

Let's step out of our non progressive box ~



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Within the past month there have been many areas issues addressed by the tribal board and several areas that need serious attention.

BUDGETS

In last month's unit report, the topic of the budgetary processes and their deficiencies from the bureaucratic standpoint (not staff related) was pointed out. This area is still of serious concern. We, as a tribe, are currently operating on a 60-day continuing funding budget while budget meetings are being set up to establish the FY 2016 annual budgets.

As I have stated, it is not responsible to simply hurry up and adopt annual budgets without detailed plans and goals. Our tribe needs to develop, and adopt, both short-term and long-term plans within our governmental structure, as well as our enterprise structure. Without proper planning there is no reasonable manner with which to gauge our tribe's needs, successes, failures, goals and objectives.

THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED. I am hopeful that the tribal board will develop a process to ensure that these short-

comings cease in future budgetary cycles.

CASINOS

The tribal board of directors recently amended the existing northern casino debt financing by extending out the current notes by 27 months. This will allow our casinos to operate more efficiently with their reduced revenues and cash flows and ensure that tribal services are sustainable for the near future. If we had not amended the financing, the tribe would have been facing cuts of nearly \$3 million annually in governmental programming.

POLICY

I will continue to stress the importance of policy and adherence to our personnel policies and Tribal Code. As I have noted in the past, these policies are being abused and policies are being selectively ignored, positions are being "hand picked," and, ultimately, the abuses that many have championed against are still being allowed to continue.

In the upcoming months, I will be advocating for the adoption of tribal labor laws and policies to ensure that everyone, including the tribal board of directors, adheres to the policies and procedures of the tribe.

REMOVAL

Over the past month, a creative picture of myself was presented on the internet regarding my last report on the current removal. While the narrative took part of my report for its commentary, it left out the remainder of the statement. For further clarification I will post it once again within this report:

"Under Tribal Code Chapter 16 (16.106(2)) The Registrar shall review the petition and Tribal voter registration records under standards and procedures utilized for the verification of signatures

on nominating petitions for Tribal elections conducted under Tribal Code Ch. 10."

"The standards and procedures utilized for the verification of signatures on nominating petitions for Tribal elections under Tribal Code: 10.111(5)(a-d) clearly state that a Tribal I.D. number shall be required. There are no Tribal I.D. numbers provided on the removal petition."

Chapter 16 is the Removal Code, while Chapter 10 is the Election Code. These are direct citations from both codes. Chapter 16 references Chapter 10 within its requirements.

Thus, as I have stated, I understand there are those that are not pleased with and abstention. I also understand the easiest "political" decision to make would've been to vote "yes" on this issue; however, breaking one rule to follow another is not an acceptable option.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The economic development director position for the tribe has still yet to be filled. It is my understanding that interviews may commence within the next month for this position.

JKL SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

I am pleased to report that the new gymnasium construction is proceeding in a manner that exceeds expectations. I am extremely grateful that the tribal board approved this project to benefit our tribal children, and the children within the community. This project is self sustaining, and the revenues from the lease of the school pay for the construction of the project.

Some of the pictures thus far are included at the end of the column.

In closing, I will continue to push forward with members of the board who wish to be pro-

gressive. I will also continue to work with members of the board to ensure that we become innovative in our approach to economic diversification, membership services and stepping out of the non progressive box that we appear to

be confined to.

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman

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Site preparation, Wednesday, Oct. 7.



Installing rebar.



Finishing up pouring concrete the evening of Oct. 7.