

**Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting  
December 21, 2023 – Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to order at 9:58am by Chairman Attebery.**

**Present:**

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman  
Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman  
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer  
Eli Hensher-Aubrey, Member at Large  
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large  
Arch Super, Member at Large  
Kristen King, Member at Large  
Elizabeth “Liz” Bentley, Member at Large  
Arron “Troy” Hockaday, Member at Large

**Absent:**

None

**Council Member Arch Super completed a prayer and Chairman Attebery read the Mission Statement.**

**Agenda:**

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Consent Calendar:**

Arch noted that the CSD resolutions were an issue because it doesn’t match and the date is incorrect. Josh noted that there are some errors. Arch also noted that Tox is off \$6 and he is unsure that this error is significant. Erin noted that that is due to rounding on internal forms, she noted that as long as it is not on the forms. Arch then commented that the amounts are not carried across in a budget sheet.

The Council discussed the travel plans and the volume of people on travel. Binx noted that this is a red flag due to the volume. Arch is fine with this and Buster noted that another question is that when there was a finding for a TANF Hawaii trip what flagged it was the amount of people that went along with the training that was attended. Buster noted that this travel is justified.

Arch then noted that the resolution for Smullen was not signed off. James explained that he emailed Neva and it was signed and sent back.

Binx Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve the consent calendar, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Minutes of November 16, 2023:**

Arch Super moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve the minutes of November 16, 2023, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Old Business:**

Troy thanked Bill and the DNR staff for seeking funding to make the program funds to ensure capacity and salaries in staffing. Troy thanked DNR and Bill for their excellent work.

Binx asked Jennifer about the dress material and project. He explained that Orleans is already making dresses. Happy Camp is behind and Yreka is way behind. Jennifer explained that the community effort is to make three dresses one for each community. They will meet in Orleans and Happy Camp and start including the community. TANF clients can do projects as well.

He then asked to be on the Fish and Water Commission for the Tribe. It was Mike Polmateer and Binx wants that seat. Binx will take that seat.

Scott Quinn moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve a nomination of Binx Brink to the Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and set an alternate, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx will work with DNR on the Commission. His last question was a discussion on supporting Vice-Chairman Myers and his campaign. The Council will discuss this.

**Language:**

It's raining "toputhrahaash"

**Guests:**

**1) Verna Reece, Tribal Member:**

Verna is not present. Jennifer presented the request to use the office next to the Orleans Council Chamber, once a week on Friday's. Every Friday 1-5pm. Dion would like to work with this situation because he is using the space, and there was a request from KTHA to have their ROSS/TRO use the office next to that. Verna would like to leave the materials onsite as well. Office space should be delegated to who makes the decision. Scott would like that clarified. Dion will work it out with Verna on the shared space.

**2) Scott Alestine/Alora Sutcliffe:**

Dion noted that neither are present so that will need to be tabled.

**Director Reports:**

**1) April Attebury, Judicial Systems:**

Troy asked who is on the KJAC. Troy noted that the meeting was short and this is four times that there hasn't been a quorum. Troy noted that the appointments go out to all six Council Members. Josh commented that they are on a set time and schedule.

Binx Brink moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve April's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**2) Jack Lantz, Director of Public Works:**

Jack is not present, report provided.

Misty is present to seek approval contract modification (1) for Mike Peters contract for additional work that was needed for Hillside Properties.

Troy Hockaday moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve modification (1) to contract 24-C-010, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

The parking lot at Hillside will not be paved until after winter but will be compacted and base put down. Troy then noted that with gravel being put down there is work being done that won't have additional work at a later time. Scott asked if the TIP was approved in the consent calendar and asked if the Council discussed or participated in the planning. Scott asked if another road was

included. Misty noted that no there is a project in there but that will be the next step. Scott noted that there is a new process for allowing staff to upload their own plan. Misty is aware and has done that as well.

Troy asked how Grayback is coming along. Misty noted that there is progress. The USFS put in a proposal and they will get information back. If not funded, she has been working with Neva and a couple people at DNR for additional ideas.

Buster asked about the BIA backlogging and taking exceptionally long to respond. He also thanked Darrell Frost for coming to Orleans to attend Shop with a Cop. Darrell doesn't have action items but it was an extraordinary project. Jennifer asked about First Aid and CPR classes. Darrell does provide his First Aid and CPR for all areas to ensure certifications are kept current. He also noted that he secured February 3, 2024 will do a disaster training. This includes a pack for emergency supplies and additional resources to expand to other areas.

Arch asked about Jack's report and the infant toddler center. Eli was going to bring that up during his time.

Arch had asked Bobby about his project in Yreka. Jack reported that the Katishraam Floor project is still out there. Erin noted that the Katishraam floor is going to get accomplished. Erin clarified that the outdoor items may not be accomplished. Liz asked if the indoor court is moving forward and it was noted that it is.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Jack's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**3) Sara Spence, KTHA ED:**

Sara is present in Happy Camp to seek approval of her action items. She first sought approval of resolutions which reaffirm trust applications to include reservation proclamation.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 23-R-213, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 23-R-214, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

She then sought approval of a reservation proclamation. Josh asked for a clarification of this process. Sara advised that Scott may have more information. Scott provided a brief on what proclaiming properties may do. Troy asked if there is a gap of properties that don't have this proclamation. Scott noted that this provides a little bit of insurance should an act or another authority does something, or state reservation status and it was held in court, but there are other parcels that don't have it. Scott noted that you have to do the entire trust process again, if you go back to those properties.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 23-R-215, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Her next action item is to request the Board to use \$10k of its discretionary for embroidered clothing options for housing employees, with the housing logo. She has been researching what other options there are for other employees long term.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve authorizing \$10k for items for employees, Board, and Council, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Sara noted that Carol Cook has done an amazing job on outreach. She has increased outreach and participation for the tenants. Three priorities will be education, employment, and financial literacy. The conversations with Humboldt County are resulting in action on their part to push Housing projects forward.

Four vacancies have been filled for KTHA.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Sara's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**4) Dion Wood, TERO/Childcare:**

Dion is present to review his report. He updated that the TANF Plan was approved for the next three years and now they will review policies and procedures. They have offered four positions for TANF.

Scott is present to note that there are 20 people showing up for language revitalization in the area. They meet in-person at the Happy Camp Computer Center in the evenings and you can zoom in from home.

Four youth and 2 chaperones are requesting to travel. Arch asked what funding will be used. Scott noted that they will do a TANF project proposal and the KYL has their own funding as well. This will be four youth attending.

Consensus: to work on the project and do the approvals as soon as possible.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Dion's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**5) Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:**

Erin is present to review her report. She noted that the Skyline project is out to bid. There are a lot of articles submitted for the Newsletter. The focus on different departments was selected and each category is working well. Public Works will be next and then DNR. There are a lot of audit information being shared. Scott will attend the next meeting with the consultant accounting firm.

The ARPA projects are ongoing. Erin thanked the Council for assistance and announced that they are going in the right direction for the Health Administration facility. The balance of ICDBG grant funds will go to the Frontier facility upgrades. Troy asked what the uses are. The grant was originally to purchase the Big Foot Trailer Park which was OES Offices, Fire Crew, etc. Since that was not available the plans were sought to purchase another site. The commercial kitchen should be repaired as well. Troy asked Scott about the smoking inside the building. Erin noted that the Construction Manager and Director of Public Works Director have seen the facility. There will be a meeting with Darrell and Bill and schedule a walk-thru to identify needs. Bill noted that the commercial kitchen can tie into emergency operations.

Arch Super moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve Erin's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**6) Josh Saxon, ED:**

Josh is present to review his report. He has had a short month as he has been out a lot sick. HR has been very busy. There have been a lot of grants received. Emma Lee sought an additional grant that was funded. Troy noted that homeless funding is not a fix all and there needs to be long term assistance. Troy asked for early communication to note that this funding is not available long term.

A last-minute push for newsletter articles was made. A MOU with the USFS is upcoming for the Katimiin area. The draft is being reviewed by the USFS OGC at this time and then it will come back in the next month or so.

Scott Quinn moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve Josh's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Josh then noted that if there are any questions during the week, let him know, he is available.

**7) James Davis, Self-Governance:**

James is present to review his report. He has passed his six-month probationary period and he has been able to learn programs and the operations of the Tribe. He has been having a growing period. The Progress Act is ongoing and this year should be the date of closure. Rule making is being developed and this process redefines a process in bills to make things easier.

He highlighted a section about California AB310. This was presented to the Council recently regarding prescribed burns in the area. There is support for this effort and in terms of what is being looked at is liability issues for cultural practitioners of good fire.

The offshore wind has some concerns and the direction is to have BOEM present. James would like to have elected Council Members speak up and attend meetings to speak up for issues. Neva has done very well in pulling him into discussions on other items as well. Evaluating wind energy is important.

The FASSR report was submitted and is pretty much metrics and data. The second report was the collection of data from different administration departments which was the multiyear evaluation tool. This is shared and feedback is provided relevant to how the tribe is operating within the multiyear funding agreement. One challenge was finding the old files.

James noted that there is confusion on resolution processes and if the staff don't follow the path that has been approved then there are errors. Following a path is important and if not followed it causes confusion. He has been working on obtaining the resolutions. He would like to institute a new process of maintaining a master file and master copy. Having to track them down, then there are issues and backlog. He would like a master copy presented at the meeting and left at the meeting.

Jennifer noted that there are issues with wind solar and what is going to happen with local services and storage and questions about the benefits of locals for wind energy, when it is taking their resources. Bill noted that there was a comment letter put in. There are three groups in the conversation. The comment letter may need to be sent along as well with the consultation policy. There are some Tribes that support this and the Karuk Tribe needs to understand how this works. Troy noted that the fish and water needs to be looked into. He advised that there are issues with the environmental concerns for this energy. The lamprey navigate differently so this is going to be a long term issue for them. There are long term concerns and they need to look out for this.

Craig pointed out that he started a whole new consulting company to provide information on wind energy. Craig offered to have a presentation provided to the Council.

Binx Brink moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve James' report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**8) Bill Tripp, DNR Director:**

Bill is present to review his report. He has a few items that he would like to add in the conversation. DNR is making a push on the Good Fire 2 report. They are also working on the SB310 update to get that information out as well. They want to push for approval in February. Bill would like to also note that there are definitions driven by the Karuk Tribe since the law doesn't speak to the definition of cultural fire. Sarah Clark is working on this and trying to define it.

Isha is present to seek approval of procurement and contract 24-C-037. Arch noted that this is a late item and there needs to be a process implemented to get things out for review earlier. It is time sensitive. She is present to seek approval of procurement. The RFP's have not been seen by a lot of contractors until about a month ago.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve procurement and authorize contract 24-C-037, 4 haa, 0 puuhara, 4 pupitihara (Scott, Kristen, Liz, Arch).

Misty noted that you usually request documentation for Tribally Owned Business.

Craig Tucker is present to seek approval of a couple action items. He would like to discuss Kiki BBC media. She is making a series of films that will be run in different shows that air in public areas. She wants to use clips from a video made by Craig in 2005. The film is Solving Klamath Crisis. He would like to seek approval to use that clips of that film. Josh has concerns surrounding them being able to transfer that right to other folks. Craig noted that if they sell the video to BBC then that can happen and Josh asked for an addition for clarification to the Tribe have notification prior to that. Craig noted that this is a wonderful thing. He noted that it would be super helpful and the Tribe could task an attorney to draft a release and they can sign it and it won't need debated every time. Arch commented that he doesn't like approving items without viewing them first. Buster noted that if the video isn't done they would like to see it first. The 2005 footage is requested to be used. Craig noted hat there are people calling all the time and it would be useful to have faster approval.

Council Members Goodwin, Hockaday, Buster and Binx are a part of meetings with the DOI. The Federal Government has funding available to the river. There are still conflicts on how water is being used in the upper Klamath. Matt Strickler wants to demonstrate to the Biden Administration and other Federal Agencies, to be fair in distribution in funding in the corridor. Partners will work together to identify projects that all entities will support. This is important to Strickler to wave this around and to fund projects such as; Agency and Barns Ranch, Shovel Creek Restoration, and perhaps big projects in the Scott.

Arch Super moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve MOU 24-M-003, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

His last thing is to provide an update on the California Water Board and they convened to keep the flows at the same standstill. Binx asked if anyone is going to enforce this. Craig noted that

that is tricky and he has a plan to work on emergency regulations being in place until more rules are established. This could work in 2024 but he will review that further in January.

Dam removal is going great. He will attend the media event on January 23, 2024.

Bill added one informational item. There has been an issue with the purchase of the Klamath RV Park site. There are still two residents on the property and he has advised that Tommy has not removed the tenants. Bill would like to have a conversation on next steps. Erin noted that the release of funds shouldn't have happened if the terms weren't met. This will be discussed at another meeting. Scott added that eviction rules at an RV Park are a little different than other parcels.

Troy received a phone call the other day regarding replantation. Troy noted that the USFS wants to co-manage with the Tribe on replantation. Bill noted that there will be additional information at the Summit Meetings and brief discussions at the Project Coordination Meetings. Reforestation needs to happen but there are actual terms that need discussed because USFS uses different terminology with different meanings.

Arch Super moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve Bill's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Phone Votes:**

1. Request to approve resolution 23-R-202 authorizing submission of the Karuk Tribes revised TFAP. Passed.
2. Request to approve cloning employee computer to provide two additional staff access for continuity coverage while employee is on leave. Passed.
3. Request to approve op-ed regarding White House policy regarding DOI rule making. Passed.
4. Request to approve agreement 24-A-015. Passed.
5. Request to approve resolution 23-R-193, ICWA. Passed.
6. Request to approve resolution 23-R-194, ICWA. Passed.
7. Request to approve FY24 insurance changes. Passed.
8. Request to approve a letter of support for Pimm. Passed
9. Request to approve resolution 23-R-183. Passed
10. Request to approve resolution 23-R-185. Passed.
11. Request to approve contract 24-C-010 with Mike Peters. Passed.

**Closed Session:**

Binx Brink moved and Li Bentley seconded to approve resolution 23-R-216, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 23-R-217, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 23-R-218, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 23-R-219, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve resolution 23-R-220, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve issuing KTHA BOC a trailer for use the KTHA CFO, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 2 pupitihara (Troy/Arch).

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve out of state travel for Devin Flesher and Jennifer Johnson to Seattle WA., January 11-12, 2024, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve giving Jacob his phone, 6 haa, 2 puuhara (Troy/Scott), 0 pupitihara.

*Jennifer excused.*

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve lodging/mileage for Tribal Member JG to take spouse to overnight appointment in Medford from Third Party and move to Contract Health if allowable, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Jennifer absent for vote).

Troy Hockaday moved and Liz Bentley seconded to deny the waiver in policy for internal applicants, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

*Jennifer returned to the meeting.*

Informational: Council Member Hockaday updated the Council on his discussions with the USFS and noted that Chandra would like to attend a meeting.

Informational: Council Member Liz Bentley updated that the Yreka Elders Holiday party went well. She will do a newsletter article.

Informational: Council Member Eli Hensher-Aubrey would like to discuss the salmon River Road and to understand how that works. Scott asked for a list of concerns such as Grayback, Salmon River Road, etc.

Informational: Council Member Eli Hensher-Aubrey inquired about childcare centers and related information on services. Executive Secretary provided a brief of this information. The information was to be distributed by HR and results provided to the workforce.

Informational: Secretary/Treasurer has reviewed the constitution and wants to certify all resolutions when they are approved.

Informational: Exec Secretary exited the meeting. No minutes recorded.

Informational: Tribal Council wants to know what the process is for accessing offices or communicating need for offices when they become vacant.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve modification (1) to agreement 23-A-075, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council Member Jennifer Goodwin will step down from KRAB and the updated bylaws and ordinance should be presented to the Tribal Council.



Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to donate \$2,500 to Frankie Myers campaign, 7 haa, 1 puuhara (Arch Super), 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Sacred Lands Act – will follow all land rules and policies. Signage for lands. The MOU with the USFS needs to be in place. BLM is contracted with the USFS to do the boundary line map.

Informational: Council Member Kristen King advised that the camera inquiries are ongoing.

Informational: funding, awarded grants that are not drawn down and spent shall be disclosed to the Council as well, in addition to funding that is returned for \$25,000 or more.

**Next Meeting Date:** January 25, 2024 at 10am.

**Adjourned at 4:07pm**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman**

**Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider**