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**YUROK TRIBAL COUNCIL
PLANNING MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022
<https://zoom.us/j/92549693537>**

ROLL CALL: 10:00am

PRESENT: Joe James, Chairman; Frankie Myers, Vice Chairman; Sherri Provolt, Orick District; Lori Hodge, East District; Ryan Ray, Requa District; Toby Vanlandingham, Weitchpec District; Phillip Williams, North District; Lana McCovey, South District; Mindy Natt, Pecwan District;

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Don Barnes, Executive Director; Taralyn Ipiña, Chief Operations Officer; Dawn Baum, Office of Tribal Attorney; Georgiana Gensaw (recorder).

QUORUM: 9 Present, 0 absent, quorum present.

OPENING PRAYER: Provided by Councilmember Williams.

REVIEW AGENDA /ADDITIONS /APPROVAL:

Motion by Councilmember Vanlandingham/Vice Chairman Myers to accept the agenda with the additions of CA22-073 and CA22-074. Motion carries by consensus.

REVIEW CALENDAR/ADDITIONS: Council postponed calendar review until Thursday, March 24.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES: Tribal Court staff: Mykia Washington, Emily Agredano, and Robert Kane.

COUNCIL CHECK IN:

Councilmember Provolt: I had my Orick district meeting and we talked about elk management, and I know that's on our agenda for today. We really do hope that we can find a way to be able to harvest elk and to be able to update the hunting ordinance soon. We talked about elder services as a priority for the tribe and talked about ideas on how to have sustainable funding for elder services. There was a lot of discussion about wellness and the need for us to really step forward on wellness for our tribal members. They asked we really think about our policies and our messages that we're sending out for our young children, and all of our membership and making wellness and culture a primary focus. We talked about the referendums and they are looking forward to the upcoming town hall meetings. We had a lot of discussion about housing and the rules around low-income housing and how these rules makes it very difficult for the average family to be able to find house that's affordable. We need to figure out how we can find ways to have affordable housing versus just low-income housing. The members are anxious

March 23, 2022, Council Planning meeting

44 to get early head start and head start programs fully functioning again, so that working parents
45 can be able to use those services. And two more things, they ask if the Departments consider a
46 consolidated calendar of events so members can plan to attend. Many times events are
47 noticed in the tribal newspaper after the fact, or some people don't have social media and they
48 don't know about those events. So, if we can think about a monthly calendar of events, where
49 all departments can post their events that can be mailed out. And the last thing I'll comment on
50 is regarding the meeting we had this morning with federal agencies around our water and the
51 need for flushing flows and water for our boat dances. I'm just so extremely proud of our team.
52 The message was strong, the message was consistent, and it really spoke to us as Yurok people
53 on how important that river is. And I just really want to thank the staff for their knowledge and
54 being able to provide council with the information we need to be able to stand up with our
55 science that supports our efforts. I'll conclude there. Thank you.

56
57 Councilmember Natt: I just want to express, along with other Councilmembers, our efforts with
58 the meetings we had in Sacramento. It went really well and it was amazing to be able to speak
59 on behalf of our concerns. It was a good meeting and there's a lot of good things coming down
60 for forest management, water, and fire. Everything seems to be coming together. I think that if
61 we do this right, it will create balance. I'm really excited. Thank you.

62
63 Councilmember Ray: Council traveled to Sacramento last week. We had about 15 meetings in
64 two days, maybe more. We had meetings with Assemblymember Woods and Senator McGuire.
65 I won't go through them all, but we had important meetings with the Department of Parks &
66 Recreation, Bureau of Indian affairs, Natural Resource agencies and the list goes on and on.
67 Basically, what we are doing in Sacramento is advocating for our communities when it comes to
68 drought, when it comes to health care, and a lot of different issues to better our communities.
69 Also if you're looking for employment, you can get your foot in the door at NCIDC who is
70 recruiting for two individuals right now for UIHS. One is for a COVID-19 data collection. Both
71 positions are pretty much around the front desk type work. So, if you know anybody that's
72 looking to get into UIHS, contact NCIDC. I had my district meeting and we started off with the
73 open discussion, concerns, or complaints. The first one was regarding the community calendar.
74 We need to get the community calendar back up and running. Whether that be upcoming
75 events, zoom events, et cetera, and get our departments to start adding to the calendar again
76 and get it back up and running, that would be great. One of the concerns expressed was that
77 the participants that were working for the day labor program during the Elder Firewood event
78 did not get paid I'm not sure who that was, but that was one of the concerns shared that
79 people did not get paid. I have one individual I'm not sure where the individual work got hired
80 and was willing to work at the office, because they didn't have room for at the office. So, she
81 was told she had to work from home and then had to buy her own office equipment and set up
82 her own office at home. It didn't last too long. Long story short, the individual resigned because
83 of the circumstances, which doesn't sound right. You know, when you're told there is no room
84 for you and you have to work at your house, but there is no support, that's not cool. So, we
85 should have more discussion if that is the case. Also, if council wants an executive session to
86 discussion the bus stops, let them know. We were trying to install some out in the Glen. One

87 question that came from a community landowners was if the bus stops have to be on tribal
88 land? Some of the options could be if a non-tribal entity or landowner is willing to let us use
89 their land, we could work on easements. Tribal members also want to know about cultural sea
90 lion take. This is something that's been thrown around for years now and I think it's time we get
91 an answer. We are talking in-house about Marine Mammal Protection Acts and all those things,
92 but we need to contact somebody to get a response in writing regarding what we need to do to
93 make this happen. Right now, the sea lines are down at the mouth. I imagine they're coming
94 from a long way away, because fishing's good at the mouth of the river and no one's going to
95 touch them. We're not going to get an answer if we don't ask the question. I think
96 Councilmember Williams could push this question and get an answer from someone. We also
97 talked about the KCSD agreement that was just signed not too long ago so we can get the
98 bigger tank up and to fix the water capacity shortage in the town site. One of the board
99 members for KCSD was at the meeting and I asked her if she's been contacted at all regarding
100 next steps after the agreement was signed. And she said, no, she hasn't heard from us since the
101 agreement was signed. I don't know if that's good or bad. We talked about Hunter Creek Park
102 and all the communications surrounding that issue. We talked about baseball field and
103 hopefully moving forward with renovation this summer. We talked about the Salmon Festival
104 and I received a thumbs up from the community that it's time to have it. So let's pick a date
105 and move forward. We'll talk about the referendums that are on the going to be on the ballot.
106 Regarding blood quantum referendum, the input made was to do some projections out for 10
107 to 15 years to see what that looks like. I just wanted to make sure that we are not changing
108 something that will impact only 10 people. We talked about the land lease for more than 20
109 years and had a good dialogue surrounding that. There's still confusion about this one, so when
110 we do these town halls meetings, we really need to have it laid out so people understand.
111 There are concerns about that safe and sober house and the need for proper support when it
112 comes to those individuals that are staying in those homes. They don't think the staff at the
113 Tribal Court are properly trained. There was an incident and staff need more training on how to
114 run this program. How to give these individuals support and to be successful in life and not one
115 and you're done. That's it for now.

116
117 Councilmember Hodge: Good morning, everyone. I also went on the trip to Sacramento and
118 met with several state organizations as Councilmember Ray mentioned. It was a privilege to be
119 able to thank the staff at the Department of Water Resources who provided a 12.6 million grant
120 for us to work on our water systems in the Tulley Creek in Weitchpec area. I just wish you all
121 could experience the passion with which our Chairman, Vice Chairman and our Council speaks
122 to these agencies. It is really wonderful to experience. I'm so proud to have gone and been a
123 part of this group. We were received with respect and kindness, and it was a real great trip. And
124 we couldn't have met with as many people as we did if not for our staff. The hard work of our
125 staff, they really made it possible. I also had my district meeting on Monday and we talked
126 about spring fisheries. The only issue is regarding sea lions would like to know more about
127 cultural take of the sea lions. I'm hoping we can have a work session or something to really
128 work on that issue as soon. Also, Pamela Ames, CEO of Pre-go-neesh, is still looking for a board
129 member for the corporation. So, if anyone's interested in participating on that board, you can

130 get ahold of me or Pamela. And lastly, I just wanted to encourage everyone who is of voter age
131 to register to vote in Humboldt and in Del Norte County for the supervisory election. It's going
132 to be very important to the tribe and I'm hoping that everyone will get out there and register
133 and vote. Thank you.

134
135 Councilmember McCovey: I had my District Meeting, and in the meeting, they are requesting
136 that Council make some kind of a proclamation or a resolution that when we discuss or act for
137 elders that we always include disabled. We also discussed the need for in-home supportive
138 services to included meals services. Right now, the services that are available only provide
139 frozen meals, and they keep seeing all the pictures of the hot ones in North area so they are a
140 little jealous. During the summer months they ask that maybe the tribe can provide elders and
141 disabled a produce vouchers from UIHS, maybe with a value of \$10 so that they can go over and
142 support the garden and get fresh, produce for the membership. We talked about the wind
143 turbine project that is going to be off Humboldt County shores. Members would like to have
144 some more information on the project and would like the tribe to discuss it with membership
145 because the project could greatly affect the community. I asked if they wanted to see the
146 salmon festival return and I had an all thumbs up. I attended a UIHS Special Meeting to act on
147 some time sensitive issues. Council knows that I've been really concerned about clean
148 transportation issues in regards to electric cars and how we're going to approach initiative and
149 what we're going to do. I have been contacted by the California Air Resources Board and they
150 would like to discuss funding opportunities to address some of the concerns that we have
151 regarding these issues. So, I'd like to work with Council and with the Executive Director as to
152 how we can move forward on that particular project. I also attended the 38th Annual Women's
153 History Gala Celebration in Ukiah on Sunday for Tribal member, Shirley Matilda. She is the
154 owner of a hair salon in Ukiah, called Feathers. She was recognized for her community
155 contributions. Also attending this event was Malia Cohen, who is the Chair of the California
156 State Board of Equalization. She deals a lot with PG&E and assessing taxes, and making sure
157 that land that is for sale is properly priced. She is currently running for the State Controller and
158 has been endorsed by the incumbent and so she would like to set up a meeting if we are so
159 inclined. Thank you.

160
161 Councilmember Vanlandingham: Good morning, I'll pass for today.

162
163 Councilmember Phillips: I think we heard how successful the Sacramento trip was and it was
164 great. Upcoming on Monday, March 28th, they are starting up the Yurok Health and Human
165 Services Advisory Committee meetings in person. The first meeting will be in Weitchpec at
166 11:30am. Zoom options will also be offered. Another exciting thing for me is that we are
167 starting to create our own heavy equipment training program. It's exciting. We have most of
168 the pieces in place and now in search of an instructor, who we hoped will be certified by
169 College of the Redwoods. Another thing I like to highlight is that we have revived Veterans
170 Honor Guard. We have some training scheduled so the Yurok Tribe Veterans Color Guard can
171 be ready to present at events, festivals, and graveside services. We've been asked to present
172 our colors at the College of the Redwood's graduation ceremony this spring. So, we're working

173 towards that goal right now, and I'm really excited that that's going forward. I am also a liaison
174 for the Natural Resources Committee. We helped develop the spring fisheries in-seasonal
175 adjustments. The committee asked for the Tribe to develop a long-term plan for salmon
176 recovery in the dam removal area, so Council we should start working on that plan.
177 That's it for today.

178
179 Vice Chair Myers: Pass

180
181 Chairman James: Thank you, George. Yurok tribal membership, Councilmembers are working
182 hard. We're moving and trying to push every direction, at the state and local level, and at the
183 federal level. This morning it was good to get started early and talk about the commitment for
184 our river. The lack of water flows last year and the fact that we had a lot of juveniles die. That's
185 still hurts. We hear our membership loud and clear. We've got a duty and responsibility to
186 protect our fisheries and juvenile salmon. It was a good meeting this morning at 8:00am. So, we
187 started off in a good way. We are going to continue to work hard. I want to let members know
188 that I will be traveling to DC next week for philanthropy discussions, land back, and working to
189 get resources and funding so we can do those things that we're talking about - wellness,
190 healing, housing, water, economics development, et cetera, across the board. Tribal
191 membership, we continue to work hard and I wouldn't want it any other way.

192
193 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None provided.

194
195 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
196 Personnel (Natt)
197 Legal Update (Executive Director)
198 Debrief (Vice Chair)

199
200 **AGENDA ITEMS:**
201 **Administration Department**
202 Human Resources Department
203 Rose Sylvia presents
204 HR22-004 Personnel Policy Planning Day
205 Submitted by Rose Sylvia

206 **Planning day in March or later to review Personnel Policy Modifications. Discussion of policies**
207 **presented and updated. An additional day in April was set.**

208
209 CA22-070, Recruitment Strategies
210 Submitted by Councilmember Provolt

211 **To receive a report back from Human Resources on implemented recruitment strategies as**
212 **discussed with Council on February 14 and March 4, 2022. Human Resources provided an**
213 **update to Council. Discussion only.**

214
215 **Natural Resources Division**

March 23, 2022, Council Planning meeting

216 Wildlife Department
217 Tiana Williams-Claussen presents
218 WILD22-006, Elk Management Planning Session
219 Submitted By Tiana Williams-Claussen

Council consensus to set March 23, 2022 for a planning session to discuss ungulate management, particularly elk management and consultation with California Fish and Game Commission. Discussion only.

223
224 **LUNCH:** 12:00 pm - 1:03pm
225

TIRBAL MEMBER COMMENT:

227 Margo Robbins: My internet is not that great so I hope you can hear me. My name's Margo
228 Robbins. I'm from the Pecwan district and I just wanted to let Council know that we had a really
229 successful Trex burned which was about 70 acres at the beginning of January. This burn was in
230 cooperation with the Yurok Fire Department, so that went really good. I just wanted to let you
231 guys know we have been doing some post cleanup. Also, I just wanted to mention that a little
232 over a year ago, I met with the Council, and we actually had a planning session, regarding when
233 tribal members can do burns less than an acre. It's been more than a year and follow up from
234 that meeting still has not taken place. And then finally I would just like to clarify that it was
235 brought up that the Cultural Fire Management Council had received a four million dollars grant
236 to do work in Weitchpec, and that has no basis in reality. I wish we had four million dollars,
237 wouldn't that be great? So, I just wanted to clarify that. I also will take the time to let Council
238 know that I think you guys are doing a great job and thank you.

239
240 **ADGENDA ITEMS:**

Executive Office

241 Benefits Department
242 Liz Turner presents
243 B22-002, Group Health Plan-Life Insurance Renewal
244 Submitted by Elizabeth Turner

Motion by Councilmember Hodge/Councilmember Ray to approve Life Insurance and AD&D with Unum Life Insurance with an increase benefit amount to \$40,000. Motion carries by consensus.

249
250 B22-003, Group Health-ACA applicability to Corporations
251 Submitted by Elizabeth Turner

To request discussion on OTA legal opinion and possible action on Affordable Care Act (ACA) applicability to businesses and corporations of the tribe. Set further work sessions. Discussion only, no action.

255
256 **Council**
257 Matt Mais presents
258 CA22-066, Salmon Festival

March 23, 2022, Council Planning meeting

259 Submitted by Taralyn Ipina

260 **Motion by Councilmember Ray/Councilmember Vanlandingham to authorize Yurok Tribe to**
261 **host a Salmon Festival for Saturday, August 20, 2022. Motion carries by consensus.**

262
263 CA22-074, Biodiversity Travel
264 Submitted by Chairman James

265 **Motion by Councilmember Vanlandingham/Councilmember McCovey to authorize Chairman**
266 **James to attend Annual Land and Freshwater Conservation Meeting on March 29-31st in**
267 **Washington DC. Motion carries by consensus.**

268
269 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None provided.
270

271 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 2:45pm -3:27pm

272 CA22-073 (Natt)
273 Legal Update (Executive Director)
274 Debrief (Vice Chair)

275
276 CA22-073, Youth Donation - Down River Wrestling
277 Submitted by Councilmember Natt


278 **Motion by Councilmember Hodge/Councilmember Vanlandingham to approve donation of**
279 **\$250 to Down River Wrestling from Pecwan District travel funds. Motion carries by**
280 **consensus.**

281
282 **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENT:** None provided.
283

284 **CLOSING PRAYER:** Provided by Councilmember Williams.

285
286 **ADJOURN:** 3:30pm

287
288 **MEETING MINUTES APPROVED ON:** **May 5, 2022**

289
290 
291 _____
292 **Sherri K. Provolt, Secretary**

05/09/2022

Date