

# September 14-15, 2021 Minutes of the General Business Meeting Virtual Meeting

# Tuesday, September 14, 2021

#### **Call to Order and Opening Remarks**

- Chairwoman Laurie Ann Cloud (Nez Perce) started by welcoming all those in attendance. Executive Director then provided a brief overview of the meeting logistics.
- Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Laurie Ann Cloud (Nez Perce) AT 9:02 AM.

#### **Invocation**

Provided by Ron Ryan (Metlakatla).

#### **Roll Call**

- NWIHA Secretary Diana Phair called the Roll. Only members in good standing (2021 dues paid) were called. Twenty members are needed to establish a quorum.
- Present (24): Colville, Confederated Tribes of CLUSI, Coquille, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua, Cowlitz Tribal Housing, Fort Hall, Grand Ronde, Jamestown S'Klallam, Klamath, Lower Elwha, Lummi, Metlakatla, Muckleshoot, Nez Perce, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Quileute (Proxy), Samish Nation (Proxy), Siletz, Skokomish, Squaxin Island, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Swinomish (Proxy), and Yakama Nation.
- Absent (15): Burns Paiute, Chehalis, Coeur d'Alene, Hoh, Kalispel, Nisqually, Nooksack, Puyallup, Quinault, Sauk-Suiattle, Shoalwater Bay, Spokane, Tulalip, Upper Skagit, and Warm Springs.
- With 24 of 39 members present, Diana announced that a quorum was established.

## Approval of the Agenda

 MOTION by Diana Phair to approve the agenda as presented; second by Liz Kuntz (Squaxin Island); motion passed without objection.

## **Approval of the Minutes**

 Minutes of the January 26-27, 2021, and May 18-19, 2021 meetings were provided to the membership prior to the meeting, and are available on the NWIHA website.
 MOTION made by Anne Cook to approve the January 26-27 meeting minutes; second by Diana Phair; motion passed without objection; MOTION made by Anne Cook to approve the minutes of the May 18-19 meeting; second by Diana Phair; motion passed without objection; CLUSI and Siletz abstained.

### Treasurer's Report

- NWIHA Executive Director presented the Treasurer's Report, which was provided to all participants prior to the meeting, and is available on the NWIHA website.
- There were no questions or comments regarding the report.

#### **ATNI Update**

- ATNI Liaison Shonn Leno provide the update.
- Shonn announced that the ATNI Housing Committee Meeting will be held the following Tuesday and asked that NWIHA members who are interested to please attend. Shonn will coordinate with Charles to send out an email to all the membership regarding this meeting.
- Sami Jo reminded the Chair to ask for volunteers to serve at the Alternate ATNI Liaison, as discussed in the EC Meeting. Sami Jo made this announcement seeking a volunteer. There was no response from the membership.

#### **NAIHC Update**

- NAIHC Liaison Sami Jo Difuntorum provided the update.
- Sami Jo described the relationship between NAIHC and NWIHA.
- The next in-person meeting is the Legal Symposium scheduled in December in Las Vegas. It is hoped that the NAIHC annual meeting will be held concurrently with this event. NWIHA members were encouraged to attend.
- Due to travel restrictions, most all NAIHC training workshops will be held virtually. Exception is the Pathways training to be held in Washington D.C.
- The full report can be accessed through the NWIHA website.

## **Legislative Committee Update**

- Committee Chair Pro Tempore Sami Jo Difuntorum provided the update.
- An update of the brief history and status of the Committee was provided. An open invitation to all members to attend future meetings was expressed. Members were asked to contact Sami Jo if they're interested being placed on her contact list.
- Resolution 2021-02 was presented by Sami Jo, to support and encourage the United States Congress to increase the NAHBG to \$2,000,000,000 under Title I of NAHASDA and increase the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant to \$50,000,000. MOTION by Diana Phair to approve Resolution 2021-02; second by Sami Jo Difuntorum; approved without objection.

• Resolution 2021-03 was presented by Sami Jo, with clarifications from Ed Goodman, to call on Treasury to clarify in writing to Tribes and TDHEs how it will define and exercise its discretion around "excess" funds and how it will carry out its recapture and reallocation requirements under Section 501(d) of the Act in a manner that will maximize flexibility for Tribes and TDHEs to continue their efforts under the ERA Program and will minimize recapture and reallocation; and to call on Congress to amend Section 501 of the Act to permit Tribes and TDHEs greater flexibility in the utilization of these funds, consistent with the longstanding principles of tribal self-determination, including allowing use of such funds to assist homeowners and homebuyers. MOTION by Ron Ryan to approve Resolution 2021-02; second by Liz Kuntz; approved without objection.

#### Other Business: NWIHA Elections

- Chair Laurie Ann Cloud led a discussion regarding the NWIHA elections that were to have been held at the September Annual meeting according to the NWIHA Bylaws.
- At a meeting in August, the Executive Committee decided to hold our September meeting virtually. A message was sent out in August informing the membership that our annual meeting was being postponed until January 2022, and that the terms of the elected officials would be extended until then.
- The membership was asked if there were any objections to the above decision. There were no objections received from the membership.
- Plans will be made to hold the elections at the January meeting if the meeting is held in person. If not, other plans will need to be made.

#### Other Business: Members Link

• Charles provided an overview of the planned Members' Link for the NWIHA website. There were no questions from the membership.

## AMERIND Liaison Update/Report

- AMERIND Liaison Ron Ryan provided the highlights of the Amerind Update Report. The full report is available on the NWIHA website.
- AMERIND CEO Derek Valdo a detailed report outlining the need for an increase in premiums for its IHBG insurance program. The full presentation in video format is available on the NWIHA website, including responses to member questions.

Meeting recessed at 11:59 AM.

# Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Chairwoman Cloud called meeting back to order at 9:04 AM.

**Presentations** (full presentations and video recordings of the presentations described below can be found on the NWIHA website)

- Northwest ONAP: NWONAP Administrator Tom Carney, and NwONAP staff provided an update on NAHASDA and other HUD Programs, with an emphasis on the ICDBG-ARP program now underway.
- **EPA and Tribal Healthy Homes:** Erin McTigue and Gillian Mittelstaedt described new tenant education resources.
- Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) and Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF)
   Programs: Neil Poyo, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Economic
   Development, and Treasury Department staff, provided information regarding the ERA and HAF programs.
- AMERIND: Safety Services Manager Delane Big Crow (Oglala Sioux/Santa Clara Pueblo), Ike Cawston (Colville) and Urisha Marconi (Colville) will discuss defensive steps Members can take to mitigate the risk of wildfire losses, and preparation plans that can be made for evacuation if necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM.