

**Karuk Tribe Council Meeting
January 23rd, 2025 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairman Attebery.

Present:

Russell Attebery, Chairmen
Kenneth Brink, Vice-Chairmen
Scott Quinn, Secretary Treasure
Laura Mayton, Member at large Orleans
Robert super, Member at Large Yreka
Eli Hensher Aubrey, Member at Large Orleans
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large Happy Camp (11:14am)

Absent:

Arch Super, Member at Large Yreka
Kristen King, Member at Large Orleans

Prayer\Mission Statement:

James Davis lead the meeting in prayer.
Russell Attebury read the mission statement.

Approval of Agenda:

Kenneth Brink motioned to approve agenda with additions Scott Quinn seconds the motion, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve the consent calendar for January 23rd Laura seconds the motion it passes with 5 haa, 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

Approval of Minutes: (December 19, 2024)

Eli makes a motion to approve the minutes from December 19th Laura seconds the motion, it passes with 4 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Binx Brink)

Old Business:

Discussion items.

Karuk Language: Sky (Avakhan)

Guests:

Talona Marshall, Junction Elementary School:

Talona Marshall is seeking approval for a donation to support a student trip to Washington, D.C., and New York City over spring break. Junction Elementary has a high percentage of Karuk students and staff. Shannon, a long-time staff member at the school, has held various positions since before 2000. Scott Quinn shared that his son previously attended this trip, which he described as a life-changing experience. The trip was attempted last year but did not receive approval. In 2019, the trip was funded by TANF

under previous policies. Currently, six students enrolled in the Karuk Tribe and two in the Yurok Tribe, along with two Karuk tribal staff members, are set to participate. The total amount requested is \$64,878, with \$2,933 fundraised so far. They are actively raising funds, with \$1,600 currently available. The trip is scheduled for February 19-23, and they are awaiting a response from the Yurok Tribe. Students will share their reasons for wanting to attend. The deadline for funding is February 5. Talona is also taking a course on student care during trips, which has already been funded. The trip, organized by World Strides, was successful in 2019. Mike expressed interest in taking students to Native American museums during the trip.

Konrad Fisher, Community Member:

Konrad presented a map of the area near Somes Bar, focusing on Stanshaw Creek, which currently diverts water to power generators and then redirects it to another creek, depleting Stanshaw Creek and harming salmon populations. He proposed an approach where both creeks—Stanshaw and Marble Mountain Creek—work together to better distribute water for fire management and salmon preservation. He cited a 2017 fire that nearly destroyed his property due to inadequate water supply. He suggested installing a diversion mechanism for more equitable water distribution and emphasized that a letter from the Karuk Tribe to the water board would carry more influence than one from him alone. Russell stated that he wants to consult Toz and other DNR members to verify water regulations. Kenneth Brink agreed that drafting a letter should follow these discussions. The Tribe has already been working on creek restoration.

Ralph Starrit, Tribal Member:

Ralph, who lives on Karuk sacred ground, has a year-round spring on his property. He wants to start a Native American cultural art shop where he can teach and display his own artwork. Russell noted that he frequently receives invitations from various companies seeking artwork and offered to share these opportunities with Ralph.

Director Reports:

Bill Tripp, DNR Director:

Bill reported challenges in scheduling meetings and appointing individuals to key positions. Cultural burning documents are currently with Geneva, and a response is expected soon. Since permits are not required during this time of year, he suggested it would be a good opportunity to proceed with cultural burns. Kenneth Brink noted that SB310 is ready, but inquired about the newly passed California law, AB1284. Bill stated that he has reviewed portions of the law but has not fully analyzed it yet.

Scott Quinn make a motion to approve the DNR directors report Kenneth Brink seconds the motion, it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

Grant Johnson requested a letter of support for a grant proposal aimed at funding a modeling project to assess water flows in the Shasta River.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to support the letter to HAF. Robert seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

He also requested approval for out-of-state travel for Toz to Washington state.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve out-of-state travel for Toz to Washington state Robert seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Emma Lee Perez, Contract Compliance:

Emma Lee demonstrated the spreadsheet she has been developing to track contracts and agreements and their assigned departments. Robert inquired about the possibility of an alert system to notify the council when deadlines are not met.

Eli makes a motion to approve the Contract Compliance report. Kenneth Brink seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Jennifer Goodwin).

Sara Spence, KTHA Executive Director:

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve the KTHA Executive Director's report. Scott Quinn seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Dion Wood, TERO/TANF/Childcare Director:

Dion explained that if the Tribe chooses BIA funding, it would need to compete for grants. Currently, five other tribes have been approved, and the Karuk Tribe would be the sixth. He suggested that Junction reach out to TANF for potential funding assistance.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve Dion's report. Eli seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Annelle Lerner, HR Director:

Not present, report provided.

Tribal Member asked that the HR report be highlighted and the Executive Director provided the review. Department notifications are ongoing and it's taking up to 21 days or more to post vacancies. The CFO has withdrawn his application. Benefits and orientations are ongoing. One exit interview was offered. Scott asked if the CFO position description was going to be brought back to the Tribal Council to review it for accuracy or seek additional options. Mike was unsure but noted that Annelle works with recruiter services.

Jack reported that Fairchild Medical Center was able to hire an internalist which is a very difficult position to fill, so there are potential candidates for difficult-to-fill positions.

Laura makes a motion to approve the HR Director's report. Kenneth Brink seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jack Lantz, Director of Public Works:

Kenneth Brink inquired about funding for sending youth to trade schools, with the hope that they return to work for the Tribe. Jack mentioned a school that could facilitate this. He emphasized the need for skilled tradespeople, such as plumbers. Additionally, he located parking blocks and signs for Happy Camp.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve 25-R-016. Scott Quinn seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve the Public Works Director's report. Robert Super seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Misty Rickwalt, Director of Transportation:

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve 25-R-016. Scott Quinn seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Darrel Frost, Emergency Manager:

Darrel discussed the installation of a water kiosk in Happy Camp, highlighting that the Orleans kiosk is only available for two hours daily. Another kiosk is planned for the Yreka Resource Center. He has been participating in Yreka city meetings regarding the Yreka Creek restoration project, which involves connecting Greenhorn Creek to improve flow and clear debris. Kenneth Brink noted the project's potential significance for the Tribe and the possibility of restoring Coho salmon. Darrel mentioned the plan to close the creek to the public for two years for restoration.

He also provided an update on security issues, including theft from a storage shed and vandalism of a portable toilet at the community garden. Security measures, including a game camera, have been implemented to prevent further incidents.

Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:

Erin reported that screening for the economic position is scheduled for the following day. The Skyline housing project meeting has not been scheduled yet. The newsletter is currently in production. Challenges with the removal and replacement of slabs persist, with Blackwolf opposing the Tribe's decision. A letter has been sent regarding this issue. Elaine is working with Stanford to facilitate the return of culturally significant items. Erin requested approval to send a letter to LA offering assistance to Tribal members in the area.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to send out a letter of contact to those affected by the LA fires. Jennifer Goodwin seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve the Director of Operations report. Scott Quinn seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

April Attebery, Judicial Systems Administrator:

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve a Visa Card for Cassie Lee in the amount of \$2,500. Robert seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve a credit card for Chelsea Cook in the amount of \$2,500. Laura seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve 25-A-050 for \$45,000. Eli seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve April's report. Scott Quinn seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Ray Martin, General Counsel:

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve the General Counsel report. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Mike Haskell, Executive Director:

Mike provided an update on his efforts to familiarize himself with the organization and collaborate with staff to develop an effective strategy. He is working closely with the HR Director on administrative

matters and assisting Dion with resolving a trailer issue. The People's Center Coordinator position remains vacant, with no applications received. Robert inquired about the council's directive regarding job rejection notifications and interview procedures.

Scott Quinn makes a motion to approve the Executive Director's report. Kenneth Brink seconds the motion. It passes with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

James Davis, Self-Governance Director:

James highlighted a 22% increase in resolution reviews. He mentioned a recent consultation with BONE and noted that coastal windmill projects have ceased due to the new administration. The Tribe has registered for the Sovereignty Conference in April. He also plans to attend an upcoming contract support cost training. A meeting with KILT is expected soon to discuss matters with the council

Kenneth Brink makes a motion to approve James Davis report Scott Quinn seconds the motion it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

Phone Votes:

1. Request to approve filing a complaint with the NIGC. Passed.
2. Request to approve resolution 24-R-189. Passed.
3. Request to approve out of state travel for Chairman to DC for monument signing ceremony. Passed.
4. Request to approve return to work for employee. Passed.
5. Request to approve letter of support for Governor Doug Burgum. Passed.
6. Request to approve support for clemency for Leonard Peltier. Passed.
7. Request to approve burial assistance for TM#2471. Passed.
8. Request to approve letter to DOI regarding decision on Coquille Tribe. Passed.
9. Request to approve agreement 25-A-033. Passed.
10. Request to approve letter of support for the Yurok Tribal Wellness Center application. Passed.
11. Request to approve TERO providing \$5k discretionary for the Tribes Holiday Party. Passed.
12. Request to approve 30-day extension request to DOI for the ROD on Coquille decision. Passed.
13. Request to approve TERAS GRIP award and transfer TERAS GRIP funds to third-party financial agent to hold funds. Passed.
14. Request to approve statements to be made to DOI regarding Coquille Tribes trust application. Passed.

Closed Session:

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve 25-R-031. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Robert Super made a motion to approve travel for three children, one young adult, and one guardian using Title 4B and BIA ICWA funding for funeral attendance JG. Eli Hensher and Aubrey seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Jennifer Goodwin).

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve a letter to the Housing Authority with changes to #6. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve 25-C-035 in the amount not to exceed \$7,000. Laura seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Department travel denied. Council members recommended sending a smaller group instead of the entire staff to keep programs running. The possibility of rescheduling for the following year was also considered.

Laura made a motion to approve a credit card in the amount of \$2,500 for Louis Gonzalez. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura made a motion to approve two employees to travel to the Child Care Training in Arizona, two employees to attend the 477 Training in Rhode Island, and two employees to participate in the Tribal TANF Training in April. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Appeals to RRC client dismissals will be referred to the Gaming Authority.

Informational: Request to work remotely will be evaluated further when the Council reviews policies tribe wide.

Informational: Request to review the Karuk Tribes FMLA should be done to ensure support of serious situations. Other Tribes offer different types of leave.

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve 25-A-042. Robert seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Land purchase option will be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for further evaluation.

Consensus: To instruct employees to contact law enforcement if unauthorized encampments were established on tribal property.

Consensus: Director of Public Works will conduct site work on Oberlin Road property.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 25-R-025, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve resolution 25-R-026, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 25-R-027, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura made a motion to approve a \$1,000 deductible for damages to a power pole. Kenneth Brink seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: 24-M-004 did not pass as the motion died on the floor.

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve 25-A-041. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Kenneth Brink made a motion to approve the BROLL release. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Request for \$261,000 from discretionary to cover expenditures was tabled for further review.

Laura made a motion to approve the People's Center FY25 budget. Eli seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Discussion on having drivers education support was updated to the Council.

Consensus: to accept the FY27 Tribal Budget Formulation-Preferred Program Ranking Tool.

Informational: Response to Riffles to Ridges to follow appropriate steps in requested Tribal delegates.

Adjourned at 5:11pm.

Next Meeting: February 27, 2025 at 10am in Happy Camp.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell Attebery, Chairman

**Recording Secretary, Jacob Lantz
Barbara Snider**