

**Karuk Tribe – Health Board Meeting
July 13, 2023 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairman Attebery.

Present:

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman
Arron “Troy” Hockaday, Member at Large
Kristen King, Member at Large
Arch Super, Member at Large
Elizabeth “Liz” Bentley, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large
Renee Stauffer, Member at Large

Absent:

Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman

Chairman Attebery read the Mission Statement and Council Member Hockaday provided a prayer for the group.

Agenda:

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

Consent Calendar:

Arch noted that the Council wants to discuss the multiple travel requests to Hawaii to closed session.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve the remaining consent calendar items, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Meeting minutes of July 13, 2023:

Arch Super moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve the meeting minutes of June 8, 2023, 5 haa, 1 puuhara (Troy), 1 pupitihara (Jennifer).

Guests:

Danci Harris, LVN:

Danci is present to review her request to end the COVID-19 state of emergency and follow the endemic. The disease is still around and all clinics will maintain their current endemic precautions, vaccines, etc, but the world is no longer in a state of emergency.

Liz asked what disbanded would mean and if the HHS program should still take precautions. Renee noted that it is now treated like the flu. Danci noted that a part of disbanding the team means ending the team roles. However, if something comes up then they will re-create a team.

Troy Hockaday moved and Renee Stauffer to end COVID-19 Team and Pandemic status, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Daniel Goodwin, Tribal Member:

Daniel Goodwin and Bob Perez are present in Happy Camp to request assistance for upcoming ceremonies. Daniel would like to have assistance for Inaam. He would like porta potties, hand washing station(s), and water truck (water tank), which would be at the rest camp.

He also requested August 11-20, 2023 Pikyawish ceremony assistance. He would need more porta potties for that event.

Daniel also took the opportunity to invite the Tribal Council to each ceremony. In his lifetime he has only seen a handful of Council Members attend ceremonies so he invites the Council with open arms and wants to encourage them to attend. He would like to invite the Council to each ceremony.

He also noted that the brushing that has been going on and the other sites has been a good job. It's very very good and he doesn't get into the politics of things and he noted that he wanted to affirm with the Tribal Council that Crispin has talked to several ceremonial leaders and received funding and communication regarding this work. The site work is looking good and they will continue their work. They have more work to do but he could not be happier and more impressed with what was accomplished.

Troy Hockaday moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve services for both ceremonies, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Emilio Tripp, Wildlife:

Emilio is present to seek approval of resolution 23-R-123 to America The Beautiful grant application. It will work to expand the wildlife department. The proposal has been signed off by Emilio, Emma Lee and Erin. Renee asked about the youth education and outreach, and if the high school kids could be approached so they can expand their opportunities to determine if the youth would like this career field.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 23-R-123, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy asked if Emilio has gone up to Happy Camp to view the Elks or wolves. Emilio has not yet, but as an update the CDFW is going to set a meeting in September regarding co-management agreements. This meeting will outline how to move forward.

Jennifer noted that DNR is going to have a booth and view the information. Emilio noted that he will be off for ceremonies.

Sara Spence, KTHA ED:

Sara is present to seek approval of resolution 23-R-125 for FY24 Indian Housing Plan.

Renee Stauffer moved and Kristen King seconded to approve resolution 23-R-125, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Renee asked about adding additional maintenance workers to the budget. Sara noted that they have added positions over the last couple years.

Old Business:

Arch asked Cindy about the employee survey, which is in Francis Lott's report. Jodi noted that the report is not finished at this time. There will be a survey at the reunion as well which she will combine information with.

Director Reports:

Dr. Vasquez, Medical Director:

Dr. Vasquez is not present, report provided.

Joe Snapp noted that he is not present but he would like to discuss the option of building up the Heal Therapy option on casino property. Arch noted that Joe will need to communicate with Administrative staff. Rondi noted that this option is on hold pending work. Kristen asked why this is on hold. Renee asked if he needs help. Joe wanted to introduce it to the Tribal Council to obtain feedback and then work through the process. Rondi noted that Ray is working with Joe on that item.

Renee Stauffer moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Dr. Vasquez's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Ray then explained that he spoke to Joe yesterday and reviewed needs and funding around that. Joe is going to be doing more research. Also, there is current plans to strengthen the SUD program first. Joe was going to purpose this today but there needs to be additional research on this.

Ryan Hammer, Operations Manager:

Ryan has a written report, he is out on travel.

Troy asked about the grant training in August and if that will be in Sacramento. Troy noted that there is one in Sacramento that is free of charge. Rondi noted that he is at training in Las Vegas, NV.

Troy asked if there is no PHN. Rondi noted that there is no but Rondi commented that she did speak to a gentleman regarding PHN services and she is providing outreach.

Jodi noted that Happy Camp CHR's numbers are in Jodi's report and the Orleans CHR is often forgotten about so she has no numbers on that report.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Ryan's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Krista Reynolds, RPMS Site Manager:

Krista is present to review her report. The Tribal Council will need to review the travel request in closed session. She noted that the report is attached. Nothing dramatically has not changed. Tonia is being trained and she is moving along.

Buster commented that the visit counts are all down a bit. She noted that there is a lack of providers so that is a reduced patient visit count. Krista noted that with two additional staff this will increase over time. Buster then noted that a Christina Delavonte emailed. Rondi has not gotten a hold of her yet, because she was in budget meetings. However, she understands that she is a recruiter.

Troy asked about the Native American patients seen. He asked if this was in all three areas. Troy asked for a breakdown in all three areas.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve Krista's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Cindy Hayes, Clinic Manager:

Cindy is present to review her report. They are getting ready for the inspection. Liz asked if this was HRSA, OSV. It was noted that yes, it was.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Cindy's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Dr. Lew, Dental Director:

Dr. Lew is present to review her report. Dr. Lew noted that in Yreka there are Monday emergency walk-ins and Friday's in Happy Camp. She noted that it is a good service and is working. She noted that Jolene is on her last month of training for CDHC (Community Dental Health Program). She and other staff members are invited to Nashville TN to introduce the staff that have successfully passed this program. Jolene is very diligent and it's amazing how hard she works. Dr. Lew is very proud of her and proud of her advancement.

There are 628 patients for the month of June.

Dr. Lew asked about walk-ins on Monday's. Dr. Lew noted that she cannot get 14 people in, and there is follow up treatment program. Arch asked about Nikki going to Orleans as well and only one day a month. Dr. Lew noted that she can follow up with Nikki on this. Renee noted that she doesn't think that the community knows there are minimal dental services available.

Renee Stauffer moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Dr. Lew's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster thanked Dr. Lew for her work.

Frankie Snider, CWS:

Frankie is not present, written report. The phone vote for ICWA passed yesterday.

Arch Super moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Frankie's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Susanna Greeno, Happy Camp Clinic Manager:

Written report wasn't in the packet. Council will review it and get back to it.

Ray Elliot, Children & Family Services:

Ray is present in Yreka to review his report. He noted that an intern was hired for Happy Camp and Orleans which will provide outreach.

The program is challenging the area to be a great provider in Siskiyou County. The program is expecting a lot of turn around and improve. The mental health caseloads are at capacity and having a small waitlist. There are Medicare clients that will be served. A request has been made to hire another LCSW for the department.

They are looking at a grant for transitional men's housing and how to fund that house in the future.

Troy welcomed Ray to the staff. He appreciates his work so far. Ray noted that he owes it to his department and support staff and the support of Rondi and her team.

Buster asked how enrolling in MediCal billing. Ray noted that it is challenging. He hopes to have that done in the next 45 days. With Eileen's assistance and Joe is to become self-sustaining. The priority is to boost up clients and at the same time get the billing for SUD going as well. Buster asked about revenue. Ray noted that yes, ability to bill helps the department become self-sustaining. Buster then asked about the local Heal Therapy agency also had a descendant who was interested. Buster then

Kristen asked how many days the SUD intern is in Orleans and if that is distributed. Outreach will be provided. Tanya noted that she came down today to introduce the new intern and she will be present in Orleans one day a week and then two days a week.

Jennifer commented that the notation of HC is Orleans.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Ray's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster said yootva to Ray and noted that he appreciates all he is doing.

Tonia Begrin, Orleans Clinic Manager:

Tonia is present to review her report. She noted that the Orleans water system is ongoing. She has a janitor/custodian hired which is nice. She is still looking for a Receptionist. Right now, the Willow Creek Clinic is now closed and yesterday she was advised that the Willow Creek pharmacy is closing. Training is ongoing with Travis and Lucy.

The CPR classes are upcoming, PHC audit, and HRSA walk-through is upcoming. Renee asked how many new patients there are with the additional of a provider. Tonia noted that there are possibly 11 new patients. Buster noted that Rondi should make a Plan B, since there are issues with medication delivery during a landslide or severe weather issues.

Renee Stauffer moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Tonia's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster noted that Arch and himself sat in on a conversation with Dr. LeBeau regarding equitable funding for California. Rincon filed a law suit against Indian Health Services and they lost, but to this date Indian Health Services still does not provide assistance at the level that is equitable.

Rondi Johnson, HHS CEO:

Report provided, Rondi is present. She has started the FY24 budgets. She went to the Native Nations 13th Annual Medical Conference in Temecula. She has a big shout out to Dr. Lew, and her staff working so hard to get all the emergencies in and seeing regularly scheduled patients. She truly appreciates them and their work.

She provided her budget report and other informational items.

Jennifer asked about the ceremony budget and items being approved but they are not reflected here. Barbara reported that the budgets are set in September and there have been charges but this is the best guess for the year on a regular schedule. It covers the costs of porta potties, dumpster services, and water if needed.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to approve Rondi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jodi Henderson, HRSA, Compliance, Accreditation:

Jodi is present to review her report. She noted that there are additional policies that are needed from SUD and DUI programs.

Troy Hockaday moved and Arch Super seconded to approve the HHS policies attached Jodi's report, 4 haa, 0 puuhara, 2 pupitihara (Liz/Renee).

Jodi noted that she provided the ACQI reports for the month of June.

Renee Stauffer moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Jodi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Closed Session:

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to refer PRC Case #363 back through the process, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Chairman Attebery requested additional education be provided to the Tribal Community regarding fentanyl issues and concerns surrounding it. Declaring a state of emergency for this issue may be warranted.

Informational: HRSA Manager provided May and June near miss and complaints. Executive Secretary was to receive a copy of the AAAHC handbook last month, and that will happen it's just been very busy. HRSA schedule was provided as informational.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Rondi Johnson to Las Vegas NV for grant training, and Ryan Hammer will cover the Sacramento CA grant training opportunity through CRIHB, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Kristen absent for vote).

Informational: Tribal Council is requesting additional information about travel and they want to ensure there is coverage for communities and facilities during travel.

Kristen arrived at 1:01pm.

Arch Super moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve out of state travel for Krista Reynolds to Atlanta GA., August 22-24, 2023, 5 haa, 1 puuhara (Troy), 0 pupitihara.

Council Caucus: Tribal Council will deny four requests for travel to a Leadership Conference and request that the staff find a comparable travel closer and relevant to positions, while maintaining coverage for the facilities and community.

Informational: Council Member Troy Hockaday asked for a list of mandatory training or a look ahead at training priorities to ensure more relevant and prepared for in advance.

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

Informational: CAP was provided to employee #TV. Council Member Goodwin advised to seek transcribers if that is indicated to assist all facilities. CEO advised that the necessary equipment is on hand should the providers want to use it.

Informational: Tribal Member CM requests a letter of support and match funding for ongoing work that has been funded under the Seventh Generation Fund for Inaam.

Informational: After a discussion with many Tribal ceremony leaders it may be indicated to offer grounds maintenance funding to each of the Karuk ceremonial grounds. Discussion first on needs v work should happen.

Informational: The Health Board asked is aware of many fentanyl overdoses in the territory and asks that a resolution declaring a state of emergency be drafted as soon as possible and implemented.

Informational: Request from Tribal Member DE was discussed and due to costs, bidding, and information the current reunion food contract will be upheld.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve \$50 for the gift certificate from discretionary for Hans Johannsen fundraiser, 3 haa, 0 puuhara, 3 pupitihara (Arch, Kristen, Renee).

Troy Hockaday moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve the billing write off balance policy, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Renee).

Informational: Executive Secretary advised that the Chairman has been in accident and individual has filed a lawsuit against the Tribes insurance.

Troy Hockaday moved and Liz Bentley seconded to approve discretionary for missing receipt \$79.81 on Council Member Goodwin's VISA card, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Jennifer).

Renee Stauffer moved and Kristen King seconded to provide employee #TJ a \$50 gift certificate, flowers and an Administrative Day from discretionary, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Troy absent for vote).

Informational: Council Member Goodwin advised that the TFAP is upcoming and there needs to be officer coverage while people are on travel.

Informational: Grant management is an ongoing issue; budgets in the system, grant files, etc. are an issue. Chairman Attebery will follow up.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve out of state travel to New York for Buster Attebery July 31-August 3, 2023, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Next Meeting: August 10, 2023 at 10am in Yreka.

Arch Super moved and Renee Stauffer seconded to adjourn at 3:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell Attebery, Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider