



Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Call to Order and Opening Remarks

- Meeting called to order by Vice Chairwoman Sami Jo Difuntorum (Siletz) AT 8:42 AM.

Roll Call

- NWIHA Treasurer Joani Dugger called the roll of members in good standing (2023 dues paid). Fifteen members were needed to establish a quorum.
- Paid Members Present (18): Colville, Coquille, Cow Creek, Grand Ronde, Lower Elwha, Lummi, Metlakatla, Muckleshoot, Nez Perce, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Puyallup, Quileute, Siletz, Squaxin Island, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama Nation.
- Paid Members Absent (9): Burns Paiute, Confederated Tribes of CLUSI, Fort Hall, Hoh, Jamestown S’Klallam, Kalispel, Nooksack, Shoalwater Bay, and Upper Skagit.
- With 18 of 28 paid members present, Joani announced that a quorum was established.

Approval of the Agenda

- MOTION by Richard Arthur (Nez Perce) to approve the agenda as presented; motion passed by acclamation.

Introductions: Those in attendance were given the opportunity to introduce themselves.

Invocation and Welcome

- Led by Sam Barr, Stillaguamish Tribal Cultural Resources Department, Stillaguamish members provided a welcome and greeting songs, as well as a history Stillaguamish Long Houses.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

- The Consent Agenda included the following items:
 - Approval of Minutes of Business Meeting April 19-21, 2022.
 - Approval of Statement of Activities for 9 Months Ending September 30, 2022.
 - Approval of Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2022.

- After opportunity given to membership to remove and review any items from the Consent Agenda, Motion made by Joani Dugger (Grand Ronde) to approve the Consent Agenda items; Second by Jan Lewis (Yakama); Motion passed by acclimation.

NAIHC Update: Sami Jo Difuntorum, NAIHC Liaison, and Douglas Marconi, Sr., Alternate Liaison

- Details of the upcoming Legal Symposium and Annual Conference (including the Golf Tournament scheduled for May 8) were provided, as well as upcoming training courses. NWIHA members were encouraged to attend these events.
- NAIHC is in the process of hiring a new Executive Director. Details can be found on the NAIHC website.
- The complete NAIHC Update report can be found on the NWIHA website.

ATNI Update: Joani Dugger (Grand Ronde)

- ATNI Liaison Shonn Leno was absent in order to attend the ATNI Winter Meeting which was being held in Portland at the same time as the NWIHA meeting Shonn will provide a full report at the April NWIHA meeting.

AMERIND Update: Derek Valdo, AMERIND CEO and Ron Ryan, AMERIND Liaison

- Derek Valdo has returned from sabbatical and is once again serving as AMERIND CEO. Derek provided the narrative for the AMERIND PowerPoint presentation.
- Complete AMERIND reports can be found on the NWIHA website.
- Due to improved loss rates, it was projected that the Northwest Region should qualify for the \$20,000 incentive payment which will be used for NWIHA General Expenses. This payment will be made in April or May of 2023.
- Sami Jo Difuntorum pointed out that AMERIND donates \$200,000 each year to NAIHC, which should be recognized.

Executive Director Report

- Charles Anderson provided information regarding the cash from the closed Umpqua bank account has been recaptured in full from the Washington State Department of Revenue and deposited into the Wells Fargo account.
- NWIHA has been awarded \$175,000 to develop and implement an Executive Director skills curriculum and certification program. An RFP will be published soon and will be awarded in early summer. The program will take over an 18-month period with the goal of building capacity for all NWIHA members.
- Members were reminded that the NWIHA is now accepting applications for the Youth Scholarship program, and entries for the AMERIND Safety Poster Award Program.

Other Business

Member Discussions

- The deadline for expending Treasury funds was discussed - members responses varied regarding the amount of funds that remain to be expended with some members having expended all funds some time ago and others unable to expend all the funds.
- Sami Jo Difuntorum provided an excellent overview of the Congressional appropriations process and the current situation with respect to NAHASDA reauthorization.
- The problem tribes are experiencing with fentanyl was raised by Marcus Luke (Umatilla), Douglas Marconi, Sr. (Colville), Joani Dugger (Grand Ronde), Ann Penn-Charles (Quileute), and Sheena Kinsley-Sanders (Lummi). Lummi will be hosting a regional Prevention Summit later this year – more information about that will be coming.
- Diana Phair (Lummi) provided information about the wrap-around services program and transitional housing homes they are developing.

Meeting recessed at 12:03 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 1:35 PM.

Presentations (full presentations described below can be found on the NWIHA website (nwiha.org)).

- NwONAP Administrator Tom Carney and staff provided updates on funding opportunities, training, and regulatory updates.
- Deana O'Hara, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Drisa Johnson, Director, ONAP Office of Loan Guarantee, and Chun-Yiu"Andrew" Lee, Senior Advisor, ONAP Office of Loan Guarantee, provided a brief overview of the proposed rule, its impact on Tribes and Tribal borrowers, and received comments on the proposed rule from attendees.
- Gina Chamberlain, Homeownership Program Manager for RCAC, provided information on how the USDA 502 Direct Loan Program and other resources can support local tribal Homeownership programs.

Meeting recessed at 4:35 PM

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Vice Chairwoman Difuntorum called the meeting back to order at 8:33 AM.

Presentations

- Mindi D'Angelo (Senior Vice-President of FirstPic) and Odalis Vicencio (Formula Customer Service Center) provided an overview of the IHBG Formula. Training topics included the basics of the formula components, when and how to report changes and units that are conveyance eligible, vacant, or converted, as well as what to do if project

counts do not match. Other topics included the difference between tribal enrollment and Needs data, and formula area.

- Greg Belding, architect with Rice Fergus Miller, and Chris Marfori from Wenaha Group, presented information about how tribal facilities for healing are helping tribal communities recover from opioid addiction.
- Ann Penn-Charles (Quileute) provided their experience with climate change and the steps they are having to take to protect their communities.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

***NOTE:** all documents related to this meeting, and other past meetings, can be found via the NWIHA website at <https://www.nwiha.org/past-meetings/>.