



Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government
(Formerly known as the Native Village of Fort Yukon, IRA)
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Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Council

Regular Council Meeting – June 24, 2014

Tribal Conference Room

Opening prayer was given by: Gerald Alexander

Call to Order: by Edward Alexander, 2nd Chief @ 6:00pm

Roll Call/Quorum Established:

Present: Edward Alexander (2nd Chief), Tony Peter (Seat C), GiNESSa Sams (Seat D), Gerald Alexander (Seat E), Michelle Vandyke (Seat F – tardy)

Excused: Nancy James (1st Chief), and Michael Hardy (Seat G)

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by: Gerald Alexander to approve the agenda, seconded by Tony Peter.

0 objections, motion passed

Approval of minutes:

Motion by: GiNESSa Sams to approve the April 22nd minutes, seconded by Gerald Alexander.

0 objections, motion passed

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve the June 24th minutes, seconded by GiNESSa Sams

0 objections, motion passed

GZGTG Staff Present: Stephanie Hinz, Liana Harriman, Janet Cadzow, Walter Peter

Tribal Members Present: Charlet Kelly-Spencer, Clifford Luke

Non Tribal Members: David Messier

Tribal Member Comments:

Clifford Luke – wants to know if the tribe can help his nephew Timmy John to get indoor plumbing.

Directive - Tribe to write a letter and cc: both ANTHC scattered sights, Water, waste water utility board to talk with Clifford and Timmy to get paperwork started to work on plumbing.

Council Member Travel Reports:

Tony Peter – Tony went to the Gwich'in Gathering, there were a lot of youth there who gave a lot of good speeches. He didn't spend a lot of time at the meetings.

Ed Alexander – Ed also went to the Gwich'in Gathering, he focused on 2 alarming issues. The first was the Resolution put on the agenda today (Resolution 14-25), which says: Gwich'in Council International was formed in partnership with the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government to represent the Gwich'in people as a whole at international forums. They haven't been addressing a lot of issues that hold our interest, and their report is pretty slim.

The second issue was Eagle Plains, there is oil and gas exploration going on there. They are considering using a method called Fracking, drilling with hydraulics & chemicals, which could affect our hunting and fishing on our rivers. This issue was not addressed at the meetings.

There will be another meeting in March, just before the TCC convention with all the Chiefs. It will be a meeting to discuss issues that were not brought up at the gathering.

Ed went to the Arctic Council Mtg. in Anchorage, representing CATG. They deal with issues in the Arctic, such as fishing, water rights, funding for Alaska representatives to attend the meetings which are held in various places in the world. They are speaking on behalf of Gwich'in people without any Gwich'in there to represent us. There will be another mtg. at the end of October in Yellow Knife.

Ed got a phone call from Victor Joseph asking the tribe if that was their wish. Nobody wanted to endorse him representing the whole tribe. No motion, no vote, no action was taken.

Education Summit – Ed went and talked about language immersion representing Dinjii Zhuu Kaii.

Ginessa – Went to the FASD training here in Ft. Yukon. It was a good training, but she was hoping it would be directed more toward the Tribal Court Judges, not tailored to a general audience.

Education Summit – Some issues brought up were; strategies to decrease dropout rate, hardship of home schooling, language aversion (hiring highly qualified teachers), scholarships, training etc...

There was some discussion amongst the council of organizing another trip to Hawaii to learn about language immersion.

AGENDA ITEMS

Staff Reports:

Stephanie Hinz – Kristi Williams will be here next week Wednesday, August 27 @ noon to meet with the council and staff regarding Tribal issues. The council is encouraged to attend.

GMA – We will be working with the Yukon Flats Health Center on issuing GMA checks. The YFHC staff will determine if the client's needs are being met. If not then they will do a check request to us and we will cut the checks.

Natural Resources – 110 king salmon were caught by Andrew during the Test Net for the state of Alaska.

Tribal Operations – we will need to come up with different levels of enrollment for individuals who reside in Fort Yukon and those who live elsewhere. We need to limit the amount of services available to the tribal members who do not live here. This will be discussed at the enrollment committee meeting when we can get all members together.

Directive – Add: Committee Chairmanship and committee formations on the next Agenda.

NCAI membership renewal:

Motion by: Guinness Sams to renew membership in the amount of \$1,100 from Tribal Council funds, seconded by Tony Peter.

0 objections, motion passed

Tribal Operations enrollment drive:

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve \$1000.00 from indirect carry over, to pay for tribal member birth certificates (1 per member), and \$750 for prizes and refreshments at the drive, seconded by Gerald Alexander.

0 objections, motion passed

Water resources letter, discussion:

There is a proposal for water litigation that is due by Sept. 30, 2014.

Directive: Provide information to Kristi Williams so Council can submit proposal by end of September.

Geographic Names Proposal:

Motion by: Tony Peter to adopt changes to proposal including tonal markers, seconded by Gerald Alexander.

0 objections, motion passed

First Alaskans Institute:

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve 3 youth travelers plus chaperones to the annual Youth & Elders conference and to contribute \$500 to sponsor the conference, using funds from carryover, seconded by Michelle Vandyke.

0 objections, motion passed

General Assistance:

Directive: Need internal control review on GA procedures, Accounting Department needs to examine expenditures.

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve \$60,000.00 from carry over money for GA program to get through the end of year, seconded by Gerald Alexander.

0 objections, motion passed.

Budget:

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve bold modifications in AFA budget to keep it balanced, seconded by Guinnessa Sams.

0 objections, motion passed.

Burnt debris & painting projects:

The tribal hall scope of work has been approved. Discussion of reduction of indirect rate/recovery, BIA funding is ready to be drawn down.

Directive: Housing needs to collect applications now in order to try and increase approval of additional BIA homes.

FEMA Bids, 4 projects:

Directive: Re-approach FEMA using Cruz's bid, notify Cruz Construction that their bid was too excessive; request more funding from FEMA based on inaccurate information.

GA revised policy:

Motion by: Gerald Alexander to approve GA revised policy, seconded by Michelle Vandyke.

0 objections, motion passed.

BLM/ MOU:

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve BLM /MOU with amended changes, seconded by Michelle Vandyke.

0 objections, motion passed.

GZ surface rights:

Directive: Refer this matter to Kristi Williams and draft a reply.

Youth leadership grant awards:

Motion by: Gerald Alexander to approve \$500.00 to use as incentives for Youth Council from JOM funds, seconded by Tony Peter.

0 objections, motion passed.

Greenhouse project:

Dave Messier gave an update and has a new deadline for the construction of the shell. The new date is December 1, 2015. Dave will continue negotiations with GZ about transfer of solar energy.

The due date for new CIP money from the state is October 7, 2014, to get solar panels for the tribal hall.

Directive: Submit proposal for new money before deadline.

Annual Meeting Status:

Meeting dates were already posted.

Directive: Advertise and post signs for the new “Logo Contest.” Stick to the budget \$5,000.00 for annual meeting.

Moose hide project:

Motion by: Tony Peter to take \$1,000.00 from After school funds to purchase 5 moose hides of acceptable quality (with no cut marks and not rotten) from tribal members to be sent out and tanned. We will pay \$200.00 per moose hide, only 1 hide purchased per household, seconded by Gerald Alexanderr.

0 objections, motion passed

Meeting workshop fees:

Council wants to know if they can get meeting fees for the meeting workshops. Discussion: There are already meeting fees.

Directive: Distribute meeting fees for all workshops.

Senior Class Distribution:

Council wanted to know why the tribe was handling the senior class money and who authorized it. Ed: he asked accounting to handle the money, since we have done it for other youth activities in the past.

Directive: Any money that the Tribe is not responsible for needs to be brought to the regular meeting to be approved before Accounting will handle the money.

Education Committee:

Discussion: Council member concerned why non-resident tribal members get less funding than resident tribal members. The money is supposed to be for resident members, we only give it to non-resident members as a courtesy.

Directive: Council member wants to change policy, and was advised to present a proposal at the next meeting.

ICWA:

Directive: ICWA worker needs to work with presiding judge, Executive Director will meet with ICWA worker and presiding judge.

Resolutions:

Resolution 14-25 concerning representation from Gwich'in Council International needing to amend their by-laws to reflect changes written in resolution.

Motion by: Gerald Alexander to approve Resolution 14-25, seconded by Tony Peter.

0 objections, motion passed

Ratify past poll votes:

Motion by: Tony Peter to approve following poll-votes, seconded by Gerald Alexander.

Poll vote 14 -1: Dancing with the spirit **Denied**

Poll vote 14 – 2: Dancing with the spirit (revised) **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 3: \$500.00 firework display Paul Shewfelt **Passed** / Dancing with the spirit \$7,580.00 Donna Thomas **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 4: Regarding resolution 14 – 24 Solar Energy Grant Program **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 5: Margaret Roberts, lot for sale. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 6: Complete Greenhouse Project. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 7: 4th of July planning committee, requesting \$1,000.00 for events. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 8: TCC Domestic Violence. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 9: Advanced heavy equipment training class \$19,000.00. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 10: Fish & Game test net program, Natural Resources. **Passed**

Poll vote 14 – 11: Hannah Hope, lot for sale. **Passed**

0 objections, motion passed

Correspondence

Directive: Put correspondence on Housing agenda

Proposal for sewing project:

Directive: Liana to go through codes for family replacement to be adopted.

Executive Session: 9:08pm, out at 9:40pm

No directives or discussion.

Continuation

Ed recused himself from discussion, Chair turned over to Tony, senior Council member. Discussion regarding taking action regarding fishing and hunting rights. Michelle recommended waiting for the

First Chief to return before making a decision. Tony recommended tabling the issue until the full Council could address. No action taken. Ed resumed chairing the meeting.

Discussion regarding amendment of motion to include closure of moose / dall sheep / refuge to hunting by non-residents unless tribal members.

Motion by: Gerald Alexander to approve closure of Section 10 to hunting. No second. Motion failed.

Motion to adjourn by Tony, seconded by Michelle. Motion passed. Next meeting date to be determined by Nancy.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47pm.