



Route 2, Box 2 – Saxman, Alaska 99901

Info@saxmantribe.org - Fax: (907) 247 -2504 - Phone: (907) 247- 2502

**ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF SAXMAN
MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 27, 2026**

A. CALL TO ORDER by President Joe Williams Jr.

B. PRAYER given by Secretary Nora DeWitt.

C. ROLL CALL:

EX-Excused; P-Present; UE-Unexcused; Z-Zoom

President Joe Williams Jr.	P	Secretary Nora DeWitt	P
Vice President Amos Gray	P	Treasurer Charles (Chuck) Denny	P
Councilmember Mike DeWitt	P	Councilmember Kayla Williams	P
Councilmember Trudi Swink		Newly Elected Margaret Brew	P

Others Present: Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne, Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS None

E. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

E.1 Oath of Office for April 23, 2026 Annual Election

It was explained that tonight the Council needs to certify the election and post this. Then give 5 days for any Tribal Citizen that might want to file a contest. After this, the Council can then proceed with the Oath of Office and election of Officers.

Motion/Second K.Williams and C.Denny to accept agenda to certify the election. All in favor, motion carried.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES None

H. STAFF REPORTS None

I. OLD BUSINESS None

J. NEW BUSINESS

I.1. Check signing deferred

I.2 KGB School Board Govt to Govt Meeting

N.DeWitt stated KGB School District Board of Education President Catherine Tatsuda contacted her through an email and asked to meet with the Saxman Tribal Council regarding the need to consult on the use of Indian Education (IE) funds and any concerns that Saxman may have.

Amos Gray explained that he was the Saxman Representative on the Ketchikan Indian Education Parent Committee. He said they have been talking about the IE budget, which is \$208,000. They are

considering how to allocate these funds and trying to determine what they want to cut. The cost of cultural coordinator and preschool teacher and assistant is being considered. He said tonight is the IEA Parent Committee meeting.

The Council decided to invite them to the next scheduled meeting. Nora is directed to let Catherine know and copy Amy on the agreed date.

I.3. Election Certification

Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams opened the ballot envelope and reported the number of votes per candidates) is as follows:

PRESIDENT: Joe Williams Jr. – 21 votes; and Lee Wallace – 11 votes.

COUNCIL: Mike DeWitt – 33 votes; Greg Guthrie Sr. – 19 votes; Harvey Shields – 32 votes.

There were 2 absentee ballots and 11 questioned ballots.

Mariya stated she will make copies of the tally sheet for the Council.

C.Denny stated he thought the election judges were to come give the election report to the Council and then they are paid.

Mariya stated 100 ballots were printed. 46 votes used 2 absentee and 11 out of these were questioned. 54 ballots were destroyed. Questioned ballots not counted was the portion of the ballot when the voter wrote in same name for council and president. Others questioned wrote the name of a write-in on the line but didn't check the box. These were not counted.

The Council members up for re-election are Mike DeWitt, Kayla Williams and Chuck Denny.

Motion/Second C.Denny and A.Gray to accept the election results and draft a resolution of the results and certify for the community. Resolution number is #2026-04-000.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION None

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

M. NEXT MEETING DATES

M.1. May 4, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Meeting for the Canoe 2027 Project will be Wednesday at 6 PM at the Saxman Community Hall.

N. COUNCIL/PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

A.Gray wished those not running the best in their future and hopes they will run for the Council again in the future. He said he will miss the two that are not returning.

K.Williams thanked the Council for the opportunity to work with the Council and their patience for allowing her to attend through zoom. She said she wasn't able to give 100% of her attention as she is busy with her two little ones. She said she wants to take a year off so her babies will grow and come back to be on the Council again.

C.Denny stated it has been a good 4 years, but he needs to get some time off. He said he doesn't have the time to travel and do committee meetings.

NDeWitt thanked Kayla and Chuck for their work on the Council and will miss them. She welcomed Margaret. She thanked the staff for their work.

D.Mahai stated she appreciates everyone working so hard and doing the best they can and she is thankful. She said she is glad to be able to step up and do things for the community.

A.DeTienne thanked everybody, especially Kayla and Chuck and she expects them back in the ballgame next year. She said she would like to have Kayla serve as the youth advisor. She commented we have a strong team and are looking forward to working with everyone. She thanked Margaret for being here as a new Councilmember.

Margaret Brew stated she lived ten years in Texas before she moved back to Saxman. Saxman is home and she is happy to be back.

J.Williams thanked Kayla for stepping up to the plate by being on the Council. He said this gave her good experience and information. He said he hated to see Chuck go but he could understand why. He commented that it would be a challenge to replace him with as much history as he holds.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second C.Denny and A.Gray to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted By Tribal Administrative Assistant Mariya Williams:

Approved by President Joe Williams Jr.

Meeting Date Presented/Approved by OVS Tribal Council: 07-06-26

Packet items provided: None

Handouts distributed at the meeting: None