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**ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF SAXMAN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 7, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Joe Williams Jr.

B. PRAYER

Opening prayer was given by Secretary Nora DeWitt.

C. ROLL CALL:

CODE: EX=Excused; UE=Unexcused; P=Present; Z=Zoom

President Joe Williams Jr.	P	Secretary Nora DeWitt	P
Vice President Vacant		Treasurer Charles (Chuck Denny)	P
Councilmember Amos Gray	P	Councilmember Mike DeWitt	P
Councilmember Trudi Swink	P	Elder Advisor Delina Mahi	P
Youth Advisor Kayla Williams	P		

OTHERS PRESENT: Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne, Consultant Will Ware, Frank Seludo (City of Saxman Mayor/City Administrator).

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS None

E. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

Motion/Second C.Denny and A.Gray to accept the agenda. C.Denny asked to add agenda item I.8. Contribution to City of Saxman for Fish Egg Distribution. All in favor, motion carried.

F. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

F.1. February 18, 2025 – Regular meeting minutes

F.2. March 26, 2025 - Regular meeting minutes

Motion/Second C.Denny and A.Gray to approve the minutes on the consent agenda (2/18/25 and 3/26/25). All in favor, motion carried.

G. STAFF REPORTS

G.1. CCTHITA Social Worker's Report – Jackie Johnson

Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne gave a report she received from Wanda, who is Social Worker Jackie Johnson's supervisor. The report noted Jackie is working with eleven children and they are from various places (1 in New York, 1 in Oregon, 6 in Alaska, 1 in Arizona).

G.2. Maintenance Supervisor's Report – Rick Makua

Distributed at the meeting was a written report (Exhibit G.2) from Rick Makua. Amy reported she hasn't scheduled an appointment with the City of Saxman on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addressing how the two entities will work together on repairs and projects, but stated it is a priority.

G.3. IEGAP Coordinator Report – Florence McGilton

Council was asked if they had any questions on the written report (Exhibit G.3) submitted by Florence McGilton. Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne stated some tasks Florence is working on is setting up garbage pick up for the elders, clean up week planning, assisting with OVS Election, and doing the travel and training required by the Grants.

G.4. Consultant's Report – Will Ware

Consultant Will Ware reviewed portion of his written report. He noted the following:

- Working with Amy on Economic Development Strategies.
- Working with OVS on the separation from CCTHITA.
- Assisting with establishing an indirect formula.
- Working with Amy on a cash flow plan once the withdrawal is completed.
- Checking in with Amy on day to day events and tasks.
- The hiring of a dedicated bookkeeper who is already trained.
- Other items discussed was transportation needs, benchmarks for the first quarter, Tribal Court Grant and continuing to identify needs.
- The Council discussed pull tabs and raffle tickets as a venture to go along with bingo activities. The thought of a poker tournament was brought forward. W.Ware stated he will be doing a feasibility study on these.
- Trust land was also discussed.
- W.Ware suggested OVS start communication the State of Alaska to work out a compact.

G.5. Tribal Administrator's Report – Amy DeTienne

Amy DeTienne presented her written report (Exhibit G.5). The following was discussed:

- Financial reports she believes will be done by the next meeting as we now have a bookkeeper on staff.
- Amy reported the ARPA report is due at the end of the month to the granting agency.
- The LATCF report is done and submitted.
- All of the bank reconciliations are done and up to date.
- The expenditures will be prepared for the single audit.
- The ARPA budget modification resolution being done before the ARPA Report is submitted.
- The close out for 2024 needs to be completed for all funds.
- Prepare the 2025 budget for OVS.

Amy commented now that she has a bookkeeper she is looking forward to having these financial tasks completed.

G.6. President's Report - Joe Williams Jr.

President J.Williams stated he emailed his written report (Exhibit G.6). It was noted some Councilmembers were having trouble with their tablets and this will be brought to the consultant's attention.

Motion/Second A.Gray and C.Denny to approve all staff reports. All in favor, motion carried.

H. OLD BUSINESS

H.1. Broadband Negotiation

BACKGROUND: A letter was sent to Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) and as of 2/3/25 there has been no response.

Response from KIC still needed.

H.2. Corpuz Land Purchase (adjacent to Kushnick's property) - President Joe Williams Jr.

BACKGROUND: Waiting on approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Left on the agenda until the property sale and cleanup is completed.

President J. Williams reported the BIA put this on hold until further notice. It was mentioned that the Corpuz couple are both elders and the husband has passed away but the wife has given the power of attorney to her daughter.

H.3. Withdrawal from CCTHITA

BACKGROUND: At the last meeting the report was at status quo and an update is requested if there is activity.

Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne reported she has had two meetings with CCTHITA and they are not at a stage to contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) but, they will continue to work on the check list items. Consultant W. Ware reported the state of the BIA is still uncertain as they are facing uncertainty about the reduction of staff and the size their office will be.

W. Ware explained OVS Tribal Transportation Program is with the State Federal Highway Administration. He cautioned these funds need to be followed closely because what is going on with the BIA is uncertain. Cash flow is a concern, and the Tribal Administrator wants to be sure there are funds to stand on to meet the cash flow needs.

H.4. Resolution ARPA Budget Modifications 2024

BACKGROUND: This is currently being worked on and is deferred to a Finance Committee meeting and then will be referred to the Council for approval. The Continuing Budget Resolution authorizes spending until April 30th. If the 2025 budget is not ready the Continuing Resolution will need to be extended.

This is being worked on by the Tribal Administrator.

H.5. Website/Network Project

BACKGROUND: An update is requested.

Tribal Administrator reported the Consultant will work on the tablets that need repair. She reported the consultant added the election piece to the website. She stated the Consultant also met with Southeast Senior Services to put their menu on the website and give notice of donated items needed for the senior center. Other items discussed was using transit funds to help with delivering food to the elders and website development to add a QR Code which is way the younger generation can interact.

H.6. ELECTION 2025

The election is provided for approval.

Tribal Administrator reported Joe Williams filed for the office of President and Amos Gray and Nora DeWitt filed for Council.

H.7. Saxman Economic Development Project

Presented by Will Ware in his written report.

H.8. Tribal Budget 2025

BACKGROUND: Once all of the 2024 funds are closed. The 2025 budget will be prepared for Council approval.

Previously discussed.

I. NEW BUSINESS

I.1. OVS/KIC Health Board

BACKGROUND: Health Board members will be present to discuss their concerns with the Council.

President J. Williams stated he has not had the opportunity to meet with KIC. He noted at one time Saxman had two seats and then it was reduced to one and he did not know why this occurred. He stated he will meet with the KIC President. He advised the Council if they hear of anyone having problems with receiving health care he would like to know as KIC is required by federal law to provide Saxman with health care services.

I.2. Bank Authorization

BACKGROUND: The new bookkeeper, Jeannette Rosier, needs to be provided with authorization.

Motion/Second A.Gray and M.DeWitt to give the new bookkeeper, Jeannette Rosier, authorization to obtain bank information. All in favor, motion carried.

I.3. Additional Check Signers

BACKGROUND: Check signer authorization for TA and plans for when one of the check signing council member resigns.

Motion/Second C.Denny and A.Gray to add Amos Gray, Trudi Swink and Mike DeWitt as check signers for OVS. It was discussed to establish a policy to add enough signers to ensure checks can be signed and to issue debit cards on an annual basis with olds cards being destroyed annually. All in favor, motion carried.

I.4. Denali Grant Writer Proposal

BACKGROUND: Proposal (Exhibit I.4) needs to be reviewed and approved.

The following was discussed:

- To adjust the date to the actual time frame. The contract states from March 5 to June 5.
- To have the grant writers work on grants to obtain traditional food for Saxman. These funds are no longer available through Rural-Cap.
- Pay this expense with ETIP funds. This was discussed at Strategic Planning.
- At present the City of Saxman (COS) and OVS are working together on a big water/sewer project.
- Check to see if they can write their fees into the grant.
- Consider a 50/50 split with COS.
- The need to do a MOU or MOA

Motion/Second A.Gray and M.DeWitt to approve the contract with the grant writers effective when we contact them and pay with ETIP funds for 3 months at \$4500. ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS: YES VOTE: T.Swink, A.Gray, C.Denny, M.DeWitt and N.DeWitt;

NO VOTE: None; ABSTAINING VOTE: None; Motion passes. President J. Williams declared a unanimous vote.

I.5. Gift Purchase

BACKGROUND: Previous Council Member.

Tribal Administrator A. DeTienne stated she needs to contact C. Williams on the correct Native design to use. This was deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

I.6. MOA or MOU with COS

BACKGROUND: At the last meeting, the development of MOA or MOU was directed to be done. Both for work on the tribal office building and the City's request with repairs and various projects.

Tribal Administrator A. DeTienne stated she is working on this with the City of Saxman. This was deferred to the next meeting.

I.7 Property Review

BACKGROUND: Alaska Housing Finance Corporation on development in Saxman if it has historical or cultural significance.

Tribal Administrator A. DeTienne explained she was contacted by Sarah from Alaska State Housing Finance Corporation on the cultural and traditional significance of one property in Saxman. She further explained this has happened more than once in the past and suggested a process be developed on how the Council would like to deal with this situation. At present the property they are inquiring about is a property next to Princess Tours, south of Saxman. The questions she would like assistance with is how to process the information, how this is processed, how the request is to be reviewed and the specifics of a response. The area discussed was a designated burial site. President J. Williams appointed a committee consisting of M. DeWitt, C. Denny and A. Gray with C. Denny appointed as Chair. This Committee was named Cultural Lands Committee and will address this concern.

I.8. Herring Eggs

Council considered contributing to the recent fish egg distribution. There was 3990 pounds of fish eggs distributed and shipping cost of \$800.00 and they also need to return the totes. This was deferred to the next meeting as the total costs were not known.

J. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS Council Committee Listing Included
BACKGROUND: The Council Committee List is presented for Council to reference.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEXT MEETING DATE(S)

April 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm regular meeting.

April 8, 2025 at 5:00 pm Wood Mizer committee meeting.

An elder event tomorrow at the Tribal Office 12:30 to 1:30.

PRESIDENT AND COUNCILS' COMMENTS

Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne reported the freezer is placed in the Saxman Community building, but they still have the electrical work to finish.

Dena Makai explained she was helping the Salvation Army with cleaning up their building and noticed they have a number of documents on Saxman and rather than dispose of these she would like to have them given to Saxman. It was suggested they bring the documents to the Tribal Office.

Amos Gray thanked everyone for the efforts put into the strategic planning retreat. He expressed his appreciation for the work staff is doing and thanked everyone for the time they are putting in.

Mike DeWitt thanked everyone for their efforts and support. He thanked the Tribal Administrator for her work on the financials and looks forward to receiving the reports. He commented it was nice to have a good working group.

Treasurer Charles Denny asked to have the agenda done for future meetings in enough time to review timely. He asked to have another person appointed to Daanaa Saati (CDC) Board. He thanked everyone for their input.

Councilmember Mike DeWitt thanked Mayor Frank Seludo for stepping forward and providing the fish eggs from Sitka to the community of Saxman.

Councilmember Amos Gray asked to have Website Consultant Russ help him to obtain access to the different files available on the website.

Elder Advisor Delina Makai thanked everyone for coming to the meeting thanked all for their participation and opinions.

Tribal Administrator Amy DeTienne thanked Tribal Secretary Nora DeWitt for giving her time and assistance in putting the packets together. She thanked Councilmember Trudy Swink for keeping a pulse on our finance problems and banking needs. She stated between all Councilmembers so much is brought to the table.

Frank Seludo apologized for being late to the meeting but he had another meeting he had to attend.

Mayor Joe Williams Jr. stated it was good to have the Mayor present. He welcomed Kayla Williams to the Council table and for her interest. He stated is it very important to have young adults at the as they are out future leaders. He stated when he attended NCAI in Washington D.C. he was reminded of the need to have our youth represented at NCAI and have them involved. He apologizes to the youth of Saxman as he acknowledged the need to have them involved as they need to learn the process.

Youth Advisor Kayla Williams shared her experience as a youth as she was able to travel and attend NCAI. She stated they did fundraising for the trips and felt very fortunate to go.

Councilmember Trudi Swink mention the last housing project was in 1993 and thought with the additional 10 units being built in Saxman there may be more youth that can get involved in Saxman.

Mayor Frank Seludo stated the City has started an Elder Youth Committee and they are trying to get this going. He remembers when he was growing up the youth kid were involved. He invited everyone to a meeting on the 9th.

Consultant Will Ware stated he was grateful for the opportunity to work with OVS in building capacity and infrastructure. He said at every meeting it is good to see what the continued future is.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Submitted by Nora DeWitt: Nora DeWitt

Signed by President Joe Williams Jr.: Joe Williams Jr. Date: 4/21/25