

**Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Administrative Office, 2255 Green Vista Dr. Ste. 401, Sparks, Nevada**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the Special Council Meeting of Wednesday, March 2, 2022 to order at 10:10 am.

ROLL CALL: Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace, Sr. called the roll. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle, present; 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; Austin New Moon, Housing Manager; James Simmons, Natural Resources Department Director

The General Topics for this meeting are:

COVID-19 Updates
Staff Concerns or Comments

The following are things discussed at the meeting.

Ms. Lone Eagle said vaccination is a personal choice. The Council will not require workers to be vaccinated against COVID.

Ms. Lone Eagle has been on the front lines for the past two years in the health care field so she realizes someone can get the virus no matter how careful they are with the masks and distancing. 15 minutes of close contact exposure is needed to get the virus from an infected person.

Those in attendance discussed at length why the Tribal Council had changed their policy guidelines per CDC recommendations.

Ms. Lone Eagle stated that staff will continue to require masks indoors. Employees stated they did not understand why the Council follows CDC guidelines but not on the mask mandate. It was explained that Council the new mask policy is in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 when dealing with the tribal members or guests when they come into the office. The public coming in to the office is asked to wear masks to protect the office staff so staff must also use masks to protect the public. If a person is sitting at their desk and social distancing is in place, they can lower their mask. Staff related that Council needs to be more adaptive and less reactive. It was noted some public areas like buses, airports and hospitals still require mask wearing. A resolution has removed the negative test requirement and lowered the days of quarantine. Masks are still enforced inside the office.

ITCN stated, when the Governor removed the mask mandate, it was up to the individual tribes to develop their own mask requirements.

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Employee issue is not taking care of health issues.

The issue of NRD paying rent was brought up and explained that some Tribes do charge departments rent for their portion of the office space. Currently SLPT does not do that. Finance stated there is currently no need to charge NRD rent as it is not currently a need for this funding.

A NRD staff member commented that the Council does not know his name even though he has been here for 2 years. He wants to work for a Native Tribe and has no plans to leave. The Natural Resources Department would like to feel a part of the team and acknowledged by the Tribal Council. If certain changes are not made then some staff may want to leave the tribe.

The staff was also given the opportunity to address the Council and the Chairwoman with any questions or concerns that they may have. Ms. Lone Eagle wants to clear the air of any unnecessary or hearsay rumors. The Council's direction is in regard to the best interests of the tribe and staff.

The Chairwoman's intention is to be more involved, and she will be stopping by so if anyone has any questions or concerns, let her know.

The back door being unlocked was an issue, but the primary issue is security, so everyone needs to make sure it is properly closed/locked each time Suite 401 is used. Let Ms. Lone Eagle know if you intend to use Suite 401.

Direct Deposit was brought up and explained to staff. Unless a check signer is ready to take the responsibility to process the payroll every two weeks it cannot be done by Finance alone. Finance knows the staff are working remotely and suggested they leave deposit slips if they need their checks deposited to their bank. Not having direct deposit causes some people to have additional fees on their bank accounts.

James Simmons brought up that, in order to keep employees for five years or more, benefits like medical are needed. They discussed why SLPT does not have them. As a small business, SLPT are not required to have them. However, he requested to look into the issue and Council agreed to allow him to research the issue.

The progress of updating the Personnel Employee Handbook was questioned. It was noted it is on the Finance Director's plate to correct the issues. James Simmons suggested that they use the legal team to look it over again. Ms. Quinn stated it needs to be fixed and that the mistakes in it came from the legal team.

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Ms. Lone Eagle asked if NRD wants their own Zoom account. It was decided that they would create their own account to use as different meetings at the same time on the same day will not work.

The Finance Director spoke to Best Buy Business Center and they explained that a set of listening devices mounted on the ceiling and walls would be able to hear all the people in the room so the recording can also catch their voices. A microphone may be the best way to address the Zoom members who cannot hear the speakers in the back of the room. The estimate cost was \$8,000.

Ms. Lone Eagle mentioned getting some equipment for the Conference room from ITCN.

The cats under the office were addressed. The HOA is currently trapping them and will repair the grate where they get the cats out.

The doors were discussed as needing to be replaced as the building has shifted and the back door of Suite 402 no longer sits in the frame properly. Perhaps a door like the one in Suite 401 would be nice. It was commented that the front Doors also need replacing. Council authorized Finance to get bids for these repairs.

Two families are planning to retire to the reservation.

Training attendance was requested for Mrs. Lone Eagle and Ms. Crane May 23-25, 2022 to attend the Economic Summit in Las Vegas, Nevada. Training was approved by Council consensus.

Training in NAIHC Legal Symposium held December in Las Vegas was discussed and several council members acknowledged interest in attending.

MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Nedra Crane moved to adjourn. Council Member Philip Frank seconded the motion. Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle called the vote: 4 FOR. 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINED. Meeting adjourned 2:00 pm.

CERTIFICATION

I, **Eugene Mace, Sr.**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that the Minutes of the March 2, 2022 Special Council Meeting were approved with corrections by the Council during a duly held meeting March 19, 2022 at which there was a quorum present, and the Council voted:

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

3/29/2021

Date

E. Mace

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