

Minutes

Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs 2nd Quarterly Meeting

Date: December 8th, 2018

Location: History Colorado Denver, Colorado

CCIA Members Present: Lieutenant Governor Donna Lynne, Chair; Chairman Harold Cuthair, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe; Councilman Adam Red, Southern Ute Indian Tribe; Web Brown, CDPHE; Karin McGowan, CDPHE; Chantalle Hanschu, CDHS; Reggie Bicha, CDHS; Lucille Echohawk, Member-At-Large; Sheldon Spotted Elk, At-Large Member.

CCIA Ex-Officio Members Present: Georgina Owen, CDE; Bob Randall, DNR; Joshua Montoya, HCPF; Kim Bimestefer, HCPF; Steve Turner, History Colorado; Marguerite Salazar, DORA; Kirk Machin, CDOC; Tom Hooten, Colorado State University Extension; Jose Esquibel, Office of the Attorney General; Dr. Rocco Fuschetto, Ignacio School District; Michael P. Lewis, CDOT; Jason Benally, CDOT; Irv Halter, DOLA.

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Meeting Convened: Lt. Governor Lynne called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and welcomed all in attendance. Councilwoman Nightstarr provided the invocation.		
Quorum Established: Quorum was established and meeting materials reviewed.		
Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve the 1st Quarterly Meeting minutes.	Motion was approved unanimously	
Executive Director Report: Morgan Ferris presented the Staff Report and provided an update on the meeting packet and agenda items.		
Other: Signatories to the State-Tribal Consultation MOU between the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, CDPHE, CDHS, and HCPF signed the MOU. Adrienne Maddux from Denver Indian Health and Family Services was not able to attend due to illness but agreed to sign the following week. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe presented Lt. Governor Donna Lynne with gifts thanking her for her service to the		

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CCIA.		
<p>Southern Ute Indian Tribe Comments: Vice Chairwoman Frost reported that the Southern Ute Indian Tribe hired new employees at the Montessori school. She also reported that the health department met with Tribal liaisons regarding funding for housing rehabilitation. KSUT radio station fundraised over \$1 million in one year and the SUIT matched the \$1million. The SUIT is hopeful that the signal will also reach the UMUT. Regarding Tribal housing, 10-12 people occupying new homes and some are on wait list. The tribe has a job opening for a Human Resources director and the position has been published on the SUIT’s website. Tribal Court granted an Adult Court Drug Grant which can include equine therapy. The Tribe would like to take a proactive instead of reactive stance to drought mitigation. Hunting season is active and there are two cultural hunts with two neighboring pueblos. The Sun Ute community center hosted meetings regarding the Skate Park. One meeting was for elders and the other for community leaders. The skate park should be completed by June 2019.</p> <p>Councilman Adam Red thanked Lt. Governor Lynne for her hard work. He announced that he is on Polis’ Subcommittee for Natural Resources.</p> <p>Councilman Cedric Chavez reported the tribe’s focus on economic development and introduced members of the Sunshine Whyte Youth Council.</p>		
<p>Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Comments</p> <p>Chairman Cuthair announced that the UMUT has various ongoing projects in Towaoc and White Mesa. He reported that the UMUT is continuing to communicate with CDOT on various matters and that the UMUT is currently looking to hire a General Manager.</p> <p>Councilwoman Prisslena Nightstarr announced that she was recently elected as Treasurer. One project the tribe is working on is a Homeless Shelter in Towaoc. She asked Commissioners that if they knew of any grants, etc, the UMUT would be interested in hearing about them and would also be interested in grants for funneling horses. The UMUT held a summit for current and aspiring livestock owners. Councilwoman Nightstarr reported that the tribe is considering various possibilities for economic development including hemp. She announced that the Tiwahe program takes a holistic approach to addressing mental health. Additionally, the UMUT is implementing a broadband project that will be open to the public and available to Four Corners area. She also reported</p>		

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<p>that tribal members in their 20s are passing away from cirrhosis. Councilwoman Nightstarr asked Commissioners for information on the Women’s Wise Program so that she could pass it along to Councilwoman House.</p>		
<p>Commissioners/Ex-Officio Member Comments:</p> <p>Kim Bimestefer (HCPF) thanked the UMUT and SUIT for the privilege of meeting and working with them. Irv Halter (DOLA) communicated that he would ensure his predecessor understands and appreciates work with the Tribes. Bob Randall (DNR) thanked the tribes for their engagement with the state on energy, wildlife, reburial of human remains.</p> <p>Steve Turner (History Colorado) Announced the opening of the Written on the Land exhibit. He announced the VIP opening reception Dec 7th and the public opening on December 8th. He expressed to the tribes that it has been an honor to work with them on the exhibit. He announced that Sheila Goff would be retiring and that History Colorado is in the process of hiring for the position. Steve Turner presented Lt. Governor Lynne with a gift.</p> <p>Marguerite Salazar DORA announced that open enrollment continues until Jan 15 for the insurance marketplace.</p> <p>Chantalle Hanschu (CDHS) communicated that in response to requests for funding sources, she had meetings with both tribes to explain funding that is available. Kathryn Redhorse and Shelly Solopow also attended and can provide additional information. She also announced that CDHS intends to implement the ICWA fully.</p> <p>Josh Montoya (HCPF) announced that the Policy Memo is complete and will be issued this month and will be in effect January 1st. He communicated that he will work with Montezuma and La Plata counties to ensure they are aware of the memo and the SUIT health plan and income exemptions. Cheryl Frost brought up the need for Mercy to understand the health plan and Josh said we would bring the matter up with Mercy and that since Kim Bimefester has a relationship with them, she may do so as well.</p> <p>Web Brown (CDPHE) reported that during the CDPHE consultation on November 26, 2018, a myriad of issues were brought up. He reported that CDPHE is in the process of compiling responses to questions the UMUT and SUIT asked at the consultation. He said that folks should reach out to him if they would like to ask questions or follow up on anything. He announced that CDPHE plans to hire a Tribal Liaison and has received</p>		

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<p>good feedback from the UMUT and SUIT regarding what they think should be included in that job description.</p> <p>Jose Esquibel (AG) announced that the Attorney General’s office will be releasing a School Safety Manual sometime around December 17th or 19th and will send to the manual to Morgan to distribute to tribal leadership. He announced that funding has been released for Children’s Mental Health and funding has been provided for a School Mental Health Toolkit. Mental Health Colorado is the contractor that will reach out to schools to fortify and improve mental health in schools.</p> <p>Georgina Owen (CDE) announced upcoming trainings for the Nuu-ciu Strong curriculum. She reported that the Jan 26 training is full, there is a waitlist, and that she is hoping to add additional trainings to meet demand for the training.</p> <p>Jason Benally (CDOT) announced that two ballot measures failed. He also expressed his gratitude for partnerships with the tribes.</p> <p>Lt. Governor Lynne announced that the CCIA will look to fill the CCIA Executive Director position after the inauguration so that the new administration can select an Executive Director of their choice. She announced that until a new Executive Director is hired, Morgan Ferris, CCIA Program Assistant will be responsible for carrying out the day to day operations of the CCIA. Lt. Governor Lynne reported that her office is tracking folks who have expressed interest in the position. She asked the Commission to notify Morgan of personal interest in the CCIA Executive Director position and of people that might be a good fit for the role. She announced that in the past, search/hiring committees have been used, that Morgan would be organizing such a committee, and that Commissioners should let Morgan know if they’d like to participate on the search/hiring committee. She briefly outlined general responsibilities, requirements, and limitations associated with serving on the search/hiring committee.</p>	<p>Send School Safety manual to Tribes</p>	<p>CCIA, Attorney General’s office</p>
<i>Committee Reports/Recommendations</i>		
<p>Health and Wellness Committee:</p> <p>Jeanne Kaufmann (CCIA/HCPF) announced that the Health and Wellness Committee co-chairs Adrienne Maddux and Chantalle Hanschu. During the November 14th meeting, the committee decided to work with a facilitator to identify goals for the committee at the next meeting. She announced that anyone who’d like to participate should contact her.</p> <p>Jeanne announced that the most recent committee meeting included a presentation from HCPF and Rocky Mountain Health staff on the ACC</p>		

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Phase II and the transition of “physical” and “behavioral health” into “physical and behavioral health.” She announced that the next committee meeting is scheduled to occur on February 13.		
Reinterment Committee: No Update	Request:	
Education Committee: No Update	Request:	
Budget/Personnel Committee: No Update	Request:	
Economic Development Committee: No Update	Request:	
<p>Old Business: Dominique Mendiola and Jim Burack (Department of Regulations) presented and talked about Marijuana in Colorado.</p> <p>Jim Burack, Director of the Marijuana Enforcement Division communicated that Dominique Mendiola works in the Governor’s office on marijuana and that this administration has conducted deliberate outreach statewide with Mendiola’s help. During a meeting in Durango, his office reached out to tribal law enforcement officers at SUIIT and UMUT, Executive Directors from the Colorado Department of Revenue and of Public Safety. He communicated that they want to hear the tribes’ concerns, to be a resource on these issues, and to work with and support the tribes in their endeavors.</p> <p>Councilman Adam Red (SUIIT) discussed challenges at the federal and state level and expressed concern that if the SUIIT institutes a retail hemp or marijuana outlet, federal funding might be taken away. Jim Burack mentioned that he did not know the answer to Councilman Red’s question. He communicated that an important thing to know is that there are provisions in some states such as Washington that have a compact with the liquor and cannabis board and that the tribes have licensed commercial marijuana and leveraged the license regulators in the state. He mentioned that Lexis Nexus has the MJ Regulatory Code book for sale which can be accessed via the Department of Revenue’s Website. He’ll forward this information to Morgan who will distribute this information.</p> <p>Mr. Burack provided a handout summarizing the Marijuana Framework in regards to cultivation and possession of marijuana. He pointed out that several state departments have distinct roles in regard to the topic</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Morgan to send access information on Lexis Nexus resource to Tribes</p>	<p>CCIA, DOR, UMUT, SUIIT</p>

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<p>including the Deptment of Revenue, Public Safety, CDPHE, and the Department of Agriculture. He mentioned that cultivation requires working with the Dept of Natural Resources as well.</p> <p>Councilman Red communicated that if Colorado moves forward with things, the SUIT would mirror appropriate regulations and the like.</p> <p>Mr. Burack also pointed out the theme of geography and that since the SUIT shares a border with New Mexico there are additional jurisdictional considerations the need to be given attention. Councilman Red mentioned the flow of marijuana from New Mexico to Colorado as it is cheaper to buy from illegal rather than legal sources.</p> <p>Jose Esquibel inquired what the status of the tribes is on these issues. Councilman Red communicated that it is easier to approach the state. The SUIT is not lobbying, but watching. Hemp would fall under agriculture and be able to utilize water rights. He mentioned that SUIT is an agricultural reservation and may find it easier to work with the state on hemp. Ms. Mendiola mentioned that the Department of Agriculture oversees the cultivation of hemp and that the CDPHE oversees requirements of hemp derived food products.</p>		
<p>New Business:</p> <p>Amadeo Shje (U.S. Census Bureau Denver Indian Partnership Coordinator for the Denver Region and is Zia Pueblo of New Mexico). Mr. Shje mentioned that the Census Bureau would like to obtain an accurate count of tribal members in the region as there is a certain amount of money (\$1,400 per individual) that the tribes would not receive the proper amount if numbers are not accurately presented. He distributed copies of “2020 Key Dates and Census At a Glance.” He noted that if there are no responses on number of tribal members, the Census will send out enumerators. He emphasized that a complete and accurate count provides monies for Tribal nations and it is important to ensure that this happens. He reported that tribes were asked to appoint a tribal liaison for each as a point of contact for the Census Bureau and have done so. He announced that specialists in the region are currently receiving training. Of the 321 specialist, 28 are tribal specialists whom he supervises. He has been training about 46 specialists for the past couple of months and Denver region is one of the best when working with Tribal governments.</p> <p>Lt. Governor Lynne inquired how the Census is counting homeless folks. Mr. Shje mentioned that the census would include all homeless tribal members and ask the Complete Count Committee from each tribe where their homeless populations live/congregate they congregate in order to</p>	Request:	

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<p>include them in the count.</p> <p>Mr. Shje also mentioned that people will be counted based on where they reside on April 1st. Members of the military will be counted where they are and students will be counted at colleges where they are. To avoid double counting of students, there will be a process to inform households about how to count students—generally at college where they reside. Morgan will send Mr. Shje information to all if there are any questions.</p>	<p>Morgan to send Mr. Shje’s information to Commissioners so that they can follow up with any questions they may have</p>	<p>CCIA and U.S. Census Bureau</p>
<p>Public Comment: None</p>		
<p>Next Meeting Date: 1. March 22, 2019 – Denver, CO (Ute Day at the Capitol is March 21) 2. May 31, 2019 – Towaoc, CO</p>		
<p>Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.</p>		