

WIYOT TRIBE MINTUES

Due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, Wiyot Tribal Council meeting scheduled for 1/11/2020 will be held by Tele/video conference or both. To submit public comments for this meeting prior to meeting, please email comments to councilsupport@wiyot.us by 12pm Monday 1/11/2020. All public comments received by 12pm will be read into the record during the regular meeting, also to receive a link for the meeting please request the link before 12pm 1/11/2020. Public comments received after 12pm will not be read into the record but will be included in the official minutes. *We may disagree, but we will be respectful of one another all comments will be directed to the issue at hand, and addressed to the Tribal Council personal attacks are unacceptable

Agenda

Council/Committee: BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING

Date: January 11, 2021

Convened at: 4:10 PM

Recess at: PM

Adjourn: 5:00 pm

M: Brian Mead

S: Leona Wilkinson

HIH (yes): 6

KIYOWL (no): 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Council

Roll Call:

Ted Hernandez, Tribal Chair

Brian Mead, Vice Chairman

Leona Wilkinson, Secretary

Linda Lange, Treasurer

Hazel James, Councilmember

Kirsten Boyce, Councilmember

Aaron Stephenson, Councilmember

Staff

Michelle Vassel, Tribal Administrator

Fawn Lopez, Administrative Assistant

Eddie Koch, Natural Resource Director

Ted Hernandez, Cultural Director

Vacant, Health & Human Service

Director

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Location: Wiyot Tribe
 1000 Wiyot Drive
 Loleta, CA 95551

Moment of Silence:

SECTION / AGENDA ITEM	VOTE (IF ANY)	ACTION (IF ANY)
I. ROLL CALL		
II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	M: Hazel James S: Linda Lange HIH (yes): 6 KIYOWL (no): 0 ABSTAIN: 0	Motion approved agenda
III. CONSENT CALENDAR Minutes December 14, 2020 Tribal Administrator/ Health & Human Service Report Phone Vote 15-20 Natural Resources Report Cultural Report Fiscal Report	M: Hazel James S: Leona Wilkinson HIH (yes): 6 KIYOWL (no): 0 ABSTAIN: 0	Motion approved Consent Calendar

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IV. Guest Speaker:

1. **Erik McGoldrick**- Would like to place a part of property into a conservation easement containing 'TōLi waterfalls.

Tribal Council had more questions and concerns regarding conservation easement. Chairman Hernandez will send an email for dates for Tribal Council to go and look at Property that Erik McGoldrick wants to put into conservation to the Wiyot Tribe.

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3.

4.

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V. PUBLIC FORUM (2-minute limit on presentations)

1. **Kirsten Boyce**- Would like to change Tribal Council meeting time, also would like to know about 2021 Fiscal Budget and when will it be completed.

2. **Josh Fowler**- Tribal Council separation from Tribal Office duties, conflict working for Tribe and being on Tribal Council. Public comment change and who authorized the change?

3. **Fawn Lopez**- After listening to the Tribal Council meeting held on December 14, I decided to submit a public comment to express my disappointment with Council, staff, and community members. It is not ethically right to use one's position to harass others for personal gain. I have sat from the Council Support seat for years now listening and decided it was time for me to speak as a tribal member.

At the December 14th meeting there was an open forum discussion about a violation of the Council Code of Conduct by Council Member Boyce. Ms. Boyce who had been sanctioned a previous meeting for violations, once again violated the Council Code of Conduct when she began harassing Council member Hazel James stating that she had proof of embezzlement by Council Member James during the open forum discussion.

Councilwoman Boyce stated that she had seen an error in her staff position, reported it to her supervisor, who reported it to the TA who took care of it. M s. Boyce stated she was not satisfied with the action and had proof that she was bringing to Council. As staff, it is a breach of confidentiality to take information from one's job, to bring it forward in a public forum. Also, it is unethical to make unfounded accusations. As a Council member, it is a violation of the Council Code of Conduct, interfere with the management or operation of the Tri be.

"Any Tribal Council member who attempts to individually interfere with the management or operation of any Tribal program or business or who attempts to direct any Tribal employee is acting beyond the scope of his/her authority as a Tribal Council member unless he/she has been instructed to take such action by the Tribal Council. [Adopted 10/11 § 5.]"

Your job as an employee is to fix a fiscal error, failing to make a deduction does not constitute embezzlement. It requires a correction by the fiscal department to make the deduction when identified, and that is exactly what occurred.

Had this been fraud or embezzlement the duty of fiscal and Administrative staff would have been to report it to law enforcement to be investigated by the proper authorities. was not done in this case because it was not embezzlement it is just another example of Kirsten Boyce using her position to attack others.

In addition to accusing Hazel James of embezzlement, another example of Ms. Boyce's misconduct is regarding Tammie Haney's public comment, she stated "she read in the Tribal newsletter that Councilmember Kirsten Boyce was having a hearing and wanted to know if it was a public hearing." The item was not in the newsletter, nor was it on the agenda. This is a GREAT example of the gossip that unfolds with Councilmember Boyce who was on suspension, creating unnecessary Chaos! An issue that could have been quietly discussed in closed session between Council now becomes an embarrassment to the Tribe as a whole. Is that yet another violation of the code of conduct, "The content of any meeting of the Tribal Council held in executive session unless the Tribal Councilmember has prior authorization from Tribal Council to discuss such matters."

Vanessa Rios- As Tribal Council you took an oath to serve your people, using a council position to harass others due to a personal vendetta, does not just hurt that one individual but the Tribe as a whole. It creates unnecessary chaos, increases complaints, reduced the quality of work getting done, increases staff turnover, increases absences, increases personality conflicts, decreases morale and motivation, which continue to keep us from moving forward as a tribe. I believe we are here for all the same reasons and that is to make a difference for the tribe.

If you cannot see that vision, then maybe you should step back.

Blaming, finger pointing, public harassment campaigns all over the internet is an embarrassment to the Tribe it holds us all back. The efforts of a few people to personally gain from the chaos hurts the whole tribe.

The question you should be asking yourself is what am I bringing to the table to uplift the tribe? If you cannot answer that then maybe you should not be seated as a Tribal Councilmember.

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VI. ACTION ITEMS	VOTE (IF ANY)	ACTION (IF ANY)
<p>1.Title: Request approval PG&E Better Together Community Resilience Grant & adopt budget. <u>Description:</u> Supports communities prone to flooding and those preparing for extreme events and harmful environmental trends <u>Cost:</u> \$100,000.00 (AWARD) <u>Funded by:</u> PG&E <u>Sub. By:</u> Eddie Koch</p>	<p>M: Leona Wilkinson S: Aaron Stephenson HIH (yes): 6 KIYOWL (no): 0 ABSTAIN: 0</p>	<p>Motion approved PG&E Better Together Community Resilience Grant & adopt budget.</p>
<p>2.Title: Request approval Business Licenses <u>Description:</u> Oceanside Jams, Meadscape, Lopez Landscaping & Clean Break <u>Cost:</u> \$ <u>Funded by:</u> <u>Sub. By:</u> Michelle Vassel</p>	<p>M: Brian Mead S: Linda Lange HIH (yes): 3 KIYOWL (no): ABSTAIN: 2 Brian Mead Kirsten Boyce</p>	<p>Motion approved 2021 Business License *Oceanside Jams *Meadscape Enterprises * Lopez Landscaping * Clean Break</p>

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VII. Closed Session	VOTE (IF ANY)	ACTION (IF ANY)
<p>1. Title: Legal Discussion</p> <p><u>Description:</u></p> <p><u>Cost:</u> \$</p> <p><u>Funded by:</u></p> <p><u>Sub. By:</u> Councilmember Kirsten Boyce</p>	<p>M:</p> <p>S:</p> <p>HIH (yes):</p> <p>KIYOWL (no):</p> <p>ABSTAIN:</p>	
<p>2. Title:</p> <p><u>Description:</u></p> <p><u>Cost:</u> \$</p> <p><u>Funded:</u></p> <p><u>Sub. By:</u></p>	<p>M:</p> <p>S:</p> <p>HIH (yes):</p> <p>KIYOWL (no):</p> <p>ABSTAIN:</p>	