



**Tribal Council Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday January 2, 2025 at 9:30 am**  
**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 9:37am**

**Present:**

Debra O’Gara, President  
Nathan Lopez, Vice President  
Jaclyn Eide, Secretary - Excused at 11:33 am  
Heather Conn, Treasurer  
Jeanette Ness, Council member  
Brandon Ware, Council member - Excused at 9:56 am, back at 10:37 am  
Christine Yatchmenoff, Council member

**Excused:**

**Absent:** Christine Yatchmenoff

**Present Staff:** Finance Director - Hillary MacDonald and Tribal Administrator Jalyn Pomrenke

**Quorum:** [X] Yes [ ] No

15 minute break from 10:25 am to 10:40 am

**II. Approval of Agenda**

- Motion: Amend the agenda to add the approval of the December minutes and to add New Business Item E. Resolution to allow the Tribal Admin to be able to sign SF-425 reports and Modifications.
  - Moved by: Jaclyn Eide
  - Seconded by: Jeanette Ness
  - Motion passed 5-0, 1 absent

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- November 20, 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes
  - Motion: Approve November 20, 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes as presented
    - Moved by: Brandon Ware
    - Seconded by: Nathan Lopez
    - Motion passed 5-0, 1 absent
- December 18, 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes
  - Motion: Approve December 18, 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes as presented
    - Moved by: Nathan Lopez
    - Seconded by: Jeanette Ness



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- Motion passed 5-0, 1 absent

**IV. Unfinished Business**

**A. Update on Airport Subdivision and Assembly meeting on January 6, 2025 at noon**

- The Petersburg Borough Assembly will be looking at the agreement between the Petersburg Borough and THRHA on the eleven Borough owned parcels located in the Airport Addition Subdivision.
- THRHA will receive seven parcels (lots 25, 26, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 15) in exchange for constructing a road and installing electric, water, sewer and storm drainage along the same road.
  - PIA has agreed with THRHA that these lots be for homeownership.
- The Borough would keep four parcels (lots 10, 12, 13, and 14)
- The public is invited to attend and participate.

**B. PIA Enterprises LLC proposed Board meeting and new board members**

- The LLC Board has been expanded from three members to five members.
- Motion: To add Mika Hasbrouck to the PIA Enterprises LLC Board.
  - Moved by: Nathan Lopez
  - Seconded by: Brandon Ware
  - Discussion:
    - Heather Conn has excused herself due to a conflict of interest
    - What is the future process of selecting PIA Enterprises LLC Board members?
      - As of now the PIA Council fully appoints these positions.
      - There is a suggestion that the Council appoints x amount and the public appoint x amount
    - Mika Hasbrouck has business experience and is a tribal member, she will be a good addition
  - Motion passed 4-0 (Heather Conn excused from vote), 1 absent
- As a reminder, there is a stipulation that there will always be at least one PIA Council member on the PIA Enterprises LLC Board.
  - It was suggested that at the start of a new term, the PIA Enterprises LLC Board member will be assigned at the same time as Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer



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- A PIA Enterprises LLC Board meeting will occur on January 28th, 2025. After the initial meeting, a public meeting will be scheduled.

**V. New Business**

**A. Update on the John Hanson Hall State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) report and proposal to apply for National Historic Registry**

- The John Hanson Hall is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A and B for its association with Native Alaskan Civil Rights and Civil Rights leader John Hanson Sr. from 1934 to 1960.
- Registering the JHH to the National Historic Registry would make it eligible for grants that can help maintain the building as well as potential tax credits.
- Motion: Allow Shannon Crossley of North Wind Architects to add the John Hanson Hall building to the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS).
  - Moved by: Jaclyn Eide
  - Seconded by: Jeanette Ness
  - Discussion:
  - Motion passed 4-0, 2 absent
- Motion: Apply for the John Hanson Hall to be added the the National Historic Registry
  - Moved by: Jaclyn Eide
  - Seconded by: Nathan Lopez
  - Discussion:
    - There will be too many restrictions.
  - Motion did NOT pass 0 ayes, 4 nays, 2 absent

**B. Proposal to designate THRHA for DOE Energy Rebate program**

- The DOE Energy Rebate program allows rebates of qualified electrification projects. These projects can include appliance upgrades for a heat pump water heater, heat pumps for space heating or cooling, an electric stove/cooktop/oven, and an electric heat pump clothes dryer.
- Each Tribe will be allocated a minimum of \$107,738.
- Motion: Approve Resolution “Designation for THRHA for Department of Energy Tribal Home Efficiency and Electrification Rebate Program”
  - Moved by: Jaclyn Eide
  - Seconded by: Nathan Lopez



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■ Discussion:

- We can do this program in house.
  - Jalyn Pomrenke, Tribal Administrator and the Assistant TA will be in charge of this program.
  - Intended for low to middle income families.

■ Motion did NOT pass 0 ayes, 4 nays, 2 absent

- Motion: PIA will rescind the decision made in March for THRHA to apply and instead fully apply for this DOE Tribal Home Efficiency and Electrification Rebate Program

■ Moved by: Jeanette Ness

■ Seconded by: Nathan Lopez

■ Discussion:

- It can be handled in house, and gives us a lot more freedom and control.

■ Motion passed 4-0, 2 absent

C. Proposal for Council meeting stipends

- Motion: The Council members and President will receive a meeting stipend of \$100 per Regular meeting and \$75 per Special meeting that is attended either in person, by phone or by zoom.

■ Moved by: Nathan Lopez

■ Seconded by: Brandon Ware

■ Discussion:

- PIA is one of the only Tribes not getting a stipend
- Should it be put into a policy and then the current Council can decide if it is in the budget to allow it or not.
- The President should receive more due to the amount of extra time and effort that the President does.
- There is an option for individual Council members to opt out of taking stipends.
- This will come into effect for the next council
- The stipends will be funded by 638 ATG.

■ Motion is amended to create a resolution to create a policy in regards to the Council meeting stipends. The policy is as follows:

- Stipends are approved for tribal council members and the chair for each monthly meeting (12), and up to six special meetings (6) per calendar year.



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- These meetings must have a quorum to be considered an official meeting; work sessions are not included.
  - The Stipend is approved at a cap of \$100 for all council members, with a 50% increase for the chair.
  - To receive the stipend, the council member must be present at the meeting (physically, via zoom, or by phone).
  - Each council member may opt-out of receiving the stipend by signing an op-out form that will be provided by the Tribal Administrator by request.
  - Council members wishing to receive a stipend will need to fill out a W9 form and will be issued a 1099-NEC form for annual amounts paid in excess of \$600.
  - Council stipends are subject to available funds as the BIA 638 ATG Budget allows.
- Moved by Nathan Lopez
    - Seconded by Brandon Ware
    - Motion passed 4 ayes, 1(Jaclyn Eide) abstained, 1 absent

**D. Proposal to compensate President stepping in as Acting Tribal Administrator**

- Motion: The PIA President, Debra O'Gara, shall be provided with a \$1,000 a month stipend for the four months that she stepped in as the Acting Tribal Administrator for the PIA Tribe, while also fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of President.
  - Moved by: Nathan Lopez
  - Seconded by: Brandon Ware
  - Motion passed 4-0, 2 absent

**E. Resolution to allow the Tribal Admin to be able to sign SF-425 reports and BIA Modifications.**

- Motion: Approve a resolution to allow the Tribal Admin to be able to sign SF-425 reports and BIA Modifications.
  - Moved by: Jeanette Ness
  - Seconded by: Heather Conn
  - Motion passed 5-0, 1 absent

**F. 638 contract funds**

- Motion: Approve 638 contract funds as necessary to accommodate new council meeting stipends



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- Moved by: Heather Conn
- Seconded by: Nathan Lopez
- Motion passed 4-0, 2 absent

**VI. Executive Session**

**VII. Decisions, if any, following executive session**

**VIII. Adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn at 12:30 PM
  - Moved by: Nathan Lopez
  - Seconded by: Heather Conn

Minutes Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As Presented [ ☐ ]      As Amended [ ☐ ]