

**Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting  
June 22, 2023 -Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to order at: 10am by Chairman Attebery.**

**Present:**

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman  
Kenneth “Binks” Brink, Vice Chairman  
Renee Stauffer, Member at Large  
Arron “Troy” Hockaday, Member at Large  
Kristen King, Member at Large  
Elizabeth “Liz” Bentley  
Arch Super, Member at Large

**Absent:**

Jennifer Goodwin, Member at large

**Arch provided a prayer and Buster read the Mission Statement for the Tribe.**

**Agenda:**

Renee Stauffer moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the agenda with changes. 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster introduced the Karuk Tribe’s newly hired Self-Governance Director, Dr. James Davis. Dr. Davis mentioned that he is Dine’. He has a PHD in political Science and was the deputy Chief of Staff previously with the Navajo Tribe. He looks forward to a mutual exchange of culture. Dr. Davis thanked the Council.

Buster also introduced the Karuk Tribe’s newly hired PR Specialist, Robert Cabitto. Robert thanked the Council. He mentioned that he is a Karuk Tribal member and is happy to be coming home and participating.

Troy asked for a moment of silence for Karuk Tribal members that passed on. Troy mentioned that a Karuk Tribal Member had passed away last week and another Karuk Tribal Member had passed away last night.

**Consent Calendar:**

Arch asked if there was a letter for the sole source justification. He noted that he didn’t have any questions and asked if the other council members did. Arch thanked the staff for answering his email. The only thing he noted is that at the beginning of the contract it should have the approval date of today.

Buster asked if the travel approval was only for William Setzer for the DOT travel. Misty Rickwalt clarified that the out-of-state travel was for herself, William Setzer and Bucky Lantz.

Binks Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the consent calendar. 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara. (Troy Hockaday)

Arch Super moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the May 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes. 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara. (Troy Hockaday)

Arch noted that he had sent an email to Mike Rose and Tribal Council about taking a shuttle downriver for the elders and is wondering if we found a solution to that request. Binks noted that we need to survey how many people want to go charter a bus or tribal vehicles. Buster asked if this was a Council item. Arch mentioned that we need to appoint someone and put it back on the council. Troy noted that this was his idea and that he will work with Dorcas to arrange to create and distribute a flyer.

**Old business:**

Binks asked if there had been money set aside for the farm. Erin noted that this had been taken care of at the last council meeting.

**Language:**

Arch provided language:

“Amkuuf” is “Smoke.”

“Mahiit Yav” is “Good Morning.”

**Guests:**

**1) Chloe King, Tribal Member:**

Chloe recently graduated from Orleans Elementary School. Her 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class was able to raise a significant amount of money to cover their 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip. They are requesting assistance from the Tribe to cover the shortfall. She thanked the Council for their consideration. Kristen noted that these kids were able to raise a significant amount of money, over \$16,000 and \$3,000 in donations. There are 8 kids and they need 4 rooms for July 12, 2023 in Oakland to stay at the Holiday Inn at the Oakland Airport to fly out. They are short \$871.80. Buster and Troy acknowledged that this was very impressive and that the Council wants to help. They will look into grants and programs before and discretionary can be used if needed. Council thanked Chloe for presenting.

**2) Mitchell Camarena, Tribal Member:**

Mitchell greeted the Council and noted that he and Crispen McAllister had come to the Council awhile back to discuss restoration of the ceremonial trails and how this can be accomplished. He is wanting to know what the Council had decided. Renee noted that the Council had asked Crispen to discuss this with the ceremonial leaders and get back to Council and that the Council has not heard anything back yet. Binks mentioned that they might look into getting an MOU with the Forest Service and these things can get complicated due to funding. Council would like for Mitchell and Crispen to discuss with the Ceremonial leaders. There is funding available through seventh generation fund to match. The Council does want to support ceremonies. Binks mentioned that the Tribal Council cannot get involved in guidance on ceremonial items. If the ceremonial leaders

say yes then Council is all for helping. Buster noted that Council wants to be respectful and supportive.

### **Director Reports:**

#### **1) Bill Tripp, DNR Director:**

Neva Gibbens is present to go over Bill's report as he is on travel for a Commission Meeting. The action item 23-C-113 was approved on the consent calendar so there are no action items. Emilio thanked the Council and shared a bit about the Zoonotic disease plan. He mentioned that Aja is working hard on that. Looking at the strengths, etc. he's also working on the mah kan kook. Upslope animals' elk deer bear panther. Grizzly wolves in the past. Set us to take care of landscape and animals. Initiative plan looking at those animals and plan for the future to see improved version of species of special concern. Zoonotic means transmission from animal to human. He is always concerned with the potential so set up local to state fed including other nations and tribes. Get a partnership going. Buster mentioned that he would send the email for Kristina Snider they are starting you do beaver relocation on Scott river. Water restoration project. They are working on that. See where they're at on that. Emilio will talk with Toz too. Renee asked about the status of the red cards. Neva noted that we have received most if not all at this point. Neva noted that they released KTREX announcement last night and application. A karuk term: asiktavaan.

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Bill's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

#### **2) April Attebury, Judicial Systems:**

April is present to review her report in Yreka. Buster asked if she had been able to talk to the new human services person. April said no, but she met with Rondi. Rondi let him know that April will be reaching out to set up a meeting.

Arch Super moved and Binks Brink seconded to approved April's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binks congratulated April on the ICWA Results.

#### **3) Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:**

Erin noted that she is working on the newsletter and it is in the final draft stages being reviewed. She noted that she had a meeting with Josh. She is also working on reunion items and gave an update. Erin noted that she is working on medical and dental waiting on codes for the change orders. With ARPRA, they got approval from HUS to go forward hotel roof generator, windows replacement and they got two bids. Contractors were able to bid on one or both and one bid all and he came in under. She is working on a position description for the Economic Development Coordinator for implementation of small business loans. AT&I is over 900,000 dollars. 21 tribes opted in joint application over 21 million applied for small business loans. Waiting for a long time and this is not infrastructure it is to assist tribal people.

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Erin's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster acknowledged Jeanerette Jacups-Johnny noting that it was good to see her and asked if she needed anything.

**4) Joshua Saxon, Executive Director**

We have been busy with the Karuk Tribal Reunion Planning. This is our first reunion in three years. The theme to have fun. There will be vendors and this is a kid's event. He noted that he has been busy onboarding new employees and it is great to have new leadership at the tribe. His projects focus on annual planning and strategic plan. Time during meetings to go over and tracking. The Newsletter is and Robert Cabitto will be taking that on. Done with 477 planning meeting. One year to go. Approval. One 477 plan. Will be staffing Chairman in DC with DOI meeting. He will stay an extra day see how kids are doing at unity. Troy thanked Josh and Dion for stepping in for TANF. "Pimnaannah" means "Summertime".

Arch Super moved and Binks Brink seconded to approve Josh's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Emma Lee had an action item. 23-R-118 for 2 million for tribal homeless assistance and prevention program. This will help with staff and will provide domestic violence shelter funding for 3 years for the men's transitional house.

Binks Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Resolution 23-R-118, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara, (Arch Super).

Binks asked if this was Home Key or HCD. Emma Lee mentioned that this is different funding than the housing meeting discussion for next week.

Josh mentioned that Jack Lantz is on vacation and that his written report is included.

**5) Sara Spence, KTHA Director**

Sara is presenting her report from Happy Camp. She has no action items and noted that there is an o-link meeting in Happy Camp tomorrow that starts at 11:00 am at multipurpose room. One change for the CA HDC housing program. Talk about different grants instead of just in Yreka connect from the Happy Camp and Yreka office can do virtually informational session to get more information. Sara included some photos on the elder's units and siding and paint. Troy mentioned that the apartments are looking nice and was hoping they would work on Thook street. Sara noted that yes, they are working on that. They started renovation on kawtcy kawtch and she gave an overview of the renovation status.

Binks Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approved Sara's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**6) Dion Wood, TERO/Childcare Director**

Dion was present to review his report. He has 4 action items for Head Start. One was for dissolution of heard start policy that was put in place during Covid. employee vaccinations were required two years ago.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binks Brink seconded to dissolve the Covid policy from Head Start. 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara, (Arch Super).

Dion would also like to request approval for the eligibility recruitment criteria for the Head Start. There is a point system and he is changing up the language of it. He is presenting the marked-up version. Troy asked that this perhaps be tabled for a phone vote because they have not received this. So perhaps table for a phone vote? Consensus: move to a phone vote as this is not time sensitive. School starts in August.

Jeannerette asked if there was an update on getting a Karuk tribal head start in Orleans? Dion said whenever the other agency pulls out and that maybe it was a money issue but would look into that. Last time they talked, North coast was only servicing two days a week but maybe that is not working well for this community. More kids coming next year. State started pre-k. now we are looking at taking three-year olds. There is a whole shift in the state. Dion will get information about funding.

*Liz stepped out at 11:16 am.*

Dion noted that the Summer Lunch Program has started in the Happy Camp and Yreka communities but we need to get bids in Orleans or talk to DNR for distribution. We need to take names. The Seiad community they can't get so they are unable to participate but were offered. Arch mentioned that there is no cook in the Orleans community so have to have the lunches delivered. cold lunches. Summer Dion mentioned that the Summer Youth Workers are starting next week. He also noted that as we speak, the Summer Youth Gathering kids are floating down the river. Binks mentioned that he went to the dinner at the gathering last night and that it was exciting. He also noted that it was great to have that property. Troy noted that he will be there to check out the gathering tonight.

Binks Brink moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Dion's report, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

*Liz stepped back in at 11:23 am.*

Buster mentioned that we had went over the time limits.

**7) Mayton, CFO**

Laura noted that she would save time for the meeting because she has nothing to add. Renee noted that this is Laura's s last council meeting. How the dinner went last night. Laura mentioned that the TFA people do a really good job with financial literacy and training youth and that it is good to keep that relationship. Don't need financing in the past but good resource. Lovely evening. Hadn't been to the restaurant there and food is

better. Buster presentation 10 and then second on tomorrow. 7 of them young men who just hired. Univ of Southern Ca and Duke and 4 TFA from before. If they didn't need to all presentation they can go rafting. Liz the younger ones only been to Sacramento. Not real northern ca. games they're going to play with them make it fun to learn about finances.

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Laura's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy thanked Laura for her service and dedication to the Tribe and mentioned that he appreciated everything. Thank you! Laura noted that it has been an honor to work for the tribe.

**8) James Davis Jr., Self-Governance Director**

Dr. Davis started his report with an introduction in his language. "Yaa et a a been" or "Good morning." He has been with the Tribe for three weeks. He noted that he has been doing orientations with the different directors. He is also setting up an e-file for the files. He thanked the staff for their critical assistance in getting him up to speed and noted that this was a learning process. He noted that he hopes to grow and make more contributions. James also noted that he will be bringing his family to the Karuk tribal reunion. He discussed his schedule with meetings coming up and his plans for moving the department forward. He also noted that the connection to the land drives who we are and our identity and that he has shared values.

Binks Brink moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve James' report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**9) Robert Cabitto, Public Relations Specialist**

Robert noted that it is a pleasure to be here. He noted that everything come so fast. He has also started some orientations and knowledge transfer stations. He noted that he would like to start telling this story and weaving in accomplishments that the Tribe has made. The Tribe, DNR and the TREX initiatives have been doing great things but that we don't see that in media or being published. How far we've come over the years. We need to start telling our own story from our point of view. Renee mentioned that the website needs updating and it is not very user friendly. Robert said that is a great Segway there is nothing there that talks about our history, our story. We need to how do we have an intra net and an intra net, connect to social media and get a calendar. If we don't tell our story someone else will and he noted that we don't want that. Important to take these steps to wrap around telling story. He mentioned his past and that it is great to come home and be part of the Tribe. Robert noted that he has begun transferring the newsletter with Erin. Robert noted that we need to talk about our leadership. They have led through tough times and we need to convey that.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kinks Brink seconded to approve Robert's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binks thanked Robert for his enthusiasm. Buster asked if there was anything needed to sign.

Josh noted that April had one last request for an employee credit card for Rebecca Loughlin in the Adult Re-Entry Program.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve issuing a credit card for employee Rebecca Loughlin, Lead Case Manager, in the amount of \$2,500, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Arch noted that he had a question for Laura about how many credit cards were issued throughout the tribe. He had noticed that Finance was very busy reconciling credit cards and then the next month comes so quickly. Laura mentioned that if they have all of the receipts then it goes faster but it is a matter of employees getting their receipts submitted timely.

Informational: Reminder of the Fiscal Policy to go out for credit card usage.

**Closed Session:**

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve 23-R-119, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve 23-R-120, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Kristen King moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve 23-R-121, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Consensus: Enrollment to send a valid tribal identity card sample to Driver's License Guide Company.

Consensus: Neva to move forward on Senate Bill SB 310 with changes.

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve 23-C-054, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara, (Arch Super).

Troy Hockaday moved and Binks Brink seconded to approve Out of State travel for three TANF Employees to attend National TANF Conference in Tulsa, OK, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 -August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 5 haa, 1 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Arch Super).

Consensus: Dion to move forward with estimates for a Roller-skating pad in Happy Camp.

Consensus: Rondi and Jodi to have two weeks to come up with a plan for follow up on peer review.

Tabled: Request HR Director Opinion about PR Specialist position description title change.

Binks Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to close DNR offices for Karuk Tribal Member (L.O.) funeral services on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1-5pm, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binks Brink seconded to close Pithyvuuram Center offices for Karuk Tribal Member (R.C.) funeral services on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binks Brink seconded to Deny the Hiring Policy Waiver for the Maintenance Worker position, 5 haa, 1 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Arch Super).

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Out of State travel for Erin Hillman (or Economic Development Coordinator, if hired before then) to attend Economic Development Training in North Carolina in August 2023, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Check back in with Barbara Snider for status of blood quantum discussion from Planning Session minutes.

Troy Hockaday moved and Binks Brink seconded to approve the Orleans 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class trip hotel assistance to cover unfunded amount using funding sources identified, or discretionary (last option), 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 27, 2023 in Yreka, CA.

Renee Stauffer moved and Binks Brink seconded to adjourn 4:29 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman**

**Recording Secretary, Brittany Souza**