



Call to Order and Opening Remarks

Meeting called to order by Chairwoman Laurie Ann Cloud at 8:40 AM.

Welcome and Invocation

A welcome and invocation was provided by Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council member Caj Matheson.

Roll Call

- NWIHA Secretary Diana Phair called the roll of members in good standing (2023 dues paid).
- Members Present: Chehalis Tribal Housing Authority (proxy), Coeur d'Alene Tribal Housing Authority, Colville Indian Housing Authority, Coquille Indian Housing Authority, Clow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, Cowlitz Housing Authority (proxy), Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Hoh Indian Tribe, Lower Elwha Housing Authority, Lummi Nation Housing Authority, Metlakatla Housing Authority, Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority, Nisqually Tribal Housing, Port Gamble S'Klallam Housing Authority, Sauk Suiattle Tribe (proxy), Siletz Tribe, Spokane Indian Housing Authority, Squaxin Island Tribe (proxy), Tulalip Tribes, Umatilla Reservation Housing, Upper Skagit Tribe, Yakama Nation Housing Authority.
- With 22 members present, Diana declared a quorum was established.

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

Approval of the Agenda

- **MOTION** made by Diana Phair (Lummi) to approve the agenda as presented; second by Ron Ryan (Metlakatla). Sami Jo Difuntorum (Siletz) asked that the Bylaws* be removed from the consent agenda. Motion, as amended, approved without objection.
- **MOTION** made by Janet Hren (Lower Elwha) to approve the Consent Agenda items; seconded by Sami Jo Difuntorum. Motion approved without objection. The Consent Agenda included:
 - Approval of Minutes of Business Meeting April 11, 2023.
 - Approval of Statement of Activities for 6 months ending June 30, 2023.
 - Approval of Statement of Financial Position as of June 30, 2023.

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

- NAIHC is in the process of entering into a contract with an interim Executive Director. Chelsea Fish is no longer the Executive Director.
- Members were reminded of the Legal Symposium to be held October 4-6 in Las Vegas. NAIHC

is looking at holding future Legal Symposiums outside of Las Vegas (Phoenix, Reno, and Albuquerque were mentioned as possible alternative sites).

- The Annual Meeting was held in Hawaii in May, however no quorum was established so no business could be conducted, so resolutions submitted by NWIHA and others were not acted upon during the Regular Meeting.
- A handout was provided to the membership of the NAIHC Legislative Committee Meeting held August 3, 2023. The handout summarized the status of the reauthorization of NAHASDA Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations bills.

ATNI Update: Shonn Leno (Grand Ronde)

Shonn was unable to attend the recent ATNI Conference so did not have a report. He will be attending the next meeting however and will provide a report in January.

AMERIND Update: Ron Ryan, AMERIND Liaison

- Ron Ryan summarized the written report provided to the membership by CEO Derek Valdo.
- Due to fire losses exceeding the 20% ratio, Region 6 will not be receiving an incentive payment in 2024. All reports are available on the NWIHA website at www.nwiha.org.
- The next Annual Amerind meeting will be held in Nashville, TN, the week of October 12th, 2024. There are no plans at this time to hold a joint meeting with NAIHC although conversations are taking place to see if that will happen.

Executive Director Training Curriculum Project: Brandi Liberty (Luak Group)

- NWIHA Director Charles Anderson provided the background of the project funded by Meyer Memorial Trust, which resulted in contracting with the Luak Group to provide the services.
- Brandi Liberty provided an overview of Luak's role for the project. In addition to Brandi, Krystal Cedeno, Annalee Trujillo, and Tal Moore will be the Luak team providing the contract services.
- One of the first tasks will be to do a Needs Assessment and Survey of the current housing directors of NWIHA. Luak Group will be contacting the membership with this information.

Housing Legal Update Subscription: Cari Baerman, attorney for Hobbs, Straus, Dean, & Walker, provided information regarding a legal update service they provide for tribal housing programs. NWIHA is considering providing a subsidy to help pay for this program for NWIHA members, however there are no concrete plans currently to implement this subsidy.

Department of Energy: Stephanie Bostwick, Tribal Outreach Specialist for the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs provided information about funding opportunities available through their programs.

Housing Design and Climate Change: Marcus Luke (Umatilla) facilitated a panel discussion related to steps tribes can take to incorporate in housing designs and development to address climate change issues. Panel members included Clyde Abrahamson (Spokane IHA), Stephanie Bostwick (Northwest Indian College), and Christine Golightly (CRITFC).

Build America Buy America Program: Jad Atallah, ONAP Director of Performance Planning led a consultation of the BABA requirements that will become effective in 2024. Following Jad’s presentation of a program overview and requirements, members were asked to comment and ask questions.

Meeting Documents: all meeting documents including presentation PowerPoints can be found at the NWIHA website <https://www.nwiha.org/past-meetings-2023/>.

***Bylaws:** during the Members Roundtable, held in Executive Session, several revisions were suggested. It was the consensus of the members present that the Bylaws be reviewed by legal counsel and then resubmitted for approval by the membership at the January 2024 meeting.

Member Discussions

- Two Resolutions were presented by Sami Jo Difuntorum and Anne Cook (Coquille) with the hope that they be adopted and taken before NAIHC at the meeting in May. See Resolutions section below for more information. Since a quorum was not present, no action on the resolutions could be taken at that time.
- Douglas Marconi, Sr. led a discussion on the conversion of Tax Credit units to homeownership and described the experiences Colville had encountered. Laurie Ann Cloud (Nez Perce) also described her experiences and made several recommendations.

Meeting Recessed at 11:58 AM and reconvened at 1:35 PM.

Roll Call

- Paid Members Present (23): Burns Paiute (Proxy), Colville, Confederated Tribes of CLUSI, Coquille, Cow Creek, Grand Ronde, Jamestown S’Klallam, Klamath, Lower Elwha, Lummi, Metlakatla, Muckleshoot, Nez Perce, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Quileute, Siletz, Skokomish, Spokane, Squaxin Island (Proxy), Umatilla (Proxy), Upper Skagit, Warm Springs, and Yakama Nation.
- Paid Members Absent (17): Chehalis, Coeur d’Alene, Cowlitz, Fort Hall, Hoh, Kalispel, Makah, Nisqually, Nooksack, Puyallup, Quinault, Samish, Shoalwater Bay, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip.
- With 23 of 40 paid members present, Joani announced that a quorum was established.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

- The Consent Agenda included the following items:
 - Minutes of Business Meeting January 10-11, 2023.
 - Financial Statements for the First Quarter of 2023.
- After the opportunity given to membership to remove and review any items from the Consent Agenda, **MOTION** was made by Joani Dugger (Grand Ronde) to approve the Consent Agenda items; Second by Ann Jagger (Jamestown S’Klallam); Motion passed by unanimous consent.

Resolutions

- **Resolution 2023-01:** “The membership of the NWIHA requests the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Native American Programs allocate Technical Assistance funds to collect and compile a report on the number of IHBG-funded units currently under management by TDHE’s and THD’s”.
- **Resolution 2023-02:** “The membership of the NWIHA supports and encourages the

United States Congress to increase the IHBG to \$1,642,000,000 under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.) and increase the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant to \$20,000,000.”

- **MOTION** by Douglas Marconi, Sr. to approve Resolution 2023-01; second by Roseann Fonzi (Quileute); adopted by unanimous consent.
- **MOTION** by Roseann Fonzi to approve Resolution 2023-02; second by Ann Jagger (Jamestown S’Klallam); adopted by unanimous consent.
- The complete Resolutions can be found at <https://www.nwiha.org/meetings/>.

Presentations*

- NwONAP staff presented the most common obstacles grantees are experiencing in implementing HUD programs, and how these obstacles can be overcome. Participants will be given time to ask questions regarding the specific issues they are experiencing.
- AMERIND Training Director Delane Big Crow led a discussion regarding the steps to take to avoid fire dangers for both your tribally-owned housing and your community.
- Rick Novak presented information regarding Associate Member Worldwide Structures and the transitional/emergency housing option Worldwide Structures provides.

Meeting recessed at 5:03 PM.

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Vice Chairwoman Difuntorum called the meeting back to order at 8:38 AM. Cow Creek Tribal Cultural Resources Director provided a history of the Cow Creek people and their path to tribal recognition.

Presentations

- Scott Rich, Specialist with the Special Needs Assessment Programs (HUD) provided an introduction to the Continuum of Care Program, including links to the laws, regulations, and notices upon which the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is based, overviews of CoC Program requirements, and crosswalks of the regulatory and operational changes between the legacy homeless programs and the CoC Program.
- Colt Sray and Judi Hui-Pasquini of Oregon Housing and Community Services provided an overview of the steps they have been taking to improve affordable housing options for Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribal Nations, by fostering relationships and breaking down barriers to access financing.

MOTION by Anne Cook to adjourn; seconded by Shonn Leno; approved without objection.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM.

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