

**Karuk Tribe Council Meeting**  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to Order by Vice-Chairman Kenneth “Binx” Brink at 10:00AM**

**Present:**

Kenneth Brink Vice Chairmen  
Scott Quinn, Secretary Treasurer  
Eli Hensher Aubrey Member at Large  
Laura Mayton, Member at Large  
Robert Super, Member at Large  
Arch Super, Member at Large  
Kristen King, Member at Large

**Absent:**

Russell Attebery, Chairmen  
Jennifer Goodwin Member at Large

**Prayer/Mission Statement:**

Arch Super lead the audience in prayer. Kenneth Brink read the mission state

**Approval of Agenda:**

Robert Super motions Kristen King seconds to approve the agenda from February 27<sup>th</sup> , 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

**Consent Calendar:**

Kenneth asked a about the \$38,000 costs associated with Council Chambers microphones. Eric Cutright reported that housing would pay for half, points out that installation is included in the cost.

Scott Quinn makes a motion Robert Super seconds to approve the consent calendar, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

**Approval of Minutes:** (January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025)

Arch Super motions Eli Hensher seconds to approve the minuets from January 19<sup>th</sup> with changes to the self-governance report, 4 haa 0 puuhara 2 puupitihara (Arch Super, Kristen King)

**Old Business:**

Discussion items.

**Karuk Language:**

Ada-Ada: The People

**Guests:****1. Stacy Hatcher Community Member:**

A request was made for a permanent space where people could gather to play cultural music and create cultural items. Kenneth suggested reaching out to the art center, as they have available space that could be used for this purpose. However, the request is for a permanent location. Scott Quinn highlighted the limited space within the tribe and proposed that this program could potentially be held once a week. Stacy suggested the Grange as a possible venue for the activity. Robert Super asked whether there would be staff for the program, and the individual requesting the space explained that, after gathering 100 signatures, she identified several monitors who would be interested in working there if given the chance. Kenneth also recommended contacting the wellness center in town for additional support. Robert Perez pointed out that there may be more specific requirements for such a program than initially anticipated. Jodi Henderson recognized the value of having a space like this but emphasized that proper documentation, such as a business plan, would be necessary.

**Director Reports:****1. Darrell Frost:**

In January, a grant proposal was submitted to the state, which was returned with minor corrections. They requested clarification on the timeline, which is currently set at 36 months. They also questioned the EUI number, but that issue has been resolved. The hazard mitigation funds will be distributed between housing and the tribe. Additionally, the match requirement was increased to \$30,000. Approval is now being requested for 24-R-189 draft number 1 in the amount of \$120,000.

Scott Quinn motions Kristen King to approve 24-R-189 draft number 1 in the amount of 120,370 dollars and approval of the 5,000 from discretionary, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

**2. Jodi Henderson:**

Jodi is present to seek approval of agreement 25-A-049 there has been change of date on the agreement.

Scott Quinn motions Kristen King seconds to approve 25-A-049, 7 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

**3. Bill Tripp/Neva Gibbens:**

There was a discussion about funding in light of the executive orders being signed. The Forest Service has been working with Bill to help submit the quarterly reports, and the agreements are expected to be in good shape. Meetings were also attended in Sacramento for budget committees. Scott Quinn asked if alternative strategies were being developed to secure funding in case our funding is cut under the new administration, suggestion to coordinate with Erin, as she is already working on some aspects of this. Laura noted that even if the tribe were shut down for a few months, we would still be able to pay employees, citing past instances where no layoffs occurred. She explained that the tribe typically advances funds from three months in the future and that as

long as deadlines are met, everything should be fine. Bill also mentioned that some federal employees who were partners with the tribe have been terminated.

Robert inquired about the wood program, and Bill explained that a meeting had been held and a survey was going out to gather sign-ups. This will add people to the database, allowing the tribe to reach out to them and provide firewood. Arch pointed out that wood distribution needs to happen soon, as the weather is warming up and winter is nearly over.

Scott Quinn motions Eli Hensher seconds to approve Bill Tripp's report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

#### **4. Emma Lee Perez:**

Emma Lee is present to present a request for approval for 25-C-056 for a Head Start in. After receiving multiple bids, Akana was determined to be the best choice in terms of both price and qualifications. Scott inquired whether any reports, such as an environmental assessment, would be required. Emma Lee confirmed that an assessment would be necessary. Scott also suggested exploring the possibility of conducting these assessments internally. Kenneth Brink added that there should be positions in Orleans capable of performing these assessments, and Bill mentioned that a contractor is available to provide support and training.

Eli Hensher motions Laura seconds to approve 25-C-056 it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

Robert Super motions Scott Quinn second to approve Emma lees report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

#### **5. Sara Spence:**

The Karuk Homes 1 audit has been completed with no findings, and this week we are focusing on the file review. She will notify the council once it's finished. The Spay and Neuter clinic is taking place in Orleans today. Two applicants were received for the construction crew, and they will screen them next week. She also took a moment to express appreciation to Bill for his continued support. Robert inquired about the solar lights in Yreka, and Sara mentioned that there was a plan to replace them with electric ones, but the cost was too high. He also emphasized that we should have a guarantee to ensure they are repaired if they break prematurely. The phase 2 report for the mining company in Orleans came back clean with no issues. Arch Super asked about the fire relief trailers and why they are still in place. Sara explained that they were advised to relocate them after the fiscal year, but that has not happened yet. She also mentioned that we want to avoid causing any distress within our community.

*Robert Super steps out at 11:19*

Arch Super motions Eli Hensher seconds to approve Sara Spences report, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

## **6. Dion Wood:**

Arch Super motions Eli Hensher seconds to approve Scott Aseltine to be on the Siskiyou county school board it passes with 5 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

*Robert Super comes back at 11:26PM*

There is an issue between BIA and the office of head start but funding is looking very nice. Requesting for Kristy Harmon to have access to the former head start director email.

Arch Super makes a motion Laura Mayton seconds to approve Kristy Harmon access to the former Head start directors' email, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

Eli Hensher motions Kristen King seconds to approve Dion Woods report, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

## **7. Jack Lantz:**

Not present, report submitted.

Arch Super motions Scott Quinn seconds to approve Jack Lantz's report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

## **8. Eric Cutwright:**

25-C-057 Tabled for closed

## **9. Erin Hillman:**

Screening for the Peoples center coordinator has been filled by Raymond and he will start in June. Its been four years since this position has been filled. The Economic Development applicant was not qualified for the position so that will be posted to seek qualified applicants.

A contracted grant writer, Amali, was shown around the community and introduced to staff. The newsletter next edition is Public works. Robert asks if we can recommend that the newsletter include. Working with Robert Perez to see where the 8 houses will sit for Skyline housing project. Mid-June is the expected date to get the paperwork back.

General counsel will cover the Medical Admin in closed session.

Robert Super motions Kristen King seconds to approve Erin Hillmans report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

## **10. April Attebery:**

Has a grant that has been pulled due to the new administration, the grants in march should be unaffected though.

Scott Quinn motions Kristen King seconds to approve Aprils report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

#### **11. Mike Haskell:**

Met with DNR, few things that need to be ironed out with wood requests and he noted that its not fully up and running, but if there is an urgent request they will get it out. Laura asked how the grant describes how and where wood could be taken. Bill explained that it is out the forest (identified maps) and takes it to the wood yard then it gets split there. Eli Hensher says that there have been complaints about the wood being stacked incorrectly, as well as sizes of the wood being too big.

The trailer program is being looked at and he is trying to give the trailers away to people who treated them with respect and kept them clean.

Job descriptions for the 477 director and the deputy director were presented for approval; Erin says they are still in review.

Arch Super motions Scott Quinn seconds to approve Mike Haskell's written report it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

#### **12. James Davis:**

A draft letter with misty Rickwalt has been sent out. The self-governance conference preparations have been going well. The past month has been very productive when working with Mike Haskell. James has been working with Jack Lantz and Crystal Jacobs to get information on the airport. Recent meeting with parcel B, it is continuing to grow, and taking a formal face. Asks council to review Parcel B documents. Parcel B discussion will be in closed session.

Arch Super motions Robert Super seconds to approve Dr. James report, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

#### **13. Sherezada:**

Not present, report provided.

Eli Hensher motions Robert Super seconds to approve Sherezada report, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

#### **Phone Votes:**

1. Request to out of state travel for Vice-Chairman to Washington DC March 11-12, 2025. Passed.
2. Request to approve burial assistance for TM #218. Passed.
3. Request to approve providing access to email accounts DA and TA. Passed.
4. Request to approve 2024/2025 Impact Aid Indian Policies and Procedures. Passed.
5. Request to approve burial assistance for TM #2361. Passed.
6. Request to approve signing-on to the comments for final rule regarding Stanshaw Creek. Passed.
7. Request to approve letter of support for RRC Employee. F. Passed.
8. Request to approve burial assistance for Tribal Member #2645. Passed.
9. Request to approve contract 25-C-041. Passed

**Closed Session:**

Eli Hensher motions Kristen King seconds to approve 25-R-043, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

Kristen King motions Scott Quinn seconds to approve 25-R-044, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 puupitihara

Kristen King motions Eli Hensher seconds to approve 25-R-045, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

Informational: General Counsel will contact DNR Director to inform him that the Karuk Tribe will not comment on the new SEQA regulations.

Informational: Casino compact negotiations will be discussed with Mike Rose and Josh Saxon.

Informational: McKinney Fire Legal Action A firm, Buchalter, out of Sacramento, has agreed to take on the McKinney fire case

Informational: Slater Fire we are still waiting on documents related to the Slater fire, with delays due to a personal situation that unfolded.

Informational: Blackwolf Construction Update was provided.

Informational: Reunion Date we are discussing a possible reunion date, with September 13th and 14th (after Labor Day) suggested. There was a concern about flies in the gym during the last event, and we need to figure out a solution.

Informational: The Klamath River Volunteer Fire Department is seeking a partnership with the tribe to create adjacent buildings for their group. Their current facility is old and inadequate. Scott inquired whether they need to lease property, but it was pointed out that owning the land would make paperwork and grant applications easier. They currently face challenges with getting equipment in and out of the shop. There is property for sale on Beaver Creek that the tribe may consider purchasing together. Research indicates that they may need a 40x100 ft building. The tribe can help explore options but has plans to build a larger facility in the future.

Scott Quinn motions Kristen King seconds to approve 25-C-057 in the amount of 22 million it passes with 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

Informational: The PANS for S.B and M.D will be processed and sent out as soon as possible.

Informational: trailer update was provided.

Informational: HR has been working on a list of essential workers, with the council seeking to evaluate the effectiveness of remote workers and their contributions to the tribe.

Informational: An update on Parcel B: A conservation easement is desired for Parcel B, and the BIA would still place it in trust. There is potential support from Shasta, though it could limit

third-party options. Public access to the area is inevitable. The tribe may either contract with KILT or CRAIG, with a preference for bringing CRAIG in for an in-person discussion. The goal is to have this process moving by May, with an MOU finalized by then. It would be beneficial for those with experience in natural resources and restoration to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24th, where we also need to review Shasta's membership criteria, governing documents, and 501(c)(3).

Informational: In March Eli Hensher is going on a trip will be gone for 10 days the 20<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> he will be gone.

Consensus: to move the DNR meeting to happy camp to attend the Yurok meeting here in Happy Camp

Informational: asks about a fire resilience training center in Happy Camp. Kenneth Brink says he will look into it.

Informational: discussion on the possible purchase of gas station.

Informational: Discussion on the position of TANF Director.

Council Directive: Send notice to have enrollment pull statistics and demographics and request that Enrollment Assistant provide report.

Laura motions Robert second to pay Kenneth's change fee from his DC flight, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

Informational: The Karuk Tribe needs a contract with Alex Lemer. Discussions underway.

Informational: KYL is working on their fundraiser for the golf tournament.

Eli Hensher motions Kristen King seconds to adjourn the meeting at 4:23pm, 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara.

**Next Meeting:** March 27, 2025 at 10am in Orleans. CA.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Kenneth "Binx" Brink, Vice-Chairman**

**Recording Secretary, Jacob Lantz**