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ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF SAXMAN
MEETING AGENDA – FEBRUARY 2, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER by Vice President Amos Gray.
B. PRAYER was given by Secretary Nora DeWitt.

C. ROLL CALL:
CODE: E=Excused; UE=Unexcused; P=Present; Z=Zoom

President Joe Williams Jr. 6:05 pm	Z	Secretary Nora DeWitt	P
Vice President Amos Gray	P	Treasurer Chuck Denny	E
Councilmember Trudi Swink	P	Councilmember Mike DeWitt	P
Councilmember Kayla Williams	E	Elder Advisor Dena Mahi arrived @ 6:17 PM	P
Youth Advisor – Vacant			

OTHERS PRESENT: Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne, Max Lopez, Joe Valandra, Sam Pflaum, and Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS
D.1. Max Lopez and Joe Valandra with Tribal Ready attended via Zoom
Broadband Licensing Facts:
-2.5 GVA license 2020 varied.
-Spectrum can be used to holster communication.
-Wireless access.
-Important thing is a license granted by FCC.
-Requirements to be granted license.
-Radio emitter and receiver.
-15k to 20k to set up.
-Once radio and receiver is done. Wireless2.fcc.gov: Educational Broadband Service License WRNT725/Organized Village of Saxman needs to be looked into this.
-Resources, medical, education, opportunity.
-Broadband, enhance emergency services. Cellular base service e.g. 4G. within the village. Or connect to another. Something that's unique and to evaluate. WIFI calling. 5G/4G calling. Some reason is power outages, lines down. Calls will still be allowed. Enhance emergency services.
- 2nd application is to evaluate spectrum, click on the website map, and it shows Sealaska for instance. Frequency can be used if not connected. Will have to navigate the area saying Sealaska is in the Saxman area. May need to fix to connect and advance situation.

About Tribal Ready:
-Tribal ready motto "Advancing Tribal Sovereignty to unleash the power and potential of Native communities in securing access to broadband funding and resources".
-87.5% tribal ready is native owned. The other percent is ownership through non-native employees.
-Joe Valandra, said as tribal ready we don't take away like others who might. Their goal is to better tribal sovereignty. Things to benefit tribes, and to help tribes get fully owned and operated is their #1 goal.

Funding:

-August 2027 is deadline which is longer than other tribes.

-4 years to fully use the spectrum but since it is not set up. 2 years to utilize the spectrum.

-About 500 mil to 700 mil available for the next round available to projects like this.

-OVS are uniquely qualified. Or there may be other funding.

-2029 to 2030 to fully utilize spectrum. To maximize, to evaluate options, find funding and plan.

-Grant for Broadband: 3rd NOFO in the spring for grant. Grant award 08/23/21. Effective 08/23/25

- Technical part on FCC grant. 1st time to have ownership without having to buy it. Goal to be minimally used and maintained.

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*A.Gray passed the chair's role to M.DeWitt 6:16 pm and it was returned to A.Gray at 6:20 pm.

Councilmembers Comments and Questions:

Amos Gray asked about the equipment purchase and where to put it for the best location? Tribal Ready said to find the high point in village, and it could be on a stand or roof, but each has to be in clear line of sight. Emitter will then broadcast to building of choice within the line of sight. Others can be almost anywhere. They would gather the technical information, take pictures and fill out the paperwork. FCC certifies it and then you have 2 years to start. The 2nd phase is to connect to the rest of the world. This would be a part of an inbound roaming network. You can literally take phones and go anywhere in the US. Whether this may be Anchorage or Washington DC. 4G is more technical and 5G is roaming. 4G is heavy data use and 5G connected to WWW.

Michael DeWitt - Low rate cut to citizens. Objective is always to provide lowest cost. Most likely less than GCI. This could be ready by the end of summer or early fall but ideally by the end of this year or by 2027. They would establish connection by August 2027. It would be designed at high level and they have a firm idea of what is wanted. This project is a "shovel in the ground" so to speak and cost would be $15,000 to $25,000.

Joseph Williams asked why should he switch from a provider he has used for 15 years? The number one reason is the village would own and control service. The #2 reason is power and control of service. They explained when the outside connection goes down the village would still be operating. It would also allow the community to communicate amongst themselves. This is an economic decision and will cost less. This will give the village an economic incentive as well. 100 coverage is not likely, but 59% of the economy always takes care of itself minimally. Will provide free service. Noted education on how to deal with a stand-alone operation and improve workforce development. Once installed, repair will need to be done to keep it going. They can help build and train locally. Essentially, they will help until the village is ready to take it over and run it. He said Tribal Ready's job is to be out of a job.

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*A.Gray passed the chair's role to M.DeWitt at 6:27 pm and resumed the Chair role at 6:29 pm.

Amy DeTienne –asked hypothetically, would it be available to anyone? Business design issues and technical thoughts were discussed. She asked if OVS could assess a fee for data service. She explained with tourism and the upcoming canoe journey in 2027 this will be needed. How fast can this be done? She suggested hypothetically could this be done by summer and what would the cost be? Tribal Ready said it could be done but it depends on when the project is started and it would cost from 15k to 25k.

D.2. Sam Pflaum – fish for Traditional Food Program

Mr. Pflaum stated he opened a commercial smokehouse and is currently working black cod. He came tonight to bring information and create a working relationship with Saxman. He said a few years ago he poured concrete to start his business and has sold 25k of fish in one year. He wants to help with the elders programs and would like to bring some resources back to OVS. He said just the other day he dropped 10 lbs. of black cod off at the senior food program and they will be serving this on their menu for Thursday. The discussion included program ideas, tourist market, canning, elder engagement, cultural programs and preparations. He said Ketchikan is home and he wants community engagement.
Right now, he stated, he doesn't have the facility to store large capacities but possibly next year they may have cold storage rental capacity.

E. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to accept the agenda changes. Added to the agenda under New Business I.6 Energy Grant; I.7 Flag Logo for Letterhead; I.8 Transportation Program; and Old Business H.15 Strategic Plan Meeting February 23. All in favor, motion carried.

F. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL OF MINUTES All minutes deferred.

F.1. Meeting Minutes June 26, 2025 KIC and OVS -Defer
F.2. Meeting Minutes December 15, 2025 (Exhibit F.2)
F.3. Meeting Minutes January 5, 2026 (Exhibit F.3)
F.4. Meeting Minutes January 8, 2026 OVS, T&H, OSG, and BIA – Defer
F.5. Meeting Minutes January 19, 2026 (Exhibit F.5)

G. STAFF REPORTS

G.1. Tribal Administrator Report – Amy DeTienne (Exhibit G.1)
It was not known if the funds that CCTHITA said they had available for the Corpuz clean up was still available. President J.Williams stated they did agree to clean the property but it will cost too much to move the smoke house. He said since Desiree's retirement there has been no further discussion on this. He said the family was given to November of last year to vacate property and now the property belongs to the Tribe. President Williams said the property at the time was trust land and now it is transferred to the Tribe and he did not know if we were still eligible for these funds. It was concluded the Tribal Administrator can check into this and give us a follow up on this question at the next meeting.

G.2. Social Worker – Jackie Johnson (Exhibit G.2)
It was explained that Social Worker Jackie Johnson submits the details of her report to her supervisor and the supervisor prepares the report for presentation to the Council. It was noticed that her reports had changed and were impersonal. Discussed was the desire to have a person present the report to address any questions. A copy of the job description was requested. It was noted to understand what type of community activities and outreach can be done. This will be requested.

G.3. President's Report – Joseph Williams (Exhibit G.3 Trip Report 1/27-29/2026)
President Williams said he is looking at where we are at with the programs, what funds and plans we have and the review of the tribal and state transportation plans. He said he would like to have a Transportation Committee meeting to review the plans. He expressed his appreciation for the reports submitted.

H. OLD BUSINESS

H.1. Federal Subsistence Management Program Review (Exhibit H.1.a & H.1.b & H.1.c)
BACKGROUND: Alliance letter was signed and will be submitted by KIC for the Alliance. Letter from OVS was drafted for signature on January 31, 2026, to the Office of the Secretary.

The Subsistence Defense Task Force continues to meet every week on Wednesdays at 1 pm. It was noted the Sierra Club works with many states and they have a greater area so they have a bigger presence. Caution was given for the need of vigilance from the Tribes.

M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to approve Resolution #2026-02-300 to request a consultation meeting regarding the Federal Subsistence Program management review. All in favor, motion carried.

H.2. Alliance of Sovereign Tribes of Southeast Alaska (Exhibit H.2)
BACKGROUND: Continued work on HB93 and Cultural Trees. Next meeting is February 3rd at 10:00 a.m.
N.DeWitt explained HB93 will change regulations on sports fishing. She explained CCTHITA worked hard on this document. During this meeting it was explained there are different types of cultural trees and they are used for different reasons. This information can't be left out of plan. She said KIC is doing a great job but we need to support them. If needed we can have a workshop to understand it better and be better able to respond knowledgably. Carol inlet is to be harvested and logged and they need to have feedback and support. At the meeting they stressed the need to prevent harvesting and logging of cultural harvestable trees. The Forest Service needs to hear comments, and the Tribes need to stop the process long enough to have adequate time to respond and ensure Tribal concerns are expressed.

H.3. Health Services Committee (Exhibit H.3)
BACKGROUND: Resolution for Committee Representative Appointment. Appointing a main and one alternate. On January 29th the signed resolution was hand delivered to KIC.
N.DeWitt stated OVS needs to be consistent in showing up at the meetings. Whether KIC allows us to be present or not we need to be there. She stressed we need to keep an eye on the business of the clinic and be a part of the discussion. If OVS is not at the table we will not be heard.

H.4. Wolf Street Property
BACKGROUND: Minor interior work is being done. Need a committee meeting held so we can discuss the quotes received.
Two quotes to fix up the Wolf Street home was received and a committee meeting is needed. T.Swink will call a Land Purchase & Development Committee meeting. It was noted the Housing Committee is for the present housing projects.

H.5. FCC Broadband
BACKGROUND: Keep on agenda.
Concern was expressed that this has been on the agenda for two years and still nothing has developed. It was felt that this situation with KIC and OVS needed to be settled or it will go out to public sale. It was thought that KIC turned this over to KIC -TBC (Ketchikan Indian Community - Tribal Business Corporation). It was thought unless KIC gets concerned enough nothing will happen. All agreed they did not want either to lose out on this opportunity.

M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to prepare a letter to KIC and to KIC-TBC regarding the importance of Broadband issue and the need to address as there is a deadline of August 2027. President J.Williams offered a friendly amendment. Discussed was the license, status of licenses, and diligently working to address the questions. Funding concerns, obtaining a copy of FCC letter and obtaining a point of contact. Also suggested was to add this to IGAP project as a point of safety, and emergency enhancement. President Joe concurred his agreement but this was not relevant for the letter. Point of order called. It was pointed out there is a deadline of August 27th and KIC may have a different deadline as this license has not been approved. The Council agreed it is imperative to address this as the deadline may even be shorter. A review was provided, OVS owns the license for Saxman, one mile square and the second license is being held up as this is land within the Borough and used by both Tribes. This is the one being challenged and the two Tribes are instructed to work this out and they need to meet. Point of order called, and question was called on the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

A.DeTienne stated the IGAP workplan needs to be done by February 13th. She said they need to include funding as soon as possible for the second part of the license (radio to radio). There needs to be a meeting with the Tribe and the City. She explained this request for land is ahead of the game plan but a workplan is needed. The Council agreed this would be referred to the Broadband Committee.

H.6. Forest Plan Community Meeting
BACKGROUND: Email responded to giving OVS' preferred meeting day and times.
The Tribal Administrator will follow up on this and advise the Council.

H.7. Saxman Water Project
BACKGROUND: Will begin working with COS on moving forward for the contract to develop needs for the water lines. Need a resolution to agree on spending $100,000 per the stipulations of the project.
M/2 N.DeWitt and J.Williams to prepare a resolution (#2026-02-301) describing the use of the $100,000 award for the water study project noting agreeing to the stipulations of the project. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN: YES VOTE: J.Williams, T.Swink, M.DeWitt, N.DeWitt. NO VOTE: None; ABSTAINING VOTE: None. Motion passes. Resolution number assigned is #2026-02-301.

H.8. Pentecostal Property
BACKGROUND: Need to speak with Sharli Arntzen on status of this.
President J.Williams stated he informed S.Arntzen of the 6 pm meeting tonight, but he has not heard from her.

H.9. 105L Program
BACKGROUND: Keep this on the agenda for status updates. No new updates.

H.10. Schoolhouse Property Transfer
BACKGROUND: Keep on agenda for status updates. No updates.

H.11. OVS Withdrawal From CCTHITA/ Title 1 Contract with BIA (Exhibit 11.a & 11.b)
BACKGROUND: Email from CCTHITA President Peterson is attached.
The tone of the letter was discussed, when in fact the request for information was done back in 2023 when Charles White was the Tribal Administrator. The information for one year does not give enough information to average the cost of running tribal programs.

M/2 N.DeWitt and J.Williams to send a letter to CCTHITA requesting the data for a three year period on the various programs that serviced Saxman. President Williams suggested this meeting be scheduled in March and held in Saxman. There was no objections for this being a part of the letter. Question called. All in favor, motion carried.

H.12. Roads (Exhibit H.12)
BACKGROUND: Transportation Improvement Plan for T&H is being revised right now. A Transportation Committee meeting is needed.
It was noted a financial summary of where we are at with this program is needed. President Williams suggested adding to the letter to CCTHITA the last transportation plan made was in 2012 and at that time no funds were spent. He stated this information was requested from RJ. He stated we needed to go over the inventory and break this up into feet. N.DeWitt explained with the previous Council Lee Wallace handled the transportation program and this was a paid position. She also mentioned that they also had engineering plans done for developing the back parking lot of the Schoolhouse property and some other parking areas.

H.13. Governance Schedule (Exhibit H.13a)
BACKGROUND: Cancelling RES2026 and authorizing travel to THRHA meeting in Juneau on March 23, 2026. There will also be a roads meeting in Juneau during that week. Meeting on February 10th 2026 in DC with DOI Indian Affairs Leadership and Staff. Hoping President and Vice President will attend while they are in DC.
President J.Williams would like to cancel RES2026 conference in favor of going to the housing meeting in Juneau. Travel would include the THRHA Tribal Leaders meeting on the 23rd 8am to 4 pm and the Roads Transportation meeting in Anchorage on the 24th to the 25th. The Roads meeting can be paid for by our CCTHITA roads money and the other is paid for by THRHA.

M/2 N.DeWitt and T.Swink to send President J.Williams and N.DeWitt to the THRHA Housing meeting in Juneau and it is paid by THRHA. All in favor, motion carried.

M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to send President J.Williams and A.Gray with N.DeWitt or C.Denny as the alternate for the Alaska roads transportation meeting in Anchorage paid for with CCTHITA Transportation funds. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: YES; J.Williams, N.DeWitt, T.Swink, M.DeWitt, NO VOTE: None, ABSTAINING VOTE: None, Motion passes.

H.14. BIA Alaska Region Program Training (Exhibit H.14)
BACKGOUND: Flyer included in packet.

How many and who can go to the BIA Alaska region training mtg February 26th to the 27th. The tribal administrator can go and request follow up training.

8:22 pm Chair Amos Gray said 5 min break. 8:26 pm back to order.

M/2 N.DeWitt and J.Williams to send seven people to the BIA Alaska Regional Training, naming President J.Williams, A.DeTienne, Jeannette Rosier, M.DeWitt, A.Gray, N.DeWitt and D.Makai. This will be expenses to the $200,000 start up funds granted by the BIA for 93-638 start up and will cover, conference fees, air fare, hotel, car rental and per diem.

M/2 J.Williams and M.DeWitt to offer this trip to those Council Members that are absent C.Denny and K.Williams. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: YES VOTE: T.Swink, J.Williams, M.DeWitt, N.DeWitt; NO VOTE: None; ABSTAINING VOTE: None; Motion passes.

T.Swink requested zoom availability for the meeting on February 23rd.

I. NEW BUSINESS

I.1. Federal Subsistence Management Program Review (Exhibit I.1)
BACKGROUND: Scoping Process meeting times.
Two dates were discussed, March 10th 1:30 to 3:30 pm or March 18th 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.
President J.Williams said he was available on March 10th.

I.2. Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program (Exhibit I.2)
BACKGROUND: Looking for comments regarding this program. Letter is included in packet. The question asked was how this affects Saxman and how can we support THRHA. Those that are attending the THRHA Housing Tribal Leaders meeting can talk to Jackie Pata about this.

I.3. Navigating With Vision
BACKGROUND: Grant was applied for Jan 23, 2026. Another grant is being applied for and will be submitted on February 17, 2026.
Navigating with vision on raven reads for 2027 Canoe Journey was applied for by Santina.

I.4. KGBSD Superintendent Search (Exhibit I.4)
BACKGROUND: Invitation for three representatives to participate in Tribal Government Focus Group on Tuesday Feb. 10th
N.DeWitt and A.DeTienne said they can attend. They will check with C.Denny and K.Williams to see if they can attend.

I.5. Proposed Amendment to Environmental Assessment Act (Exhibit I.5)
BACKGROUND: Province of British Columbia requests engagement on a legislative amendment.
It was suggested to put this on the Southeast Tribal Alliance's meeting agenda and ask them.
This was deferred to the next meeting.

I.6. Energy Grant
BACKGROUND: Update from Marci.
This grant was for heat pumps. Amy said Marci from ETIPP has been wonderful and wrote a plan for the energy grant. They received a soft approval and now they are getting caught up on the quarterly reports. There is a match approach of 20% and it was thought this could be covered by the Denali Commission. It was noted DOI sounds like this can be amended in a certain way and will be covered at the next meeting.

I.7. Flag design and letterhead
BACKGROUND: Discussed at previous meeting.
It was explained Michael Milne won the contest for the flag design and there was no compensation for this. But, if the design is going to be used for letterhead and other things it is only fair to pay Michael Milne for the extra use of the design. It was thought this expense could come from IGAP, STG and the general fund.

M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to authorize the Tribal Administrator to discuss with artist Michael Milne a fair fee for the additional use of the logo. This logo would be used for letterhead and stationery, garments, media, advertising, household, gifts etc. OVS wants to own the logo. Once done this is to be brought back to the Council for consideration. All in favor, motion carried.

J. COUNCIL COMMITTEE (Committee List Exhibit J.)
J.1. Start-up/Transition Committee Chair A.Gray and members are T.Swink, M.DeWitt and J.Williams. N.DeWitt asked to be notified so she can also come. The meeting will be February 5th at 4:30 pm.

It was noted the **ANB/ANS Camp #15 meets** on Thursdays at 6 pm

J.2. Finance Committee - 01/07 & 01/08 minutes (Exhibit J.2)

J.3. Finance Committee - 01/16 minutes (Exhibit J.3)
The next Finance Committee meeting is to review the QuickBooks entries and Treasurer C.Denny will call the meeting.

The City of Saxman and OVS Quarter 1 2026 meeting will be February 23rd at 4:30 pm.

J.4. Land Purchase and Development Committee
The Chair is T.Swink and members are M.DeWitt and C.Denny. The meeting is scheduled for February 10th at 4:30 pm.

J.5. Broadband Committee
The Broadband Committee Chair is J.Williams and members are T.Swink, M.DeWitt and N.DeWitt. The meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 4:30 pm. T.Swink said she will have to zoom in.

The Roads Committee meeting is deferred until after next month's OVS meeting.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION None
L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

M. NEXT MEETING DATE(S)
M.1. February 16, 2026 is a holiday (Elizabeth Peratrovich day) and Council concurred to move the meeting to **February 7th Tuesday**.

It was noted the schools usually do some type of program at the school on Monday, Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. It was suggested to get more information from City Clerk Ginger McCormick.

O. ADJOURNMENT
M/2 N.DeWitt and M.DeWitt to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by Mariya Williams: Mariya Williams

Reviewed by President Joe Williams Jr.: Joe Williams Date: 05-04-2026

Handouts not in the packet but distributed at the meeting: None