F.2.

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ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF SAXMAN
MEETING MINUTES - MARCH 02, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER by President Joe Williams Jr. at 6:05 pm.
B. PRAYER given by Secretary Nora DeWitt.

C. ROLL CALL: Taken by Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams.
CODE: E=Excused; UE=Unexcused; P=Present; Z=Zoom

President Joe Williams Jr.	P	Secretary Nora DeWitt	P
Vice President Amos Gray	P	Treasurer Chuck Denny	P
Councilmember Trudi Swink	Z	Councilmember Mike DeWitt	P
Councilmember Kayla Williams	UE	Elder Advisor Dena Mahi	P
Youth Advisor – Vacant			

OTHERS PRESENT: Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne, Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Amy DeTienne said Mayor Frank Seludo would not be able to attend this meeting as he underwent surgery today and must rest for the next few days. He asked her to ask OVS for a joint resolution in support of their development of Salmon Falls.

E. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA
M/2 C.Denny and A.Gray to approve the agenda. The following agenda items were added:
I.5. Request from Jamie White for a Letter of Support for grant proposal to restore and refinish the gym floor; F.2. Meeting Minutes of 2/2/2026; F.3. Joint Qtr. 3-2025 COS/OVS Meeting Minutes; F.4. Joint COS/OVS Qtr. 1-2026 minutes of 2/28/2026; H.16. Trip Reports for AFN, NCAI, BIA Meetings ; H.17. ANB/ANS Use of Building for Meetings every Thursday at 5:30 pm; J.4. KIC Health Services Committee.; J.5. Ketchikan Native Education Parents Committee (KNEPC); J.6. Canoe 2027. Question called. All in favor, motion carried.

F. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL OF MINUTES
F.1. Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026
F.2. February 2, 2026 Minutes
F.3. Joint COS/OVS Qtr. 3-2025 COS/OVS Minutes
F.4. Joint COS/OVS Qtr. 1-2026. Minutes of 2/28/2026
Minutes deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

G. STAFF REPORTS
G.1. Tribal Administrator and All Administrative (Building Supervisor, IGAP, and Finance) Reports – Amy DeTienne (Exhibit G.1)
Amy reported we are still waiting for the Pentecostal Church deed. With the energy grant they are moving forward with procuring generators in the development phase and looking at our elder facilities. The generator for the water plant has already come through. C.Denny stated he will ask Cape Fox where to get flags made when he gets back from his trip. A.DeTienne noted OVS wants 5 flags. Others asked for smaller flags for giveaways and additional flags. It was agreed to wait and check on what the prices are.

M/2 C.Denny and A.Gray to accept the Tribal Administrator's Report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

G.2. President Report – Joseph Williams Jr. (Exhibit 2.a, 2.b, 2.c, 2.d)
M/2 C.Denny and A.Gray to accept the President's written report. All in favor, motion carried.

G.3. Social Worker – Jackie Johnson (Exhibit G.3)
A.DeTienne reported she will get the report signed by Jackie's supervisor who prepared the report.
M/2 A.Gray & MD to accept the written report as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

H. OLD BUSINESS

H.1. Federal Subsistence Management Program Review

BACKGROUND: Meeting held by Subsistence Task Force on 2/25/2026. Report by Amy Detienne and Nora DeWitt.
Amy advised the comment period is extended to 3/31. She will have letters ready this week for people who want to come by and pick up or sign onsite. She reported Jamie Henderson from the Rotary Club requested a letter to send and she will get back to her. There will be another community meeting in Anchorage and Tribes are worried about the 3 minute time limit. In discussions with the Southeast Tribes they request these meeting meet on the Tribes terms to be effective and have genuine consultation. This meeting will be on the 17th and the Tribes thought they should come in a day earlier March 16th to strategize. The Sierra Club is anticipated to be there and bring their big guns too. She said the Subsistence Task Force will meet again on Thursday and invited all to join. Nora added they also discussed organizing a panel of Tribal Leaders who would have a list of questions and require a response. The problem they have had in the past is true consultation. The Tribes asked questions and received no response.
President J.Williams passed the chair to Vice President A.Gray.

H.2. Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska

BACKGROUND: Next Meeting is 3/2/2026. Amy and Nora attended the last meeting.
N.DeWitt reported David Strong of Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan) reported developers has offered 45 million or private funds to develop the Chilkat Valley. This will have serious negative impact on the Tribes of this area. They have received a letter from Governor Dunleavy and the State intends to move forward to open this area for development. They are very concerned as the impact will be devastating. They are requesting resolutions and letters of support to stop this from happening. They will send this out through Tribal Alliance.
She reported Metlakatla Mayor Smith asked for support for their position on Bill #253 which is sponsored by Representative Bynum. This bill will require all hatcheries in Alaska to acquire a State hatchery permit. This is not required now and is a direct threat to Tribal sovereignty. Mayor Smith will email this document. He reported he testified to the Fisheries Committee last Friday. CCTHITA President Peterson advised testimonies on the Tongass Management Plan opened 2/18 and Tribes need to do their review and make comments. He advised they will be requesting Tribal consultation. Kake President Joel Jackson stated he received an email on off shore mining and there is a very short period of comment. This off shore mining will tear up the bottom of the shoreline and this will negatively affect the sea bed. He found the comment period ends today. CCTHITA advised they have requested an extension of the deadline as it was too

short. Advisement of this was due to the action of the Haida Nation. CCTHITA President Peterson and staff reported they are working on the cultural tree document and working it into the full draft. They hope to have the plan done later this month. President Peterson encouraged the Tribes of the Alliance to request individual Tribal consultation like some have done. Kake President Joel Jackson advised there is a two day meeting with the Forest Service on this and on subsistence the 10th through the 13th. Sitka Tribe representative Lillian Feldpausch warned the Tribes these meetings should not replace the Tribal consultations that Tribes are requesting. It was noted on April 1st there will be a meeting with the Forest Service and there will be one session in the morning and one session in the afternoon. They have reduced this from a two day meeting to only one day. KIC President Gloria Burns stated KIC has questions and concerns on the plan for young growth and the lack of a plan for old growth cultural trees. She noted the Forest Service has stated their 45 day scoping period is over 3/8/26. KIC President Gloria Burns advised they will get a letter template out to the Tribes by noon tomorrow regarding Chilkat Indian Village and asked David to get back to them after the meeting to work on this. It is essential to get this done as Governor Dunleavy is leaning on this heavy and the pressure is coming strong from all the way around. The short comment period deadline for the off shore mining is a major concern as it didn't give the Tribes enough notice to respond as this is disastrous to "Our Way Of Life". The question is how Tribes can create a mechanism to react promptly in writing with limited time and still be effective. It was explained this was the entire coastline of Alaska not just Southeast. AFN has taken action but some of the Alaska Native Corporations may disagree as it may benefit them through their economic development opportunities. It was mentioned to be sure to make comment to the Federal Subsistence Board on March 30th. Loginai from Kake stated she has been working on the protocols for the Tribal Alliance and working groups. She hopes to have the draft done for the Alliance to review.
A.Gray passed the chair back to J.Williams.
A.Gray asked how many people attended these meetings. A.DeTienne stated about 30 people and a lot of the Tribes of Southeast attend. Dena Makai stated shoreline mining is already happening in Bristol Bay and they suck up the shoreline and are looking for gold. She stated the Chilkat Tribe near Haines feed all the people from the little Villages in the area and Skagway. Mike DeWitt stated he is opposed to this as sulfides and acid rock come out of what they are digging and this affects the water and eco system. There is no way to control this once started.

H.3. Wolf Street Property
BACKGROUND: Continued work on the floor that was in need of repair.
Rick and his team have gotten both bathrooms cleaned up and bathtubs removed. The floor joists they used is subject to rot and they're putting a plan together to replace them. They got pulled off this job because of a water break. Amy said she is still working on the loan.

H.4. FCC Broadband
BACKGROUND: Max Lopez met with both entities at the joint meeting. The request for the land to place the structures on was made.
Max from Tribal Ready met with the Saxman City Council and OVS at their Quarter 1 meeting and discussed the need for land to locate the towers. He discussed this and answered questions.

There has been no progress with KIC on the Broadband conflict but they are willing to meet with OVS.

H.5. Forest Plan Community Meeting
BACKGROUND: Two meeting sessions. Next meeting 04/01/2026
A.DeTienne explained the plan has changed and instead of two meetings they will be having only one day of two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon at the Discovery Center. Amy will check on the time.

H.6. Saxman Water Project
BACKGROUND: The grant was applied for. Meetings with Stedman and Bynum confirmed this project is high priority on their agenda as well.
President Williams reported he met with Kirt Miller project manager and was assured the State will be doing the plan and design for the areas Saxman was concerned but the funding is needed. Bynum told him he would include the funding this year for that. Amy said she will reach out to Miss Elizabeth about the ANTHC funding.

H.7. Pentecostal Property
BACKGROUND: Phone message left for Sharli. No response.

H.8. 105L Program
BACKGROUND: Keep this on the agenda for status updates. No new updates.

H.9. Schoolhouse Property Transfer
BACKGROUND: Keep on agenda for status updates.
It is thought a quit claim deed could be done for this so maybe a couple of weeks down the road.

H.10. OVS Withdrawal From CCTHITA/ Title 1 Contract with BIA
BACKGROUND: Resolution was sent in. A meeting is requested with CCTHITA and OVS. We received words that FY2026 was funded for small tribes and the money was received by CCTHITA. OVS should receive funds next week. CCTHITA would like to meet with OVS in April. DeTienne thought some rules and requirements are stringent and she is looking forward to having a meeting to examine the depth and requirements with reporting. She explained self determination will look at our programs and will loosely examine what our ability is to manage these programs. There are a lot of factors in this on how to protect their information. Some take more steps and more staffing than what we have now.

H.11. Roads
BACKGROUND: This is a great time to update our inventory. There is a good amount of money available for these projects and both the federal highways and BIA can help.
President Williams found out OVS inventory hasn't been brought up to date since 2012.
He requested CCTHITA to get this done when we have our time in Anchorage. He stated when they were in Juneau they learned how to add roads to our inventory. He said they printed the info and advised no funds were given to Saxman and they had no information available. He

stated there has been no changes and named the years and they said there was no change and so he questioned who got the money. Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) said CCTHITA received all the funding for this. President Williams estimated this to be about $60,000. Amy asked to have OVS Roads Committee meet to add roads. The Chair is C.Denny and A.Gray and M.DeWitt. She said in meeting we can ensure we are ready for the Anchorage meeting. In asking for clarification of the KIC roads inventory they did not have information. In asking how do they determine if there is a conflict they explained at the time the inventory is submitted if both tribes submit the same road we have to meet with the Tribe we are in conflict with and work this out together. With the roads funds there is money available for bridges. This was discussed and the bridges OVS is concerned with is the bridge to open up the area where the lots of land was given to CFC Shareholders to develop. Once opened they can add new roads. There are other areas that OVS can look at adding and the Committee can consider this. M.DeWitt brought up the stream by 3 Bears where they placed a wood block there to create a culvert and since this was placed there he noticed the fish have receded back. He asked if this area could be addressed. Another concern was the need for a place to store the equipment and this can be built with roads funds.

H.12. Federal Subsistence Management Program Review
BACKGROUND: Copies of the letter template are available for council members to take. Already covered these letters will be available.

H.13. Census of Saxman
BACKGROUND: At the joint meeting, this was discussed. There is an April 30th deadline. A census form needs to be developed, and we need to add tribal membership and employment. It was suggested we auto populate as many as we can and hire an outside person to do this so as not to overload staff.
Senator Murkowski's office is asking for the household number of our area. Saxman's fire station is #5 and OVS has written a grant for a new fire truck. Amy said the current building will not fit the new fire truck and also needs to be replaced. She said this is a demonstrated need. She has asked for certain information and they have advised there are 5 businesses in the service area, 500 people and 265 buildings. Other information that would be helpful is the response time, number of calls, and anytime Saxman has been called to assist other fire districts. Just recently Saxman fire station #5 was asked to respond to the KIC Warming Center in Ketchikan. Amy said to this census we can add other information to the census that is needed for tribal citizenship such as how many households, how many people are unemployed and what programs are needed in Saxman. She stated the deadline is coming up quick and suggested hiring someone outside of staff to do this. She didn't know if the Committee needed to do this or just hire somebody. She cautioned there is a process that needs to be followed.

It was explained the Saxman Fire District is an area that included Saxman but isn't just only Saxman. So this would give us overall area the Borough includes in this service district so it won't just strictly be Saxman. Amy explained Stations 5 is owned by the Borough and we use their services. She said we would focus on the area within Saxman.

N.DeWitt explained the difference between a census and enrollment. She said for enrollment those people of Indian descent would have to enroll into the Tribe and then be counted as a tribal member. A census is done for every person living within the boundaries of Saxman and does not require them to enroll and is open to all ethnicity.

The Enrollment Committee is Chair C.Denny, K.Williams and A.Gray. Everyone is welcome to attend if they are interested.

H.14. Green Crab Detection and Management Workshop
BACKGROUND: April 20-23rd in Metlakatla. With Native American Fish & Wildlife Society. Passion all the way up the coastline. Reinforce the workshop. No discussion just let Amy know if you want to attend.

H.15. CPR Class for Saxman Residents (Exhibit H.15)
BACKGROUND: Saturday March 21st at the Red hall. 9:30 am to 4:30 am
Reach out to Mariya if you would like to attend.

H.16. Trip Report's AFN, NCAI, BIA Conferences
President J.Williams asked those who attended any meetings or conferences for OVS to present their written reports by the next meeting.

H.17. ANB/ANS Request to Use Building for Planning Committee Meetings Every Thursday at 5:30 pm
Trudi Swink asked for the use of Tribal Hall (Old Schoolhouse) every Thursday at 5:30 for planning meetings of the ANS/ANB Camp #15. The CCTHITA Tribal Liaison Britta Allendar has a key. Trudi said she will pass her key to Nora while she is out of town.

<u>I. NEW BUSINESS</u>
I.1. Totem Poles
BACKGROUND: place totem poles in our building like what is up in Generations Southeast Building in Juneau.
C.Denny stated they have two forty foot totem poles that was repatriated and the plan was to put them up through the 2nd floor of the Saxman Community Center and be displayed there.
President Williams explained back in 1993 or 1994 he was contacted by the CEO of ARCO Oil Company and this was about repatriating totem poles through the Harriman expeditions. He stated he met with Mr. Smith in Washington D.C. along with Byron Mallot, Fran Ulmer and several others. He was asked to talk about the theft of artifacts by the Harriman Expedition. They planned to bring the artifacts back to Saxman and due to a boat accident in Africa they had to put this off for one year. In seeking help to do this Rosita Worl of Sealaska said they would do this but it would cost about $1100. OVS did not have the funds, so Cape Fox Corporation put up the funds and they thought that everything was theirs. President Williams explained the items were put in the Cape Fox Building and then stored in the bottom level of the same building. This part of the building flooded and he doesn't know where everything is now. He discussed insurance and did not know if CFC's insurance covered these items.

I.2. Per Diem
BACKGROUND: Tribe to consider a per diem rate that more realistically matches actual cost. President Williams discussed the per diem rate and on one of his trip it was higher than expected. N.DeWitt explained there is two federal rates. One is for just meals and another is for meals and incidentals. The incidentals would cover extra costs besides food. President Williams thought it was unfair for our representatives to have to pay out of pocket for travel for the Tribe. The Policy Committee Chair is N.DeWitt and T.Swink and C.Denny are members. This was deferred to the Committee.

I.3. Traditional Foods
BACKGROUND: Three seals have been harvested so far with 12 Saxman elders served seal oil. 3 non-Saxman who got oil, per Chris Bryant's request from their assistance. Out of all the elders called, 6 Saxman elders said no to Seal oil.
A.DeTienne reported on Monday Mr. Bryant harvested 2 nice seals and it was a public event. Last Friday he harvested a large male seal. She said KIC Tribal Scholars want to also participate in future events. Amy explained the biggest part is contact everyone because it is hard to estimate due to weather and successful hunting. She said he will need gas money, help, and money for jars. She said they are open to suggestions to get the word out. It was thought a half pint jar of seal oil could be given as a small gift for 2027 canoe journey. M.DeWitt stated he would donate the jars.

I.4. Self Governance Conference
BACKGROUND: Self Governance 2026 in AZ. April 7th to 9th. Need to send staff and council. Put on your calendar. Travel 6th and 10th .
President Williams and A.DeTienne stated they can attend.

I.5. Letter of Support. Grants manager for CF Cultural Foundation.
The Grant is Team Mobile Grants Program and the deadline is March 20th.

M/2 A.Gray and T.Swink to provide the support letter for the grant to repair gym floor and make improvements. This motion was tabled until next scheduled meeting or a call for a special meeting to respond to questions regarding the project content, budget, and City's opinion and input.

<u>J. COUNCIL COMMITTEES</u>

J.1. Start-up/Transition Committee Meeting minutes
A.Gray is the Chair and members are J.Williams, M.DeWitt and T.Swink. They will meet to discuss a budget for the $200,000 received. They agreed to meet on March 9th at 4:30 pm.

J.2. Land Purchase & Development Committee Meeting Minutes
Waiting on information about the loan. The bank has the paperwork, Amy will follow up.

J.3. Flag design and letterhead

CFC has a place to order the flags and C.Denny will get the information. A Committee meeting is needed to make a recommendation on what OVS wants to do about using the design for letterhead and logo. The committee consists of T.Swink (Chair), M.DeWitt and N.DeWitt.

J.4. Health Service Cte.
The next meeting will be Thursday, March 5th. Her report was deferred from the last meeting.

J.5. KETCHIKAN NATIVE EDUCATION PARENT COMMITTEE (KNEPC)
A.Gray stated they didn't know what the budget was. He explained they paid for the Cultural Coordinator and 50% of preschool program for the Pioneer Home and Fawn Mountain. It was recommended a one year grant submission be done based on the fiscal health of the school district. Their mission is to promote and educate native students. The 506 form is what is used to make sure the native students are counted and this determines what the funds will be. Their next meeting is March 24th at 5PM.

J.6. Canoe 2027 Landing
President Williams stated he received a call from Willie Jackson and he wanted to know if we would accept donations of food from him for the 2027 Canoe Journey. He wants to donate King Salmon, Coho and Sockeye if we have a place to store it. Saxman has a walk-in freezer and refrigerator. President Williams stated Willie Jackson received a call from Doug Chilton and Doug asked if there were any meetings called for the 2027 Canoe Landing. President Williams shared with him that Candy Williams had accepted the canoe arrival for 2027 and she had no authority to do this. It was mentioned Doug Chilton did not know this, but this canoe journey has already been accepted and we will do this. President Williams stated he wrote up some things he would like to do for preparation and this will be shared with the community so we can all prepare for this.

A few suggestions were offered for the canoe landing as follows:

- To use the 3 Bears property for canoe landing.
- To use the Totem Park area as a place to store the canoes. This is a grassy area that is public and everyone can keep an eye on the canoes for security's sake.
- Work with Mr. Miller of DOT to enlarge the path down to beach. The state will design and build it.
- Canoe Committee is C.Denny (Chair), M.DeWitt and T.Swink.
- To allow the use of Saxman's canoe with limited liability.
- The canoe has been purchased but now needs a design.
- It was suggested to have souvenirs for sale, charge for vendor space, food trucks, etc.
- Cut and prepare firewood for the camping sites.
- It was suggested to do a native fashion show and dinner as a fundraiser. In Wasilla they charged $125 a plate and had 30 models.
- The need to have an adequate trailer for the canoe and a box truck. Candy donated one but the canoe doesn't fit properly on the trailor.
- It was stated a support boat was imperative.
- Our canoe doesn't have an eye to be towed.

- Our canoe has fiberglass work needed, an addition of the tow plate and a flagpole. It was noted part of the deal was the seller would pay for the fiberglass service. We need to find someone to do this. C.Denny stated he thought their was someone on Fairy Chasm that does fiberglass work.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION None
L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

M. NEXT MEETING DATE(S)
M.1. March 16, 2026 is the next meeting.

C.Denny suggested setting up something for the CIB requirement and have the lady that gave the training come down to work with us. He suggested a flyer should be distributed so everyone interested can come.

N. COUNCIL COMMENTS
A.Gray stated this was a good meeting and there is a lot of things to tackle and he is looking forward to the next meeting.
C.Denny stated it was good they got everything needed done.
D.Mahai thanked everyone who shared their stories. It was good to hear the history and what unifies the community and ensures we keep what we have.
M.Williams thanked everybody and liked hearing what everyone shared. She stated she has learned something from every meeting and learned from everyone present. She appreciates all of us and likes hearing the progress in Saxman.
Amy DeTienne stated she and her staff are growing and learning from everyone and everyone is doing a great job. She thanked everyone for carrying the load.
President J.Williams stated it was good having folks going to meetings. Having others attend meetings shows others that we are active and care. It also gives us a bigger picture of what is going on in our area. He appreciated the time to spend the day in Juneau to talk about roads. He received a written letter from CCTHITA President Richard Peterson. The 2nd Roundtable will be April 15th – 16th in Sitka and Sheeatika will co-host this.
C.Denny added there is 30 days before the election.

O. ADJOURNMENT
M/2 C.Denny and A.Gray to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by Mariya Williams: Maye Williams

Signed by President Joe Williams Jr.: Joe Williams Jr.

Meeting Date Approved: 04-27-26