortenson, Restoration Ecologist, and Carol Wildscape Engineering; Nic Sabo, Engineer, Tim Caldwell, Aquatic Ecologist and Project Manager, and Geoff Hales, Geologist, McBain Associates-Applied River Sciences; Daphne Em-Hooper, Director, Office of Indigenous Relations, Celina Gonzalez, Tribal Member; Christina Lomaintewa, Election Committee

Mr. Simmons stated the purpose of the first portion of the meeting is regarding the NFWF Make America Beautiful Grant. He started with a background of the grant. Then the partners on the project, McBain Associates and Wildscape presented their portion of the project. Then there was discussion with the Council for feedback on the direction of they should take on this project. This is regarding National Fish and Wildlife Federation American The Beautiful (ATP) Fund 1340. This was applied for to deal with two issues. First, in past there was an issue with connectivity between Mahogany Creek and the Lake, longitudinal connectivity. The second issue is lateral connection between the creek and its flood plain. The channel was incising probably due to reed canary grass. They applied to the ATB grant to come up with plans to deal with these issues. It is not an implementation grant. They will apply for implementation on the next round of funding.

This is a planning grant. The idea was to analyze the situation and develop a plan on how to deal with these to issues with Mahogany Creek. At the end of grant the goal is to have plans in place. Specifically with the creek to lake the goal is a 65% design solution and with the creek to floodplain the goal is a 35% design solution. The next step, once the designs are completed at the end of this project, the designs will be rolled into the next NFWF funding cycle to get an implementation grant to finish the design and do the on-the-ground work to deal with the issues. McBain was the lead in determining the proposals between the lake and creek and Wildscape was the lead in the proposals between the creek and flood plain. There was an overlap in working on the hydrology.

Today they are looking for the Council's feedback on the direction on the proposals McBain and Wildscape present this day. They have multiple suggested options to go

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with the solutions for these issues. They want the Council's feedback on how to move forward with these issues.

Mr. Simmons asked for any questions from Council or comments from the partners.

#### Presentation

The scope of the project included the whole Reservation

The people from the partnerships introduced themselves. Both companies have worked on prior projects so they are familiar with the Reservation.

Ms. Mortenson and Carol from Wildscape began their portion of the presentation.

Goals and objectives, Watershed assessment, Recommended projects, Wildscape's next steps, then segway into McBain's presentation.

Goals and objectives outlined in the application for the project with a focus on connectivity. This connectivity is important to understand the ecosystem for them to move forward with solutions for climate change resilience.

#### **Goals and Objectives**

The focus is on how to make Mahogany Creek resilient to climate change especially long duration draughts and focusing on LCT.

#### **Watershed Assessment**

They want to understand the historic land use and historic template before they get to far. What has happened in the past has a lot of impact on what is happening now, the existing condition of the watershed. They learned the history of the area of what was done the land. They are still looking at solutions for the legacy impacts and prepare for the future.

#### **Historical Land Use**

- Grazing was prevalent until 1974. By the 1930s LCT were threatened by "grazing-induced situation".
- Bank instability and road crossings had people concerned about the sediment in the creek and potential effects on the LCT.
- Grazing exclosures were constructed in 1976 and 1988

#### **Climate and Summit Lake Elevations**

- According to DRI analysis, Summit Lake declined in elevation by approximately seven meters (23 feet) from 1985 to 2022.
- Most dramatic decrease between 2011 and 2015 which corresponds with low snowpack years.

Climate change can interrupt the passage of LCT to the lake. It can dry up the lower delta area and cause incisions within the creek. The Mahogany Creek ecosystem and LCT have remained resilient. They need to think about the future and climate change.

#### Geomorphic Assessment

- Surveyed eight geomorphic cross-sections (July 2023)
- Benchmarks established for repeat surveys.

Use the information to classify the areas of the creek by different vegetation, channel shape, slope of the channel. This helps to hone in on what potential design solutions to look at for each area.

Mr. Crane how many miles did it cover. She said 3-1/2 miles.

#### Riparian Vegetation

They mapped the riparian vegetation for all the vegetation in the flood plain that is supported by the creek ecosystem.

- Diverse plant communities excluding a narrow band of reed canary grass along the 3-1/2 miles of the channel of Mahogany Creek.
- Reed canarygrass is dominant in the lower reaches.

#### Impacts of Reed Canary grass Dominance

- Bank stabilization and channelization
- Replaces native rushes and sedges
- During low flows: reduced velocity and dissolved oxygen due to in-channel growth
- During high flows: increased velocity due to channelization
- Increased sedimentation and plant cover could reduce LCT spawning habitat
- May impact juvenile LCT passage

#### Lack of wetlands in Reach 3

It has a very narrow riparian zone along the channel. It could be related to grazing around the canarygrass.

#### Hydrologic Analysis

- Hydrology defined by 20-year data set
- Results:
- Two to 100-year events flow range from 12 cfs to 115 cfs

#### Hydraulic Analysis

- Existing conditions model runs: 15, 25, 50, 100 cfs
- Provides insight into channel/floodplain connectivity

### **General Themes—Longitudinal Connectivity**

Increase flow to Mahogany Creek to enhance longitudinal connectivity and improve riparian habitat:

- Plug and eliminate artificial irrigation channels
- Remove berms/diversions
- Prevent road capture
- Ensure channel connection to overflow channels and depressions

### **General Themes—Lateral Connectivity**

- Increase overbanking where flows are fully contained within the channel to enhance lateral connectivity through:
- Targeted RCG removal
- In combination with floodplain creation and/or minimal channel raising
- Maintain positive drainage back to the main channel to prevent fish stranding

### **Mahogany Creek (~RM 3.7)**

- Irrigation Infrastructure
- Former irrigation ditches (and berm) convey water away from channel towards irrigation fields
- Major contribution to road capture

### **Recommendation**

- Plug ditches, lower berm to retain water in the riparian zone
- Create a secondary (overflow) channel to direct flows back to Mahogany Creek
- Revegetation with willows, Wood's rose, golden currant

### **Mahogany Creek (~RM 2.9-3.1)**

#### **Irrigation Infrastructure**

- Former diversion structure removed in 2023
- Higher flows expected to fill lower ditch sections that remain

#### **Recommendation**

- Fill ditch entirely
- Modify or decommission adjacent road
- Construct secondary channel at filled ditch site to return flows to main channel

### **Mahogany Creek (~RM 2.5-2.9)**

#### **Diversion and Berm**

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- Abandoned diversion structure and berm
- No significant flow diversion from riparian zone
- Sediment accumulation observed in LiDAR data set

Recommendation

- SLPT and Wildscape evaluating costs for diversion removal in 2024
- Confirm return flow connections
- Continue Reed Canary Grass targeted removal/overbanking enhancements

Ms. Crane asked if it the canary grass was hard to remove. The answer was yes because of the deep root system. It will need to be monitored and treated.

**Mahogany Creek (~RM 2.1-2.5)**

Floodplain Connection

- Water readily overtops channel in several areas
- Potential formation of disconnected oxbows post-event, influenced by dense RCG
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Recommendation

- Prioritize RCG control at confluences to maintain channel connectivity

**Mahogany Creek (~RM 1.8-2.1)**

Existing Dirt Road

- Observed road flooding in July 2023
  - Road captures flow and likely mobilizes sediment
- There are many simple ways to aid in the road capture solutions.

Recommendation

- Decommission or raise the affected road segment

Mr. Simmons asked about what per cent of water is taken out of the channel. Initial analysis indicates about 5% flow at 25 cfs and at higher flows of 100 cfs it is taking out 50% out of the channel. This is a significant amount of flow.

**Next Steps**

- Receive input during this meeting
- LCT redd surveys in May to identify areas used for spawning
- Ground-truth restoration/enhancement approaches
- Further develop conceptual designs for priority areas

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- Develop ballpark cost estimates

This ended the first part of the presentation.

The Council was asked if they had any questions.

(note: Mr. Crane asked something but he was completely garbled and unintelligible.)

Mr. Mace asked with the projects for removal of canary grass, will it be targeted towards the areas with the most damage to the flow of the creek. So, would these would be taken care of first.

Carol stated yes, to work on where it is most needed to remove it and keep it away.

Mr. Caldwell from McBain said one thought was to work on some smaller areas as it would be easier.

Mr. Mace said that in walking the creek, he noticed areas where the water has trouble getting through which inhibits the fish getting to the lake.

Carol said to let them know of any problem areas they have seen.

Mr. Simmons said he read old newspaper accounts (1880s-1890s) of people creating diversions, channels off the creek, to funnel off of Mahogany Creek to harvest fish. He wanted to if this was a tribal method or other people did this. If it is a tribal method of harvesting, they might want to design places for the members to use or if it was completely brought in from somewhere else.

Mr. Mace said he did not know of this method. Members fished out of the creek or lake.

Mr. Caldwell of McBain started the McBain portion of the presentation  
He thanked the Council. Most of the team is from the California coast. They will talk more about the longitudinal connectivity issues with canary grass and the bigger issue of the fish not being able to get to the lake.

### **Mahogany Creek Conceptual Fish Passage Design**

Team introduction

Tim Caldwell—Aquatic Ecologist/Project Manager

Geoff Hales—Geologist/Project Manager

Fred Meyer—Restoration Designer

John Bair—Riparian Ecologist

Katrina Harrison—Engineer

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Smokey Pittman—Geomorphologist  
Nic Sabo—Engineer-in-Training  
Suanne Rhoads—Aquatic Ecologist

### **Presentation Outline**

- Project overview, goals, design objectives and considerations.
- Present and review restoration strategies.
- Present conceptual designs ideas.
- Review information and concepts to support selecting a preferred alternative to advance to 30% design.

They like to present a few different solutions and work with the people to select a solution.

### **Problem Statement and Project Objectives**

- PROBLEM: Disconnection has occurred in the recent past creating a migration barrier for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT).
  - Increased drought frequency and intensity resulting in lower lake levels and lower stream flows.
  - Increased Mahogany Creek sedimentation (delta aggradation) facilitated by invading reed canary grass.
- OBJECTIVE: Use a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to develop restoration strategies and designs for drought resilient fish passage between Summit Lake and Mahogany Creek

This is a map detailing there the following points of reference are:

- Gages (3)
- North Channel
- Flow Spilt to North Channel
- South Channel OR Mainstream
- Delta
- Historic South Channel

Areas of concern are:

- Old Diversion Ditches (Flow Loss)
- Historic grazing and irrigation
- Reed Canary Grass Choking Channel

Mrs. Lone Eagle asked about the flow stream and Mr. Caldwell showed the Upstream flow (north east corner of map) flowing Down stream to the lake (South west corner of the map)

## **2D Model Computational Mesh (Hydraulic)**

- Upstream boundary condition line
- Location of flow split from south to north channel goes through wet meadow area with no defined channel
- 20 ft. cells outside of channel
- 1 ft. cells along channel breaklines
- North Channel downstream boundary condition line.
- South Channel downstream boundary condition line
- 2D Mesh perimeter
- 2D Mesh breaklines

They did a detailed topographic survey.

## **Results –10 cfs WSE**

Reference points

- South Channel Alignment
- North Channel: 7.9 cfs
- South Channel: 2.1 cfs
- Misc. flow paths:<0.1 cfs

It shows how the flow split pushes the water to the North Channel which they believe it is partly artificially split. Reed canary grass and historical grazing activities.

This (model) tool will be used throughout.

## **Design Considerations**

- Mahogany Creek's south channel has been the primary habitat for LCT migration and spawning.
- Observations of redds and juvenile LCT and in the North Channel suggest it may be important habitat in wetter years
- Abundant mussel groups exist in the main channel and may need to be managed
- Address reed canary grass invasion as it pertains to fish passage objective.

## **Restoration Strategies to Support Fish Passage**

Following site visits, field work and analysis of hydraulics, three primary restoration strategies have been identified that show the greatest promise for meeting project objectives:

A. Reed Canary Grass Treatment



- A. Moisture Control
- B. Mechanical Removal
- B. Channel or Flow Relocation and Modification
  - A. Channel Simplification
  - B. Utilize North Channel
  - C. Utilize Historical South Channel
- C. Channel Perturbations
  - A. Boulder and Log Jams
  - B. Vegetated Berms

#### **Restoration Strategy A—Moisture Control**

It works by creating unfavorable moisture conditions.

Managing Reed canary grass: Since it requires a lot of moisture, it could be controlled by drying out the canary grass.

#### **Restoration Strategy A—Mechanical Treatment**

- Wholesale removal of reed canary grass and layered treatment along with dense native plantings.
- Treat all newly disturbed area with multiple layers of natural weed abatement techniques. Coir fabric, mulch, and cardboard. Dense native plantings directly following treatment.
- Requires long-term maintenance.

Mr. Simmons visualized that there would be native plant plugs put in the top of the treatment so that the plants take root as the treatment bio-degrades and out-competes the canary grass.

#### **Restoration Strategy B**

Main stem data simplification to increase slope and velocity.

- Create new alignment for segment of existing south channel to effectively increase slope and encourage/maintain connection to the lake.
- Fill-in/remove existing channel. Use North channel as reference reach.
- Simplify and gently meander south channel segment

#### **Restoration Strategy B**

North Channel diversion

- Small diversion to north channel: Majority of flow remains in the south channel

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- Majority flow in north channel: Would require a defined channel connection between the south and north channels through the marsh.
- Would not suggest abandoning either channel.

If majority of flow is put in north channel, construct defined channel through marsh connecting south and north channels. There would be weirs to control flow percentage between the south and north channels.

### **Restoration Strategy B**

Historic South Channel delta utilization

Reoccupy historic south channel to bypass existing south channel outlet to Summit Lake where disconnection issues occur. Not necessarily year-round, could be temporarily/seasonally turned on/off.

A benefit of this alternative: currently there is no RCG in historic channel. Therefore, RCG impacts become an issue of management in the unimpacted area rather than a removal issue in already impacted areas.

Would not suggest completely abandoning south channel.

Excavate connection to historic Channel. Plug south channel down stream of connection. A bridge or arch culvert will be needed for the road.

### **Restoration Strategy C**

Boulders and PALS—To maintain depth and flow.

Boulder, V-weirs and /or post assisted log structures (PALS) placed to encourage channel scour. Boulders and PALS placed to maintain scour and connection through delta.

### **Restoration Strategy C**

Vegetated Berms

Confine channel with vegetated berm.

Construct vegetated berm along channel margins to focus high flow energy and scout in primary channel. May need to tie upstream end into high ground.

This would help keep canary grass out and keep water in the channel to let fish to pass.

### **Conceptual Designs**

Four concept designs are proposed. Some include combinations of restoration

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concepts.

- Concept 0: No Action
- Concept 1: South Channel Rehabilitation
- Concept 2: Occupy Both North And South Channels plus reed canary grass Treatment
- Concept 3: Occupy Historic South Channel

Concept 0: No Action Alternative

Expectations:

1. RCG would continue to expand its footprint
2. The South Channel may continue to aggrade and naturally slip to the north channel
3. Intermittent disconnections between channel and lake likely to continue
4. Manual excavation at delta required during drought

Concept 1: South Channel Rehabilitation

1. Create new, alignment for segment of existing south channel to effectively increase slope and encourage/maintain connection to the lake.
2. Use hydraulic and sediment transport analysis to evaluate most effective channel length and meander wavelength.
3. Combine perturbation elements (such as PALS) to maintain connection with the lake. Add a series of open "V" structures along channel to focus flows.
4. Treat areas disturbed by construction with layered mulch and dense native plantings to control RCG. Systematically remove and treat RCG patches from downstream to upstream.

Expectations:

- a. As lake levels and active delta change over time, additional PALS or boulder clusters would be added to maintain connectivity
- b. RCG will be an ongoing battle—continue aggressive approach until RCG has been treated past marsh connecting north and south channels.
- c. Annual RCG treatment will be needed.

Concept 2: Occupy North Channel And Aggressively Treat RCG in South Channels

1. Put majority of flow into the north channel.
2. Construct a defined channel connection between the south channel and north channel through the marsh.
3. Treat new channel to minimize RCG establishment.
4. Construct a weir to control the flow split into the abandoned south channel.
5. Aggressively remove and treat RCG upstream of new channel.

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6. Consider surface screen to keep RCG fragments out of north channel
7. Once upstream source of RCG have been removed (between new north channel and fish station), remove RCG in downstream segment of south channel.

Expectations:

- a. RCG will be an ongoing battle
- b. Annual RCG treatment will be needed
- c. With effort and time south channel will continue to heal.
- d. Evaluation of north channel's ability to keep open connection to the lake will be required. Perturbation elements may be needed to be added to delta.

Concept 3: Cut New Channel from South Channel to Historic Southern Channel

1. Reoccupy downstream segment of historic south channel to bypass existing south channel outlet to Summit Lake.
2. Not necessarily year-round or permanent, could be temporarily/seasonally turned off/on.
3. Observe effectiveness at keeping open connection o lake in new channel. May require perturbations.
4. A flow weir will be needed at the marsh connection to the north channel to maintain most of the flow into the south channel and eventually into the historic southern channel
5. Aggressively remove and treat RCG upstream of new channel.
6. Consider surface screen to keep RCG fragments out of north channel
7. Begin wholesale removal of RCG downstream of junction and flow barrier
8. Benefit is there is currently no RCG in historic channel so a matter of management instead of removal

Expectations:

- a. RCG will be an ongoing battle.
- b. Annual RCG retreatment will be needed.
- c. With effort and time south channel will continue to heal and be available to be a primary channel
- d. Evaluation of historic channel to remain open to lake will be require. Perturbations may be needed at delta.

Mr. Simmons wanted to confirm that the south channel, although it will have some water, it will not have enough water for a spawning run.

Mr. Caldwell said that no it will not, so the treatment of RCG can be effective.

There are still a lot of unknowns.

Conceptual Design Discussion

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This was a discussion of the pros and cons of each concept.

Mr. Simmons wanted to look at Concep 1 graphic. He said that the north channel outlet is shallower and more prone to dry up during a drought where the south channel outlet is deeper part of the lake. They need to keep this in mind.

### **Phased Approach**

#### **Phase 1: Combination of Upstream and Delta Concepts**

1. Fill primary upstream diversion channels to maintain flow in Mahogany Creek
2. Treatments of RCG area at north channel and main stem confluence
3. Delta improvements
4. Evaluation

#### **Phase 2:**

1. Fill remaining upstream diversion channels
2. Reconnect upstream overbank areas
3. Additional RCG treatment and control
4. AS NEEDED: Channel modifications

Mr. Caldwell said it does not need to all be decided at once.  
He showed an example of Phase 1 approach.

Ms. Mortenson asked if there was a connection between the mussels and the fish or if they were separate.

Mr. Simmons said there was a definite connection. The mussels rely on the fish. The mussel larva attaches themselves to the gills of the fish and when ready drop off in the creek. The mussels need the fish to complete their life cycle. Mr. Simmons does not believe there are mussels in the north channel. Mr. Hales verified that he did not see any in the north channel.

Mr. Simmons said the Phase 1 example is what he would like to submit as the implementation project. He discussed his idea for the next three or four years. This Phase 1 approach of using the main stem would be more cost effective. Mr. Caldwell stated that the most expensive part of all concepts is the treatment of RCG.

Mr. Mace said that what is important to him is the fish and flow to the lake then the treatment of the canary grass which is important to prevent sediment which affect the flow. Mr. Simmons said they need to redefine and solidify the banks, to recreate the main channel upstream.

There was a discussion on the north channel which was dry until 2017 (during drought).

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It is active during part of the year and goes dry while the southern channel is always active.

Only 10% of the fish are using the north channel per Mr. Simmons. He is more focused on habitat. Might want to look to opening Snow Creek for spawning.

Ms. Hutchinson asked it would be better to push the fish into one channel (South) for keeping track.

Ms. Mortenson asked if there were any concerns of getting rid of the irrigation. There was none.

They thought the Phase 1 would take approximately three years.

Mr. Simmons talked about implementing a long-term (three years or more) plan.

The people from McBain and Wildscape left the meeting at 2:58 pm.

Daphne Em-Hooper entered the meeting at 3:06 pm.

Ms. Hooper has been communicating with Mr. Simmons following up on a letter from the Chairwoman regarding an agreement with the University (UNR). It is important for the University to outline in a formal agreement the goals and responsibilities in relationships with the Tribe. The approach was how they would work with, not just SLPT, but all of the Tribes. Then she dived into specifics for SLPT. How do they build relationships with the Tribes, understanding a sovereign nation, dealing with a government-to-government relationship.

The first point, the most important point, is government to government consultation. They do not want to assume to know what the Tribe wants. They do not want to make decisions on what they think is best for the tribe. They want to know what the tribe wants to see. This can be done through normal channels. They would like an annual summit with all of the tribes. They would like to also to establish regular meetings with individual tribes so they learn the area of support that are needed. They would like the Tribal Chairpersons to attend the summit. Ms. Crane asked when the Summit would take place. Ms. Hooper stated that this year they held one in February and would like to continue to have the summit annually in February.

They reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) draft together.

Establishment of an Advisory Board with the University and Tribal members.

Communications: commit to establishing processes for communications between the parties and have designated contacts.

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Research. There is a lot of funding to work with Tribes. They want to have requests to work with the tribes should go through the Office of Indigenous Relations. They want what to know who they should contact within the Tribe, what protocols to use. They should have a data sharing agreement. Liabilities and process should be defined.

Diversity initiatives.

Duration, Review, early Termination and Modification. They will commit to periodically review and modify, as necessary, the terms of the MOA.

Strategic Priorities:

Education—a key component, develop pathways, resources for educational learning. Mrs. Lone Eagle talked about needing to revise the Higher Education policies. Ms. Hooper mentioned many opportunities that fit under the native fee waiver. They can call the Office of Indigenous Relation for assistance.

Mr. Frank asked what the cost of tuition for a full class load without the waiver. It is about \$2000 per semester. They discussed that the waiver covers all mandatory fees.

Economic/Business Development

Through the University Center for Economic Development, UNR has been working on a strategic planning and some long-term economic development plans with partners.

They talked about benefits for out-of-state members and opportunities while not having people on the reservation.

Employment Stability

Student internship opportunities that can lead to permanent positions.

Research/Management of natural/ecological resources

SLPT has had success with working with the UNR on water at the Reservation. Will try to try to develop relationships with other university departments.

Ms. Hooper will take the discussion topic and the draft back and further refine it with Mr. Simmons help. She would like to try to get language together and review it and finalize it and sign it at the May 18, 2024 at the General meeting. They will table Resolution SL-18-2024 until everything is ready.

Mrs. Hooper left the meeting.

Mr. Simmons is also tabling Resolutions SL-21-2024 and SL-22-2024.

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## **OPEN FORUM**

Council review of request from Geoffry Smith at UNR to study Last Supper Cave artifacts.

Mr. Simmons asked if the Council had any concerns with the Mahogany project. Ms. Crane said no, but there was a lot of information. Mr. Crane wants to create a new channel since there is no canary grass there. He feels that it would be less expensive because there would be no reed canary grass to treat. Water ran in there before. There was a quick discussion. Mr. Mace says the priority is the fish. Mr. Simmons said creating the new channel will be expensive.

The Tribe has work with UNR anthropology professor named Geoffrey Smith. He has done some research on cultural artifacts from the Last Supper Cave. He has done archeology and anthropology at the caves north of the reservation. His previous work showed there has been continual use and habitation of the caves for thousands of years. There is a gap in the data where they cannot show use of the cave and area from 9000 years ago to 5000 years ago. They would like permission for them to use existing samples and do further analysis on the different samples to get a better idea of how the area was use 9000 to 5000 years ago. He wants to see if the Council has any issues with this.

Mr. Mace asked if this was the same person they gave permission for a documentary. Mrs. Lone Eagle said yes, he has worked over time out there. He wants to give NRD a tour of the site sometime this summer.

Mrs. Lone Eagle recommended that he takes something to smudge so as not to bring something back.

They will draft a data share agreement for him to sign. It is the consensus of the Council to give Mr. Smith permission for the further analysis of existing samples.

### **Review and Decide the event T-Shirt Design**

NRD asked tribal members to submit t-shirt designs. He showed the two designs received by the deadline. One by Grayson and one by Molly, Cherise's daughter. They could put one on the front and one on the back. Council said to do both. There will be a different event name this year.

Mr. Simmons has two travel authorizations. One for James Waddell and one for Cory. This is to authorize them, if they need to use their own vehicles to travel to work on the reservation, to be reimbursed for mileage at the federal mileage rate. The forms need to be signed by Secretary/Treasury Eugene Mace, Sr.



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Mr. Simmons left the meeting at 4:02 pm.

Mrs. Lone Eagle stated that there were two resolutions tabled at the April 20, 2024 Regular meeting. One was read in the meeting to address what was discussed for Ms. C. Gonzalez. Both resolutions were then tabled until the Election Committee could come again to meet with the Council on this issue. It was read to Ms. Gonzalez. She wanted to know if it would be voted on at the last meeting. It was not, so she is here. She wants to know if it will be voted on today or not. Ms. Gonzalez said she did not care if she were on the ballot, but still wanted to vote. She is still technically a member. That is where they were at this day.

Council heard from Ms. Gonzalez at the last meeting. She asked the committee if they had any question or explanations. The Council had questions after the resolution was read.

Mr. Mace said they questioned if she was a member at the time. Did she defraud knowing she was not a member or, as it was brought to the Council, that it was the former Council's error.

Ms. Eller said it was the Council's error in approving her application based on what was submitted to them. As it was explained to them, they were trying to get through the applications quickly, and when the error was discovered they immediately rectified it. For some reason, it took a period of time. By that time, she was on the Council when taken down.

Ms. Gonzalez said she was not removed as a Council member. Ms. Lomaintewa said that goes hand-in-hand. You cannot be on Council if you are not a member.

Ms. Gonzalez said she applied. She did not lie. She did state her blood quantum. In the resolution it states that that section of the articles does not apply to her and that it was the Council's error. She asked why is she being punished for the Council's error.

What did not apply to her was asked by Ms. Lomaintewa.

She applied under Section C of enrollment. Ms. Eller said that she did not have the blood quantum. Ms. Gonzalez acknowledged that. Ms. Eller said then that is that. Ms. Gonzalez interpreted that section... Ms. Eller said that she could not interpret. Ms. Gonzalez said everyone interprets it differently. She said she never lied. She knew her blood quantum but interpreted section C as okay for her. It was pointed out by Ms. Eller that they did not use lineage until 2020. Ms. Gonzalez that is where the misunderstand was. She does not understand why they want to disbar her.

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Ms. Eller said it was because she sat on Council. Ms. Gonzalez said that it was the Council that voted her on Council. Ms. Eller said that it does not make it right.

There was a contention about whether there was deceit or not with them taking opposite sides of the issue. Ms. Gonzalez said they can not go back due to the ex-facto laws of the BIA. Ms. Eller said each tribe makes their own laws and does not have to adhere the ex-facto law.

Ms. Gonzalez said she does not care about being on Council. She wants to vote. She does not think she should be disbarred. She never lied.

Ms. Eller stated the issue is that she sat on Council. The Election rules state if someone sat on Council and had been removed. That is the only issue she was looking at. Ms. Gonzalez said she was not removed from Council.

Mrs. Lone Eagle referenced the original 2016 resolution. Ms. Gonzalez enrolled in 2015. The resolution in 2016 states that in order to disenroll her because she did not meet the quantum, she had to be disenrolled and removed from Council at the same time. Even though the Council enrolled her and appoint her Council, The Council did not understand how to disenroll, the only thing that they could use was under A because they did not know to look further, they had to remove her from office as she could not longer serve in that capacity. Ms. Gonzalez pointed out that there as a statement at the end of the resolution that said it was Council's error.

The committee said that disbarment takes away the right to vote, to be on Council and/or be employed. They also brought up that after disenrollment she received higher education funding.

Ms. Gonzalez brought up the BIA Indian rights. Ms. Eller said that the Tribe has its own laws and is a separate entity. She said that Ms. Gonzalez violated the trust of the tribe. She received federal funds as a stipend. Nobody said anything. They just disenrolled her.

They are not asking for her disenrollment. She is eligible for membership.

There was further discussion. She assumed that, after she was enrolled, it was okay for her to sit on Council.

There was a discussion about what happened in the past.

Mrs. Lone Eagle, in order to resolve this, asked if they should vote on or table the resolutions.

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Ms. Lomaintewa asked for the guidelines are need to be filed for ethics.

Guidelines the Council goes by for ethics was requested by the Election Committee. The BIA, Marlys Hubbard in Self Determination has it. She will submit a letter to request a digital copy.

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to go into Executive Session for ten minutes. Secretary/Treasurer Eugne Mace, Sr. seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 3 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Council went into Executive Session.**

Council out of Executive at 5:07 pm.

There are two resolutions, SL-19-2024 and SL-20-24.

There were some edits made to the resolutions.

Mrs. Lone Eagle stated the Council was out of Executive. There were two resolutions on the table and the Council decided to move forward with them. She asked the Election Committee to read the resolutions for the record.

Ms. Eller read resolution SL-20-2024 – due to past disenrollment and other ensuing actions Celina Gonzalez is disqualified and disbarred from ever seeking election to the Council, voting for the election, influencing government officials of the tribe, participating in any government or business activity on behalf of the tribe, from ever attending any meetings, seeking or obtaining any employment with the tribe due the acts of fraud, deceit, and misrepresentation, which are punishable by law. The action to disqualify and disbar Celina Gonzalez.

Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called for any comments, questions, or concerns. Ms. Gonzalez said everything she said in the last two meeting a then read the February 20, 2016 minutes ending with the Council made the decision to enroll her. Mrs. Lone Eagle said that after that so many people came to the Council stating she did not meet the blood quantum and that Council had to do something about it. So, in order to disqualify, and Ms. Linton stating that, she did not read the disenrollment proceedings until that resolution was created. It was Councils error. She never lied on her application. She knows her quantum. She interpreted C, which did not say anything about lineage, that she could enroll under her mother. It was in error. She also brought up the Indigenous Civil Rights Act. She does understand how this is fair.

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to accept and approve Resolution SL-20-2024 with the reading. Council Member Philip Frank seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote:**

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**2 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 2 ABSTAINED. Resolutions SL-20-2024 enacted at 5:25 pm.**

A tribal member had concerns about the Election Committee and has not gotten her absentee ballot. They were sent out April 2, 2024 and the deadline for submittal is May 17, 2024.

Ms. Gonzalez asked for a copy of Resolution SL-20-2024. Once the certification is corrected (wrong date) she will be given a copy.

There was a discussion on getting the guidelines for ethics from the BIA Self-Determination.

There are things that need to be improved in the Election process.

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman move to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes. Council Member Steven Crane. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Council went into Executive Session at 5:32 pm.**

Council returned from Executive Session.

Resolution SL-19-2024. The Election Committee read the resolution. Disbarment of Delgadina Gonzalez due to removal from Council February 20, 2016. The Council detailed that Ms. Gonzalez forged signatures, falsified travel authorizations for the Summit Lake Council members and tribal employees who participated in on November 2014 to repatriate artifacts, falsely state personal vehicle were used to transport participants when in fact Summit Lake vehicles were used. Forged document prepared with the intent to submit via fax to the Pyramid Paiute Tribe. Ms. Gonzalez was found to have committed acts of gross misconduct and neglect of duty by forging documents with fraudulent information and neglected her duty as a Council member to be impartial on enrollment and education matters ultimately knowing her daughter's blood quantum, continue to abstain on the matter and her neglected her duty to assist tribal members obtain higher education assistance by favoring relatives who are not member of Summit Lake, due to her acts of gross misconduct and neglect of duty are criminal in nature and her unethical conduct to misconstrue the SLPT Articles of Association, Tribal Ordinances and policies has created chaos and disrupted the business of the Tribe. The resolution setting a six-year timeline preventing any activities or employment with the Tribe did not have a long enough to protect the tribe. She is disqualified and disbarred from ever seeking election to the Council, voting for the election, influencing government officials of the tribe, participating in any government or business activity on behalf of the tribe, from ever attending any meetings, seeking or obtaining any employment with the tribe due the acts of gross misconduct and neglect

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of duty, which are punishable by law. It cannot be appealed and is deemed necessary to protect the Tribal assets and prevent mismanagement of federal and tribal funds. Chairwoman Lone Eagle as if there were any comments, questions or concerns.

Ms. D. Gonzalez stated that she has done her six years and she is employed now. This will change this.

Mrs. Lone Eagle asked how the Election Committee came to the Resolution.

Ms. Eller said it was due to the fact that some committee members felt that she could potentially run for Council at the Election. Ms. Gonzalez said she would not run for Council and prefer to vote absentee ballot. Ms. Gonzalez and Mrs. Lone Eagle explained what happened at that time. There

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to accept and approve Resolution SL-19-2024 with the reading. Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace, Sr. seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 0 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 4 ABSTAINED. Resolutions SL-19-2024 Dies at 7:32 pm.**

## **MEETINGS**

- Wednesday, May 1, 2024 for Special Council Meeting for SSBCI at 9:00 am
- Monday, May 6, 2024 Special Council Meeting for NRD
- May 17, 2024 Deadline for receipt of absentee ballots
- May 18, 2024 General Meeting and the Election: The Council, staff and Committee will travel the day before, May 17, 2024, and stay in Winnemucca, Nevada overnight. Friday will be a half-day work day for staff. The Election will open at 8:30 am Saturday, May 18, 2024 on the Reservation.
- Special Meeting May 20, 2024 for the Installation and Seating-In of the new Council 2:00 pm in Suite 402, Sparks, Nevada

**MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Steven Crane seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 am.**

## **CERTIFICATION**

I, **Eugene Mace, Sr.**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that the Minutes of the April 29, 2024 Special Council Meeting were approved by the Council during a duly held meeting May 18, 2024 at which there was a quorum present, and the Council voted:

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4 - FOR 6 - AGAINST 0 - ABSTAINING, Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle did not vote because there was not a tie vote.

05/18/2024  
Date

Eugene Mace  
Eugene Mace, Sr.  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Summit Lake Tribal Council