



Tribal Council Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 5:15PM
PIA Conference Room

PETERSBURG INDIAN ASSOCIATION
PO Box 1410
15 N. 12th Street
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone: 907-772-3636
Fax: 907-772-3637

I. Call to Order/Roll Call - Called to order by President Debra O’Gara at 5:15 PM

Present Council:

- ☒ Debra O’Gara, President
- ☒ Nathan Lopez, Vice President
- ☒ Jaclyn Eide, Secretary; Excused at 6:30 PM, called in at 6:33 PM
- ☐ Heather Conn, Treasurer
- ☒ Jeanette Ness, Council Member; Excused at 6:15
- ☒ Brandon Ware, Council Member
- ☒ Christine Yatchmenoff, Council member; Arrived at 6:30 PM

Excused: Heather Conn

Absent: Christine Yatchmenoff

Quorum: [X] Yes [] No

A quorum was present from 5:15 PM until 6:15 PM when the quorum was lost. The Quorum was regained at 6:33 PM.

Present Staff: Tribal Administrator - Jalyn Pomrenke; Project Coordinator - Stephanie Hayes; Finance Director - Hillary MacDonald

II. Amendments and Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve the Agenda as presented.
 - Moved by Nathan Lopez
 - Seconded by Brandon Ware
 - Discussion
 - Move new business and old business items to after the Finance report.
 - Motion passed 4-0

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Motion to approve the November 20, 2024 Council minutes as presented
 - Tabled

IV. Persons to be heard related to the Agenda

- Tracy Welch is here to support the commercial and subsistence fisheries by opposing proposal 156 which will cut 25% of egg production for chum and pink salmon. There is no data to support this proposal. If passed it will have a huge impact on our community and Tribe.

V. Persons to be heard unrelated to the Agenda



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VI. Reports

A. Finance - Hillary MacDonald:

- Refer to New Business items C, D, E, G, H and I.
- Covid funds were removed from the indirect, which means that Treasury ARPA funds can not be spent on indirect.

B. IGAP - Brandon Thynes:

- Full report included in the Council Packet
- An IGAP Assistant has been hired.
- SE AK Indigenous Transboundary Commision - Brandon Ware
 - i. Tabled

C. Facilities - Andy Edfelt

- Full report included in the Council Packet
- The Eagle/Raven roof was temporarily fixed, to be permanently fixed the correct way will be a large job.
- The plow truck was having difficulties running and needed maintenance.
- The Ira Duplex was having issues with the heat tape tripping and burnt the outlet. The outlet was replaced.
- Regular maintenance continues.

D. Housing - Jalyn Pomrenke:

- Full report included in the Council Packet

E. Roads/TTP - Susan Harai:

- Full report included in the Council Packet
- The Children's Tlingit Canoe for the Hutli Plaza at Sandy Beach is complete and in the building awaiting placement at the Plaza.
- City Creek Trail Phase 2 is complete.
- TTP funding for FY 24 in the amount of \$970,186.75 is delayed until the 2023 Single Audit is submitted to the Federal Clearing House.
- The LRTP is being updated and upon completion will have a Council work session. The tentative date for the work session is January 29, 2025.

F. ICWA/638 - Rachelle Larson:

- Full report included in the Council Packet
- Funding for General Assistance is still frozen until financial discrepancies are resolved.
- A JPT Scholarship was applied for.



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- The Chris Herren presentation to the middle and high school students about addiction occurred and was very successful.

G. Tribal Administrator - Jalyn Pomrenke:

- Full report included in the Council Packet
- The Tribal Administrator Assistant position has been offered.
- Jalyn Pomrenke attended a Q&A session with the TVSSA Grant administrators about the next steps in getting the grant awarded.
- The end of the year report for the Tribal Grid Resiliency Grant was submitted.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Review and approve remaining ARPA funding - Hillary MacDonald

- Motion to approve budget of the remaining ARPA funds as presented
 - Moved by Brandon Ware
 - Seconded by Christine Yatchmenoff
 - Discussion
 - Can we rebudget to add a canoe to the budget in the amount of \$25,523 plus shipping for 39 ft Tribal Canoe.
 - Change the budget to reflect adding the canoe by cutting the Meals on Wheels down from two years to one year and pay for the remaining from the tribal member assistance fund.
 - Motion Amended to reflect the changes in the budget of adding in a canoe, reducing the meals on wheels program to one year and reducing the tribal member assistance program by the remaining needed to fund the canoe.
 - Motion passed 4-0

B. Update on Airport Subdivision and Assembly Meeting on January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM - Debra O'Gara

- Tabled

C. PIA Enterprises LLC proposed public meeting and new Board Member - Debra O'Gara

- Tabled

VIII. New Business

A. Proposal for Council and President meeting stipends - Jeanette Ness



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- David Rogers has previously brought up that the President and Council should have stipends, and we are one of the few tribes that do not offer stipends.
- Motion: To approve a meeting stipend for the council.
 - Moved by Brandon Ware
 - Seconded by Nathan Lopez
 - Discussion
 - Discussed if it can be maintained at the \$75 a meeting, the 12 normal business meetings, and up to 6 special meetings. It was answered that yes it can be supported.
 - Can these funds instead be used for hiring a secretary?
 - This task could instead be added to a staff member's job description.
 - The funds would come from the 638 funding
 - Motion tabled until the January meeting.
- B. Bid proposal for First Floor Renovations project and change order 1 - Stephanie Hayes
 - Motion: To accept the contract and bid proposal by Steelhead Enterprises LLC in the amount of \$326,563.57 for the first floor renovation project.
 - Moved by Jaclyn Eide
 - Seconded by Brandon Ware
 - Discussion
 - The funds are to come from the ARPA funding.
 - Ceiling tile is optional, we could update the ceiling tile, or use and remodel the old ceiling tile. Is the amount for the new ceiling tile too much?
 - Our current ceiling is out of code, but we are grandfathered in at this point.
 - Motion from the council has 2 ayes, 2 nays, president voted in favor to pass the motion.
 - Motion passed 3-2
 - Motion: To accept change order 1 from Steelhead Enterprises LLC in the amount not to exceed \$60,000 for the downstairs security/automated handicap door.
 - Moved by Jaclyn Eide
 - Seconded by Jeanette Ness



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■ Discussion

- Steelhead Enterprises LLC has already installed the same door in a neighboring building. There have been very good reviews about the installation and the door itself.

■ Motion passed 4-0

C. Review and approve the FY25 638 Agreement, Budget and Narrative - Hillary MacDonald

- Motion: To approve and accept the FY25 638 Agreement, Budget and Narrative

■ Moved by Jeanette Ness

■ Seconded by Nathan Lopez

■ Discussion

- There is no money in utilities, because it is paid out of indirect and the general fund
- The Student Stipends are for scholarships, both higher education and JPT

■ Motion passed 4-0

D. Review and approve Date Updates to Higher Education Scholarship Policy and Procedures - Jalyn Pomrenke

- Motion: To approve the date updates to the Higher Education Scholarship Policy and Procedures

■ Moved by Nathan Lopez

■ Seconded by Brandon Ware

■ Motion passed 4-0

E. Review and approve Resolution of PIA Opposing Proposal 156 which would reduce the permitted egg take of pink and chum salmon of each applicable Southeast hatchery by 25%. - Jalyn Pomrenke

- Motion: To review and approve the Resolution - Petersburg Indian Association Opposing Proposal 156 to be considered at the January 28-February 9, 2025, Alaska Board of Fisheries Meeting

■ Moved by Brandon Ware

■ Seconded by Jeanette Ness

■ Discussion

- Why is someone from Fairbanks making decisions for Southeast Alaska.

■ Motion passed 4-0

F. Review and approve MOU for Finance Department - Hillary MacDonald



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- Motion to approve MOU for Finance Department concerning remaining ARPA funds to pay for the Single Audit
 - Moved by Nathan Lopez
 - Seconded by Brandon Ware
 - Discussion
 - These funds normally come out of the indirect cost pool, but we need to replenish these funds. Using the ARPA funds will help PIA do this.
 - Single Audits are an allowable cost
 - There is concern because many tribal members have voiced the want for more cultural activities, but the need to replenish the indirect funds is also seen.
 - Quorum was lost, there is a break until the quorum can be reestablished.
 - Reestablished at 6:33PM
 - See item H under New Business

G. Motion to approve the JPT scholarship in the amount of \$8,000.

- Moved by Brandon Ware
- Seconded by Christine Yatchmenoff
- Motion passed 4-0

H. Motion to approve all the MOU's and contracts to reflect the amended budget.

- Moved by Nathan Lopez
- Seconded by Brandon Ware
- Motion passed 4-0

IX. Comments from Council Members

X. Next Meeting

- Canvassing meeting January 13, 2025
- Council meeting January 15, 2025

XI. Executive Session

XII. Decisions, if any, following executive session

XIII. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn at 6:56 PM
 - Moved by Nathan Lopez



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- Seconded by Brandon Ware
- Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM

Minutes Approved by Council

Date: January 02, 2025

As Presented [☒] As Amended [☐]