



## COUNCIL OF ATHABASCAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JUNE 6, 2014

9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

MORRIS THOMPSON'S CULTURAL CENTER

Fairbanks, Alaska

### APPROVED MINUTES 8-29-2014

**Call to Order:** The CATG Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. at the Morris Thompson's Cultural Center in Fairbanks, Alaska by Chairperson, Chief Rhonda Pitka.

**OPENING PRAYER:** Sarah James of Arctic Village did the honors of saying the prayers blessing the meeting and its members.

**Roll Call / Establish Quorum:** Roll call showed those present:

Arctic Village – Chief Louie John

Venetie – Chief Jean Frank Tritt entered at 9::30

Beaver –Chief Rhonda Pitka

Stevens Village – Chief Harold Simon

Chalkyitsik –Chief Charlene Henry

Circle –Chief Jessica Fields

Birch Creek – Chief Jaqueline Baalam

Canyon Village –Chief Delma Fields

Fort Yukon – Chief Nancy James entered at 10:30

Rampart – Chief Floyd Green

Staff present: Joyce Hughes, Kim Good, Pat Stanley, Linda Wells

Teleconference: Melinda Peter, Rachel Solomon, Kelda Britton, James Kelly

Guest: Sarah James, Steve Berendzen of FWS, Audrey Fields, Marilyn Savage, Rebecca Fisher, Darlene Herbert, Randy Mayo.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda was presented for adoption add Under Resolution 2014-14 supporting Arctic Village Res 2014-41.

**ACTION: Chief Jessica Fields made a motion to adopt the agenda with additions. Seconded by Chief Jaqueline Baalam. Motion passed.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of March 14, 2014 was presented. Page 1 line 20, change to Chief Rhonda Pitka from Beaver; also note that Floyd Green is Chief not Council Representative.

**ACTION: Chief Delma Fields made the motion to accept the minutes of March 14, 2014. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

**Tribal Members Comments:** Sarah James of Arctic Village and the Gwitchin Steering Committee welcomed Pat Stanley and said it was an honor to say the opening prayer.

**Reports:** Executive Director – Pat Stanley summarized her report. A brief report on the Self Governance meeting they attended; the Yukon Flats Wild Life Refuge consultation, info will be given to the Chiefs so they can record this info on the jump drive passed out. On this drive there



is file A-1 on the strategy for Tribal Nation. John Dunham is working on CATG's indirect cost and Direct CSC. Reported on the HR Dept., Accounting Dept., still waiting for the draft audit report, the communication department. Still working on the MOU with TCC. A brief update on the EHS, NACTEP and NR was given. Received a call from the DOT regarding the EHS building that burned, they wanted to know if CATG wanted that land. Explanation on Acting Director during Executive Director's absence, on the credit card use and purchasing student books

Natural Resource Dept. – Kelda Britton gave a brief summary on the fire training program, the biomass project, the EPA program, BIA water resource project to be implemented, the USFW AFA to include the Moose Management.

Education Dept. – Rachel Solomon gave an update on the EHS program. Planning to have ten enrollment in Arctic, Venetie and Fort Yukon. NACTEP report is in the packet.

James Pool, IT Administrator – will get microphone to work for the Board Teleconference. Waiting for approval on the RUS funding. Working on the Security System for CATG Clinic. A new IT intern in Fort Yukon, Craig Fleener. Working on solution for AFHCAN Cart. Exploring the possibility of getting new phone system for CATG, the old one is about to fail. Asked Chiefs if they would like IT to come in to give support to tribes.

Communications – Roxanne Knudson's report is in the packet. She would not be able to call in as she is on travel status.

Health Dept.: Melinda Peter gave a brief update on her report. Dr. Sastic left CATG. Chasity Longs was hired as the Diabetic Coordinator; Dr. Adair will be leaving on June 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a wellness meeting in Venetie on June 24.

Chief Floyd Green would like to know if CATG offer treatment of drugs/alcohol even if they are not in their service area. CATG does not have a treatment center in Fort Yukon. They will not refuse treatment if needed. This is to be discussed with TCC.

HIPAA compliance was discussed.

Joyce Hughes summarized her report. Received a small grant from the State for the Behavioral Health, a site visit from the State will happen in September. After the site visit; will be State approved behavioral health program. We will be prepared for the site visit, cleaning the facility and touch up painting. We are getting our State and TCC billing resolved. For the GARF accreditation they have until April of next year for the site visit. David Driscoll will attend the Wellness gathering in Venetie. Would like all the villages for participation in the violence prevention project. If Rampart wants to participate in the behavioral health program, they have to look at that possibility. Discussion on having positions in the villages and some of the programs that CATG has. There is a need for better behavioral health program. The Wellness Gathering in the village are being done once a year. Kathy Graves, and Virginia will be traveling to the villages quarterly, will be visiting a village each month. There is funding for behavioral health aide in the villages. The positions are not advertised yet. There are two half time position – one in Venetie



and one in Arctic Village. TCC have funding for behavioral health for Rampart, Stevens Village and Circle to provide these services. These villages need to put in their request to TCC for services. There are funds to assist with activities, but the money is to assist with prevention activities, not just to have camps.

Discussion for strategic planning: decentralize some of CATG programs and place in the villages.

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion that they combine our behavioral health services for CATG, ANHC and TCC to better serve our communities so that they could be safe in the villages. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

**Break: 11:12-11:30**

Diabetes Program, there is a small grant from IHS and Chastity Long was hired for the Diabetes coordinator. Chastity Long will be doing a walking program, weight loss program. Looking to get this Wellness Program started. The Community Health Aid Training grant is 43,000 for training. There is a training now in Fort Yukon for the Health Aides. The different sources of funding were given. ANTHC Prevention and Wellness Program gets dollars (IHS dollars for) for the domestic violence prevention; substance abuse; MSPI, they are the ones sponsoring the Wellness Gatherings in the village. They pay for the representative from your village and the presenters. Our partnership with ANTHC and TCC are good. We are always looking to improve the coordination and sharing of resources. The CIP grant, we received 215 from a grant last year and we hope to receive another 200 this year. We have funding to do the site preparation and will build the garage from a kit. The provider housing is an on-going issue. Venetie clinic is be constructed and should be finished by fall. Still working to get funds for provider housing. Need letters of support from villages to get some help with the grants.

**Financial Report – Kim Good** went over the financial packet with the Board. The Health Department did a good job keeping within their budget. The auditors should be turning in the draft audit soon. Bunny Stevens is still the acting finance director. The finance director job is still open. As soon as the audit is received will present right before the next board meeting.

The security system will include the badge access which will be encoded for specific areas. There will be a blue light system. There will also be security system.

Cross training staff in accounting and billing was discussed. There should be some support from third party for youth intervention program funds. Consider prevention programs in communities. Consider moving some of the programs to the villages such as Natural Resource or more behavioral health programs.

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James moved to accept the Financial Report. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**



Communications – Roxanne Knudson’s written report is in the packet.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to ratify Resolution 2014-09, purchase of the Stevens Property. Seconded by Chief Jaqueline Baalam. Motion passed.**

**Would like to know what the original purchase was. This purchase came out of the Third Party. This building will be used for a full time provider to live.**

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-11 – Supporting Subsistence Use Priority in the YFNWR and ANWR with addition in wording under second NOW THEREFORE, add after prioritized use “and included” also at the end of the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT...add at the end “comma and Rampart.”. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to approve Resolution 2014-12 – Supporting ICHS NIH Community-Partnership Project. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-13 – Supporting an Early Head Start/Administration Facility. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

**On the topic of the Health campus, there needs to be a sign from the airport to the clinic, this is under Roxanne’s report.**

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-14 –for CATG to support Arctic Village resolution 2014-41 to keep non federally qualified users for sheep hunting out of Red Sheep Creek. Seconded by Chief Jessica Fields. Motion passed.**

TCC President Victor Joseph was invited to give more information on the moratorium of the Chinook Salmon on the Yukon River tributaries and also forming the Yukon River Fish Commission. Want to make sure that we have a voice and that voice is through that Fish Commission; and want to make sure that when they look at research that they include the historic knowledge and our ability to manage our own land and our own resources. There was a meeting to form two commissions, one in the Kuskokwim and Yukon. Making this decision is to insure that we have salmon for our future generations. We know that this is an international problem. There is disaster funds coming in. There are going to bring in 10 million and part of that is for research, and helping subsistence. The task force authorized 400 thousand to go out and seek additional funds for sustainability.

**ACTION: Chief Nancy James made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-10 - Supporting the 2014 Yukon River Tribal Chinook Salmon Management Plan and Establishment of the YRITFC. Seconded by Chief Jean Tritt. Motion passed.**



Victor Joseph address the concerns that Rampart, Stevens Village, Chalkyitsik and Circle had on behavioral health issues. Jacoline Bergsrom was introduced and gave them explanation on how they will be sending itinerants to their villages and will work with them. Adolescence services is needed. Kim Blood was introduced as the Diabetes Coordinator, Explanation of special services was given to clarify the services that are provided under IHS dollars and contract health dollars and the MOUs. If any villages have problems let TCC know right away so that the problem could be resolved right away. Getting the MOU between TCC and CATG finalized for the next meeting is one of the goals they are looking at. Chief Nancy James expressed the need to coordinate prevention programs to help the rural people.

Randy Mayo, Second Chief of Stevens Village will be attending the NCAI in Anchorage to participate on Monday on the “Land into Trust” issue. They are accepting verbal testimony for this. There was a letter that went out with the contact numbers.

**Old Business:** Pat explained about giving out info on getting books for students that she passed onto both Mike Hardy and Ed Alexander.

Gwich'in Steering Committee: Sarah James gave a brief report on the Gwich'in Steering Committee and how they would like their resolution passed on setting the Coastal Monument. The resolution will be drafted and called on a poll vote, this needs to be done and returned to them before the Gwitch'in Gathering.

YUKON FLATS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MANAGER: Steven Berendzen, FWS gave an update on the Chinook Salmon, the possible causes of its decline, the closures. At the request of some villages, they went to some villages and had meetings. The run did start, the closure that is anticipated- Lower 5D (Rampart & Stevens) will be June 11; Middle 5D (Fort Yukon) June 14, Upper 5D (Circle) June 17.

#### **TRIBAL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Darlene Herbert gave a brief description of the Erin Law and how the School District is passing this as Erin's Policy in Fairbanks since the State of Alaska did not pass this Erin Law. We need to know who is running for office, what they support, We need to get out to vote, get info out to the communities to vote for who is going to be on our side. Every village should register their people and have them vote.

An advertisement needs to get out for an elder and youth representative from the villages on the CATG board.

Sarah James invited everyone to the Albert E Tritt Memorial in Arctic Village on August 12. They will be taking a cross up on the mountain where he died.



Audrey Fields expressed her concern of CATG workers not remaining neutral when there were the fires in the village. Concerns that CATG employees used work time to voice their opinions against the arsonist and did not act professionally.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next meeting date will be the Strategic Planning Meeting July 28-31, 2014 in Fairbanks. Place to be identified. We will have the planning, budget workshop, indirect workshop.

**Adjournment:**

**Chief Nancy James made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Chief Floyd Green. Motion passed.**

**The CATG Board Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.**