



# Tribal Council Monthly Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2024 Wednesday, 5:15 PM

PIA Conference Room

PETERSBURG INDIAN ASSOCIATION

PO Box 1410

15 N. 12<sup>th</sup> 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 5:18 PM

### Present Council:

- ☒ Debra O'Gara, President
- ☒ Nathan Lopez, Vice President
- ☒ Jaclyn Eide, Secretary
- ☒ Heather Conn, Council Member - appointed Treasurer
- ☒ Jeanette Ness, Council Member
- ☐ Brandon Ware, Council Member
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_, Council member

Excused: Brandon Ware

Absent:

Quorum: [X] Yes [ ] No

Four council members were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Present Staff: [X] Lauren Barbour, Bookkeeper, [X] Rachelle Larson, ICWA/638

Director [X] Jalyn Pomrenke, Housing Director [X] Susan Harai, TTP Director [X]

Brandon Thynes, IGAP Director [X] Andy Edfelt, Facilities

## II. Amendments and Approval of Agenda

- Jeanette Ness moved to approve the agenda
- Nathan Lopez seconded
- Motion passed 4-0
- Agenda amended to add under New Business item E. Tidal Network.

## III. Approval of Previous Minutes

### A. March 20, 2024 Monthly Meeting

- Jeanette Ness moved to approve the March 20th 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes
- Heather Conn seconded
- Motion passed 4-0

### B. March 12, 2024 Special Meeting- Amended for approval

- Jeanette Ness moved to approve the March 12, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes as amended
- Nathan Lopez seconded
- Motion passed 4-0

## IV. Persons to be heard related to the Agenda

## V. Persons to be heard unrelated to the Agenda



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- Lakell Deinhardt - student Heavy equipment operator
- Hunter Conn - student AVTEC heavy diesel technology

#### VI. Reports

- A. Finance - Lauren Barbour: Written report included in the minute package
  - Lauren completed the PIA SAM.gov account.
  - 2022 Audit has been completed and submitted
  - Heather Conn - proposed budget adjustments for BIA 638 funds - was tabled.
- B. IGAP - Brandon Thynes: Written report included in the minute package
- C. Facilities - Andy Edfelt: Written report included in the minute package
  - Concerned with the oil tank and oil lines at the N. Nordic Building and the sinking foundation at the Duplex
- D. Housing - Jalyn Pomrenke: Written report included in the minute package
  - Will be taking a NAHASDA Essential training. She has been doing this training annually. There is a chance for a Council member to join and to do a pre training the week before online.
- E. Roads/TTP - Susan Harai: Written report included in the minute package
  - She will have a meeting with PMC and other stakeholders about the Transit services.
- F. ICWA/638 - Rachelle Larson: Written report included in the minute package
  - Proposal to bring in Chris Herren, a youth motivational speaker about substance abuse.
    - PIA will fund \$10,000 and the Petersburg Police Department will fund the remaining \$10,000. SEARHC Behavioral Health and Petersburg Medical Center are willing to provide services to help the youth process their emotions after the presentations. The Council suggested looking into this program reaching out to the middle and elementary school students.
    - Council is in support, the details will be determined at a later date.
  - Police department is requesting a letter of support regarding hosting NOVA in Petersburg to provide training for Crisis Response.
    - Nathan Lopez moved for PIA to write and submit a letter of support to the Police Department regarding hosting NOVA in Petersburg to provide training for Crisis Response.
    - Jeanette Ness seconded



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- Motion passed 4-0

G. JOM - Heather Conn: Oral report given.

- Reference Item C under New Business

H. Acting Tribal Administrator/President - Debra O'Gara: Oral report given

- Written report given in the minute package.

### **VII. Unfinished Business**

A. Status on planning/negotiations for Airport subdivision and other possible properties for housing options

- Site visit and walkthrough was completed with engineers from THRHA, PIA and Petersburg Borough representatives.

B. Designate a second PIA representative to the SEITC

- Discussion
- Tabled until the May meeting.

C. Proposal to post approved minutes on the PIA webpage

- Tabled until the May meeting

D. Discussion on forming committees and review proposed PIA Idea form

- Discussion.
- Tabled until the May meeting

### **VIII. New Business**

A. Nominate Heather Conn to be Council Treasurer

- Nathan Lopez moved to appoint Heather Conn to be the Council Treasurer
- Jeanette Ness seconded
- Discussion
- Motion passed 4-0

B. Proposal by tribal citizen for Small Business grant

- Will Ware requested that the Tribal Council look at providing Small Business Grants, which would provide up to \$5,000 to Tribal small businesses. They would have to show hardship from COVID.
- Discussion.
- No decision was made.

C. Proposal for funds to be allocated for JOM senior graduation regalia

- This agenda item was moved to the JOM report
- For the last many years the graduation stoles have been made by a volunteer, MaryAnn Rainey. The JOM Parent Committee has proposed to give MaryAnn Rainey a one time amount of \$1000 for her work in



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making the graduation stoles. MaryAnn

Rainey is also currently teaching Victoria Moore how to make them to keep the tradition alive.

- Jeanette Ness moved to award MaryAnn Rainey a one time amount of \$1000 for hand making the Native graduation stoles for all of the graduating PIA members past and present.
- Nathan Lopez seconded
- Motion passed 4-0

D. Request to conduct research on intergenerational wellbeing study, to support Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian informal kinship families in southeast Alaska.

- The Council will look into creating a Research Policy

E. Tidal Network

- Council members had a meeting with Tidal Network via zoom.
- Nathan Lopez moved to approve Tidal Network the lease for 30 years of PIA's 2.5 GHZ Spectrum for \$1.
- Heather Conn seconded.
- Discussion
- Motion passed 4-0

### **IX. Comments from Council Members**

- Jeanette Ness wanted to acknowledge and congratulate Heather Conn on receiving the Alaska Principal of the year award. Heather Conn has a chance to be the National principal of the year.
- Heather Conn is meeting with Rachelle Larson tomorrow

### **X. Next Meeting**

- May 15th, 2024 at 5:15 PM

### **XI. Executive Session**

- Jeanette Ness moved to go into executive session at 7:45 PM
- Nathan Lopez seconded
- Motion passed 4-0
- Nathan Lopez moved to exit executive at 10:03 PM
- Jeanette Ness seconded
- Motion passed 4-0

### **XII. Decisions, if any, following executive session**

### **XIII. Adjourn**

- Nathan Lopez moved to adjourn at 10:03 PM
- Jeanette Ness seconded
- Motion passed 4-0



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Minutes Approved by the council as amended

Date: May 15, 2024

As Presented [ ☐ ] As Amended [ ☒ ]

- New Business Item B was amended to add “no decision was made”
- New Business Item C was reworded to reiterate that the payment was a one time payment.