

**Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
Administrative Office, 2255 Green Vista Dr. Ste. 401, Sparks, Nevada**

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane called the Special Council Meeting of Tuesday, March 22, 2022 to order at 11:55 am.

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

STAFF: Linda Quinn, Finance Director

GUESTS: Sandra Newport, James Clark and James Colombe, US Treasury Department;

The SSBCI funds given to SLPT are \$601,000. Ms. Quinn would like to know if they could utilize it for themselves or who would administer it if they do not have the funds themselves.

Mr. Crane said he read the whole book.

Mr. Mace said they said they needed a loan officer.

Ms. Quinn said they could go with a consortium with a loan officer already or with a bank. She does not feel they have enough money to fund a loan person. She does not feel they can use the money to fund a loan officer. They need to clarify this. This is the type of thing they need to know.

Ms. Newport entered the meeting via Zoom at 12:00 pm. She mentioned that there may be another person joining the meeting but seems to be in a meeting.

Ms. Newport asked if anyone had any specific questions.

Mr. Crane still wants to know about getting new trailers and having them more spread out. Ms. Quinn said they need to focus on creating a program.

Ms. Quinn identified herself to Ms. Newport. She said one of the Council members was wonder how they could utilize this program to purchase modular buildings on the Reservation. She asked how or would that be possible with this program.

Ms. Newport asked if it were correct that they wanted to purchase modular buildings.

As an example, Ms. Quinn asked if this were possible.

Ms. Newport first asked what they would use the modular buildings for.

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Ms. Quinn said administration office. Mr. James Clark joined the meeting.

Mr. Crane explained that there were very old FEMA trailers up there and they are falling apart and in need of repair. He wants to know if they can replace them with modular homes. Ms. Quinn said that they employ biologists to do grant funded research projects. While they are on the Reservation for four days, it would be for their living quarters, for research and for administrative meetings.

Mr. Clark asked if there is a small business identified that this money would go to, who currently owns the trailers and wanting to move out. Is it a Tribally owned business enterprise? Ms. Quinn explained the Tribe had the FEMA trailers donated so the Tribe owns them. Mr. Mace said there is no business only the Tribal Administration and the Tribe's employees.

Mr. Clark said that SSBCI funds used for rentals or investments must meet certain guidelines for it to be permissible to use the funds. Part of it is identifying the recipients of the loans. The other part is how it is used, what is its purpose. That's why he asked the questions. He summarized what he thought was being said. The Tribe would be utilizing the capital to move its current temporary housing to more permanent office space and use SSBCI capital to be able to finance the acquisition or rental of more permanent office space.

Ms. Quinn felt it was a good summary.

Mr. Mace said there is no return in revenue. They will not rent it out. It is just housing for the tribe. The way he understands it with a small business loan, they want a return in revenue, something to come back. You cannot just buy things. Ms. Crane said it must generate some kind of revenue.

The Mr. Clark asked Council and Mr. Colombe (on the phone) if they had any additional questions to clarify the scenario. Only Mr. Colombe had questions. As he understands it they are talking about the acquisition of trailers solely for housing Tribal Governmental staff. SSBCI is about making loans to small business. A Tribal enterprise can be eligible borrower under the program, but what they are describing does not involve a tribal enterprise at all. The key thing in the SSBCI program is you have to have a permissible lending purpose, a small business engaged in a permissible activity. Then there can be SSBCI capital and private capital lent to a member who is starting a business or a Tribal enterprise. As it was described, it does not sound like either is the case.

Ms. Quinn concurs. She said to go to the what the purpose of the loan is. How do they create a plan to lend this funding to tribals members to start small businesses? How do they grow this program?

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Mr. Clark said there is a number of ways to do this. Maybe they can get Ms. Newport to coordinate a more detailed primer level of the various lending programs that can function at various financing legalities, built to show all business needs. In short, there are a number of types that the SSBCI program guidelines discuss broadly. Ms. Quinn said they read those. The key things to keep in mind are the purpose of the program that it be directed toward multiple financing needs but also bring private capital to the table. SSBCI is to lend capital alongside private capital to tribal member businesses. Then dive into the type of lending program within the lending program category that makes sense. Is there anything specific they want to dive in on with choice of program or are there identified financial partners they contemplate working with?

Ms. Quinn said that they have not researched into who would be willing to take this money and run with it or a consortium. Ms. Quinn asked if these funds could be used to pay salaries. He answered the funds are for working capital for a small business. Mr. Colombe said there was an administrative part of the allocation.

Mr. Mace said they do not have a lender or bank to work with yet. They were wondering if they could hire a lender to help them to screen the applications.

Mr. Colombe said there was a cap on the administrative fees. The funds are dispersed in three tranches. The first is \$30,000 of which the cap is 5% that can be used for administrative purposes. Almost all services can be contracted out, going through a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI).

Ms. Quinn asked if they gave the funds to a CDFI, would they run the program for the Tribe. How would that work?

He said yes they could. They can take on a combination of the administrative duties and potentially do some of the lending. It can be flexible. The amount of authority given to them is up to the Tribe.

Ms. Quinn said she understood him to say that the Tribe would need to have private working capital to go with this funding. He said that they do not have to have any on hand, but may use any funds raised in commerce, but this is not necessary. He mentioned a couple of options like private investment, loan from a CDFI, bank or credit union. Ms. Quinn said it was "none of the above" for them.

Ms. Quinn said they do not own a business or have any source of revenue although they would like to get there in the future. Ms. Quinn she does not see anything advantageous for SLPT. She asked if they can think of anything that would be advantages for spending all the time looking for a CDFI.

Mr. Colombe said that one way to think about it is businesses owned by tribes are eligible. If they have any economic development plans that involve starting any new

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tribal enterprises SSBCI could provide capital for that. If there is any demand for small business capital for any of the tribal members, that you go through a third party that could support them. Ms. Quinn said they could steer their members to a CDFI that the tribe has given the SSBCI money to. She repeated that they could give their funding to a CDFI to utilize so they would have a bank to send the members to so they can try and get a loan if qualified. Is there a list of the CDFIs. James said that they can help connect the Tribe to a CDFI or other type of lender.

Ms. Crane said she was a little confused. They can get this funding but, at this time, SLPT is unable to use it. They can use a CDFI to help another tribe. Is that like an investment for them? How do they benefit from this?

Mr. Clark said that it would not be for other tribes unless they wanted to be that way. Part of what can be done is the CDFI would only do it for SLPT's members. Ms. Quinn said you can give the money to a CDFI or bank and then steer your members to that lender. Mr. Crane said they should connect with someone. Ms. Quinn explained you could give the funds to a CDFI and then send the members to them to see if they qualify for a loan. Otherwise, they could just give the money back.

Mr. Clark said something does not make sense and asked Mr. Newport to have a call with the SLPT representatives on the phone. Then do a detailed walk through of the various lending programs. It could also be an opportunity to share how these lending programs have been used in 1.0. Also, to see how tribes have defined various opportunities with banks and CDFIs and other investment programs. It could be helpful to see how this looks and what other tribes are making it work. He thinks this could be a good next step to have a detailed conversation focused just on the various programs and give an opportunity to make everyone know what the opportunities are, what CDFI opportunities there are. They can hear how these things could look like base on their observations. SLPT can take some time to absorb the information and move forward.

Mr. Crane felt this was a good idea. Mr. Mace said to having them walk them through the steps. Ms. Quinn they could give them real examples of how this program could work. They have read through the Treasury's manual. None of them are finance banker people that have the type of experience with how these loans would work. Mr. Mace added that as a small tribe, they want to know about their liability if something goes wrong. They do not want to get the tribe in any kind of trouble.

With another meeting they can service more information and make more data points to help them come to a decision. Ms. Newport will reach out and coordinate a meeting. They can take it from there. It would be better to do it sooner rather than later.

Ms. Newport told Ms. Quinn she would email her to propose a time they could get together. Ms. Quinn thanked them. Mr. Clark from US Treasury said he was happy to help.

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The Treasury representatives left the meeting at 12:30 pm.

Ms. Quinn said it was great to have everybody hop-in and give examples on how you can make it work and how you can make it happen. If they were to turn the conference room into a day care, that would be a small business that someone would head and coordinate it. That would lead to a possible loan.

Ms. Crane still likes the original idea for the space here. Once it is all set-up they can put it out to the public or whoever that they can rent the space for a conference room.

Mr. Mace said that the government needs to use their facilities first before going to an outside space.

Ms. Quinn said that this would be a business that makes revenue. If HUD wants to do a training, they could do a small training here. With the new equipment and getting rid of the hiccups rolled out, they would get a business license. Maybe they would not charge members for the use of the room.

Ms. Crane gave examples of other tribes where the members had small businesses.

Mr. Mace said the Treasury will send them an outline of all the things they can use the SSBCI funding for. He told them he was concerned about what might affect them as a tribe and putting them in debt.

Ms. Quinn said if you give it to a CDFI, it is like a business that makes small business loans. They do all the paper work, they have all the regulations and have the applications already there.

There was a discussion of about small businesses and their needs and basic lending practices. There was discussion about not using the tribe's money as the investment money. As first Ms. Quinn thought it was necessary but it is not. The money can come from a bank or other loan enterprise. Since the money is not coming from the tribe, they do not have any liability. It is the liability of the lender as it is their business. They could join a consortium with other tribes but then who knows if they are doing everything right. Ms. Quinn likes that the Treasury know of actual businesses that SLPT can approach.

Mr. Mace asked what CDFI stood for again. Ms. Quinn said Community Development Financial Institution, people who already do small business loans. Mr. Mace said they can just send the tribal members to them to do the screening.

Ms. Quinn said they should prepare an economic plan for the conference center to see what they will need.

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Ms. Crane asked if someone was going to be installing the new equipment for them. Ms. Quinn said DTS will do it once the TV arrives. She told the Council what had arrived and described the speakers. It is a conference room set-up that is supposed to let everyone hear. They all want to try it.

Ms. Quinn brought a resolution for the proposed Library to the Council for review and discuss. There is also a budget included which she explained. She asked them what ideas the Council have. There is also a sanitizer for the books. She explained the check-out process and why a check-out process. She also gave them another option. She explained the budget.

This is what she proposes. She wants to know what they would like. Ms. Mace mentioned that in allowing them to check-out laptops, they can be used to Zoom into the Council meetings and be more involved and being able to do research and for tribal communication.

They need to track the laptops.

The government will put the laptop bulk order out to bid so Ms. Quinn says they may not be able to choose which models they get.

They would like it to be a resource center type of library.

They discussed how they would like to set-up the library.

Ms. Crane confirmed that Ms. Newport would be emailing Ms. Quinn to set-up the Treasury meeting to discuss details. The Council discussed what they wanted from the meeting. Mr. Mace commented that control of the funds is all up to the tribe. They discussed some questions to ask at the next meeting.

Ms. Lone Eagle called Ms. Crane and wants a call back after the meeting.

ARPA Special Council meeting March 30, 2022 at 9:30 am to be confirmed.

MOTION: Council Member Steven Crane moved to adjourn. Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace, Sr. seconded the motion. Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane called the vote: 3 FOR. 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Meeting adjourned 12:50 pm.

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CERTIFICATION

I, **Eugene Mace, Sr.**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that the Minutes of the March 22, 2022 Special Council Meeting were approved with corrections by the Council during a duly held meeting April 16, 2022 at which there was a quorum present, and the Council voted: **4 - FOR; 0 - AGAINST; 0 -ABSTAINING**, Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle did not vote because there was not a tie vote.

05/03/2022
Date

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