

ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBES
A Sovereign Nation of Confederated Tribes

TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICE
77826 COVELO ROAD
COVELO, CALIFORNIA 95428
PHONE: 707-983-6126
FAX: 707-983-6128



LOCATION: ON STATE HWY 162
ONE MILE NORTH OF COVELO
IN ROUND VALLEY
TRIBAL TERRITORY SINCE TIME BEGAN

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION ESTABLISHED 1856

MINUTES
June 20, 2019

The special meeting of the Round Valley Tribal Council was called to order by President James Russ on June 20, 2019 at 1:08 p.m. in the Buffalo Room within the Tribal Administrative Building located on the Round Valley Indian Reservation..

Roll call and the following Council Members were present: Mr. Russ, Mr. Bettega, Mr. Lewis Whipple, Mr. Robert Whipple (arrive 1:12 p.m., left at 7:18 p.m.), Ms. Cordova & Ms. Willits

Also present: Kimberly Stillwell, Mona Oandasan, Toni Bettega Nephele, James Sookne, Steve McKehen, Annabelle Whipple, Eric Hoaglin, Joleen Whipple, Mitzi Frazier

Opening prayer by Alberta J. Azbill

Item No. 2: Agenda/approval - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-01:**

MOTION NO. 1:

Mr. Lewis Whipple made a motion to approve the agenda with additions.

Ms. Willits seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L.Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

Item No. 3: James Sookne & Nephele – RE: Update SR 162 Trail project being implemented by MCOG - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-02:** Mr. Sooke acknowledged and thanked the Council for having them, also with him is Nephele who has taken Phil Dow place as the Director. As an update this started back 2010 when they stated planning the project, 2013 they did the feasibility study and they came up with a concept and now they are in the process of implementing that Project. The design consultant, Steve McKehan is here.

Mr. McKehan acknowledged and stated that this trail will go from Charlie Hurt road to the town and he has been working on this for two years and they have come up with a design. Some of the things he is working on is property acquisition and to define the middle of the road, fence and mail box relocation. They are also working with one land owner.

The trail will go along the ditch, some consideration is the wet lands, the Corp. of Engineers will need to mitigate this and a letter needs to be sent to EPA so they will know that the Council is aware of this.

And the issues are resolved, the project could start next summer.

Mr. Sookne stated that they are also requesting that the Council appoint a contact person to work with them.

Discussion followed about the letter that had to go to EPA; etc.

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 2

MOTION NO. 2:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve to send a letter to EPA.

Mr. Bettega seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried

Item No. 4: Unfinished Business:

a. Tina Want – RE: C-Store new cooling system - **Action Item – 2019-06-13-02:** Not present, no action.

b. Minutes – April 11, April 18, April 25, May 2, & May 4, May 9, 2019 - **Action Item – 2019-06-15-02:**

MOTION NO. 3:

Mr. Bettega made a motion to approve the minutes as listed.

Mr. Lewis Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

Item No. 5: New Business:

a. Toni Bettega, NRD – RE: MOU for the Forest Service & RVIT - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-03:**

MOTION NO. 4:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to table this item.

Mr. Bettega seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

b. Justin Britton – RE: Clarification on Limited Waiver of sovereign immunity - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-04:** Mr. Britton, Mr. Daniel Dorman and Mrs. Jennifer Dorman were present.

Mrs. Dorman informed the Council that they were present to request a letter from the Tribe for waiver of sovereign immunity to be sent to the State with their license application to conduct cultivation, distribution for retail for both medical and non-medical adult use. She was told by the BIA that she had to come to the Council for this authorization.

Discussion followed about where the location of the land was (Hopper Lane – heirship, but the County said it was fee land); etc.

MOTION NO. 5:

Mr. Lewis Whipple made a motion to table this item for more research.

Mr. Bettega seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Bettega (out of the room) Motion carried.

c. Cheryl Bettega, Roads – RE: Approve payment –Western Auto – 12 tires/\$6,441.78 - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-05:** Mrs. Bettega was present to discuss her agenda item.

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 3

MOTION NO. 6:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve 50% payment up front and to pay the remaining 50% when done.

Mr. Lewis Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

d. Cheryl Bettega, Roads – RE: Sewer Project/Hopper Lane – connect residence houses - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-06:** Mrs. Bettega gave an update that one week of work was left, they will go in and hookup Gerald Britton Jr., and Suzanne Britton.

There is a Inter Tribal Alliance Program crew that will go to different reservation to do road maintenance (paving) and that last week Steve Wilkie and Alfred come in and ask Gabe Merrifield if he could supervise the Inter-Tribal Alliance crew down at the Campo reservation. They will pay for travel, their motel, per diem and wages so no funds will be taken from her program. Discussion followed.

MOTION NO. 7:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to accept as informational.

Ms. Willits seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

e. Dr. Jasun Pina & Dr. Jeremiah Pina – RE: Telephonic meeting – potential creation & implementation of an imaginative ed., program - **Action Item - 2019-06-20-07:** The Council reviewed the information.

CONSENSUS: It was the consensus of the Council for the President to contact the two individuals for more information.

f. Joleen Whipple, - RE: Child Care count – approve- **Action Item – 2019-06-20-08:** Ms. Whipple was present and informed the Council that she is required to do this every three years and these figures are what is used to get their funding.

Discussion followed about the figures; of looking at the census figures; etc.

Also, discussed was the lock down (3 times this happened) and Ms. Whipple informed the Council that they need a plan in place and she is going to check with other programs to see if they have one in place.

Mrs. Fitzgerral informed the Council that the cameras were updated to cover various areas.

MOTION NO. 8:

Mr. Lewis Whipple made a motion to approve the child care count at 2,267 per past practice.

Mr. Robert Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Bettega (out of the room) Motion carried.

g. Trina Fitzgerral, Tribal Business Administrator – RE: Various - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-09:**

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 4

i) California Indian Environmental Alliance – RE: Request resolution in support of their grant for a 2019 BIA Tribal Climate Change Resilience program. This will allow CIEA to coordinate multiple meetings an discussion about tribal impacts, etc.

MOTION NO. 9:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve a resolution of support.

Ms. Willits seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Bettega & L. Whipple (both out of the room)

Motion carried.

h. Tribal Council – RE: Various - Action Item – 2019-06-20-010:

i) FERC/Eel River – RE: Update

President Russ did the update and stated that on Monday they attended a meeting with Congressman Hoffman and they met with Wiyot and Bear River Chairman and they talked about forming a tribal coalition. They went into the meeting and notice that Bear River was not on the mailing list. Mr. Hutt who was at the meeting came back and told us that the Congressman’s aid told Bear River they had to leave, they weren’t even allowed to set at the back of the room. President Russ stated that they talked about this and they walked out also. Today we got an email stated that Wiyot and Round Valley should address this issue.

CONSENSUS: It was the consensus of the Council to send a letter to Congressman Hoffman and to send a copy of the press release from Governor Gavin Newsome (historic apology of the treatment and genocide of Indian people)

ii) Investigation – RE: Update given, the Tribe has an investigator working on this and he stated that he has information that he needed to bring to the Council. Three years ago, the Council talked to the Carline Fischer and she said we had to go to the local law enforcement agency, so this is where we are at. Discussion followed.

iii) Agenda for the Community meeting – June 29th
Draft agenda reviewed

iv) 4th of July meeting – RE: Move to Wednesday/Tuesday: Meeting to be held on July 2nd at 1:00 p.m.

v) Vehicle Break ins – again – where do we place the cars for safety – discussed – need to call 911

MOTION NO. 10:

Mr. Lewis Whipple made a motion to accept as information, i, ii, iii, iv, and vi.

Mr. Rabano Jr., seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Cordova & Willits

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Bettega (out of the room)

Motion carried.

Item No. 6: Executive Session - Action Item – 2019-06-20-011:

a. Mr. Randy Wolfen, Casino – RE: Update

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 5

- b. Trina Fitzgerral, Tribal Business Administrator – RE: Various
 - i) EPA Employee increase
 - ii) Personnel – recommended DV Advocate I – hire completed probation
 - iii) Personnel recommendation to hire Receptionist
- c. Sergeant Vincent Cordova, Tribal Police Dept. – RE: Update
- d. Darlene Crabtree, Tribal Controller – RE: Various – financial
 - i) Monthly Expense & Revenue reports per dept.
 - ii) C-TAS draw downs
 - iii) Report on Phase I 2017 Audit Field Work
 - iv) TANF Bonuses
 - v) July 4th (Holiday pay day)
 - vi) Credit Cards
- e. TRED – RE: Various – Land
 - i) Nicole Hawkins
 - ii) T-2019
 - iii) Daniel Dorman - update
- f. Jessica Goodrow, ICWA/DV Legal
- g. Fox B Littlelake – RE: Land/housing/money
- h. Tribal Council – RE: Various
 - i) Eel River – Ad Hoc Committee
 - ii) Eel River – Tribal Coalition
 - iii) Compassionate Use Ordinance
 - iv) Personnel - staffing

MOTION NO. 11:

Ms. Willits made a motion to go into executive session at 3:27 p.m.

Mr. Robert Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Bettega (out of the room) Motion carried.

Item No 7: Regular Session - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-012:**

MOTION NO. 12:

Mr. Lewis Whipple made a motion to reconvene into regular session at 7:41 p.m.

Mr. Bettega seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

Decisions from executive session:

- a. Mr. Randy Wolfen, Casino – RE: Update - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-013:** Mr. Wolfen was present.

MOTION NO. 13:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion for Mr. Wolfen to bring back estimates (Monument Casino Sign).

Mr. Robert Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 6

b. Trina Fitzgerral, Tribal Business Administrator – RE: Various - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-014:**

i) EPA Employee increase - **Action Item – 2019-06-13-09-i:**

MOTION NO. 14:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve the employee increase.

Mr. Bettega seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Russ (out of the room) Motion carried.

ii) Personnel – recommended DV Advocate I – hire - completed probation

MOTION NO. 15:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve permanent status as recommended.

Mr. Robert Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Russ (out of the room) Motion carried.

iii) Personnel – recommendation to hire Receptionist

MOTION NO. 16:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to approve the recommendation and hire Erikah Mitchell.

Mr. Robert Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Russ (out of the room) Motion carried.

c. Sergeant Vincent Cordova, Tribal Police Dept – RE: Update - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-015:** Sergeant Cordova was present and reported.

MOTION NO. 17:

Mr. Rabano Jr., made a motion to accept as informational.

Ms. Willits seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

d. Darlene Crabtree, Tribal Controller – RE: Various – financial – **Action Item – 2019-06-20-016:** Ms. Crabtree and Mr. OBrien were present.

i) Monthly Expense & Revenue reports per dept.

ii) C-TAS draw downs

iii) Report on Phase I – 2017 Audit Field Work – update given

iv) TANF bonuses – update given

v) July 4th (Holiday – pay day)

CONSENSUS: It was the consensus of the Council for Ms. Crabtree to send out a memo regarding early release of payroll – July 3rd.

vi) Credit Cards

MOTION NO. 18:

MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 7

Mr. Bettega made a motion to approve to get a credit card for the President and Vice-President and TANF (name – to be determined).

Mr. Rabano Jr., seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

e. TRED – RE: Various - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-017:**

i) Nicole Hawkins – no decision – site needs to be cleaned up

ii) T-2019

MOTION NO. 19:

Mr. Bettega made a motion to accept as informational.

Mr. Lewis Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, R. Whipple & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Rabano Jr. Motion carried

Fiscal: Ms. Tami Whipple and Ms. Crabtree back to the meeting

CONSENSUS: It was the consensus of the Council that on the businesses (C-Store, Motel) it will go to fiscal; Ms. Willits will deal with Programs.

Agenda:

MOTION NO. 20:

Mr. Bettega made a motion to table the rest of the agenda.

f. Jessica Goodrow, ICWA/DV – RE: Various - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-018:**

g. Fox B. Littlelake – RE: Land/Housing/Money - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-019:**

h. Tribal Council – RE: Various - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-020:**

i) Eel River – Ad Hoc Committee

ii) Eel River – Tribal Coalition

iii) Compassionate Use Ordinance

iv) Personnel - staffing

v) Mr. Bettega – RE: Code of Ethics

vi) Mr. Bettega – RE: BOC

Mr. Lewis Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr. & Willits Nays: 0

Abstentions: Motion carried.

Item No. 8: Set agenda, date and time for next meeting:

a. June 27, 2019 @ 1:00 p.m. - Special Meeting

Item No. 9: Closing prayer by President Russ

Item No. 10: Adjournment - **Action Item – 2019-06-20-021:**

MOTION NO. 21:

Mr. Bettega made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Mr. Lewis Whipple seconded the motion.

Question: Ayes: Russ, Bettega, L. Whipple, Rabano Jr., & Willits Nays: 0


MINUTES – June 20, 2019

Page 8

Abstentions: 0 Motion carried.

Minutes taken and typed by Alberta J. Azbill, Executive Secretary, Round Valley Tribal Council.

Submitted by:


Executive Secretary, Round Valley
Tribal Council