

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Regular Council Meeting
Saturday, January 21, 2017
Primary Administrative Office, Sparks, Nevada

CALL TO ORDER: Council Chairwoman Page Linton called the meeting of Saturday, January 21, 2017 to order at 8:32 AM.

ROLL CALL: Acting-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace called the roll: Chairwoman Page Linton, present via phone; Vice-Chairwoman Randi DeSoto, present; Acting-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace, present; and Council Member Jerry Barr, present.

STAFF: Department of Natural Resources Director, William Cowan; Finance Director, Linda Quinn; and Contractor, Anne Macko

REPORTS

Council Reports

Council Chairwoman Page Linton reported that she had five female and six male ICWA requests which were all non-affiliated for Oregon, California and Washington. She also had two enrollment requests.

She also received more suggestions on the distribution of Ramah Settlement funds from Tribal members including using them to pay Tribal debts and to start a Housing Committee.

Ms. Linton received an email from Marie Ortiz of the EPA on January 13, 2017 that the requested debt is forgiven as of January 4, 2017. A conference call needs to be set-up to discuss the next steps. Ms. Linton said the Tribe was forgiven for the latest request which is approximately \$80,000.

Both Ms. Linton and Ms. DeSoto received an email from William Smith of UNLV. He has requested a FLP to do research with drones to study land and water that is remote. He would like to talk with the Council through internet or conference call to see if he can help the Tribe with any of its needs. This could possibly lead to a need in funding the research.

Robert Eban notified Ms. Linton that the administrative process was beginning regarding the Native Nevada Nations Land Act. There is a meeting on January 25, 2017. Ms. Linton cannot attend but someone else should attend. Representatives of the BLM State Office, BIA Regional Office and Land Title Records will be there. William Cowan stated that he wishes to go. Mr. Barr and Mr. Mace will go with him. Ms. Linton will send Mr. Cowan the agenda.

More questions on the land buy-back were received. Some people were upset about it. Ms. Linton told them it was voluntary. Ms. Linton had a question for Rob Scanland which

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he answered right away. The BIA changed the process in sending the funds. They will direct deposit funds into IIM accounts which is faster. They can send a check but it takes longer. Ms. Linton has a BIA office contact.

Ms. Linton researched where the Tribal members were located in regards to Tribal meeting for discussion of the Ramah Settlement. Most of the members are concentrated in Reno, Sun Valley in Nevada and in Scotia, California (south of Eureka) and Oregon. There are also members in Idaho, Washington and other states. The Council can discuss this later. Most of the responses already received are local.

Council Vice-Chairwoman Randi DeSoto reported that she has been coming in as requested when signatures are needed.

Ms. DeSoto attended the BIA budget meeting. She thanked Mr. Barr and Mr. Mace for attending the Legislative Commission meeting on January 17, 2017 in Carson City.

Acting-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace reported that he attended the Legislative Commission meeting in Carson City, Nevada on Tuesday, January 17, 2017. He also signed checks. He is almost finished reading the manual and started rereading it.

Council Member Jerry Barr reported that he attended the Budget meeting and the Legislative Commission meeting with Mr. Mace. It was put on by Sherry Rupert. They discussed how a bill is put through the legislature and the best ways to do that. There was talk about the role of lobbyists. He talked to the Tribe's representative and the head of the committee. It was a good meeting.

Mr. Cowan asked if there is any literature. Mr. Barr will copy his notes and Mr. Mace will have the literature he picked up copied or scanned. Mr. Cowan suggested sending the information to the Council. Mr. Cowan also asked if this was a State or Federal commission. Mr. Barr stated the legislative process discussed was for the state.

Staff Reports

Financial Director, Linda Quinn

1. Renew Anne Macko's Contract for 2017.
Ms. Quinn reported that Anne Macko's contract was ready to be signed. Ms. Quinn said it was the same as last year. Ms. Macko said that it should be fine. Note: Ms. Macko signed the contract later that day.
2. All 4th Quarter 2016 SF-425 Reports are complete and were sent out by January 13th, 2017. The summary of all the SF425s are on the budget sheets this time. Note some contracts are closing. Fund 117 and Web Food Grant are being spent down.

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3. US Bank has agreed to allow us to start using Direct Deposit for payroll. A Community Credit Card application was passed out for review/comments. Both Mr. Cowan and Ms. DeSoto are apprehensive about using their Social Security numbers. The Council would like to discuss it before filling out the application. Ms. Linton requested Ms. Quinn to check to see if a Social Security number is required for a debit card.
4. Review current Budget Summary. Ms. Quinn asked for any questions. Ms. DeSoto asked why Fund 118-Noxious Weeds is in red. Ms. Quinn explained that the funds had not been received at the time of the report, but that the BIA sent the funds in the amount of \$62,105 as of December 31, 2016, so the fund is actually in the black. Some of the grants are being spent down as they are closing. In regard to the Nez Perce Funds, the Council thought that the fund had been reimbursed. Ms. Quinn explained that it had not been done. They will need to figure out where the money was expended so the money can be reimbursed. Scanning Project Update: The scanning is being done but it is going slowly. The scanner is not meeting Ms. Quinn's expectations. Victor recommended returning it to Amazon and getting a better one. He also suggested using the Ricoh scanner to do scanning as he feels it will not interfere with faxing and printing. Ms. Quinn requested the Council's thoughts on the return of the current scanner (approximate refund of \$200.00) and the purchase of a better scanner for approx. \$600.00. It was suggested that Ms. Quinn check some printer companies for demonstration of scanners to determine which models would meet expectations.
5. BIA Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Formulation Guidelines were completed with suggestions from the Council at Special Meeting Thursday Dec. 15th, 2016. There is an eight percent cap on increases.
6. Disbursement of Ramah Settlement funds preparations/planning: Ms. Quinn presented documents from another tribe for discussion. They will need a list of eligible members. Any questionable member issues must be addressed. It is known there are bad addresses which will be a problem. Ms. Quinn asked for ideas for solutions.
7. Council Laptops. Authorization form and return of old equipment. Ms. Quinn asked the Council to sign the certification for receipt of the new computers and the return of the old computers. Mr. Barr and Ms. DeSoto still need to return their old laptops. Ms. Quinn asked if anyone purchased laptop cases and stated she did have a couple in the office for use.
8. Executive Session: Personnel

MOTION: Council Member Jerry Barr moved to go into Executive Session for 15 minutes for Personnel. Acting-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace seconded the motion. Chairwoman Page Linton called the vote. 3 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAINED. The Council went into Executive Session at 9:30 AM.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 9:45 AM.

Tribal members Thesa and Nicole Huerta entered the meeting.
The Finance Report concluded at 10:16 AM.

Chairwoman Page Linton announced to the Council that Mark Hall of the Winnemucca BLM called and notified her that the BLM would not attend the meeting that day.

Department of Natural Resources Director, William Cowan

Mr. Cowan stated that he wanted an Executive Session to discuss Personnel. One issue being that one of the biologists is leaving to join the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Mr. Cowan reported that it had been a busy week. There were five meetings all discussing Lahontan Cutthroat trout recovery.

Mr. Cowan highlighted some items of his report.

The department was been busy wrapping up annual and quarterly reports, proposals and re-contract applications which were all completed on time.

Work at Mahogany Creek Culvert Replacement Project was postponed due to weather.

Mr. Cowan advertised vacancies with American Fisheries Society.

Grants are being closed.

The amount of the debt forgiven by the EPA was clarified (\$80,000).

There was a brief discussion of the decrease in the population of PIT tagged fish due to low stream flows and drought.

Discussion Points

1. EPA Debt Forgiveness Status: This is a two part debt. The part concerning Ron Johnny has been forgiven per Marie Ortiz in the amount of \$80,000. The second part is still pending but a decision should be made quicker than the first part.
2. Options to Hire Contractors or Specialist for Maintenance Projects: Mr. Barr stated that hiring through unions would not be cost effective.

MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Randi DeSoto moved to go into Executive Session for 20 minutes for Strategies and Personnel. Council Member Jerry

Barr seconded the motion. Chairwoman Page Linton called the vote. 3 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAINED. The Council went into Executive Session at 10:30 AM.

Council returned from Executive Session at 10:50 AM.

The Natural Resources Department Report was concluded.

OPEN FORUM

Chairwoman Linton asked if anyone had anything for Open Forum.

The Huertas stated they were attending the meeting to see and hear what was going on.

Tribal Member William Cowan said he was glad to receive the Council's newsletter. He wondered how many people responded to the newsletter regarding ideas for the Ramah Settlement funds. Ms. Linton said she received ten responses from Tribal members. Ideas included paying off debt to the EPA, creating a Housing Committee, and disbursement of funds to the Tribal members. She wants to reach out to the membership at meetings and have a closed Council meeting to discuss the meetings.

Mr. Cowan said that in regards to a Housing Committee, they need to review the existing Land Use Plan and get a contractor. Ms. Linton said HUD referred a contractor (with HUD funding). She will write a letter to send out.

Mr. Cowan commented that a series of meetings was not effective before and was costly. He asked what the source of funding was. The Council could try doing Webinars. Thesa Huerta suggested using social media. Ms. Linton said that meetings were a way to meet the members, to reach out in person. She stated that many members do not have the internet or the tech for social media. Ms. DeSoto reminded people that the Tribe still has an 800 phone number to use.

Thesa Huerta said it feels as if nothing has changed and the Council needs to introduce Chairwoman Linton to the members. They need to explain more of what is going on and considerations that need to be taken. People are looking for a change so the Council needs to let members know what is happening.

Mr. Barr and Ms. DeSoto said they want this kind of feedback.

Ms. Huerta said that former employees were talking about negative things. She said that the Council needs to ask people to come to the meetings, that they want member input. She recommended advertising, to post notices on clinic billboards. The Council should change how they say things on flyers, etc. to make them more interesting and exciting.

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Chairwoman Linton thanked the Huertas for coming and for their input.

Ms. Huerta suggested that the Council could use percentage breakdowns and how to disburse/use the Settlement money. This might get more and better responses. This is just an idea.

Ms. Huerta wondered if there was a way to find out from people asking for funds, if they have received funds from some other Tribe. It was explained that Summit Lake Paiute Tribe does not have dual memberships. This is a question that can be added to the form. Membership must be verified to receive funds.

The Council will need to list all qualifications in the resolution, especially to ask if the member has received funds from another tribe. It was noted that Federal law prohibits someone from receiving money from more than one tribe.

Mr. Cowan said he appreciated Ms. Huerta's comments. He felt that these issues have been brought up before. He asked what the Council is doing about the responses from the Council newsletter which he appreciated since it was the first one in ten years. He also felt that the Ordinances and Policy and Procedures should be available to the membership. Ms. Linton explained that it is costly and time consuming to send out paper copies of the manuals.

Ms. Huerta offered to help put information online to update Facebook. Ms. Linton said she would get information together for Ms. Huerta to put out on Facebook. The comments need to be monitored. Ms. Huerta said no reimbursement was needed.

Ms. Quinn said that no one has access to the old Facebook page. Facebook has been no help getting access. There will need to be a new Facebook page created. Ms. Huerta will ask her son what to do.

Ms. Quinn was talking to Go Daddy. They said the Tribe website is antiquated. They can redo the website for \$1,400 but it will be a savings eventually in the next few years because the annual costs will be lower. The website is not using current technology.

Mr. Cowan recommends developing guidelines for posting on the Facebook page.

Ms. Linton asked Ms. Huerta to ask her son, Matthew, to contact the Chairwoman to discuss what the Council would like on an info page, information about the Tribe.

Mr. Cowan left the meeting.

Mr. Barr asked if there were any other questions or concerns.

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Ms. DeSoto stated that the Council is regrouping and being more responsive. They want feedback. They have been trying to fix past problems and are getting there.

Ms. Huerta says that the Council should better update the members. People may respond more. Ms. Linton needs to introduce herself and the Council plans to go forward, to make things better. They should use larger print on flyers and be more visual. There should be a group photo of the Council for the next newsletter. The Council should voice their thoughts, negative or positive.

Ms. Quinn entered the room with an update to a request in Item 4 of the Financial Report on the Nez Perce funds. All the funds have been reimbursed except one thing. The item is listed in the Council meeting minutes dated November 23, 2013. Resolution SL-14-2013 for heavy equipment was needed and the money was to be reimbursed. Ms. Quinn says that these funds were reimbursed. The outstanding money in the amount of \$1750 is for payments for a special meeting on December 23, 2013 regarding the Nez Perce budget. These funds need to be moved. Ms. Quinn verified the expense was from Council stipends which will be credited to this fund and expensed to BIA Consolidated. Ms. Quinn will check with Charles Carslaw on what to do to move the funds.

The Heurtas left the meeting in the middle of the Nez Perce discussion.

Ms. Quinn returned to subject of updating the website. Mr. Barr told Ms. Quinn to write a proposal on the Go Daddy update of the website to be discussed and taken care of at the next meeting.

Ms. Quinn created an administrative email address to use for a new Facebook page for the Tribe.

Ms. DeSoto commented that Ms. Huerta had made some good points.

Mr. Barr asked the Council when they want to do a Ramah Settlement meeting trip. He suggested going to Scotia or Fortuna, California first. They could find a hotel with a conference room. He also suggested leave on Friday night and return on Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS

The Enrollment Committee will have a meeting the next week. Usually it is a weekday at 5 PM or on the weekend.

Mr. Barr will not be able to sign checks on February 14, 2017.

Mr. Barr said they should plan a Ramah trip to Idaho in March. The Chairwoman would fly.

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Ms. Linton will write up an announcement of the California meeting to go out ASAP.

MINUTES

MOTION: Council Member Jerry Barr moved to approve the Saturday, December 17, 2016 minutes with a waiving of the reading. Acting-Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Mace seconded the motion. Chairwoman Page Linton called the vote: 3 For 0 Against 0 Abstained. Motion carried at 12:53 PM.

The next meeting will be February 18, 2017, at the Sparks, Nevada office at 8:00 am. Ms. Macko notified the Council that she would not be able to attend the Council meeting, but would get a copy of the recorded meeting for typing after upon her return.

The first Ramah Special Meeting will be February 25, 2017 in northern California in and around Fortuna, California. The Council will try to leave after work on Friday, February 24, 2017 at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be a noon Saturday and the Council will return on Sunday. Ms. Quinn will gather information on hotels.

MOTION: Vice-Chairwoman Randi DeSoto moved to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Jerry Barr seconded the motion. Chairwoman Page Linton called the vote: 3 For 0 Against 0 Abstained. The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 PM.

I, Eugene Mace, Sr., Acting-Secretary/Treasurer of the Summit Lake Paiute Tribal Council, hereby certify that the Minutes of the January 21, 2017, Council Meeting were approved by the Council during a duly held meeting February 28, 2017 at which there was a quorum present, and the Council voted:

 - FOR - AGAINST - ABSTAINING, Chairwoman Page Linton did not vote because there was not a tie vote.

03/04/2017
Date

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