

**ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF SAXMAN
REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Williams Jr. at 6:20 pm per agenda.

PRAYER

The invocation was given by Councilmember Nora DeWitt.

ROLL CALL TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: President Joe Williams Jr., Vice President Charles (Chuck) Denny, Treasurer Trudi Swink, Councilmember Nora DeWitt.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Secretary Carrie (Wallace) Denny, Councilmember Richard Shields Sr. and Crista Thomas.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tribal Administrator Charlie White, Tribal Administrative Assistant Valena Johnson, Maintenance Supervisor Rick Makua, CCTHITA Social Worker Jackie Johnson and Accountant Jay Johnson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District (KGBSD) Superintendent Michael Robbins gave a report on Native values and the budget shortfall for the year. He stated KGBSD wants to keep the lines of communication open.

Tlingit and Haida Regional Housing Authority (THRHA) Project Manager Sam Parks presented a report on how they plan to work through the projects in Saxman. The President asked to have the home of Claudia Boyd placed on the list as the work on her home is unfinished from last year. Sam Parks confirmed smoke detectors will be updated.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA (in packets)

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept the agenda and add Property Sale and a letter of recommendation from Gabe Blair to represent Saxman with the Alaska Village Initiative. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1 OCTOBER 3, 2023 MEETING MINUTES (in packets)

Nora DeWitt asked to have corrected on public comments miscommunication with family members not herself. Minutes will be brought back for approval.

2 JANUARY 23, 2023 MEETING MINUTES (in packets)

The following corrections were noted:

- Under #10 does not think question marks ??? are appropriate if the name or title is not known

Pg 2: - Continued OVS Regular Meeting Minutes February 6, 2023

- Under #13 change “opins” to commented
- Under unfinished business add another 0 so the amount would be 175,000
- Check packet for notes

Minutes will be brought back for approval.

STAFF REPORTS

3 FINANCE REPORT

Account Jay Johnson presented up to date finances and the 2022 budget final numbers (roughly). It was suggested to color code the reports to make it easier to reference.

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept the Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.

4 CCTHITA SOCIAL WORKER

Jackie Johnson, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) updated the Council on recent activity. She stated she has been focusing on blood relatives and family members that are foster children. She stated she has been pretty busy and some cases are currently from California. She noted elders are considered elders at the age of 55 and sometimes 65. It was thought OVS Council needs to determine what age is considered an elder.

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept the Social Worker’s report. All in favor, motion carried.

5 SUPERVISOR REPORT (in packets)

Project Supervisor Rick Makua presented an updated report. Explained was the lack of lighting in the back of the Schoolhouse and the need to provide better lighting. Tribal Administrator Charlie White advised all large expenditures are on hold until the CY2023 budget is complete and the year end financials are complete.

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept this report. All in favor, motion carried.

6 TRIBAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept the verbal report. All in favor, motion carried.

7 TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR REPORT (in packets)

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to accept Charlie’s report. All in favor, motion carried.

8 PRESIDENT REPORT

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to accept the oral report given by President Joe Williams Jr. All in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

9 FOOD CARD EXTENSION

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to approve the food card distribution from ARPA funds for the months of April and May. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: YES VOTE: Chuck Denny, Trudi Swink, Nora DeWitt; NO VOTE: None; ABSTAINING VOTE: None; Motion passes.

10 RESOLUTION #2023.01.261 CONTINUING THE CY 2022 TRIBAL BUDGET (in packets)

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to approve Resolution #2023.01.261, a resolution allowing operations to continued based on Fy2022 budget plan. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: YES VOTE: Chuck Denny, Trudi Swink, Nora DeWitt; NO VOTE: None; ABSTAINING VOTE: None; Motion passes.

11 BEAR CLAN LEASE FOR APPROVAL (in packets)

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to accept the final draft of the lease. All in favor, motion carried.

12 SCHOOL HOUSE LEASE Deferred to the meeting scheduled with the City of Saxman.

13 RESOLUTION 2023.01.261 A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE CURRENT CY 2022 BUDGET (in packets)

This is a duplicate of the above agenda item #10.

14 OVS HOME REPAIRS UPDATE

This report was previously given by THRHA Project Manager Sam Parks.

NEW BUSINESS

15 ALASKA AIRLINE CREDIT CARD

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to direct administration to apply for an Alaska Airlines credit card. All in favor, motion carried.

16 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO EVALUATE TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR

President Joe Williams, Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny was appointed to this Committee.

17 OPEN HOUSE AND YOUTH GROUP

Council concurred to add this to the Strategic Planning session.

18 COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE

President Joe Williams presented the idea to have a community warehouse and it will start with a benefit/cost analysis study to be completed by staff. He explained this could be a project of CDC (Community Development Corporation).

19 OVS OFFICE BUILDING

This was previously dealt with.

20 RETREAT DATES (in packets)

The following confirmations were voiced: Nora DeWitt can't travel, Chuck Denny and Richard Shields have another commitment and won't be going, Trudi Swink and Crista Thomas will be in Anchorage. It appears that Joe Williams and Carrie are the only two that can travel.

21 CHANGE FOOD CARD OPTIONS

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to remove Wal-Mart from the options with the food card as it is difficult to do wire transfers for payment, which is required. All in favor, motion carried.

22 ROAD CONVEYANCE

Motion/Second Chuck Denny and Nora DeWitt to allow the President to speak with the Saxman City Council on the topic of conveying roads to OVS. All in favor, motion carried.

23 APRIL ELECTION

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to appoint Lori Richmond as an election official and pay appropriately. Administrative Assistant Valena Johnson is to work on the election and be trained in procedures and to be paid accordingly. All favor, motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

24 Purchase of land (from consideration of the Agenda)

Motion/Second Nora DeWitt and Chuck Denny to proceed with purchasing the property for \$35,000 with whichever funds are available for this purchase. Council asked for staff to look up the Lot and Block numbers and include this in the motion. All in favor, motion carried

25 Gabe's Request for support for her to be a representative on Alaska Village Initiatives (AVI) (in packets)

Motion/Second Nora Dewitt and Chuck Denny to support Gabe Blair as a representative on AVI. Board. All in favor, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATES

February 21, 2023

EXECUTIVE SESSION

COUNCIL/PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL REVIEW

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Seconded Chuck Denny ad Nora DeWitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by Nora DeWitt: 

Notes provided by: Chuck Denny, Nora DeWitt and Valena Johnson

Signed by President Joe Williams Jr.: 

Date of Approval by Council: July 22, 2024

Handouts:

- *Front of page of document from USDA on Joint Secretarial order on fulfilling the Trust Relationship to Indian Tribes in the Stewardship of Federal Landa and Waters*
- *Memo to SE Leaders on federal management of lands dated 2/6/23*
- *Committee listing for Council*
- *Institute for ANC Director of Education (ADE) and Institute for Tribal Council Training (ITCT) on the training course, :14th Annual ANC Director & Alaska Native Tribal Council Member Training Course March 20-21, 2023*