



Regular Washoe Tribal Council Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2016  
Dresslerville Community

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Presiding Officer: Neil Mortimer, Chairman

**B. ROLL CALL**

**Council Members Present**

Neil Mortimer, Chairman	Richard Burchett, Stewart Community
Gary Nevers, Carson Colony	Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community
Chad Malone, Carson Colony	Jacqueline Steele, Stewart Community
Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community	Mahlon Machado, Off Reservation
William Smokey, Dresslerville Community	
Lorraine Keller, Reno/Sparks	
Deirdre Flood, Woodfords Community	
Jeremy Steele, Secretary/Treasurer, confirms quorum.	

**C. READING OF THE AGENDA:** Chairman Mortimer

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 2016.** Motion to approve the minutes made by Jacqueline Steele, Stewart Community, seconded by William Smokey, Dresslerville Community. Lorraine Keller, Reno/Sparks questioned the Secretary/Treasurer voting decision being researched by General Counsel as indicated on page 6 of the minutes. The Chairman indicated that would be discussed during the Chairman's report. **The vote was (9) for, (0) against, (3) abstentions. Motion carries.**

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

1) Chris Strobbe - Unavailable

**F. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1) Pauline Howe, Chief Financial Officer – Unable to Attend. Presented by Roberta Reed, Controller

a) Would ask that Council decide on dates to have the budget meetings. Date options given and the Chairman requested earlier rather than later.

2) Debby Carlson, Grants Manager – Unable to Attend

**G. COMMUNITY AND CHAIRMAN REPORT(S)**

a) Carson Colony – Gary Nevers. No action items.

b) **Dresslerville Community** – Rueben Vasquez. No action items. Community building is now open.

c) **Off Reservation** – Mahlon Machado. No action items. Have launched the Off Reservation website. Still a work in progress. Seeking letters of interest for an Off Reservation Housing Board of Commissioners position. Off Reservation meeting will be Saturday, October 22, 2016 at TANF HQ in Oakland and will videoconference at the Waterloo office.

d) **Reno/Sparks** – Lorraine Keller – No action items.

e) **Stewart Community** – Jacqueline Steele, no action items. Discussed the fire on 10/13/16 and the power being out and water being off. Requested consideration for a generator for the well pump. Thanked Rob Beltramo, Chief Blackeye, Deputy Chief Leonard and Carson Colony for helping their community members during the evacuation.

f) **Woodfords Community** – Irvin Jim, no action items. Thanked Herman and Helen Fillmore for the Pine Nut Dance. It was a successful event.

g) **Chairman's Report** – The Chairman invited Diane Vitols, General Counsel to explain the "conflict" for the Secretary/Treasurer to vote. Explained the reason why it's not a conflict. Becky Smokey commented that since Jeremy is the Secretary/Treasurer it opens up the Off Reservation position. Ms. Vitols explained that the people who elected that Off Reservation representative haven't changed their votes. You can't disenfranchise their votes. Ms. Smokey indicated that all Communities, plus Off Reservation have two representatives and that Mr. Steele should not hold both positions. Ms. Vitols indicated that he can hold two positions according to the Constitution. Ms. Smokey indicated she would like a poll of Council for their opinion of a potential conflict. Mahlon Machado, Off Reservation – Spoke with previous General Counsel and made sure that the Constitution was clear. He discussed with Jeremy to determine there would be no conflict or any lack of participation in anything that's been done and he has done a lot to advance Off Reservation programs. It hasn't been difficult to him as the other Off Reservation representative and he has heard nothing negative except Ms. Smokey's comments.

Richard Burchett, Stewart Community had no personal opinion on this issue but the Constitution seems quite clear and we should stand by it.

Jacqueline Steele, Stewart Community – She believes she has a conflict of interest, but her opinion is the Vice Chairperson is selected by Council from within Council as a second officer and she doesn't see any difference here.

Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community – As Council we should uphold the Constitution and he sees no conflict.

Deirdre Flood, Vice Chairwoman – Does not believe there is a conflict and is confident he is capable of handling both duties.

Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community – The Dresslerville Community has a Secretary/Treasurer that sits on the Community Council and votes so he sees no difference there.

William Smokey, Dresslerville Community – Also sees no conflict as the Constitution clearly states it is acceptable.

Chad Malone, Carson Colony – As the old way, we have always <sup>had</sup> a Secretary/Treasurer chosen from the outside but if that's what the Constitution says, we should abide by it but he doesn't don't agree with it.

Gary Nevers, Carson Colony – Believes there is no conflict and a former Council member was Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Frank.

Lorraine Keller, Reno/Sparks – Agreed with Chad but feels the Council should follow the Constitution.

Ms. Smokey stated this is not personal and that Off Reservation membership should have two representatives.

Edmund James – How will Jeremy handle an election as both Secretary/Treasurer and Off Reservation representative.

Jeremy stated he would provide the information the Election Committee needs as the Secretary/Treasurer and remain neutral and professional during all elections.

The Chairman indicated that he is pleased with Jeremy and sees the office of the Secretary/Treasurer improving and considers Jeremy an asset to the Tribe.

Becky Smokey final comment. The purpose of the questions was not to question his ability, but that Off Reservation should have two representatives and this issue will be brought up in the Off Reservation meeting.

Jeremy Steele indicated he would be at the Off Reservation meeting as the Off Reservation representative, not Secretary/Treasurer.

The Chairman spoke more about the fire in Stewart and that there is no contingency plan and one is needed. The biggest step is prevention. Yards need to be cleaned to prevent devastation to the Communities.

Spoke about the change in the Gaming Compact. Economic Development is the key to the future of the Tribe.

The Chairman elaborated on the land leases and land assignments as the 2006 Law & Order code made all assignments and leases invalid.

## H. NEW BUSINESS

### 1) Debra Wakeman – Human Resources Director

Sheila Crawford, Assistant Director introduced Ms. Wakeman.

#### a) Approval of Job Descriptions

##### I) Cultural/Language Resources Director – Presented by Rob Borges.

The Chairman explained the reason for splitting the TPHO and Cultural Resource Director positions. Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community questioned the minimum qualifications. Feels a bachelor's degree is too steep and it should be "and/or" clause regarding experience vs. bachelor's. Motion to approve by Jacqueline Steele, Stewart Community, seconded by Deirdre Flood, Woodfords Community. **The vote was (8) for, (2) against, (2) abstentions. Motion carries.**

##### II) Education Director – Presented by Susan Jamerson. Several changes.

Motion to approve by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community, seconded by Lorraine Keller, Reno/Sparks. **The vote was (11) for, (0) against, (1) abstention. Motion carries.**

III) Roads Program Director – Presented by Rob Beltramo. Changes to responsibilities and duties are minor but the biggest change is that it is now its own program and the Director will report directly to the Chairman and Tribal Council. Motion to approve by Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community, seconded by Gary Nevers, Carson Colony. **The vote was (11) for, (0) against, (1) abstention. Motion carries.**

IV) WIEC Tutor – Presented by Amber Bill. Motion to approve by Richard Burchett, Stewart Community, seconded by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community. **The vote was (11) for, (0) against, (1) abstention. Motion carries.**

Sheila Crawford introduced the new Social Services Director, Stacy Stahl.

**2) Diane Vitols – General Counsel**

- a) New Federal Overtime Rules – Gave history of Tribal employment cases. Explained the wage limits and what it means for the Tribal employees (20) and what the cost will be for 2016 and 2017. Informed everyone of an issue with some Gardnerville residents who complained about the fire aftermath being picked up and blown around on their property.

**3) Pauline Howe - Finance Director**

- a) Schwab Account Documents Resolution – Presented by Roberta Reed, Controller. Resolution #2016-10-WTC-086. Motion to approve by Chad Malone, Carson Colony, seconded by Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community. **The vote was (11) for, (0) against, (1) abstention. Motion carries.**
- b) 401(k) Plan Restatement Resolution - #2016-10-WTC-87. The Chairman asked for clarification on why this is being brought forward after the Tribe having the 401(k) program for years. Diane Vitols, General Counsel explained employers are required to restate their 401(k) plans every four to six years depending on how many IRS code changes there have been. Motion to approve by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community, seconded by Chad Malone, Carson Colony. **The vote was (10) for, (0) against, (2) abstentions. Motion carries.**

**4) Norm Harry, Environmental Director**

- a) Non-Point Source Plan Explanation – Presented by Michelle Hochrein. Explained this qualifies them for funding from the EPA. Resolution will be presented at the November Tribal Council meeting but wanted to give Council time to make comments by November 15<sup>th</sup> for the November 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.
- b) Introduction of Jay Feldman, Executive Director of Beyond Herbicide; update on Goat Project. Brief introduction by Mr. Feldman of the goat project. Ms. Lani Malmberg will manage the program. Goats arrived on the property Monday morning. Ms. Malmberg explained the goat program and the benefits.

**5) Nancy Nizankiewicz, Housing**

- a) 2017 Indian Housing Plan Resolution – Resolution #2016-10-WTC-088. Motion to approve by Richard Burchett, Stewart Community, seconded by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community. **The vote was (5) for, (0) against, (7) abstentions. Motion carries.**

Jeremy Steele, Secretary/Treasurer – discussed moving away from paper Tribal Council packets and having all digital with iPADs, etc. Working with IT for a program to suit Tribal Council's needs.

#### H. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Gary Nevers, Carson Colony, seconded by Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community. The Secretary/Treasurer asked about going into closed session for a relinquishment. Motions to adjourn rescinded. Motion to go into closed session by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community, seconded by Jacqueline Steele, Stewart Community.

Motion to adjourn by Irvin Jim, Woodfords Community, seconded by Rueben Vasquez, Dresslerville Community. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carries.** Meeting adjourned at 10:08pm.