

Nez Perce Tribe General Council

May 2026

Spring 2026 Minutes (Summary)

The Nez Perce General Council, at its meeting, May 7-9, 2026, at Lapwai, Idaho, took the following actions:

1. **House Rules.** Motion Dallon Wheeler; seconded by Verna Talor to adopt the House Rules. Motion carried.
2. **Agenda.** Motion Bill Picard; seconded by Trish Heavyrunner to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.
3. **Minutes.** Motion Dallon Wheeler; seconded by James Spencer to approve the Fall 2025 General Council minutes. Motion Carried.
4. **Resolutions.** The following are three resolutions presented and passed on the General Council floor:
 - a. Motion to amend Article IV. Membership, Section 1 (B) of the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Nez Perce Tribe. (Summary) Motion James R. Spence; seconded by Alene Powaukee to adopt a resolution to call for an advisory vote to proposed amendment to change enrollment of the $\frac{1}{4}$ blood quantum to "All persons Shall be eligible for enrollment in the Nez Perce Tribe who meet the following requirements, cumulatively: 1. Possess at least one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) degree Indian blood from any federally recognized Indian tribe with the United States; and 2. Have at least one parent or grandparent who is enrolled member of the Nez Perce Tribe; and 3. Submit an application for enrollment in accordance with procedures established by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee and applicable Tribal law." Motion Carried.
 - b. Motion Julian Matthews; seconded by Gary Dorr to adopt a resolution to hereby support the development of Wind Power and Solar Power within our 1855 area; and the Nez Perce Tribe will continue to exercise its jurisdiction

over its lands within the Treaty of 1855 and Usual and Accustomed places; and the Nez Perce Tribe Chairman and treasurer will be authorized to take action as needed to implement this resolution. Motion carried.

- c. Motion Gary Dorr; seconded by Gayla Gould to adopt a resolution to ban the use of, consultants, development of, planning, or soliciting funding for any other type of planning or implementation of Nuclear energy within the Nez Perce Treaty of 1855 and our Usual and Accustomed places; and the Nez Perce Tribe Chairman and treasurer will be authorized to take action as needed to implement this resolution. Motion carried.

5. Actions. The following actions passed on the General Council floor:

- a. Motion Joanna Marek; seconded by Connie Guillory to release the 2024 and 2025 financial audit reports with facts and findings for all tribal entities. Motion carried.
- b. Motion Richard Arthur; seconded by Judy Oatman to direct Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority (NPTHA) to give rental relief of \$300 for all rental units managed under NPTHA for the month of June, due to the economy.
- c. Motion Marie Baheza; seconded by Gloria Greene to have the Election Judges to oversee an external investigation on Nez Perce Tribal Police Department's destruction of servers that contain criminal data from 2006-2016 with a follow up to Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee within 60 days, and to have NPTEC provide a budget. Motion carried.

6. Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee Officer Elections.

- a. Seat 1: Marsan Lawyer
 - i. Total Votes: 645
 - ii. Rachel P. Edwards: 292
 - iii. Marsan Lawyer: 353
- b. Seat 2: Ashton Picard
 - i. Total Votes: 645
 - ii. Ashton Picard: 353

- iii. Elizabeth Arthur-Attao: 287
- iv. Invalid: 5

- c. Seat 3: Alexis Walker
 - i. Total Votes: 645
 - ii. Alexis Walker: 385
 - iii. Marie Baheza: 257
 - iv. Invalid: 3

7. **Adjourn.** Motion Shirley Allman; seconded by Gwen Carter to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:08pm

8. **Closing.** NPTEC Chaplin Ferris Paisano.
- a. Retire the colors
 - b. Drum: Nez Perce Nation



Maurita Oatman

General Council Secretary

Attest:



Jennifer Oatman

General Council Chairman

Spring 2026 General Council – Lapwai

Thursday May 7, 2026

Called to order 8:20 am

Drum – honor song and flag song

David Scott – read memorial for all veterans

Chair: bring up Ferris Paisano, NPTEC Chaplin for opening prayer.

Ferris: Prayer, spoke of being beautiful people.

Chair: Mr. Scott

David Scott: resumed the reading of veterans.

Drum honor song – for all veterans

Chair: Asked for a minute.

8:57 am

Apologize for not having the House Rules – will go get it. Appreciate everyone being here.

Turning it over to Alexis Walker for the Resolutions Report, keep the visit to a minimum. We have headsets for assisting hearing. Thanks, to Shirly Alman for assisting, before handing it over to Resolutions return to agenda for approval, read the agenda.

Bill Picard to accept the agenda

2nd Trish Heavyrunner

Questions or comments?

Mr. Holt – 2708 – 20th time to I gave the report – spell my name with a K not a C.

Carla – there was a posting in the LMT for the resolution for enrollment. Helpful for, have a time set for discussion on enrollment.

Alene Powaukee – question – what will the resolution committee, needs to be said on what the budget is.

Alexis – we will not going to be bringing any of the resolutions. Leaving it to the floor, not presenting any resolutions. Ms. Greene will present a resolution and Mr. Penney.

Chair – any more questions or comment for the agenda,

Motion carried- Agenda adopted.

Table the minutes?

Motion to table the minutes by Shirly Alman

2nd -

Mr. Kipp – we should have had the minutes a long time ago, I look for them on communications and I could not find them.

Gloria Greene – constitution and bylaws – sec. 2 and article 5. should provide copies to all communities. Needs to be addressed for the future.

Question and comments? - for tabling the minutes until later in the meeting.

Motion carried

Alexis Walker: introduction in nimiipuutimpt, I am Alexis Walker the Resolution Vice Chairman and at the back table we have Matthew Wheeler who is the Secretary, and Laloni Burke who is a member. Our Chairman J. R. Spencer had to step down last month for personal reasons and we'd like to thank him for his services. We're here to report on the committee's work between General Council meetings to share the concerns of tribal members have brought forward on the Constitution and By-Laws. So, this report is informational only, the committee makes not policy recommendation, and every decision belongs to the General Council. So, today we will cover the committee's current status in the vacancy. Main concern we received are plans and process' that concerns enrollment proposals have been submitted to the committee. We had the Circle of Elders draft a resolution and are available in the back and they are also in the packet. Our goal is transparency and corroboration; we want you to know that we have heard and want to portray what's going to happen. So, the committee status, other resolutions committee exist under article five, section six of the constitution. Our job is to receive suggested problems and complaints with tribal members and when a matter has merit to present it to NPTEC. The provisional bylaw will be adopted, the remaining three of us may appoint a qualified enrolled remember to fill a seat. So we do have, since Mr. Spencer had to resign we are we need to appoint a member, so we're going to ask all the tribal members 18 or older to submit their name to the committee and then we're going to have a meeting on Monday May 26th, at 6:00 pm in Lapwai. Um, so any interested enrolled members are encouraged to put their name forward. We also encourage you to read the bylaws in your packet um experience in governance investigation and conflict resolution is helpful, but

advisory any enrolled member 18 or older is eligible to with their name. So please, if you're interested, submit your name to the back table. If not, you can submit after this weekend to uh by email to resolutions@nezperce.org. So, our foundation operational challenges; um, when the current committee took office in September 25th, we encountered significant operational challenges uh without stable rules, intake forms or admin support the committee hours were consumed by building systems rather than complete investigation. Every concern received we acknowledge and the catalog but because of limited operational capacity no concerns reach formal findings or substantiated or instead and unsubstantiated. The committee accepts the accountability for the gap and report honestly to the general council, that we did hear everybody's concerns and we are in a preliminary state with them. Um, So the current status of our bylaws, um we just recently on May 25th, the general, or we adopted bylaws. So, these bylaws establish clear intake procedures investigation standards by of finding procedures, reporting our comments and operational expectations. This marks a major turning point for our committee for the first time in multiple terms. The committee now has a functional operational framework that allows concerns to move through a formal process. The committee continues, our intend to continue operating under the bylaws throughout the remainder of the term and plans to seek permanent ratification during the fall 2026 general council. So, with the bylaws are just provisional for us that they're not totally ratified by the people. So, you guys have the time between now and the fall to um submit any kind of recommendations regarding the bylaws. And they are also in the packet as attachment number five. Next slide, please. So, the community concerns we received. The committee received concerns through public testimony, written um, written correspondence and interviews with tribal members. Other report, the concerns report includes police conduct, training, tribal court and ICWA related concerns, tribal hiring preferences, compliance, um water code development, healthcare billing issues, tribal identification card concerns, cannabis policy conflicts, missing or unimplemented resolutions, housing and elder services. The most recent week we had some concerns about, around peacemaker diversion program concerns that they were developed, and enrollment criteria proposals came in. These concerns reflect issues that committee members believe require additional review, accountability or public discussion. The committee's role is not to predetermined outcomes, but to establish a fair and transparent process for evaluation. Next, please. So, what some of these concerns for the police conduct and what a hiring preference. Um, several concerns focused on Law Enforcement interaction officer conduct. Members raise questions regarding the escalation training, cultural competency, and complaint procedures and community trust and safety. So, those concerns were very; um can we took it very seriously and we are still looking into them for those tribal members who did submit those. The committee also receive detailed concerns related tribal court and ICWA processes, including allegations

involve child welfare procedures and courtroom transparency. Additional concern involved travel hiring preference policies. Committee members question whether hiring preference rules are being consistently applied across all tribal departments and requested greater accountability and transparency regarding hiring date and succession planning. Next slide, please. So, the governments, the governance services and community systems, um members also raised water concerns. There is a request for help developing a community, community driven water code that balance, that blends traditional knowledge with scientific data. We heard about healthcare billing errors, referral issues and communication problems at Nimiipuu Health. Members told us that tribal IDs lacks an expiration date and is rejected by federal agencies, including TSA. We also received reports of missing on unimplemented General Council resolutions concerned about housing transparency and gaps in elder advocacy and mental health services. These all reflect the shared desire across the community, across all of our communities for stronger systems and clear accountability. Next slide, please. So, one concern involved the peacemaker diversion program and enrollment. So, we found a during an interview that nearly completed peacemaker diversion program has been developed through community effort on grant funding but never been implemented. This concern was received recently has not yet undergone preliminary review. So, we were looking into that after the meetings. We also received three separate enrollment and amendment proposals. These involve a cumulative lead line approach of reduction in blood quantum and the inclusion of blood from any federalized correctly recognized tribe. The committee is neutral on all three in full comparison is in the enrollment discussion packet. Those are the only three we received and we were able to look at any other ones that might have been talked about after the last couple days. Next slide, please. So, our plan to address these concerns. We standardized, standardized review process under the new bylaws, all concerns we move through the same process, intake and acknowledgement. Preliminary review, a majority vote to open an investigation when warranted back findings, finding of substantiated or unsubstantiated presentation to NPTEC when warranted and regular reporting to the General Council. The process is designed to be fare consistent and transparent. Every concern will get the same a careful review. As part of this process, we want to make it clear that both of what the committee can do and what falls outside of our roles. So, what the committee can do we can receive written concerns from any enrolled member request information and policy interpretations from tribal departments and managers consult subject matter experts, conduct interviews and present our finding to NPTEC with recommendations. What we cannot do we cannot overturn a court decision, act as a personal appeal board for individual employment disputes, direct tribal staff or spend tribal funds or investigate matters that are already in active litigation so with these bylaws that we have adopted. We will begin reaching out to department as part of our fact finding when a concern moves

forward program managers and subject matter experts may receive a request from resolutions for information, policy clarification, or incident review. This is not about finding faults simply how we gather the facts we need to do our job fairly, fairly and thoroughly. We ask for cooperation not because anyone is in trouble, but because it takes all of us working together to serve this community well. We will report our findings back to general counsel in the fall. Next slide, please. So, the enrollment proposals deal are resolutions committee receive three written proposals. Uh. The first proposal would allow bloodline calculations across multiple ancestry over several generations. The second proposal would reduce the blood quantum requirement from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ in as first blood. The third proposal would allow blood from any federally recognized tribe to counter to count towards eligibility while maintaining $\frac{1}{4}$ total Indian blood. Any constitutional amendment would require a special election 60 days' public notice, two thirds approved, $\frac{2}{3}$ approval of those voting and at least 100 valid votes cast. So, the committee does not endorse or oppose any proposal. We are not here to tell you which path to take what, what we can do help you navigate the process. We have prepared to side by side comparison in your packet if you have procedural questions about this special election the to vote process under article nine or the existing adoption authority. We are here to help you understand the tools available while still staring you towards your outcome. Next slide, please. So, remember the council circle of elders, as we put together this report, we realized that we didn't see any um any council of elders' documentation anywhere we couldn't find it. So, we met with the council elders on May 5th, um. They did not endorse any proposal. Their guidance was to not rush a vote, consider a constitutional convention, use the adoption authority that already exist in the constitution and distribute the D'ward Walker enrollment study before any vote. The Walker study commissioned by NPTEC. I'm sorry, I don't know that I haven't done the research on this. I don't know what year was commissioned by NPTEC, but I found that changing only the blood quantum passes the same challenge to future generations. The elders ask that the study be made available and discussed publicly. Therefore council, um, is in the enrollment discussion packet and one note that was taken. When, um, we were meeting with them in some of the elders are noted that the last time they were reluct, relax, or they were contacted by a committee about the enrollment they said that they um collectively supported the adoption of the shohoptin, and tribe sister tribes, so that was noted in our in the full packet. uh Next slide, please. So, um, so in this discussion two draft resolutions were developed for conversations, from the conversations with elders and the members. They are not committee recommendations. They are tools any member may use during deliberation. So, the draft resolution A is, will direct NPTEC to develop a trial adoption ordinance and provide updates at future General Council meetings. uh uh Resolution B would call for a constitutional convention, establish a planning committee and refer enrollment proposal to the committee for broader review.

Again, the committee makes no recommendation regarding adoption or either resolution. Drafts are simply available as discussion tools for the general council. If you would like to look at them, they are in your packet, but we do have um our copies in the back. Next slide, please. So, the materials provided in your packet we provided the constitution and Robert rules guidance. That's the sheet that will show you how you guys can deliberate in council for the enrollment um discussions. We wanted to make sure that our our tribal members were made aware that they do have options that although one motion might go up, you have options per Robert's rules to deliberate. So, please look at that packet. Look at your Roberts Rules 12th addition and we just want to make sure that nobody felt that they were stuck to one motion and that there's ways to use Robert's rules to uh to get, to get your say in there too. So, in the packet go and look at that, um, and then the draft resolutions are in there. The one for the constitutional convention and the one for the adoption um ordinance. Next slide, please. So, in closing the resolution committee has worked to build operational systems while continuing to receive an organize community concerns. Um, one thing we wanted to note that we wanted you know with all the stuff that we found, you know, with the operational, that we, it was not the fault of any prior resolutions committee. That you know we when we did the research last time, we had a biological in 2004 and so we haven't been um we have been a while since then, and so we want to make sure that you know everybody understands that um we, we did the best we could you know we apologize to tribal members that did come to our table. We did take their current concerns seriously, um, but the operational part of making sure that we had a bylaws and making sure we had a process was very important to us because we want to ensure that everybody has a fair and equitable, um, their concerns are processed very ethically. So, thank you guys for your time. That's our report and we'd like to turn it over to the General Council floor.

GC Secretary: Tac'meeywii, thank you Alexis. Um, so I will go ahead and start opening up for questions and comments for her report.

Audience: Speak up!

GC Secretary: Can you hear me? Sorry, guys. Um, so I will go ahead and move forward with um the questions and comments for the panel. I believe it was Connie Guillory first, then James Spencer, and if you guys can wave at me so I can see who will be next who would be next, I would appreciate it. Can someone turn the lights on?

Question and comments

Connie Guillory – Uh, Lex thank you for the report. Refreshing. I used to be on resolutions, I know how important it is. I don't know that the whole general body knows the importance

of the resolutions committee, the impact that it can make. The committee can meet and we and we can go forward and bring it to NPTEC, and they don't have to do anything. Nothing. And I was told that when I got on the committee and I didn't believe it, but it is true as soon as you pass a resolution here, it goes across the breezeway. They vote on it and I think we need to strengthen the Resolutions Committee to truly have an impact on the wishes of the people. Uh, Maurita has an easy when I was General Council Secretary, I literally went verbatim on what people said. My, uh report was probably maybe 100 pages. Mike Penny was the uh chairman and I had to have that report in 30 days before. But things have got lost, and I guess I'll sum it up by; I just hope that the deadlines, what you what you're proposing will be followed. Thank you.

GC Secretary: Thank you, Connie. Response from the panel?

Alexis: Thank you, Connie. Um, yes and that's what happened with our first bylaws that we created that the deadlines were way, way too stringent for us. But on that note is that we really got to talk, we got to look at and think about the hours and the roles that we expect our Resolutions Committee to walk into. Um. So, there's some thought that we need to still discuss on that, but yeah we're, we aim to meet those timelines. Connie, thank you.

GC Secretary: Thank you, Alexis. James Spencer.

James Spencer – ah yes madam chair, I have a proposed resolution here and there are copies on the back table regarding our enrollment, you know we had a study little over 12 years ago. And it said if we don't do anything, that in; what was it? About 50 years, no one will be eligible. So, traditionally, we intermarried with all of our sister tribes along Columbia River, several tribes on the other side of the Bitterroots. That was how would you maintain political alliances. So, when we start talking about blood quantum and whose four fourths, what not? In reality, there is no such thing as a four fourths Nez Perce. We always had people who if they were raised here, they were considered Nez Perce and one of their parents was or happened to be from another tribe. So, in that spirit, and the Nez Perce tribal General Council is empowered to and act for and on behalf of the Nez Perce tribal membership pursue revised constitution by laws adopted by the General Council in this Nez Perce Tribe on May 6, 1961. The approved, and approved by the acting commissioner on 30 June 27, 1961. Whereas the Nez Perce tribe retains the inherent sovereign authority to determine its own citizenship and membership criteria. And whereas the Nez Perce people have endured the lasting impacts of colonization, allotment, relocation, termination era, of federal policies. And the imposition of blood quantum standards that were not traditionally used by the Nez Perce people to define belonging kinship or community.

and Whereas the Nez Perce tribe is committed to protecting the future of Nez Perce, of the tribe, preserving the continuity of Nez Perce people and maintaining or among descendants of the tribe for future generations. And whereas prior reviews of tribal enrollment criteria were requested and discussed by the General Council and the public meetings, surveys, community discussions have been conducted over multiple years to gather input from tribal members regarding enrollment and citizenship issue. And whereas enrollment studies, membership projects have demonstrated the current enrollment criteria may result in a substantial decline in tribal membership over future generation.

And whereas the Nez Perce people historically maintain relationships, kinship ties and inter marriages with members of other tribal nations. Many descendants of the Nez Perce tribe possess ancestry from multiple (inaudible). And whereas the General Council recognizes the importance of preserving tribal identity will also ensuring the descendants with familial ties to the old tribal member, Nez Perce tribal members are not unnecessarily separated from the tribe.

And, Whereas the general council he finds it to be in the best interest of the Nez Perce tribal consider of article four of the bylaws. Regarding membership criteria in order to preserve continuity and sovereignty of the tribe.

Now therefore be resolved Nez Perce tribal General Council hereby propose amendments article four, membership revised constitution and bylaws as followed the current language article four section one B, all children who are at least 1/4 degree Nez Perce Indian ancestry born to a member of the Nez Perce tribe provided that the applicant for the enrollment is filed with Nez Perce tribal executive committee within 18 years after birth.

The proposed amendment would read all persons shall be eligible for enrollment in the Nez Perce tribe, all members shall be eligible for the enrollment in the Nez Perce tribe who meet the following requirements cumulatively. They must possess at least 1/4 degree Indian blood from any federally recognized Indian tribe within the United States.

And have at least one parent or grandparent who is enrolled member of the Nez Perce tribe and submit an application for enrollment in accordance with the procedures established by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee in applicable tribal law. Be it further resolved at the General Council finds that sufficient review discussion and community consideration regarding enrollment issues has occurred over many years and then it is appropriate to submit this proposed constitutional amendment to the Nez Perce people for consideration. And vote and then be it further resolved, that the proposed amendment shall be posted on.

Notice in accordance with the requirements of article nine of the revised constitution and bylaws prior to any election held for its adoption and be it further resolved that the proposed amendment to article four membership of the revised constitution and bylaws shall be presented to the eligible voters of the Nez Perce tribe at a duly called election or General Council meeting in accordance with the constitution and applicable tribal law and being further resolved that the Nez Perce tribal executive committee is authorized develop, propose any necessary procedural and conformed amendments to the tribal enrollment ordinance and review policy to implement this amendment. In a manner consistent with this constitution and bylaws of the Nez Perce Tribe. Provided that such amendments are that the speaker shall not alter eligibility criteria established herein and be in further resolve with the General Council recognizes the importance of balancing tribal inclusion, preserving tribal identity and responsible stewardship of tribal resources in directs that any implementation ordinances may be distinguish between citizenship status and eligibility for specific tribal programs or services where permitted by tribal law and policy. and be it further resolved, any implementing ordinances or policies maybe distinguished between citizenship status and eligibility for specific private programs or services or permitted by tribal law and policy.

Be it finally resolved, or this would be finally resolved, that if any provision of this amendment be or is determined to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in force, full force and effect.

Chair: Mr. Spence? Mr. Spencer, so is that your motion?

Mr. Spencer: Yes, madam Chair, that is the motion. Motion has been made by Mr. Spence, to adopt the resolution that he just read. Is there a second to the motion? Ms. Alene Powaukee. So, motion has been made. Are there any questions or comments regarding the adoption of the resolution as read by Mr. Spencer, Mr. Frank Weaskus. Does everyone have a copy of the resolution?

Frank Weaskus – Tac'meeywii, I just like to say on this version, I like it. I think it's pretty good, but I propose to make everyone 4/4s, because our ancestors did this. When a person got married into a tribe they became fullblood. Chief Joseph's mother was Cayuse, you look at him and you say he is not 4/4s. Cayuse warriors were brave and the Nez Perces wanted their blood mixed with ours. I like this, but I want to change it to 4/4s for everybody, even the children that are born into our tribe. Make them 4/4s. The Crow Tribes did this, the Crow Tribe made everybody 4/4s in their tribe. And then, and anybody that could prove their full blood, even if they were sooyaapoo or whatever they got into the tribe 4/4s. I think we need something like this when we have to understand if you want to say I'm cultural and Native American, and everybody must be 4/4s. That's my opinion. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Weaskus. So, are we handing out the resolution? Okay, so they're handing out the resolution, if you need one make sure you raise your hand and let them know. So, we do have folks over here. So, I would like to recognize Ms. Alene Powaukee.

Alene – Thank you, madam chairperson, I just need a point of clarification. I appreciate your resolution, but that was why I was asking the resolution committee what their plans are when they do resolution. It doesn't sound like they are going to submit them and since JR's resolution is under the resolutions committee. Um, so I need a point of clarification. Is, will this go from a resolutions committee? Or will this... how is it going to work if they said they'll do whatever you want to do, but yours was already in their packet. That was what I couldn't figure out when um, this one was already in their packet, they have two others. I like what Carla said, but nothing was mentioned or even given her the opportunity. So, I do like a clarification as to where this one, JR's resolution is going and if those additional resolutions come through.

Chair: So, Ms. Walker, do you have a clarification?

Alexis – Our report was only information, only, so we didn't make any recommendations. So, when that resolution comes to uh... it really just got emailed to us at the, the last, last couple of days.

So, it wasn't like it came to us and I was presented at a meeting, so we but we wanted to make sure that it was reported on and that we had it and we had it for the copies. But really, Roberts rules after the reports done a motion come on the floor and that motion on the floor so that's why I want to make sure you guys everybody had an educational tool that if somebody else like Mr. Penny he can jump up and you and make some amendments going on with that on there.

So, we can go into a straw. I think it's called a straw committee, i think I put it in the educational notes. So, I'm just learning this too because it's very 12th edition, from 1 to now we're on 12. So, we can we can go into discussion like you're saying and bring them all in. But nobody else is I don't know who else is saying they're going to go to HR Subcommittee or something. I guess if people could just, I guess, give us a who else is going to be doing uh resolutions, because there's Mr. Penny. Now he might have one and then we have Chantal, but I don't know who else had it. So, it's the floor right now, um Ms. Powaukee and that's, that's where it has to stay at.

Ms. Powaukee: That's what I'm asking is, don't you take those to the NPTEC? You won't take these to the NPTEC?

Chair: Thank you. Miss Powauke. So, whatever actions are taken on the floor by general counsel those are presented to NPTEC.

Ms. Powauke: Well, see? That's what I was asking.

Chair: So, if this resolution is adopted or if any resolution is adopted or any kind of motion, uh then it would be presented to. (No, it wouldn't be for you to go for a vote.) Okay, so it would be to call for a vote, and if it passes here, we have to give at least 60 days' notice to the tribal membership that we are proposing to amend the constitution. So, if I passes here, we would, that's what would happen. I want to recognize, again, our discussion is pertaining to this resolution as read by Mr. Jr Spencer. I'd like to recognize Mr. Kipp.

Chair: Mr. Kipp, I guess I would just like for clarification, would you consider that a subsidiary motion? And then understanding that, yes, we do have three different resolutions uh that was presented. Shared with the resolutions committee.

Bill Picard: Point of order, point of order. You will have new resolution. We have one motion on the floor. That's it. The other three resolutions don't count.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Picard. I'll recognize the point of order. The motion on the floor is to adopt the resolution as read by Mr. JR Spencer. We're on the discussion phase. I have um Mr. David Penney, and then Gloria Greene, and then Mr. David Holt, and then Ms. Judy Oatman. Again, the discussion is on the motion to adopt the resolution.

Mr. Penney: Thank you, I've been working on enrollment since 2006-2007. I would like the option to present my resolution.

Audiance: Can't, Point of Order.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Penney. I'll recognize Ms. Gloria Greene, Mr. David Holt, Ms. Judy Oatman.

Gloria Greene: Madam Chair, I would like to go against this resolution because a lot more information needs to be presented. You can't just enroll somebody that's um less than a 1/8 or 1/4, which is currently under the constitution and bylaws right now. And since the Nez Perce tribe is an IRA tribe, Indian reorganization of this constitution was established back in the early days. And um of course, we've had a lot of amendments, but it is required under the um constitution and bylaws the manner in which it was adopted under federal status that it needs to be um the regulations under 25 CFR 81.51 through 60, need to be adhere to and this calls for a constitutional election um to change a constitution under, under this tribe. So actually, this resolution and anything that's presented to be voted on right now is actually invalid.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Greene. I will recognize Mr. David Holt, Ms. Judy Oatman, Ms. Angela Picard, Ms. Aqua Greene. Again, the discussions on the motion to adopt the resolution. Mr. Holt

David Holt: Madam chair. My name is David Holt, old man David is somebody you know me as. I want to welcome everybody here. Those local and those of afar, you're witnessing uh a meeting which is almost helter skelter according to you know a lack of lack of minutes, the lack of uh this and that prior to the meeting, provides for a helter skelter. We don't have the proper information in front of you. One of our experts bureau just told you that uh this process the be invalid, but yet we get no response from the chair or from this administration as to the validity of what we're doing right now because it's been going in a helter skelter way. We don't have the proper documentation, not enough information on every one of the resolutions that are going to be presented when it comes to enrollment, not trying to you know could anybody's legs off in each one of these has an impact. Yes to somebody is no to another group here. And those of us that want some closure to this here, but yeah you don't have the information on any one of them, the resolutions that's gonna impact our people. As was brought out by in the prayer session, something is gonna cut, something's gonna add, pros doing this full blood some tribes asking the states to legislative wise like the Chippewas that they're going to the state to try and get their enrollment done. They're not even doing the federal process. There's many ways to approach our membership, but doing it without order or without validity and without the proper information in front of everybody were setting ourselves up for... problems and I'm not taking sides right now because each one of these resolutions is lacking when it comes to support information in justification to the present membership and to the future generations, we've got to make a oh a comprehensive informed consent when it comes to the future of our people. But if I may, I don't want to exceed my 100 and 80 seconds that is demanded here when it comes to the time frame in which we must respond to these things. But I was hoping that we would go through all of the resolutions besides enrollment because I know we're not gonna get to the other resolutions. For 27 years, I've been asking for ur forensic audit draft resolutions come motions made, never hit the floor. Now looking at this report, there is no record given to the present resolutions committee with information that they need about all of the information and concerns that have been presented in the past decades. We're repeating ourselves again with the lack of information. And that's, that's upon the chair for you. It runs... water runs downhill. This time it's going up so we don't have this, we don't have that, but yet you want us to make a decision. Yes or no? I'm just saying I'm, I make my position that we're all making a bad decision here, because we don't have the proper information in front of us no matter which side you're on.

I'm totally against each three, all three of them right now because of the lack of validity, the lack of information, ect. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt. Ms. Walker

Alexis: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Holt. um I actually want to respond back to Gloria's to both of them kind of the same and that's why we went to the circle elders because we were presented with these and we don't have enough information. We didn't have the Dward Walker study. So, there is and Mr. Holt's right. We don't have a records management system set up and we need to do that and that's what we were doing as of our bylaws as we were trying to set up the with Micro and Microsoft 365 and using all our software systems that we have at the tribe to set up this records management system so that when they do come in because we have had elders come to us in an upset of what happened to our resolution and we couldn't answer them honestly. And that was hard and so we've been in in this last term we've been trying to rebuild it but when I went to the elders they said the same thing that um Ms. Gloria Greene did say that. You know, what are we doing? um We should be having a constitution convention before we start doing all these movements. So that's why we put in our meeting minutes because there is a lot of open questions but resolution. It's not our job to come in here and direct you guys what to do. We did get up but we didn't get enough time to also evaluate them either and we were we were scrambling for information because there isn't one spot on the Nez Perce tribe. Anywhere that has all this information that everybody work worked on. But Mr. Penney said he has been working on this for many years and we didn't want him to just say that we heard it and sat it down and did nothing. We've been trying to do something and what the elders did say we took to heart because they did say we're moving too quick. We need to have a constitutional convention. There's a lot of stuff that has not been um looked at for years. So, we are just taking everything and trying to and, and get a fair and equitable process for everybody to be heard out. But yes there is stuff that is being you know the elders are saying we're moving too quick. We need a constitution convention. That's why we put that reso that draft reso or resolution in there. So, you guys could have and we could be prepared for this conversation. um We don't know what you guys want to do, but it's it's all it's all out here. And as what you guys have is what we have. um But like I said, we're we're going to do better next time and we're taking everything that you guys said and we will start making these changes and report back. Qeci'yew'yew

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Walker. We'll recognize Ms. Judy Oatman, Ms. Angela Picard, Ms. Aqua Greene, Ms. Gwen Carter.

Judy Oatman – Tac'meeywii, Judy Oatman. Uh. So, I agree with a pretty much Frank. I appreciate that, I think that's a good idea. um And then hearing Ms. Walker, her response is

we aren't moving too fast. We're moving too slow. I respect the elders, I'm an elder now, so I can speak as an elder. I respect those opinions and those that what I want to see happen not what you said chair. I don't want to see what happens. What you are sayings didn't happen which is we take action, we sent it back over here. Next door for nine people tell us no or ignore it. That can't keep going on. So, you as the chair need to remember our, our organizational chart. And the people in this room need to remember our organizational chart. It's from every one of us here that's 18 and older right now, that's the boss. Not those nine. That's where I get concerned. Years ago, we passed and ah ah ah ah resolution here at this table, at this forum, to authorize medical marijuana so that we could start looking into that and doing something for our people. 10 years later they tabled it's nothing and we're just all having to speak to Clarkson or wherever. And so here we are you telling the same thing could happen under your guidance that NPTEC will actually make the final determination. I don't want to see that happen. I want I to be the Nez Perce people as general counsel is built up. This has been a very unorganized situation here, at least frustration when we don't have real proper guidance, lack of information, like Mr. Holt said, it's just not okay, we don't have access to this information. If I did, I'd be like hey I want this year because I want really have copies or you guys need to be here. I've gone to meetings just even yesterday. I went to a meeting that was very important about our land up in Kamiah. We had nobody there for policy that could really answer any questions. They sent the lowest of the low on the totem pole to get thrown under a bus to get ran over. Well, nobody's there to hold accountability. We got to stop this, has to stop now. So, I'm just asking the General Council take ownership, please. Don't give it a NPTEC, no disrespect to NPTEC, but I don't respect them sometimes. So, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Oatman. We'll recognize Angela Picard, Aqua Greene, Gwen Carter, Chantel Greene.

Angela Picard: Tac'meeywii, iimin weniikt wees Teliis kaa sooyaapootimpki Angela Picard. I just want to say, first of all that um, I am excited about this process and I believe that um we can all believe in and know that this is this is all good stuff. Like we're trying to progress as a tribe and we're trying to figure out what's the best for our future. This resolution, um I actually support it. It's uh 1/4 total Indian blood, so all of your Indian blood that you have with total up to 1/4, as long as you have a Nez Perce descendency. So, anybody depending on what issues you have been through in your history, in your in your family and your ancestry, whether its boarding schools or um college going to tribal college um going to regular college and um, you know, Life happens and you fall in love with uh with other Indians. And so, this is again a support of um 1/4 total Indian blood, as long as your grandparents or your parent is enrolled Nez Perce. um Also just for clarification and I hope um to clear this up is that right now today we're not voting on this change.

We're voting on getting to this to the point where we can vote on it as a whole tribe. And today all you need is 51% a majority vote. But in 60 days or whenever we eventually vote on this in a special election, we need 2/3 majority vote, so all these all these decisions in the different enrollment policies and procedures that are coming forward, the different resolutions. If we actually want change, we can't just pick any resolution. We have to pick one that majority of us in this room, in our tribe who vote will actually pass. So, 1/4 total Indian blood with Nez Perce descendency on the parent or grandparent enrolled. I believe, and this is why I support it is why this would be a good one to support and actually vote on because it would be closer than 4/4s enrollment. Moving everybody to 4th is to its too much, too confusing. It's too much math. Um an 8th enrollment, I believe that's not a good step to go through as a tribe because you're reducing Indian blood, you're reducing the Indian blood. um and then there's also the sister tribes which I would support and agree with that one as well. Um. But sister tribes doesn't count for boarding school era and in tribal college area and all the different reasons that we may go off of reservation um and away from the northwest. So that's, that's why I support this um resolution.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Picard. I'd like to recognize Ms. Aqua Greene, Ms. Gwen Carter, Ms. Chantel Greene.

Aqua: Good morning. Um I too, agree with Angela. I know people say we're reckless and we're hurrying this process up. But if you've been here, what was it 5 years ago? NPTEC already paid for a strategic plan for what is our enrollment look like. You got we keep repeating the story and we're not moving anywhere. It's get your heart stop well Let's go back to the drawing table. There was already drawing table. I don't remember, know, if you guys remember there was demographics up there showing us what we're gonna look like in 5, 10, 20, 30 years. They even let us know well our um percentages look like men versus women when me die versus women and what that looks like.

I don't have grandchildren right now, but one day I'm gonna and that's why today does matter because we move like a turtle we're slow and we're not going to please everybody and just like Frank, there is no 4/4s I don't care what you say. I'm a daughter of two parents and there's six siblings and I've said this before we want to look at blood quantum, yes we're natives and we're the only people while the Nez Percés anyways, I have to show how much Indian we are by a blood quantum. Well, the blood quantum has been messed up.

How are you gonna have a parent that has six kids? And two of us, younger kids are less Nez Perce. You make that make sense to me, because they don't it's wrong. People been in there messing with that long time ago.

Look how I mean look I'm young still. But this been going on way beyond me. So now it matters because I am at my age and one day I am gonna have grandkids and the Nez Perce Tribe does mean something to me.

So we can't say we're acting hasty because we're really not we've been having we reports, we've been going through this and I do agree yeah let's keep it 1/4 why not, or why not make us 4/4slike Frank said, but I don't agree with moving our blood quantum down because I know what that's gonna look like and I know everyone talks about the effects and I'm not talking about our looks. So, get that out the window.

I don't agree with that and it's wrong. But I do want to say our blood quantum's been messed up. It is inaccurate and too many has been in the cookie jar saying who they think should be Nez Perce, how much blood they think they can have because I'm a product of it. That's what I'll say.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Greene. We'll recognize Gwen Carter, Ms. Chantel Green, Mr. Vantreese. July, Ms. July Greene. Ms. Carter.

Gwen Carter: Yes, thank you. I just wanted to take this opportunity to, to say that I think we need to take the time to actually either combine these resolutions somehow or we need to have the meetings and you know, I don't, I'm an elder um and I'm not on social media.

The only information that I get is either at the sweat house or the, you know, from uh other tribal members that are you know senior citizens or whatever. But you know the first time I heard about this, you know the 1/8th thing, blood quantum was um my granddaughter sent it to me from Seattle. And I'm going well, you know, I live in this community, and I don't even know what's going on. So, the lack of distribution of information is really... it's sucks. You know, I don't even know how better to say that because we don't have a newspaper, we don't have our minutes are distributed to us anymore, we don't get the ADMIN actions and then people say well it's on Facebook.

well I don't do Facebook, I don't do social media at all because I don't think there's anything very positive about it and I had a friend who told me, you know, um you all these people added me to their friends list. He said I see him down at Valley Foods and they can walk right by me.

What kind of friend is that? But, you know, really I just, I just, you know, people want to know what you're doing and I'm, I'm a very private person. um I love my family, I love my tribe, I love this community and I want us to grow and I know a lot of people say well you know where we want to go here and there and venture out and that's good.

But you always need to know that you can come home and you can live here and you can be part of the community not just at a meeting you know where they're calling for a uh special election or whatever you know be part of the community. And I think that's um you know something that is lacking. We're losing a lot of our, our young people.

But um I would just you know really like to have a meeting either to combine these resolutions. I have nieces on the Corbett side of our family that are full blooded Indians, but they're not enroll anywhere. And so we need to look at those people and I agree with our blood quantum that there um are errors.

I've asked, well how do you correct that give me the process, give me the forms so that we can correct for our family. What is it that I need to bring them? I even went to the bureau and ask them, how do I correct these?

You know, what is the process for? And I think um, you know, that needs to be done. So you know it's not just the resolutions, but we need to process also in and I know you all don't want to hear this, but I think we need to also put together a committee to do this and, and have those special meetings that we need to have and either do it by zoom or, you know, so, so that other people that don't live here can participate.

But um anyway, I just wanted to let you know what whatever happens, you know, I still love you guys, and we'll try to work the best with you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Carter. We'll recognize Ms. Chantel Greene, Mr. Vantrese, July, Ms. July Greene. Ms. Greene.

Chantel Greene: Thank you, my name is Chantelle greene and my grandparents are Tom and Shirley Rickman, uh Chet and Meryl Halfmoon and ipsisnuut. um and I'm one of the people that I will be presenting, hopefully if we can figure that out uh a resolution for the 1/8.

Um and I first want to just recognize everybody that's kind of done a lot of work. There has been a lot of work has gone into it, um several different people, different panels amendments committee. Um. And I did expect an um expect that the report that had gone out in 2024, uh the survey that had gone out that the comments from the community came back and that's the criteria that I was following.

And I thought that was gonna be printed input here as well included with the resolution. So, people can see those numbers again. It's got to be represented so that people are familiar with the numbers and the statistics that we're actually working off of or at least myself.

And the people that have been working with resolutions committee to the amendments committee presentations uh conversations from the General Council uh elected officers to NPTEC offices as well. Several meetings, community meetings. Um. These are all grassroots to be honest yes, that I actually didn't put anything into our community meetings.

um They've been by you by the by people um wanting to know more have discussions and that was where I'm coming from is to actually just create a platform for everybody to be able to speak and, and speak from your heart and so that everybody can have, you know, voice their opinions. Um. And then we can move forward in in a good manner. Um. I support um any kind of change.

I don't believe in the blood quantum system because that was a system still a fractionated system that was placed upon us. uh We didn't agree with that and that's just moving in the direction of to continue separating our families, separating our thought, our mind, and not just from our families physically but from our land, from our resources, and, and everything else that that uh you know it separates out. So, that's why I don't agree with you know uh a system of oppression.

Um. And we're agreeing with it as long as we stay with that, that system. Um. So, I agree with any change. I welcome working with anybody, including uh you know the other two presenters with resolutions, um but some sort of change and I do agree that we, we are moving to slow.

Uh. We don't have the consistently wait for other tribes, what the, all these other tribes do before we before we even make a decision. Um. And I'm moving with and look at the numbers, and I look at the numbers that are declining.

And what really hit me this morning was also the drums. Those drums were the numbers that are, are in here. And those are the losses and we're not making those up at all. Um. So, um, I guess my last comment is that, uh I guess you know for now since we do in to recognize that we do have a motion on the floor to remain with our Robert's rules.

I'm against the resolution, um, I'll be presenting a follow up resolution um, as well. So, I currently against the resolution as following with Robert's rules. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Greene. We'll recognize Mr. Vantrese, then we have Ms. July Greene, Ms. Darlene Pinkham. Mr. Vantrese.

Mr. Vantrese: My name is Dan Vantrese. (Audience – Can't Hear) Really? I'm always too loud. Um. So, I'm here not representing any clubs or work for say anything. I was just my thoughts.

Like what she said about uh honoring the fallen people this morning or deceased was is just way so many of respectfully I think that was great that they ran off all the uh people that have passed away but it does open your eyes on how hard it is. Um. This last couple of years has been a lot of people dying. Um. Yeah.

There my first tribal council that everything was full now it's getting empty. Um. The other thing was about the, our constitution when I've been you know when we look at it, it's, it's not our constitution, it was put on us.

It's like, you know, somebody puts handcuffs on you and then you accept it. You know? You, you're like okay I love these handcuffs now I want to stay in the system. So, I don't like that I think we need to decide for ourselves. Um. The only thing about this motion that's on the floor now that I don't agree with is that there's a limit of 18 years old.

um I think we should raise that up to at least like twenties or something like 25, 30 something like that. Um. Because those are the people are gonna be having more children and that's what our goal is to get more younger Nez Perce. Um. So, I finished I just like to make a motion. We could just uh vote on this so we can move on to the next, because we're just going keep talking over and over about this one when there's other ones that we can get to. So, uh, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Vantrese. We'll recognize Ms. July Greene, then Ms. Dalene Pinkham. Ms. Greene.

July Greene: Okay. Um. Yeah, I just wanted uh, to let you guys know that I just want to give you a little bit of history how we operate, how slow we operate. Um back in the days does everybody remember that tent casino we used to have? That was the only supposed to be a 3 to 5 year tent, but we went over like 3, 4 times the uh life of that tent and it took three people that finally said, that finally said we're just going to start digging because NPTEC wouldn't, didn't want change, they didn't want to do it. They were scared, they didn't want to say yes let's do it. So, we sat on it every year, and voted on it every year, and every year came up again because we wanted a casino.

We wanted out of that town, but we said in that tent for so many years because um our executive council didn't want to make that move. Or our people didn't want to make that because we were scared, but we had to quit thinking like that and change our mentality and start thinking we need change everybody talks about change. We need change we got to vote on it, now we got to say yes, let's make that change.

We, let's not be scared and come up with another year of another group meeting because that don't last. They drop out like flies or butterflies or whatever they say. Everybody shows up the first meeting, the next meeting, there's only five.

Next meeting is only two. Next meeting is only one because everybody wants to get paid for going to those meetings. Come on, let's go People. We need change. Don't be scared of it. Let's do it. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Greene. We'll recognize Ms. Darlene Pinkham and then Lori Picard.

Darlene Pinkham: Hello? Excuse me. Hello everyone. I'm, I don't have much to say about what I'm hearing. When I hear this, every time there's a meeting, and how is anyone have things get done? When it's everyone against one another. No one is going with all together they don't seem... they need to send out note. Let them know what's going on, and then let the people mark what they want to talk about before they get used to they getting here, then they go through everything and then nothing ever gets you done.

I've been missing, I'm in my 80s and I'm still hearing it's the same old, same old. And I just feel that we're not making any headway. Why? We have to all look into your hearts, you may, you guys cannot be playing god.

I want this way, this way, this way, and this way. It don't work that way. You have to work together. And this is what's to happen in our tribe and in a lot of other tribes, a lot of jealousy. Families against families.

One agrees with one thing, and one don't. And with all my children, grandchildren, I did a lot of opinions. But other than that, I'm still learning at my age and I just uh every day that the tribe, around the world, will learn to get... to learn one another. To understand when another and not argue about it, but work around it, understand one another. You can tell somebody or think somebody's going to. I want you to be like this. I want you to be like that, that don't work.

Everything your life, your whole life that you go through, all the love. Who takes care of you. Hunyiwat does that and if you don't have no love in your heart and your bitter every day and make yourself angry for not having things go your way. That's what life is all about.

And it's not just tetooqins, sooyoopoos, every nationality goes through this. I listen to the talk show. And that's where I get all my information and not realizing you know and this and I get this old and being I need to have my kids tell me.

Make me think, I'm a little kid now. But I love each and every one of you. But I want you all to look into your hearts and don't judge people, don't expect them to think the way you do, because it don't work like that. Respect them, except the decisions and work together it to get it all together. That's all I got to say. May Hunyiwat watch over each and everyone of you. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Pinkham. We'll recognize Lori Picard. Ms. Picard.

Lori Picard: Qeci'yew'yew Madam Chair. I, uh wanted to speak in support of the resolution that is presented today. um and I agree with what has been said that it is not a new issue. We've been speaking about this for years, general council after general council.

One of the um heartbreaking things is, is um I don't know if it was 10 years ago, I don't remember, but I remember one elder sitting over there, getting up and he spoke very strongly in support of, you know, um changing our enrollment. And, you know, he was sharing things about, you know, his sons carrying the songs and drumming and singing and they are not enrolled, but they'll continue to do what he raised them to do. Um. We had another elder in Kamiah, in the front row.

And it was hard to hear her because her voice was going, but she said, I'm concerned about our children. They're running around with no identity because they're not enrolled in Nez Perce and they are Nez Perce. But she said she was concerned for our children.

She's gone, that man that spoke over there, he's gone. We had another one of veteran that spoke in Kamiah and he shared about the same issue, wanting it, changed the enrollment. And our veteran, he's gone. There are so many of them that are not here anymore.

We've had the committees, we've had the meetings, we've had the surveys, we've had the numbers, you name it, we've done it. Um. We are being careful and that's a good thing. Um. But when I hear um anybody whether it be a youth, or an adult say that somebody has um let them know that they are not Nez Perce because they are not enrolled. I tell them, you tell them that you are Nez Perce, you tell them that they are thinking the way that we say we're not to think the colonial way, the government way, because the government put on us blood quantum.

and I tell them they are thinking in the manner of the colonial government, which says blood quantum is applied to horses, and blood quantum is applied to dogs, and blood quantum is applied to us, and I just speak in support of this motion. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Picard. Delrae Kipp, you'll defer? Uh, Jackie Taylor.

Jackie Taylor: Tac'meeywii everyone. um My name is Jackie Taylor. Um, you know. Um, I feel that I'm probably not in favor of the motion right now.

Um. I think all tribal members should have a vote whether they're at General Council or not. We've so many meetings. I can probably go up to each and every one of you and tell you how you feel about this, what you would like to see.

But for me, it's time to stop the confusion. And could I have all of our NPTEC members stand up, please, all of our NPTEC members please stand up. Thank you. I think it's up to you to have a letter go out to everyone that says I would like no change $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$, everyone is 4/4s, prove ancestry, count all Indian blood. You are our leaders and it's up to you for the confusion to stop. We can talk all day and we're not going to get anything accomplished today, unless you guys step up and help your tribal members.

Um, like Aqua said, we've talked to we're blue in the face, but now it's time to stop the confusion you should know how all of your members feel not just those at General Council, all tribal members. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Taylor. Uh, we'll recognize Ms. Delrae Kipp. (Audience – Orders of the Day) So, we're going to recognize um, Ms. Delrae Kipp. Somebody just um called orders of the day. So, we'll address that as soon as we finish what we're doing here. Ms. Kipp.

Delrae Kipp: Qeci'yew'yew. linim weniikt wees Q'oce'my kaa Delrae Kipp, enrollment number 2664. Um, I'm gonna apologize to my little sister because I do not agree with this, but I do agree that we need change. I agree that we need change like what Frank is talking about.

We need to include all our Nimiipuu, not just the ones that are married or into the other sister tribes we need include all of our Nimiipuu. And I didn't choose who my mother fell in love with. I didn't choose who all the rest of are. None of us had that choice.

So, but I'm Nimiipuu. I identify as Nimiipuu, but half of me is white. Half of me is somebody that... This morning I got upset on Facebook, which I hate going on Facebook because they told me because the white person feels entitled. I don't feel entitled uh, I work for my people as hard as I do because I love you guys because I want to be part of the tribe.

We have all these young kids running around with no identity because somebody told them that they were not Nimiipuu. I don't tell any of our kids that they are not Nimiipuu, because they're Nimiipuu because the blood runs through them. I take offense to anyone that calls out any of our kids because they don't have the blood quantum because it shouldn't be about blood quantum.

It should be about the blood and the heart that you have, and where you come from. I come from a Nez Perce woman, a proud Nez Perce woman. She raised me to be Nimiipuu, she raised me to take care of others. She raised me to be loving.

But I feel, I feel like nobody cares about me because of my complexion. So, I have to disagree with this one. I would like to have a resolution and hopefully I can get with Frank because I do believe the 4/4s. Anywhere you went back in the day, that's what tribe you belong to.

It didn't matter the color of your skin, it didn't matter where exactly you came from. They adopted you into that tribe and that's who you were and that's where you come from. So, with that, I would ask for a call for a question as well. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Kipp. So, with that uh.

Eric Holt: Uh, question. Are we going by Roberts rules of order?

Chair: Yes, Mr. Holt.

Eric Holt: I thought I heard Orders of the day. So how are you going to let her discuss that on the floor?

Chair: Mr. Holt, we are going to take care of the motion that is currently on the floor. Then we'll recognize the call for orders of the day. Okay, assembly I would like to just take a minute here. I would like to ask Mr. Sam Penney, if you would come forward? Oh, while he is coming forward to, uh, Nimiipuu Health, we have folks who are parking over in the Nimiipuu Health parking lot. They're still seeing patients, and elders are concerned about, they're not able to park to get to their appointments. So, if you're parking over at the clinic, be mindful of that anyway.

Okay, so this is what we're going to do. Thank you all for your patience. We're going to recognize Mr. Spencer. He has 2 minutes to, um, regarding his resolution that he's presented. We'll recognize the call for the question will vote on the motion, which is to adopt the resolution that Mr. Spencer has presented and the discussion that followed that. And after that we're going to recognize the call for orders of the day. Mr. Spencer.

Mr. Spencer: Thank you, madam chair. Um. We heard a lot of discussion here, a lot of people get up here and they say we need to have more discussion, we need to have more committees, we need more information. From the fall General Council when I was elected to resolutions committee, all those who wanted more information, I can count the number of people that attended resolution committee on one hand. If you want information, then come to these meetings. Don't just wait till general council. The resolutions committee is

your voice between those General Council meetings. So, as far as the CFR process, we have to have a resolution in order to discuss for G, for, and that's addressed in this resolution that NPTEC will provide that process.

And we'll go through that process before approval, so that's already addressed in this resolution. You know, we've been talking about enrollment for a long time and it's time for a change. We're not moving too fast, we're moving too slow.

We always, we've had several generations of amendments committees have put together information, had their own meetings only to come here to present. And then somebody say well we have to talk about this some more. The time for talk is over.

It's time to c'ayn or get off the autinwaas. So, oh okay I hope that you support one of these resolutions at least or pass all three because then they will all go to a vote for all of the people and you would have a ballot vote and your choice between three of those resolutions. Yes, but it's time to do something now. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Spencer. So, at this point we'll recognize the call for the question. All those in favor of adopting the resolution as presented by Mr. Jr Spencer. Please signify by saying I. Opposed, please say no. We're gonna call for division of the house. So, I would ask that the um election judges. Mr. Kipp.

Mr. Kipp: Ms. Chairman, because of the sensitivity of the issue I would like to request vote by secret ballot.

Chair: Election Judges, a request has been made. We're going to vote by ballot. So, I ask that you have the teller folks call the house, going to vote by ballot. Election Judges (Audience – you have to have a badge) Yes, you have to have a badge. Okay, secure the door back there. Tellers remember when you're passing out the badges, you only pass out the ballots to folks who have a badge. We're voting on the motion to adopt the resolution as presented by Mr. Spencer. If we vote yes, that means we're going to adopt the resolution. If you vote no, that means we're not, that means the motion would not pass. Please raise your hand if you haven't received a ballot. Oh, my goodness. Please raise your hand, keep it up. Wave. Can we have some tellers help over here, please? Again, we're just giving a ballot to folks who have a badge. Has everyone received a ballot?

The be further resolved sections: Be it further resolved that the General Council recognizes the importance of balancing tribal inclusion, preserving tribal identity and responsible stewardship of travel resources and directs that any implementing ordinances may distinguish between citizenship status and eligibility for specific tribal programs or services were permitted by tribal law and policy and be it further resolved that any implementing

ordinances or policies may distinguish between citizenship status and eligibility for specific tribal programs or services were permitted by tribal law and policy and Be It Finally resolved that if any provision of this amendment is determined to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

So, if we. Uh. If this resolution passes... If it passes and if we go to a special election. Uh. it requires 60-day notice to tribal membership to do the special election, before the special election. Then if it fails, and it would just, this particular resolution would um fail, it would not. We wouldn't address it.

So, I hope everyone received a ballot. If not, then election judges. Wait. (Jackson McCormack – asked for point of order, point of clarification regarding the other 2 resolutions) (Audience – we're voting on one) (Jackson McCormack – so thats why i was asking) (Audience – out of order) So, at this at this point, well we just voted. Election judges, if you're ready to pick up the ballots, pick them up. Has everyone's ballot been picked up? Raise your hand if you need your ballot picked up. We have up here at the top, folks, tellers, somebody. Please raise your hand if you need you ballot picked up. Election Judges are you ready. Please open the doors.

Election Judges: Madam Chair, we're ready.

Chair: To the assembly, if we could have it quiet in the house. The election judges are prepared to do their tally. Ms. Kayla.

2nd by Sarah Moffett

350 – votes

Yes - 221

No – 124

Invalid - 5

Orders of the Day has been called.

Jackson McCormack – Motion to suspended to the rules.

2nd by July Greene.

Carla: Would it be appropriate to uh have a motion to accept the resolutions committee report and excuse them after the, and dismiss them before we go into orders of the day?

Motion to accept the Resolutions Committee report and excuse the panel.

2nd by Sarah Moffett

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Timentwa for recognize that motion as soon as, uh they delivered the results.

Election Judges:

Total Votes - 350

Yes -222

No - 123

Invalid – 5

The Resolution has passed.

Chair: Thank you, election judges. If there is no objection from the assembly, we're going to accept the resolutions committee report and excuse our panelists. Thank you, Ms. Alexis Walker. We will now proceed to the call for the orders of the day.

Jackson McCormack: I'd like to make a motion to suspend the rules of the Orders of the day, to continue to talk about the rest of the packet here. A lot of people here to address, and I think its nine people who traveled here.

Chair: Point of Order, the Orders of the day were called and we're going to proceed to that.

Jackson McCormack: Yeah, and I'm moving to suspend the rules for the reason I just laid out. So, I would like everybody to vote if they would like to suspend the rules and address the resolutions in the packet.

Chair: We're going to recognize the call for the orders of the day.

Jackson McCormack: I heard a 2nd for my motion to suspend the rules so that we can address these issues. Did you hear the second? Can we have our vote? Two, 2/3 need to agree that we suspend the rules so we can continue with to address these resolutions that are important to our enrollment and with all due respect to NPTEC and the reports that we can hear from them. We're addressing this because enrollment hasn't been addressed by NPTEC. So, we need to be able to address that now. We need to suspend the rules. What weekend?

Chair: Thank you, for that. So, we did receive a call for the orders of the day. It requires a 2/3 vote in the negative to refuse the orders of the day and continue with the current, where we're at right now.

So, the burden is going be on, um folks who want to stay with the agenda as it currently is. So, a yes vote means you know we're gonna proceed to orders of the day. A no vote means

we're going to continue with the agenda, which means we will hear from the NPTEC chairman and treasure reports. Okay.

So, if we proceed with the orders of the day, it requires a 2/3 vote to refuse the orders of the day and continue with where we're currently at on the agenda. So, if I vote yes that means let's go to orders of the day. If I vote no, that means let's hear from the chairman of the treasury report just continue with the agenda.

James Spencer: Madam Chair, clarification. We already excused the resolutions committee. So, orders in the day would go into the chairman's report.

Chair: No, if we proceed or if we um, if we proceed to orders of the day, because it's 11:30, it's now 11:33. We have lunch at 11:45, so we would uh listen to these folks for 15 minutes. We'd come back at 12:45 and proceed to question and comments from the NPTEC chairman and treasurer.

Mr. Spencer: Yes. The motion to deviate an override the orders of the day, is out of order because we already excused resolutions committee. So, I believe there is a motion to excuse them. Did we vote on it?

Audience: No

Chair: So, when I present, when I presented it to the assembly, I said if there is no objection,

Mr. Spencer: The deviation is in order then.

Chair: ...well um accept the reports and excuse our panelists, so where we're right now the orders of the day was called. And the question will be will the assembly proceed to the orders of the day? If I vote, yes that means we're going to listen to the chairman and the treasurer for 15 minutes. Go to lunch, come back and we can have questions for them.

If I vote no, that means we're going to just, that means the folks that are at 10:00 am will continue with all of those people.

Aqua Greene: Excuse me, madam chair, just for clarification on a resolutions committee was up here reporting. We didn't vote to, I uh uh accept and excuse them and I believe there are still topic and discussion on the floor with resolution. So, in order for us to move on, we have to accept and excuse them, and we haven't done that yet. I believe that's what the objection is, is we still have questions for them.

Chair: So, the call for the orders of the day was called. And I did ask if there's no objection from the assembly, we'll accept the report and excuse the panel. And there was um, a motion and a second to do just that. But at that time, no one objected. So, at this point,

we're going to go to orders of the day. Okay. We're gonna go to orders of the day. So, again the question, the question is going to be; Will the assembly proceed to the orders of the day?

If I say yes, that means I want it to proceed to order of the day, we will go to the time frame that's listed on here. It's 11:36. We have lunch break at 11 45. If I vote no, that means we'll just stay at our 10:00 am, 10:00 am agenda and these folks will all give their report.

Audience: Question.

Delrae Kipp: Madam chair, can I get clarification? I apologize. But your orders of the day was called before you um excuse the panel. So, you should have done the orders a day prior to excusing panel. It was the one talking and you allowed me to talk. I did address you and saying orders of the day was called I shouldn't have been able to talk. So, I think we need to start following our own procedures orders the day was called before you excused the panel. So, we should be able to vote on orders of the day before you excuse the panel. I don't, I would like clarification who made the motion to accept their report and excuse them and who the second was.

Chair: The motion was made by Ms. Carla Timentwa and was second by M. Sarah Moffitt. So...

Jackson McCormack: Even, again even with respect to orders of the day, I'm, I understand that and because of the call to orders of the day, I was moving to suspend the rules so we can revisit what was just dismissed and I think that people agree here. So, I'm confused why we're not asking for the 2/3 vote to stay on the topic of enrollment. you can You clarify that? So, so this is...

Secretary: What is your name sir?

Jackson McCormack: My name is Jackson McCormack tekilacumsumeey. Thank you for listening to me right now and I would like clarification on this very important topic.

Chair: Right. Ms. Timentwa?

Carla Timentwa: Madam chair, thank you. Um. I had requested for clarification if a motion would be in order knowing there was a pending orders of the day to excuse the resolutions committee. And then you said with no objection will accept that motion and you didn't hear an objection, but I never heard the second and I never heard clarification if that motion would have been ordered. Just to clarify my thought.

Chair: So, again, we recognize um the motion to excuse the panel, accept the report it was seconded uh when Ms. Sarah Moffett we didn't address it then because we're in the middle

of a vote. So, just what you're speaking to right now, right? Right now. So, with the with the call for the orders of the day, we're either going to stick with the agenda as it is. Or we're going to proceed to it's going to be lunch break here shortly.

Jackson McCormack: Do I have to ask to suspend after we have this vote do have to? Because nobody cares about that. They literally don't we can vote for the same. It's gonna end up at the same place where I'm gonna ask for the same motion to suspend the rules. So, we can talk about this. Otherwise, I'm going to ask again after lunch we can suspend the rules, and we can talk about this because that's what people came to talk. But I'll keep asking and I'll follow the rules exactly as they laid out. But I'll keep asking until we talk about.

Chair: Mr. Chairman.

Shannon Wheeler: Thank you, madam chair. And I know that the orders of the day that have been called, is that the orders of the day that have been called is not debatable. Those go directly to the uh to the orders of the day.

There is a suspension of rules that Mr. McCormack is calling for that can override the orders of the day but takes 2/3 of a vote of this General Assembly. To, to stop the orders of the day and suspend the rules. And if it's defeated, then we move on to the orders of the day. Thank you, madam chair.

Chair: Mr. Chairman....

Motion: To Suspend the rules of orders of the day. Second by July Greene.

... Okay folks, after receiving clarification, we are going to recognize the motion to suspend the rules calling for orders of the day. It requires, it has a 2/3 vote threshold. A yes vote means, I'm in favor of suspending the rules uh regarding the call for orders of the day. A no vote means, we will recognize the call for the orders of the day and proceed to wherever we're at on the agenda regarding that time frame.

So, again, yes means we're going to continue with the discussion that we are having now. No, means we're going to go to whatever the time frame is. So, election judges, Kayla. Kayla, we're going to go to a vote. Or election judges, not just Kayla. So, tellers can you call the house please?

Shannon Wheeler: Madam Chair, this vote requires and 2/3 mathematical vote, so distinguishing that from a voice vote is impossible. So, a vote by ballot would be the proper

procedure, or a division by standing with their hands raised. So, tellers call the house, close the doors, the election judges did indicate uh they are going to do a hand vote.

Chair: Kayla? Uh, request is made for ballot. Election judges. We're going to vote my ballot, election judges. So, again the motion before the assembly. The motion um before the assembly is to suspend the rules regarding the call for orders of the day. It requires a 2/3 vote. So, a yes means we'll continue with what we're doing. A no means we're going to go to wherever we're at on the agenda.

Jackson McCormack: I was just trying to clarify that my motion to suspend was, I put a reason out, I should not just suspend the stop orders of the day. It was specifically to return the discussion to, so a yes vote would be to return the discussion to enrollment by suspending the rules.

Chair: Thank you, for that clarification. So, with that clarification, if I'm voting yes that means you can continue the discussion when we're at regarding enrollment. No, means we're going to go to orders of the day. Does everyone have a ballot? Please raise your hand if you need a ballot. Right up here. Raise your hand if you haven't received a ballot. Has everyone received a ballot? Election Judges? Election judges, if you are ready please pick the ballots up. Okay, pick the ballots up please. Please raise your hand if you need your ballots picked up. Election Judges. Election Judges are you ready, uh, please open the doors. Okay folks, the election judges are ready to tally the vote. So, if you could please keep your discussion to a minimum. And if you want to visit, please go outside, respect the other assembly members. Election Judges.

Election Judges:

Total Votes: 319

Yes: 219

No: 95

Invalid: 5

2/3 required votes: 213 votes need. So, it passed.

Motion to suspend the rules and return to enrollment discussion, carries

Danae Wilson motion to recess for lunch

2nd Katherine Scabbyrobe.

Chair: Okay, motion has been made to recess for lunch. If there is no objection, I'm going to call.... All those in favor for recessing for lunch please signify by saying I, those opposed please say no. Motion Carried. It is 12:15, we have 30 minutes to go get lunch. Please be back by one.

Recessed at 12:15pm to return at 1pm.

Chair: Calling meeting back to Order at 1:20pm

Alright folks, we're gonna call our meeting back to order at 1:20PM. We're going to uh continue with our discussion on enrollment. Is there any further discussion on enrollment? Derek? Mr. Chairman.

Okay folks. So, we will uh, continue our discussion on enrollment under suspension of the rules that was approved.

And as I understand, we have 40 minutes to do that. After that, we're gonna recognize the, the orders of the day which will take us to wherever right, wherever we are at on the agenda. uh Mr. Penney.

Dave Penney: Madam chair, I have a resolution. I would like to present on enrollment.

Chair: Mr. Penney, so any new resolutions regarding enrollment, uh you know to like amend the constitution regarding enrollment. Those will be called out of order because we had already previously adopted one.

Dave Penney: Madam Chair, what was that? I had started earlier in the year I attended two resolutions committee meetings; one here in Lapwai and one in Orofino so I have been working on this all year. But then you sound very fair as we have two other resolution that uh should be considered.

Jackson McCormack: My understanding is that when we had a vote earlier, we passed a resolution and you're saying because we voted on that resolution. Um. That these other resolution that um, offer on the same topic can't be considered? I just want to understand why we wouldn't clarify that before we held our vote, when we have this packet that has the three different approaches broken down with a table that compares them. I think it's pretty important that we have a that reflects the information. You can now just kind of sliding, sliding it by, I think we should be problem solving. Is there a way to problem solve where we're at and get to a place that the people here agree on versus just kind of like shuffling on to the next thing, like is there an (inaudible) there?

Chair: Thank you. Mr. McCormack, so if there is a new resolution regarding enrollment, it's gonna be ruled out of order if it conflicts with the one that was just previously adopted. So,

the one previously adopted means we'll go to a special election to amend the constitution around enrollment.

The one way, uh I believe we, if, to move forward would be to move to amend something previously adopted.

Mr. McCormack: Okay. So, with the resolution amended it to adopt the language from one of the other resolutions at the end of our discussions? That would be the best approach to get the favored resolution on (inaudible)?

Chair: Yes, and then in order for us to go that way, right? It's gonna require 2/3 vote to uh amend something that was previously adopted.

Mr. McCormack: What? And I'm just kind of hypothesizing because of where we landed, but would we be able to amend each of the resolutions to defer to the most popular choice in the special election that we're going to have. So, like we could present each one and each one could be amended to show whichever of the three proposals is the most popular will be selected. So, that way they don't conflict with each other. Can we amend the language and to make them not conflict each other?

Chair: I would think that you know folks are going to have to get together and come up with something that they want to you know present. So, to speak. So, at this point, again, a path forward, we would say you know I'm make a motion to amend something things previously adopted. And then we would go into that discussion about that one.

Mr. McCormack: Well, I'm going to work on my motion to amend. Because I still think its important, Like, are we still able to have the discussion even if we can't move on the, the proposals? Can we still discuss them?

Chair: So, at this point, that's where we're at, we're just discussing. Uh. We have 40 minutes for that discussion. Thank you, Mr. McCormack. Can a teller please take a microphone over to Ms. Tall Bull?

Mary Tall Bull: Madam Chairman, uh for clarification. Um. We're kind of being held up here. And as soon as I got here, I mean, I haven't been well so I showed up late, but I didn't even know I'd make it. But, um I think that there was a point of order called earlier. Did that take, did the vote take place before or after the point of where I was called? Did this happen before or after point of order?

Chair: It was after.

Ms. Tall Bull: It was after point of order was called?

Chair: Yes, after the call for orders of the day.

Then that um vote is illegal. You were out of order. Um. That's according uh to Robert rules of order. So, that was out of order.

That is not right. So, the other two that he is talking about what you need to do if you want to change. It's not a resolution, it's an amendment to the constitution. Do not you uh resolutions committee. What you might want get is uh amendments committee.

I've been on the amendment committee and so somebody that are here to vote today got to vote because we change the uh the constitution for people to be able to vote. So um, that's what you needed to the amendments committee, other than that. That first vote is illegal.

Chair: And after the call for the day then we proceeded into suspend the rules. And so, that was approved, the motion to suspend the rules regarding the call for orders of the day. So, at this, um. Ms. Miles, Rebecca Miles.

Rebecca Miles: Rebecca Miles, 2887. Um. So, unfortunately, what happened was, was when somebody presented the resolution for the amendment to the constitution. That's where the discussion, unfortunately should have happened of changing it the way you want it with other ideas that are being prevented. Not as a separate because you can only do one. And so that, so I agree with what you're saying voted on that.

Unfortunately, it was misunderstood thinking we could do more. And so, 2/3 majority would have to change that so we can then put it back on the floor. And then we can make the amendments based on what the people want to talk about. That's the, that's the path I see forward based on what we already voted on. I just wanted, sorry for being late.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Miles. Chantel? Or Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Wheeler: Just to help with what Rebecca said too uh, only the prevailing side could bring that amendment to the uh action that is taking place on the floor.

So, that would be the motion maker then. In, uh, put the action forward and if there was a second would be the only two legal people that you could call that would say they voted yes oh yeah in support of that prevailing side.

Chair: Ms. Greene?

Chantel Greene: Just looking for clarification, it would have been great if you know the rest of the community could actually hear that they were not gonna be able to vote on the rest of the two. And that's very clear across the board. Um. And then I guess point of clarification when you're saying adoption. Does that mean that the resolution that is moving forward has already been adopted and implemented? Or is that what, what exactly

do you mean by adoption? The point of clarification on your actual specific language for adoptions that mean that it's gone through its process already, or is this a resolutions that hanging out there? It's not exactly a got to adopted yet.

Chair: So, as I understand, the assembly approved that resolution as presented by Mr. Spencer, that motion was voted on and approved, adopted. So, with that will be calling for a special election to amend the constitution.

We give 60 days notice to folks of that particular special election, then going back to finding a path forward, we would need in motion to amend something previously adopted, which would be the, the, uh resolution that we approved as presented by Mr. Spener. Mr. McCormick.

Mr. McCormack: Can I, can I make that motion or what, does somebody else? I would move to amend the resolution that passed to consider any conflicting resolution is presented the most popular option that wins a special election if any when is selected,

Audience: Point of Order.

Chair: The motion would just be to amend something previously adopted. Mr. Dorr.

Dorr: So, on Roberts Rules of Order the motions already been passed. The proper action at this point that he wants to change that, we can't amend it. There needs to be a motion, if you'd like to you can do a motion to rescind that resolution. Since there was no prior notice, we need a 2/3 majority vote to rescind that resolution because the resolutions already been passed. That's the proper order.

Chair: Ms. Powaukee.

Alene Powaukee: Thank you, madam chair. I just need a point of clarification. Uh and if you can decide this or general counsel, uh our chairman of our tribe said we could do it one way.

And then the other way was um having this gentleman rescind it. uh Just so everybody knows what we're doing. Can we get? I would like your just point of clarification of which one we are doing according to Robert's rules. I know years ago when I was young, we always had this gentleman sit right here as our parliamentarian. I don't know if anybody is a parliamentarian. Um. Our elders knew the kind of people we were we always had to have a parliamentarian to make sure we were doing things in order. But, uh, I would like just to point of the clarification to assure that uh I know which way I'm voting.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Powaukee. I think I'll call on our Mr. Chairman. If you can provide some clarification.

Wheeler: Thank you, madam chair and as was stated uh before, uh if there is a motion to reconsider or an amendment to the action that has taken place previously, what must be done by the prevailing side? uh A motion to reconsider, as Mr. Dorr had mentioned, uh would it would take uh 2/3 of the vote to reconsider that. The action.

Chair: Ms. Miles.

Rebecca Miles: Gary was talking about um rescinding, but the path forward through Robert's rules is exactly spelled out to reconsider means something we already passed.

So, the prevailing side agrees. They do a motion and a second to bring it back up, to talk about it again and maybe amend it, maybe whatever and then it gets voted on again, because we're going to bring it back out.

But like the chairman said, it has to be by the prevailing side. You don't need to rescind it and squash it all like it never happened. What you're doing is reconsidering it, and I don't know if that's clear enough for everybody.

But like the chairman said from the people who voted for it, they must be the ones to bring it back out and say by 2/3 majority yes will reconsider and listen to these other options.

Chair: Yes, Go ahead. Ms. Crow.

Jamie Fivecrows: My name is Jamie Five Crows. Um. I know there's a lot of you out there that might not know me and I'm the daughter of Elmer, the late Elmer Crow Jr. and um he was the son of the late Elmer Crow Sr. and Patty Joy is askapo and Linda Crowe and um I just needed to let you know where I'm from.

And I actually did serve as resolutions committee chair elect, 1 year. I'm not saying I'm the authority on the matter or anything, but they I haven't attended general counsel much these last few years. And there's a few things that really don't sit well with me on seeing how these meetings being run right here, today.

I don't understand this, our chairman, if you don't know the answer, it's okay. Honestly, I know you knew my father. It's okay not to know the answer. I don't think anyone's sure what the answer is. The thing that throws me off is that when I was resolutions committee chair, I was standing at that, I was sitting at that table and I gave my report and I knew the answer, and If I didn't, I knew somebody that did. And There's a lot of you here that know the answer. And like I'm sitting here, like well I don't even know how to ask my turn to get up there to talk.

I don't understand this. I have a lot of things on my mind that aren't even related to this matter. But I know for sure, my son is somebody that's affected, my nieces and nephews,

and their kids and so many of us and only because my son's father was enrolled Souix Assinaboin can he meet the criteria to be enrolled Umatilla, not even for this tribe, but he would for any of these criterias that would meet here today, but we should already know which one we're voting on if we're going to this point, if we're proceeding forward, we shouldn't be splitting the vote, so, to speak. It almost seems like it's intentional and we need to get to the point. And so, I don't know the answers, but I just feel the need. Respectfully, chairman, I'm younger than you. But I feel as though I have a right to speak on this matter, and so maybe we can all collectively meet because I can think of a number of all of you here, like some of us that might have gotten here late, they don't know how to get into line, even stand up to speak anymore. Does anybody else feel that way? Or is it just me? Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Five Crows. Mr. Spencer

Mr. Spencer: Chair, I don't know about the second, but at this time, I am, I am not willing to reconsider bringing this motion up. We're done.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Spencer. So, with being said Ms. Tall Bull. Can someone give her the microphone, please?

Mary Tall Bull: Madam chair, I think um it's just been a, in pass here, the you officers look around there to see if anybody else wants to talk. We don't just look at the same people and bring them up every little while. We don't do that, that's not where the meeting is run. Are we or are we not following Robert Rules of Order? Because again, I said, you, you have you said it? I said after the vote is done after um, orders of the day was called or before, and you said after. Again, Robert Rules of order, if the vote continued after orders of the day was called, it didn't pass, nothing happened, zero.

So, why are we still on the same question going over and over? Are we trying to work toward the right side of what's going on? Let's follow, let me know I mean are we following Roberts rules of order or not or can't change it, you can't.

Whatever you gonna do that books are right here people have it. So, let's go by Robert's Rule and stick by it.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Tall Bull. So, at this point, um Mr. Spencer has indicated not bring it back up, correct, Mr. Spencer. So, with that we're going to continue with the agenda which was and then again to recognize the call for orders of the day, we'll move into that. It is 1:50. Mr. Chairman, can you explain that to us?

Shannon Wheeler: Madam chair, if I, if I may address the assembly at this time, uh so, so the process was there was an orders of the day that was called uh previously to move uh to

the uh time item on the agenda at that time, that, that order, uh that action was challenged by a suspension of the rules to continue to talk about enrollment. And so, the continuation of enrolment is allowed to was asked by 2/3 of the vote that we took before lunch in order to, in order to approve the suspension of the rules which passed other that time 40 minutes has been allowed under the suspension of rules has been that that time has been exhausted. And now the motion that that was on the floor previously that was called orders of the day is now on the floor again and that's for the General Council chair to recognize the orders of the day which is non debatable uh and uh to move forward with the agenda. I would just like to add too, it's an act of sovereignty by the general assembly, not just this general assembly, but the general assembly that has taken place for decades and decades of our people being here have put these rules in place for purpose and reason. And those reasons are to maintain order within our tribal government, the best way that we knew how to do it at the time and so following and honoring that act of sovereignty. By the General Assembly that have sat in the same place. We're sitting today uh that is just exactly where we're at and, and process through uh moving along and, and getting to tribal business.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Audience: Question. Orders of the day.

Chair: So, Ms. Miles, you were going to say something?

Rebecca Miles: Hello. I got a number I gonna seen. I was asked to come up because unfortunately, what, I wasn't here at the time. But, what people thought was that they would be able to consider all of the possibilities of enrollment, and then those would go out for a vote, for the people of picking which one they wanted. Unfortunately, that's not, that's not, you need one. This body needs to move one forward.

And so, I feel like the voice was lost of the people. And so, I'm just saying that I just um I believe in Robert's rules, I was 11 year card carrying parliamentarian from John Noonan from Canada, not proud of that. It's pompous but he would say that you always would say this, he would say Roberts rules are for order.

The majority rules the minority must be heard. But the rules also were never to get in the way, in the way of the business or the will of the people. And sometimes I know the years being in that position before they have gotten in the way or people don't feel that they can't come speak, they don't know the rules and that should never happen.

Anybody should feel like they can come up here, be on the floor. So, um, also, the other clarifying question is I thought the prevailing side with anybody who voted in favor of that

can bring that back up, not the motion maker, not just the motion maker and the second, because the motion maker and the second, it doesn't belong to them anymore.

Once they make a motion in second, it comes on this floor, it belongs to the body. It's not theirs anymore. It belongs to the people. So, I'm just asking that question and I'm sorry I don't have my Robert's Rules of order. Long time ago.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Miles. So, again, we are voted by secret ballot. So, I can't tell who, who the prevailing side is. Other than the folks, uh, probably the person who presented the resolution. One second. So, at this point, in discussion with Chairman Wheeler, as I understand that we will proceed to orders of the day. And the orders of the day it is 1:59, two o'clock. That means we would have our Budget & Finance subcommittee and all those folks under that particular subcommittee would come up and give their report. We end with questions and comments for the panel, then recess for the day.

So I'm going to invite the Budget Finance subcommittee, the boards and the associated commission reports, the Budget & Finance subcommittee chairman, the Government Executive Director, the Enterprise board chairperson, Enterprise Executive Officer, the General Manager of Operations, the Enterprise Finance Manager, and then the Nimiipuu Fund Executive Director. Mr. Greene.

Nikoli Greene: Uh, orders of the day was called at 10:00 am. Time it will allowed our Chairman and Treasure to present, sorry. Now we're jumping ahead and I think we really need to hear from our chairman and our treasurer.

Ryan Oatman: I just want to let the tribal membership know, I'm still going to give the treasure's report. My part, I'm still going to give the treasures report under B&F. I'm the chairman of B&F, so I'm just likely to trouble membership know that.

Nikoli Greene: Madam chair? Also, we have our auditors here. That flew in to present to the General Council. I believe we're kipping everything.

Chair: Okay, so I'm going to ask the assembly to um, have the Chairman give his report. The treasurer is up here, and the auditors. Is there any objection to that? Ms. Marek.

Joanna Marek: Good afternoon, everyone. I've been sitting over here in the corner.

Madam chair, no disrespect to you or anyone. Nobody called order of the day that come from you. Point of privilege is called over here. I was sitting right there and listening to this and only point of order was called you can look at your minutes if it's recorded.

GC Secretary: Yeah, I can rewind it.

Ms. Marek: Thank you. That's all I have to say.

Chair: Orders of the day was called. So, we're going to proceed with this panel right here. The treasure will give his report and the rest of the panel. Roland?

Danae Wilson: Madam Chair, while we're getting set up. Can I make the Motion to add the Enterprise uh auditors to this Budget and Finance report because the Enterprise auditors were asked to be here um at the last general council and they, they tried to report over the phone, uh do it remote and they were told to be here. So, by the General Council, they're here today. And if we can add um amend the agenda and add the Enterprise auditors to our panel will give them the ability to provide an update to general council.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Wilson. So, we have a motion to amend the agenda to add the Auditors report. Is that, um miss Wilson is that just the Auditors report because we have SRBA investment funds and we have minors trust fund.

Ms. Wilson: Madam chair, I think the individuals that are here are the auditors. The individuals that are here are the Enterprise auditors Blue Bird. And so, we want to definitely hear their report.

Chair: Okay. So, motion has been made to amend the agenda to include the Auditors report as will be presented by Blue Bird CPAs. Is there a second? Uh, Keith Kipp made the second. Is there any discussion to amend the agenda to include the Auditors report, Blue Bird CPAs? Ms. Powaukee?

Alene Powaukee: I'd like to do a subsidiary to include those other uh investment people that were on the agenda as well I think mention Breakwater and who is the other investor? Merrill Lynch and the chairman.

Chair: Subsidiary motion has been made to include the SRBA investment funds and a minor trust fund. Is there a second? There's a second, Lucinda. Mr. Kipp.

Mr. Kipp: Listening to Alene's subsidiary motion, she did mention the chairman. I thought you were gonna have a chairman.

Chair: I'm sorry. So, that subsidiary motion is going to include the chairman uh Wheeler, the 3rd investment funds, and then the minor trust fund. Is there any questions or comments on that subsidiary motion? There's no question or comments on the subsidiary motion of recognize the call for the question. All those in favor of adding the minors trust fund and the SRBA investment fund, and the chairman please signify by saying I. Opposed, please say no. Motion carry. We're back to the main motion, which is to which is to include the auditors report. Can some questions or comments regarding adding the auditors report by Blue Bird CPAs to this panel? I'm gonna recognize uh call for the question, all those in favor of adding the Auditors report, Blue Bird CPAs to this panel please signify by saying I.

Opposed and say no. Motion carried. So, adding to this panel will be the next chairman, Mr. Wheeler, SRBA investment funds, Merrill Lynch, the auditors reported by Blue Bird CPAs as and the Minor trust fund, which is the breakwater investment group. (Alene Powauke – motion for executive session) Motions are made to going to executive session, the second by Trish Heavyrunner. All those in favor of proceeding into executive session. Please signify by saying I. Opposed, please say no. Motion carried. Mr. Kipp.

Mr. Kipp: Madam chairman, just for clarification as far as I'm going to executive session. I know in the fall time we didn't allow the uh, others that weren't enrolled as far as finance manager and the deputy.

Chair: So, we will have the finance manager, the deputy secretor director, and Nikoli's leadership team. So, if you are not a tribal member, you can proceed out the doors. We're gonna, going to executive session. And I will say that sergeant arms folks, who are manning the doors. People can go in and out, if you want to come in, you'll need a badge. But a allow people to proceed in and out of the meeting. We'll proceed with Mr. Chairman Shannon Wheeler.

Executive session – 2:15pm

Shirly, Motion to come out of executive session.

Melvin wheeler – 2nd

Motion carried – 6:05pm out of executive session

Motion to accept the reports and excuse the panel and recess for the day.

2nd Trish Heavyrunner

Motion Carried.

Mr. Paisano, Chaplin – prayer

485 registered members today

Friday May 8, 2026

Call to order at 8:10

Mr. Paisano – opening prayer

Chair: ...I'll assume the member is making a speech time is valuable. So, each member will be limited to one such speech for general counsel session with a time limit of 3 minutes or I may be loud at the discretion of the chairman.

Anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be requested to leave the premises. The election judges will register Nez Perce tribal members aged 18 and older. Kindly turn your cell phone off or to silent. If you need to use your cell phone to answer or make a call, please be respectful of the members of the assembly by going out to the hallway or outside to do so.

Live streaming on social media or video recording of any kind is not allowed unless authorized such as when they count the ballots the live stream.

So, the motion has been made to, and seconded, to approve the house rules. Is there any discussion on the house rules discussion? Mr. David Holt.

Motion to accept the house rules – Dallan Wheeler

2nd – Verna Taylor

Dave Holt: Madam chair, everybody. David Quinn, the old man, David. Otherwise, David Holt. I have a question. I didn't hear, I quite right. How many seconds do we have when it comes to limitation of responding or discussion.

Chair: The make a resolution motion has 2 minutes to ensure to introduce it 2 minutes for rebuttal. Both have 2 minutes to speak, 2 minutes.

David Holt: Hundred and twenty seconds. You know, this gets me every, every general council when it comes to, you know we're we're a very passionate people. And some of these issues, hit us to the core. And supposedly we're all here for the seventh generation. So, we gotta uh, 120 seconds to try and engulf all of that, combine it, and provide for the proper words, spirit, everything. And I just want to again, protest on this 120 seconds, 2 minute limitations when it comes to some of these subject matters that are deep within, on our hearts and spirit. It means so much to me and each one of these families and to our future. And then, the other one; how many times can we get up and speak? Does that mean every time there's a new subject matter, that we can come up here or you just leave uh limiting one, one time. What's the limitation?

Chair: Mister Holt, for every new uh subject matter. So, to speak people can come back up.

David Holt: And have their hundred and 20 seconds. Right?

Chair: Only, the house rules that has been in here for quite a long time.

David Holt: Just, just a matter of record, there are some I'll let everybody know that I might go over a few seconds. I'm an old man, getting close to my 80 you know. Yeah, I've been an old man ever since I've been a baby. So, if I may just let everybody know that you know, warning you. Don't cut me off too, too fast. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt. Are there any further discussions on the motion to approve the house rules? There is no further discussion on the house rules. I'll recognize the call for the question. All those in favor of approving the house rules please signify by saying I. Opposes please say no. Okay, I know it's early in the morning. So, let's be robust. All those in favor please signify by saying I. Opposed, please say no. Motion carried.

The other pending item from yesterday was to approve the minutes and this would be from fall uh September 2025. Motion has been made to approve the minutes by um, Dallan Wheeler. Second by um Mr. Jr Spencer, and what is being handed out to the assembly, uh is what we what was presented to the NPTEC. These are the actions that the general council took on September 25th to the 27th, 2025 at Kamiah.

So again, approving the house rules, the agenda and we had subsidiary emotions there. The minutes um resolution on number four, this general counsel officer election results, boards and commissions. We adjourned in closing prayer. But this was uh provided to the NPTEC, as they need to uh do their action to appoint the folks that were elected by general council to the various boards and commissions. Is there any discussion? Is there any discussion on the motion? If there's no discussion on the motion to uh approve the minutes, I recognize the call for the question. All those in favor please signify by saying I. Oppose please say no. Motion carried. Approved the minutes.

So, we'd like to invite our federal agency partners. We have the National Forest Service, uh the National Park Service and the Bureau of Indian affairs to come forward, please. And thank you, folks for being here.

8:30 AM

Jonathan Word: Tac'meeywii. Good morning. Thank you for having last year um. I'm John word. I'm with the US Forest Service and the Nez Perce/Clearwater National Forest, Forest Supervisor. Just to have uh three topics I want to share with you all this morning. Will be answering questions after. Three topics I want to discuss with you this morning are the Forest Service reorganization. I know that. So, interest and and I also want to share some of the great work being accomplished through our good neighbor program, name I co-stewardship. The last and most fun one will be uh talking about our opportunity to provide the capital Christmas tree this year uh at Washington DC. And a little bit about the Forest Service reorganization, the Forest Service is realigning its organization organizational

structure to strengthen local leadership, streamline operations and improve mission delivery. Um. Was that not loud enough? Is that better?

uh This is uh some of the changes of the reorganization moving in headquarters from Washington DC to Salt Lake City, transitioning from a regional to a state-based model and building a network of operation of the service centers. We will also be unifying the agency's research program. With that, the chief of the Forest Service will also be moving to some Lake City, approximately 2/3 of the national capital region employees, the employees there in DC relocate from Washington DC to Salt Lake City and the operation service centers, the operation service centers are Salt Lake City or excuse me are in Missoula um Albuquerque and Athens, Georgia. So, um third of those employees will also stay in DC and handle that kind of DC level operations things like interactions with congressional members things like that.

Uh. There will be 15 State Directors which will oversee one or more states specifically Idaho Montana, Oregon and Washington. We'll all have their own director, and they will the State Directors service national leaders for the forest supervisors, so that be my boss, the hope set operational priorities and help with local relationships. We recognize um that the Nez Perce covers four different states here, and the, we, it will require coordination from the Forest Service, right? And we, we plan to take on that work when we, we don't want to push it over to you. Take office will have a small team of approximately 5 to 8 employees.

The Idaho State office will be in Boise. We will provide the operation service centers, will provide shared administrative and technical support to state office and the forest. And the centers will support highly technical and non-routine work. Things that we don't do at the local level like grade engineering, land exchanges things like that. And then um I know there's been a good bit of talk and as you look around and read about the reorganization, a lot of the concern is around research. Um. We are consolidating and wear appropriating, wear appropriate code locating research facilities to create a more integrated research program. We're not getting rid of researchers. What it means is offices that have a couple of research. Researchers in them may end up working like in one of our district offices, things like that. So, not eliminating any just consolidating the multiple research stations into a single organization. Uh. Forest service, fire, and aviation program will retain its existing geographic coordination centers or camps as we call them, which is the essential for incident resource coordination.

There's no changes this year. Right? Is moving over to talk a little bit about our good neighbor agreement and some of the great coaches should work for. We have four different agreements with the Nez Perce Tribe. The newest agreement. It's the early adopter, a good neighbor authority agreement under the explorer act. And this agreement capitalizes is on

the floor act which allows transit counties to retain project revenue from timber sales on federal. The Nez Perce Tribe will be handling four timber sales in the initial iteration of the agreement for the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest. These projects are the big burn point linear fuels project, the dead woodland years fuels project, time now and in big cedar timber sale, these sales will account for approximately 28 million for the year volume in fiscal year 26 and 27.

This is the first agreement of this kind in the nation and we're excited to work with this for sure on this agreement. Money generated from and, and this is a key point the money generated from this agreement, this to be used for activities prescribed by the good neighbor authority.

They cannot be used for general tribe expenses, but they can go back into the land for treatment, for good stewardship. So, um, let's see. The next one is the, what we previously called the wildfire crisis landscape, we're now calling them priority landscape of the good neighbor authority agreement. And that agreement is accounted for 3,600 acres of roadside domestication. And fuels work accomplished on the Nez Perce National Forest. Along with 3,000 acres of fuel streamage and over 150 miles of road rehabilitation to a, improve, improve access into rural routes.

Next agreement is and the agreement with the Nez Perce Cultural Division. and This agreement has allowed the heritage program and the Nez Perce Tribe to work together to preserve and protect sensitive cultural and archaeological sites and active projects across the boards.

The last agreement is the priority landscape agreement with Watershed and Fisheries. Work in this agreement is largely uh in collaboration with the watershed division. These projects include things like meadow restoration and placement of wood debris in beaver dams, to improve past crossings to encourage fish passage and habitat.

And then, the last thing that I wanted to talk about is this year the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest has the capital Christmas tree. The capitol Christmas tree is a place that resides on the west lawn of the capitol building. It doesn't go to the White House.

That's why it's called the people street because it's sits at the capital. Uh. We look forward work to working very closely with the Nez Perce Tribe in the spirit of co-stewardship on the tree. We hope it's a great opportunity to tell your story, talk about your connection to the land, the ways of life, and history.

We're currently working with the education director and several members here at the tribe. If you hadn't heard, we have to make 10,000 ornaments uh as a community or across the

communities to take back to DC. So, we look forward to some help there and any other ways that folks would like to engage as well.

And we hope that the Nez Perce Tribe can take part in the cutting ceremony interpretation of the whistle trail which is a 3 weeks, 3 week journey across the country with an opportunity to provide, uh, to provide the story and really tell about this area I would say and we have lots of lots of folks out there working on this. So please follow up if you have an interest in helping with the trail, appreciate it. I'll pass it over to Jason.

Jason Lyons: Uh, tac'meeywii. uh It's good to be here today. Its been a few years since I've uh been able to speak in front of you all. I'm Jason Lyon, I am currently the acting superintendent of the Nez Perce National Historical Park. Prior to in being in this role, I worked at Nez Perce for 21 years, as the Integrated Resource Program Manager. I started there in 2000, move to a regional position, working remotely through the Seattle office in 2021, and have been back in this acting role since January, late January of 2025. Actually, prior to going to the park service, I worked in Nez Perce Tribe Resource Program from 1993 to 1997.

I want to talk to you today about the park uh kind of where we're at with operations um. Some of the uh things that we have been trying to accomplish over the last year and a half and hopefully where will be able to be at in the future. When I started my acting role at park in in late January of 2025.

The Nez Perce National Historical Park had 12 permanent employees on staff. We had some interns uh seasonals and what not. But in January 2025, there was 12. For a little bit of context, when I started with the park service in 2000, there were 31 employees at the Nez Perce National Historical Park. As we moved through the summer of 25, through the various uh retirement programs uh, separation incentive programs that were offered by the department.

We lost another four uh permanent employees to the programs. So, currently, we have 8 permanent employees working at park, nine if you count me in my acting role. Um, I did a little uh here, while back I was looking back through some of the administrative documents that we have at the park and Nez Perce National Historical Park was created in nineteen sixty-five, and uh 66 and 67.

The superintendent was hired and those first couple of years was working with the tribe and other partners in setting up the facilities for formalizing the land transfers and all the things that would make up the park site. 1968, the park had six or eight permanent employees. Where we're at right now is equivalent to where the park was at in 1968 for (inaudible). And I, I offered that not uh not to paint a picture of gloom. But to helps, help us

understand, all of us understand, kind of where the park is at. And we have had um maybe in interesting year, if you'll, I'm sure all of you have noticed that we've not been able to keep up with grounds care to the level that we should be.

We've not been able to um keep the bathrooms open as much as we should and clean. But we are we are working hard to ensure that these sites are managed in such a way that they are, are kept open and they are accessible.

We do have opportunities. We do have ways to, available to us to sure that we are meeting our responsibilities and we are trying to take full advantage of those. As John mentioned, we two are working on a cooperative agreement with the Nez Perce Tribe.

A hopefully will allow us to better partners, more responsive to the um the needs of you all. We are looking at opportunities through the cooperative agreement for furthering co-stewardship for sharing staff, for providing more opportunities for tribal members to work at the park for tribal concerns to be better addressed at our park sites. We've attempted to build positions over the last year or so. And this last fall in spring we were approved by OBM to fill a couple of our vacant permanent positions, which was good news.

So, we are working on that, um trying to build some much-needed vacancy in our interpretation programs and especially in our maintenance program, uh we currently have two employees in maintenance. We have, we have just been able to pick up an intern from the community and is working in our maintenance program as well which has been a really big asset and we have leaned into those internship programs.

One of the uh opportunities that we have is that we can partner with our organizations such as the Northwest Youth Corps and other youth serving organizations to allow opportunities to develop and bring folks into the park under internships. Those positions are not park service. So, they're not subject to they're the hiring restrictions and other things that are currently placed on. So, we have put a lot of effort last year into developing those internships and we look to hire many more as we move through the year, we also have hope that we will be able to fill some seasonal positions both in our interpretation program as well as our maintenance program.

We are also looking at getting contracts for grounds care, and uh at Heart of the Monster in Kamiah, and canoe camp (inaudible), and providing assistance as volving as well in lieu of a being able to hire staff. All of these things are uh somewhat out of our control because our human resources operations hiring processes as well as our contracting processes are all managed to our regional officers, which have also been uh hit hard through the early retirement programs and other separation incentive programs that were offered in the Department of Interior Park Service last year. But we are working hard to try to identify all of

those opportunities, including continuing and building and strengthening our partnership with the tribe to ensure that we can continue to maintain these sites to the level that they are maintained or should be maintained. And Big Hole National Battlefield uh, that site actually we have currently more staff in big hole than we do at Nez Perce, which is a good thing. Um. We have uh nearly, nearly, nearly complete maintenance program is happening there as well as interpretation. um In fact, right now uh this week maintenance staff from a big hole as well it as interpretive staff I big a hole have been at Nez Perce providing assistance to us.

um It's, Big Hole of course being the elevation in southwestern Montana is a little bit later as far as um the maintenance needs there so we have had staff here this week providing assistance to Nez Perce. Um. The Big Hole staff is also uh taking care of facilities at Bear Paw up in chinook. We have staff going up there next week to uh mow the trails and to um perform basic maintenance, open the restrooms those kinds of things. So, as we move through the year through a process of shuffling staff back and forth between Big Hole and Nez Perce as well as a lot of us doing double duty, we are going to commit to keeping it, doing the best we can through a combination of cooperation with the tribe to do our quantitative agreement when we get that in place.

Contract work, um where we can and also through um sharing of staff with us and then Big Hole to keep the park sites open and operational and to maintain them to the level, we all know they need to be maintained at. Um. You may may have noticed if you've been to the visitor center down here at Spalding recently, we've been working on a bathroom project and remodel project. Uh. That was a project that was actually supposed to occur in 2024 and early 2025, but with uh the new administration and the freeze that was put on contracting, and other things in that got pushed back.

Ironically enough, it was supposed to start October 1, but we entered the new year on October 1, the fiscal year, with the govern shutdown. That's so uh you got pushed back again. It is currently underway. Uh. We hope to that it will be complete um sometime in about a month or so.

There has been some delays with getting uh the materials that we needed to do to finish the project such as tile and other kinds of things because of the various import tariffs and what not it's caused delays in the products. But um the contractor that has been working on that for us, the most recent update we got was that we're thinking probably about a month, so about mid-June. Um. That project has been much needed for a long time.

The bathrooms at the visitor center, the public basin bathrooms have never really met the ADA accessibility requirements. And so, these new facilities will be up to date um and will

allow access especially, access for those of us that have special needs when accessing those facilities. So, aside from that, um we have been also working on going through the park museum collections. We're continuing to do some rehousing and some, some repositioning of those collections so that they are in ultimately the best condition possible.

uh We have been working with a uh cooperation with the cultural resource program here at the tribe with a conservator who has been coming in over the last couple months to do some conservation treatment on some of the more fragile items, items that are in need of stabilization. And we've also been um, we're starting the process of looking at long term management of the Weippe-Prairie site uh, the park service and acquired that property up there in 2003 and 2004. And um, it's been a, uh the park over the years has been working on some wetland metal restoration projects.

But we would like to um kind of move forward and come up with some more long-term visions of where that and how that property will be available for visitor use as well as tribal use in the future. So, we will be working with the tribal, the tribe closely on that going forward through this year and into next year.

I think that's, that's all I have right now as far as updates. Uh. John and I will be available here for questions. So, if anybody has any questions?

Chair: Thank you. The floor is open for questions. I have Larry Greene. Well, uh Larry Greene, Mike McFarland. I can't see you back there. What's your name, oh Sandy? Sandy McFarland and then Joyce McFarland, Dave Holt. Annie. Annie.

Larry: Alright. Thank you. Tac'meeywii. I appreciate the, the update. You know, the updates and uh um of future projects and so on is really nice. Uh. It's too nice to hear that, I guess, but my concern and, and what I'm looking forward and the hoping to, to uh improve on.

And it was nice to hear uh the Chairman Wheeler mentioned a little bit about it yesterday on, on funding. uh the tribe funneled millions of dollars through here uh to forest products, of course, uh forest contracts, projects that that there um we're leaving out one portion of that of employment, know these projects and, and, and millions of dollars that are funneled through. We may get indirect charge from that. But as far as employment, you know we have a youth program.

and We have other, other individual tribal members that are employed or are going through training for heavy equipment or uh certified in businesses, but they're could being excluded and not being included with some of the projects and uh you know, to porsh, uh like uh some of the uh uh watershed, water, you know water shedding, road

decommissioning, other other projects that are happening. You know, even done at the park, you know the projects that are there to um TERO, and I mentioned TERO fees. That, that's what this is all about. If projects and try to include our tribal membership and get into business included with some of these projects.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Greene. Is there responsible the panel?

Jason Lyons: Yeah, I can talk to that a little bit from the park service perspective. Um, I agree with you completely. We have not done a good job uh, living up to the response ensuring and providing opportunities for tribal members to work at the park to develop uh opportunities for recruitment of youth.

I will say that that is a priority for me, was a priority for me when I worked at the tribe. When I worked at the park prior one of the things that um, we have done and we had to, unfortunately, for the last 2 years, including this year, we had to not have our YCC Program, our youth program. It was a hard decision.

But we, we just with the level of staffing we had, we did not have the capacity to be able to provide an opportunity for to you this year. If I am still at the park next year in this role, we will have a YCC Program. I can guarantee you that, um that program is something that I am passionate about.

It is for provides opportunities for youth from age 16 to I believe 20, to work in the park during the summer in a variety of different roles. I mentioned earlier the internship program. The idea is then that those internship programs or the next step from YCC in the summer to an internship program, people will have an opportunity to acquire something, determine if the National Park Service or by extension, any federal agency is an opportunity that individuals would like to pursue.

And then from there, at some point we're able to hire, fill staff positions creates opportunities for individuals who have lived through those programs because they have skills and they are, they do have an opportunity then to move into those kinds of permanent park service positions. So, it's something that I feel strongly about.

It's, it's probably one of the things that I, in most upset about over where we are right now. So, I completely uh on agree that we have not done enough. I do we do hope that we move through this year into next year, we be able to bring those provide those opportunities.

Jon Word: Thanks, Jason. I'll jump out a little bit as well um. And first, first, thank you and thank you for the awareness around, around that issue. We uh were able to fill most of our one YCC crews this year. So, we're excited about that. We did have that funding through some partnerships. So, uh we are looking forward to that, I guess um. What your your point

that you brought up that to me is a good reminder to be aware and we're reaching our positions and how we are interacting, right if there are career fairs show up as an organization right that we're, we're here interacting and, and we be in involved. We, um, similar to the park service right now are not doing anything external hiring, right? We did hire fire seasonals this year, and about 20 recreational seasonals as well. Those programs are definitely areas we can focus our efforts. Well, some, some other thoughts that I have right are, or possibly have, we engage with the University of Idaho, I know they have a summer programs specifically for forestry and both that technical and um and the other natural resources side. So how do we engage with those programs and come collectively work together to work on the recruiting and our outreach there. That's all.

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize Mike McFarland, Sandy McFarland, Joyce MacFarland, David Holt, Annie McCormick, and Bill Picard. Mr. McFarland.

Mike McFarland: uh Yes, good morning now. Sorry, this is for the Forest Service fella up there. I didn't hear you at first. I didn't get your name and title.

Jon Word: Good morning, John word and I'm the Forest supervisor.

Mike McFarland: For which forest?

Jon Word: Nez Perce-Clearwater.

Mike McFarland: Okay. Thank you. uh Thanks for coming. And this question is regarding our exclusive use and benefit rights in our treaty.

Uh, where forest federal land is concerned and I've been chasing this issue for several years now. And um, the last 5-4 speed I attended, I talked to Cheryl Kroberg, uh a supervisor for a Wallow Whitman and a ranger from the Umatilla out of Pomeroy. And my concern was uh, our, um accesses to our traditional hunting gathering, berry picking, and fishing sites along through the forests are a lot of our places we used to go for a gated now. Uh. Places are used to cut firewood things like that. So, all these tribal members, we, we all have places that that are probably blocked now with gates and so uh.

Last time meeting with these people, they were in agreement that we have access to those. And uh so far as the fella at Whittman Wallowa and Umatilla and even Cheryl, you succeeded offered to come see me to see what we could work out. Well since my accident, I haven't had time to chase this down, but when I'm looking to achieve is to come to, instead of a verbal agreement, we just got I'd like to see an agreement in writing.

So, us tribal members can come and see you folks or however, this issue gets worked out to get access to these areas behind the gates that are keeping us out of our traditional

areas of use. And so, uh basically it just big lip service so to speak all these years. And uh, I wanted to see if we can, because I'm gonna now that I'm more able to, I'm going to keep squeaky wheel gets the grease kind of a guy. You keep bugging you until we come to some kind of agreement and get this in place. So, us tribal people can come and access our gathering and hunting and fishing places. And, you know, there's uh areas of concern and because I, I worked behind, I did like contracts with you folks over the past years. And behind these gates are many, many, many areas that are just loaded with firewood too. And they're just sitting there, land of no use basically, just, I guess you're good for owls and squirrels and stuff. But I would like to a, can't even anymore, but I'm sure there's a lot of people here uh like to uh be able to get to some of these places to cut the firewood.

For all personal use as, as per our treaty. So anyway, I would like to know if you know anything about that or have you heard anything from Cheryl? And uh. What can we do to get something going, get it in place? So, we can access, our, these lands. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you. Mr. McFarland, response from the panel.

Jon Word: Yeah, thank you for the question, Mr. McFarland. Um. I have been tracking the issue specifically when it comes to hunting, uh access is the way I had heard about it mostly, but I appreciate the highlighting the other traditional uses as well.

Definitely a conversational we're, we're willing to have. And uh welcome to have that conversation with you and continue to move that in the, a, um in a direction that's progress. Right. Um. There are a few of those areas probably right that we may or may not be able to get to there.

They may have been closed through the National Environmental Policy Act, through the need the document that we did right for certain resources that uh uh protections and things like that you know or there might be certain times that we have to restrict. But um we're definitely willing and open to having that conversation. I think it's an important issue that we should continue to build.

Mike McFarland: I'll take that.

Jon Word: All right, thank you.

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize Sandy McFarland, Joyce McFarlane, David Holt.

Sandy Broncheau McFarland: Tac'meeywii, madam chair and general council. My name is Sandra Broncheau McFarland and I have a question for both of the gentleman.

And I thank you for your presentations this morning. I like to start with Mr. Jason Lyon, um as you're well aware next year is the sesquicentennial for the Nez Perce, Nimiipuu National Historic Trail, which is honoring the legacy of our people.

And we are very concerned uh with the conditions of the sites that we share, meaning along the trail with the park service, including the Chief Looking Glass site. And so, I'm hoping that there can be some sort of plan put into place to look at how we could address that as we will be having visitors from not over, not just nationwide and international visitors coming in, and how that's gonna be regulated in working with the tribe. So, it's those visits are appropriate on those planning activities are appropriate for each of the sites can be visited.

My second, uh point I wanted to ask about was will the cooperative agreement also cover the situation at the park with the cemetery there? I was there last week with family from out of town.

And it was in a, ah, you know, a shameful state and I understand the lack of having personnel. But will that be covered under that cooperative agreement or will the agreement that expired be removed?

Jason Lyon: Thanks for listen. Excuse me. Thanks for those questions, Sandy um. As it relates to the Looking Glass site or the Kooskia Fish Hatchery. Um. I was up there not too long ago. And uh, was surprised of the condition. So, yes. We will be, we will be doing everything we can to work with the various partners of that site to update and to the best of our ability going forward, especially for next year, with the potential events that with be at that site. So, thank you so much for that and I agree with you, uh, we need to do some work up there. And as far as the cemetery goes, yeah uh the cooperative agreement will through, once it established through various task agreements, we can do a number of things that we have not had the capacity to do before. Yes, the cemetery is, the maintenance of the cemetery long term is a, one of the key drivers of the cooperative relationship. And through eventual task agreements as far as establishing a pattern for care and maintenance that between the park and the tribe. We can ensure it's not in the condition that it currently is moving forward.

Sandra McFarland: Thank you. And uh, now I have some questions for the Forest Service. um One of my questions surrounds the sesquicentennial because the Forest Service administers the Nez Perce Trail. And my greatest concern is that the trail has been without full time administrator for over 8 months and currently Ms. Carol Hennessey in the regional office has taken on four or five different jobs due to the situation with people retiring in positions not being filled. And so, she also has a great heart and is doing her best.

The trail is in a very poor state, not only the trail of the on a tour around. That is accompanying the trail which is the responsibility of the Forest Service. And so, my concern is with the reorganization of the Forest Service.

How soon will we see these critical positions filled? And we'd like to see them filled with Native American people because they are the ones that understand this trail, the history, the treaties and working with tribes. Uh the. Also, the other concern I had is we had a plan in place where the Forest Service was going to have two tribal members shadowed the trail administrator before the retirement took place due to the administration that wasn't able to take place.

And so, now there is a, a huge concern of what's going to happen with that position. Will that position be a full-time position? Will that position be ferreted out among two or three different people? There is talk that the trail administrator will be on a forest, most likely that would be your forest, the as Clearwater.

And so, I'm concerned about that I'm concerned about the sesquicentennial because they don't have anyone in a lead position to help work on grants and work with all the collaboration that makes needs to take place in the five states that the trail goes through. And the two national parks. So, I'm concerned about that.

My other concern that I would bring up is there was a, an existing agreement with Forest Service over the ability for free camping for our tribal people that has expired. I want to know that is that being renewed or how is that being handled by the Forest Service?

Chair: Thank you, Ms. McFarland. Response.

Jon Word: Thank you for the question, Sandy. Thank you. Um. So, I'll just start as there was several questions in there. I'll make sure I get them all, please, but um the first one, when will the critical positions be filled, know we are slowly internal filling those positions. So, um 2, 3, 4, 5 at a time, right? And we're, we're hearing that that's going to open up a little but more, we are not.

We don't have clarity yet on when we need to start hiring external candidates. That's still something we're waiting for some more direction and clarity on. And then um, the um, as far as helping manage the trail, though, I do know Carol is filling that role.

We have also um detailed our recreational program manager position which has been vacant. Right? Carol's old position. So, we've been detailing that position with um Angie, who's great. She's doing a great job in that, that role and we will continue to, to keep that position filled as we can through details what we call temporary promotions or even lateral uh assignment.

So, so we're working to keep that position filled. Unfortunately, we did lose Alex, who is our Trails Program Manager, who was great. He has moved to Colorado. So, there's definitely uh some loss of capacity in the organization there.

And then, uh, the tribal will liaison position that you spoke about the uh vice Christine really that we haven't filled since she left or anything went to the region is currently detailed by Aaron Rudy up in this um stands there and we will continue to fill that role. It sounds like our ability temporary promotions is going to be returned more to the local level and will continue to fill that role until we uh prioritize it.

Basically, when, when we have the input. And then the last one, the, the free camping that's not something I was aware had expired so happy to, to be working with Aaron and our our rec staff to get that reviewed as we need to.

Sandy McFarland: Thank you, gentlemen.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. McFarland. We'll recognize Joyce McFarland, David Holt, Annie McCormack, Bill Picard.

Joyce McFarland: Qeci'yew'yew. Jason just FYI on July 1st, um the education department's working with Otis Halfmoon to do a uh, education session at Clear Creek for, and um, also I did talk with Kay Seven, and Scotty always says include the Looking Glass band heavily.

So anyway, that's all in the works. I just wanna recognize that last year um and I know we didn't make the contact with the park but if the park can help us this year, but last year is the Fisheries Hatchery staff that helped clean up that site. And I just asked Kayla, who was it?

So, so it's her, Jim Oatman, Zay Wheeler, and Colton Kino. So they, they just stepped up to take care of it. Tribal people are coming in but um just, just to let you know that but and so on one hundred fifteenth anniversary and I don't speak for NPTEC, but I do know that they are submitting an official government to government request for the planning and 150th anniversary with the Forest Service and with the Park Service. And so, um if there's been any uh steps by you taken, if you can please share and also um your intent to include the tribe um heavily along the way because it is like has been reference. Its, it's really going to be major, major and its already started. Um just one more thing I wanted to say is the opportunity to work with the Museum of the Rockies um. Right now, I'm helping uh draft a memorandum of agreement you know for them to do a major exhibit there in Bozeman and then there only museum in Montana willing to recognize the Nez Perce as a Montana tribe. The other museums won't do that.

And one of the concepts they brought up, which I thought was very um interesting, was to create a traveling exhibit. And so, we know that the Nez Perce National Historical Park, you know, you have the big collection, and that's something that can be looked at you know working with tribal members here or others.

But to say, what do we want the story to be about next year? And are there items that could be developed from your collection to open it up for a traveling exhibit, which besides the Museum of Rockies, I think the, the interests of the wide. So, just a couple of things. Thank you. So, the main question is what your intent, how are you going to plan with the Nez Perce Tribe on the hundred and fiftieth anniversary? Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. McFarland. Response.

Jason Lyon: yeah Thanks, Joyce. Um. Yeah. The hundred and 50th is um is right around the corner. We have had conversations at multiple levels, uh initial conversations with the tribe about that. We stand ready and we absolutely will participate in um will be available to ensure that a couple things, one that the park sites are open and accessible and then they're ready and they're maintained as far as planning um ideas like traveling exhibits or other kinds of defense for commemorations, those kinds of things.

uh Absolutely, we are 100% behind that and remain and work closely with the tribe, absolutely closely with the tribe on all of those uh we have had some internal conversations uh we visited with um a few individuals over the last couple of months um. But yeah, we're ready, we're ready to, to partner to um get things pulled together for next year.

Jon Word: um yeah Thanks. And the question and, and similarly willing and, and excited to partner with the tribe and, and work on um this hundred and 50th anniversary here. I'm Um I'm thinking and I'm sure we've had some sap to sap.

I'm, I'm glad to hear about it today and know so it's run up to my level for awareness and and something we can coordinate closer on. Um I'm just thinking a little bit off the top here which can be dangerous, but um we do have that little of visitors center which I think might be a great opportunity to um provide some material there and some education about opportunities and we also have a really nice brand new building in Kamiah still needs some decorating in the front room to be honest that I have heard several renditions of accounts the originally some of the material in our front entry ways to be included tribal material. They included some educational type opportunities. So, we'd love to welcome that as well.

Chair: Thank you. We should recognize David Holt, Annie McCormack, Bill Picard. Mr. Holt.

David Holt: Thank you, Madam Chairman, gentlemen. David q'i'wn. Old man, David. I'd like to uh, first of all, when it comes to the park service real quick when I was a young man, uh the council and some of the elders had me uh, with another gentleman we had to sleep in the, the graveyards down there and at uh Spalding to uh trying get rid of the grave diggers that were haunting the area at the time. And we, we would go around and try and protect our, our so called what you call archaeological resources. But our babies, and I see some activity down there when it comes to those graves and I get a little PTSD over it. But uh is something that uh should be a watchful eye on. Uh. If I may when it comes to the poor service are our treaties, are, are just an echoing of uh religious, spiritual, cultural, traditional and, and archaeological rights, uh from the true landlord. That's who we are we are in the mountains so to speak. And my brother here talks about access. Well, we know that the, the Trump administration, that's one of their big, that's why they're real organizing when it comes to access. And I heard the word good neighbor. When it comes to the good neighbor, I drive through the, the poorest was my grandchildren. And there's always clear cuts and it may not be the Forest Service. It may be potlatch, it may be someone else, but they're not being very good neighbors to you, and who are responsible for our resources. So, you know, when it comes to good neighbors, I think the poor service needs to get tough with potlatch and some of these people on some of their clear cut. And the impact that it has on our water in our, our, our resources, cous cous, huckleberries, roots, everything. Another quick one, I don't like seeing those cows up there. I don't I don't enjoy that at all. I think cattle should be eradicated from our forest. Another one I last time I, I spoke to the Forest Service is that uh, I had my grandchildren up on the, the, the summit of uh road 500. We're in picking huckleberries and I come, come to a sign that says uh wolf traps. And we're already in the huckleberry fields and I thought that was pretty dangerous then there was such a minuscule warning about wolf traps being in our huckleberry fields. So, uh I had, we had our grandchildren follow our path out step by step to make sure that we didn't hit no wolf traps. But a, you have me you know I'm a veteran of mind warfare. You, you kind of set me off there. I don't I don't believe there's a, enough you to me communication and what was the action when it came to uh the removal of those wolf traps or at least the education of where they're at, when they're there. And also, another one is uh the spraying of uh the forest with herbicides, pesticides, et cetera. Some of those areas you sprayed cous cous, huckleberries, et cetera. Just some uh areas that I believe that are, are a big impact to our people and uh anything that the trump administration throws at you. Please look at it from the true landlords, I. They're, they're coming after our rights, Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt. Response from the panel.

Jon Word: You know, um, I'll jump in. Hope I capture all this um as far as how we can work with our private landowner partners, right? Where we tried to work with them is called

collaboratively as we can but, but really um the state regulates what goes on over private land as far as industrial forests land. That's not jurisdiction of that federal government and the Forest Service. Uh Traps, uh, something we can definitely look into. I have a feeling that that's also a state Fish & Game, right? And how that sign and posted and weren't their regulations and regulatory um process and um that the spring piece uh appreciate you on there and would you say uh from my perspective, the, the Forest Service is very judicial opinion, the use of herbicides and really like you know trying to control invasive weeds and that kind of thing and, and really key areas. And um. The cattle, right? That's a, that's a challenging issue with perspectives on, on both sides and as a multiple use agency, right? Grazing is one of those multiple uses that.

Jason Lyon: And I'll just say uh thank you for the information or your thoughts on the cemetery. I share those concerns and or uh protection of that place is maintained, and we have not done a good job at that and we're working forward in cooperation, ensure that is taken care of.

Chair: Thank you. We have Annie McCormack, Bill Picard.

Anne McCormack: Tac'meeeywii, My name is Anne McCormack. Enrollment # 1009. And I'm going to rescind my question. Sorry, and it has already been answered in the uh first address with Larry Greene because I couldn't believe that Jason was up there and he wasn't gonna give a plug for the youth program. And then in his answer was unfortunately that he can't offer this year. So, I feel the same way Jason it's a wonderful program and I really hope that it is able to be brought back. And I thank you both for your presentations and I can feel the weight and the responsibility under this current administration of what you're going through. We as a tribe also feel the same pain. So, we offer you encouragement and appreciation and for the work that you, you do. Qeci'yew'yew yox'kalot.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. McCormack. Uh, we'll recognize Bill Picard.

Bill Picard: Tac'meeeywii. My name is Bill Picard and, uh, and uh my question is for Jonathan, I asked the same question about Cheryl Cobert when she was there and some of the other forest services, but up upon the Clearwater. Um. Nez Perce National Forest um they sold or switch lands with Potlatch. And so, now we've got hunters up there that are going up there hunting. And being ticketed on Potlatch land. We had a treaty right on, on that property, the Nez Perce tribe, including myself, and I've hunted that area before it was Potlatch land. I want to know what happened to my treaty right. Did you sell my treaty right to Potlatch? Because no, we didn't get paid for our treaty right. And if I sold you land and in a year from now, you discovered oil on your land that oil would be mine because I didn't tell

you my like um, mineral right. I only sold you the land and so when you're when you traded our land Forest Service land to Potlatch, you should have told Potlatch there's a treaty rights attached to this property. That's not ours to giveaway. It belongs to the Nez Perce Tribe. And instead, instead Forest Service gave that land away and now Potlatch did away with our treaty right. And we didn't get paid for it which we wouldn't sell in the first place. Well, we didn't give away that treaty right. Who gave away our treaty right? And I think that every property that the that the federal government has that we have a treaty right attached to, if they sell it, trade it, barter with it, whatever they do with it, it should go and it should be written in the contract that there is a treaty right attached to this property that you have to negotiate with the Nez Perce tribe because we can't negotiate with you because it's not our right.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Bill Picard. Any response from the panel.

Jon Word: Thank you for the uh question, Mr. I'm not 100% familiar, exactly. Excuse me, which area you're talking about? I'm making an assumption that it's the stuff that was checker boarded up them a loose district possibly and I'm trying to remember the year that that um would that happened but I'm as you know there's multiple there's several different ways that land is exchanged or required from the Forest Service or disposed of rights either a land exchange or a land acquisition. Really, those are the two ways um like I will say my commitments and from my leadership position here and uh already have shown an example as well as that we work with this first drive on any of those acquisitions or exchanges. And for example, the promise like 27,000 acres that we're looking to acquire uh, uh in the upper Lochsa the, we closely with NPTEC um a letter of support to me.

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize. Mr. Picard?

Bill Picard: I just, just a quick follow up so and I asked Cheryl this, will you support that in any more land that's being traded? Would you support that? That the Nez Perce tribe says that you can't give away our treaty right? And so that you tell whoever is getting that land that there's a treaty right attached to this property that I can't give away. Would you support that?

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Picard. Yes, response.

Jon Word: So, there's a third category that I think is what happened with the land you're referencing and right um. The other way that some of these land changes that happen is legislatively, right? Um, Congress writes it up and it gets attached to a bill and it becomes law that way. Um, when it goes that way, there is very little opportunity at the local level to get involved. However, specifically to your question, right, about treaty rights and things here. Um, you're getting into a legal gray area that I honestly can't speak to.

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize Fawn, I'm not sure what your last name is, if you could let us know.

Fawn Yancy: Hi, good morning. My name is Fawn Nancy from the Marks family. And excuse me, it's my first time, so I don't know what the actual proper procedure is. Um. But my name is Fawn Yancy, enrollment number 2883, and I see that the BIA isn't here. But I was hoping to address this to Rich. We own a large portion of allotment # 705 and we have a no trespassing issue with someone living on that property. It's been brought to the attention of the BIA, and nothing has been done about it. And I would like to know what the BIA is doing, if they are not protecting us and our land. We make that complaint, it's like you got someone living there (inaudible) and they can do anything about it. When we have to drive right by there to go see my brother, who's also an owner of that land, I drive by the place and they have a house, out buildings and everything on our property.

Chair: Thank you. Response. No, oh. Okay, yes. Mr. Chairman.

Shannon Wheeler: That can be something that the tribal council can help. I didn't catch your last name. We can connect her to Mr. Ferguson, and help her with these issues.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um, Ms. Yancy was our last speaker for this panel. Oh, Ms. Timentwa and Ms. Gwen Carter. I'm sorry.

Carla Timentwa: Tac'meeywii. Um I just have a, I'm sorry, I arrived a little late from Kamiah. Uh, but my question is to the Forest Service, um I saw on the news that the administration wants to move Forest Service to is Utah or somewhere? And they're gonna be closing a bunch of regional offices and I'm wondering how that would impact the office as like in Kamiah or other locations. Um, and then my second question is on fire, fire suppression and firefighters and wildfire management. um If the funding is, is there, still because we're in a drought, severe drought for our area. Um When I was last year we went up to cool water to gather some medicines. There was a small, I think it was a prescribed burn along the Selway. And it seemed like every time we went up there 1 week after the next that the fire got bigger and then you know it was out of control fire you know by the end of the season. And it's because they didn't suppress it early. They just kind of let it you know grow. And I'm wondering if that's a Forest Service practice to do that or you know what's going on. So, if you can help answer those questions, Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you. Ms. Timentwa and while response.

Jon Word: Sure thing, thank you for those questions. Um, to address your, your first one that as far as the reorganization and um the impact will be sort of minimal, at the local

level in Kamiah, right, and all the local uh since three to meet any of your needs there. Fire funding and preparation for fire season. We've hired ah all of our fire seasonals that we have previous years, right? I think we hired three I believe fire seasonals and we have all of our pretty much all member per prior positions filled in at historic levels as well. So, we're we're ready for fire season uh nationally funded a similar level in the previous years, and thousand an 18 fire fixes that congress passed as well that helps on those larger fires. uh So there is some funding remaining in in the that fixed as well. And then, uh specifically you're speaking about the island creek fire last year, which was a uh long suppression of the event, right that um they went on for, for several several weeks there. We did bring into incident management teams to, to address that fire and the reason that it grew to signs that he did was because it was burning in a fire in 2015, extremely high snag hazard in their right trees that were falling. There wasn't the opportunity to put most directly in their due to manage in the risk um, and so we took indirect suppression tactics along that em fire and yeah (inaudible).

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize Gwen Carter, Shannon wheeler, and then Anthony Johnson.

Gwen Carter: Thank you um for this opportunity to speak. I have a couple of questions. The first one I have is for the Forest Service, and um our, traditionally we used to do a lot of huckleberry picking in this area. And I was wondering, and now there is hardly anything. But I was wondering is, is the Forest Service ever planning to reintroduce um those plants and then also, too. I don't know if you have any um commercial pickers out there, but I and most of the information I receive is from Gifford Mitchell national forest. Because That's where we go picking now, but we used to go up around um mud springs, not mud springs, muscle shell in that area, but you know now it's hard to they're hard to find in them. Just wondering, are people commercially picking them? Is that why there's nothing there and then the other question I have is to um the park service and I know you and I have talked about this before, but I'm really curious about what if the, the National Park Service is going to be um reduced in size uh as um the other parks are other historical institutions as well. Is there a plan for all of the information that's housed at the park service now. I mean are we is there is that just gonna be gifted back to the families or you know think Kay talked about the long-term planning you know. I just am curious you know what is what's gonna happen to those documents and photographs and all of the other items that are there is there. No, I some kind of plan for that. And then is that, the other thing is, is there a celebration next weekend our service or is that um or am I looking at an old flyer, the 15 and 16 for the park. No? Okay, must be old then.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Carter.

Jon Word: To address the huckleberry question, right? Uh. Obviously, something the use the very far anywhere to see huckleberry jam or, some, some, form something huckleberry for sale somewhere. Right? So, we recognize that um having uh been having some internal conversations on how we manage impacts that kind of stuff as far as commercial use. Right? I'm aware where some of those folks go. Um Definitely something that can have some further consideration and then any areas that have been degraded, it's not, not, really something we do as far as replanting of huckleberries, at least not now. But if that was something that the tribe was interested engaging in working on some type of agreement through um like kind of cultural nutritional use. It's definitely something we would entertain.

Jason Lyon: Thanks for the question, Gwen. Um. So, there was a time, there was a moment in time last year in this, early spring where it was really uncertain as to what the future of the park service was. There was a lot of rumors floating around about consolidation about closing parks and a whole bunch of stuff um. None of that has come to fruition and in fact uh, there has been uh secretarial orders issued by the Secretary of Interior, uh requiring that all parks remain open and accessible. So, feel relatively certain as certain as any of us can be in the world that we live in today that there will be no park closures. And consolidation of the park service as an Entity or changes in structure is still a possibility similar to what we've heard with the Forest Service there have been um rumors of discussions about looking at the way the park service, regional offices in the regional office services are, are managed. There's been um discussions out, obviously at much higher levels than any of us in the park about uh perhaps the park service, currently has is divided up in seven regions across the country about perhaps reducing the number of regions maybe collapsing some and um but as far as I know, uh the, the, last update that we actually heard about this was about a month ago, there has been no action on any of that. Um so, from an individual park status, I feel very strongly that there will be no closures of national parks. Granted, as I mentioned earlier, we have greatly reduced staffing. But the museum collections, the archives are one of it, not the most important resource that is managed at that work and um they will be preserved and maintained.

Chair: Thank you. We shall recognize we have Shannon wheeler, and then Anthony Johnson

Shannon Wheeler: uh Qeci'yew'yew, madam chair. And thank you uh. Jonathan and Jason, for giving your reports.

We appreciate the information. uh We have talked. Some of the things that I want to say are asked about and and I think that we've got I discussions these are for uh Nez Perce-

Clearwater Forest supervisor Jonathan Word, uh you mentioned the reorganization of the National Forest uh. Or you, uh, under USDA and moving into Utah. One of the concerns that we have of course is moving uh this headquarters to Utah, where the senator, Senator Mike Lee, that is looking to try to convert sell federal land uh and into the private sector. And so that was a concern of the Nez Perce Tribe.

and I know we've had these conversations, but I just want to be able to uh share again uh with our general counsel that you know these are are red flags for us. uh The other question is you know the state offices will be to Boise and that puts other state officers even though they are going to remain federal will, will be in the Boise capital and the the state will have access to them, which is something of concern for us too as well because of the fact that uh like um uh EPA, and uh the environmental uh quality Idaho Department of Environmental Quality had uh EPA had turned over. We have as for meeting to the state department again, so uh anything that's happening when it comes to uh, uh environmental quality. uh we have We have the, the state has jurisdiction over a lot of that and a lot of that is on federal lands now and uh only if the only if we uh access have access to EPA to ensure that any tribal treaty rights are being violated or are being infringed upon, then we have to go through that process. So, moving and office right into Boise is a concern and a red flag for us too as well. So, I don't know.

uh I know I raised these concerns to you before, but I think they uh need to be addressed and considered when it comes to our treaty rights, as you heard from several different tribal members here that uh things that we are that we're already running into. But we do uh appreciate the report, um but we do have some concerns too as well as as I'm glad you're taking notes here too. uh and One of the other things, too, the severe drought uh uh funding that cattle raisers and others get uh you know we don't see anything like that when uh some of these areas in climate with the you the change in climate that and are being impacted uh are impacting our first foods out there. and I think that's a that's another concern or something that we should be able to work on between uh partner to partner or federal government treaty partners here that there should be some type of uh um of uh relief for our tribal members that go out and pick huckleberries, or dig, dig roots and, and you know utilize these areas and we're not seeing any of that. So, I just wanted to um say that. And one other thing too, is I know before uh your uh predecessor left, we're talking about closing down some areas for tribal membership only for Huckle berries and gathering and that type so we like to continue those conversations as well and I don't believe I we know Jason very pretty well but uh for supervisor word, I don't know you haven't given of background uh for us. So, if you could do an introduction of that.

Chair: Thank you, MR. Wheeler response from the panel.

Jon Word: Thank you, chairman. um I usually skip from that. I assume people don't think it's very interesting, um but I can jump in I, I grew up on AA large ranch in in Arizona and that's really where I the outdoors and, and started pursuing his career was I graduated from high school after my senior year at started working for the Forest Service and boarded here very much since I was at 18 so started the entire. um I went to northern Arizona University and likes that. I have a forestry degree from northern Arizona University graduated decided I should see what the degree was for. So we went out to northern California and worked a one went on the industrial side of forestry but before I return to the agency um coming back, I pretty much have a kind of stay on the natural resource and forestry side working my way um and up, up the rings on that side I would say and then um going out to our office in Washington DC when it was uh it's still out there, but when it was out there and, and work with our national partnership office, which was a really great, great experience to expand my horizons a little bit. And then most recently before this position, I also worked out at Washington office on some pretty innovative work on the ground while the crisis landscape and how we connect the restoration work that we know needs to happen with uh industry to better for the taxpayer really. And then and now I'm here a as far as getting to um to the moving the us to solidate and the really in um coincidental alignment, I'm going to say with uh with Utah and S citizen leader, there was nothing intentional around the design. It was genuinely um that's where we had some office space that worked a lot of efficiency studies on things they did made the most sense for example, Salt Lake is a lot of better airport went a lot more flights for the folks who land I uh what's now going to be called headquarters, right? They need to fly and connect to other places centrally located out in the west. That was really the only and um as far as 80 speculations about sales or anything like that that's that has not been in any of the conversations. I've heard And I've heard the chief and Chris French is our associate deputy chief say the same things as well. um Definitely appreciate you bringing up the state office and reorganization. Right and. Some of the we call it learning opportunities that we're going to have there. Right? there There's going to be a few growing pains. Let's recognize it and call it out and let's be proactive as we building the new organization, building those relationships and figuring out how we work together instead of reactive. So happy to facilitate from where I can in my chair here to Boise but um also conversations a, we encourage you. So, we have a state director in place and then uh and you and I have followed up some as well on the and first foods and the, the closure orders or restricting access to certain areas definitely um a conversation I think we should continue to have and I know that in the interim between Cheryl retiring and me getting here and kind of getting up to speed on some of those conversations have been put on pause, but any and all of those conversations that um not sure having previously with Cheryl, I would to have with me and let's continue to they need a heart.

Chair: Thank you. We shall recognize Anthony Johnson, Eric Holt, Solo Greene, Mr. Johnson.

Anthony Johnson: That's the il um. Anthony Johnson enrollment number 2652 um. You listening to the report um raised a little bit of concern of based off of uh response that you gave uh Mr. Picard regarding um the transfer or selling of uh federal land forest land and its effect on tribal treaty rights. So, the exact statement or the point was what you said. If it's attached to a bill, there is really nothing we can do.

So, In that question, I'm wondering which lands, especially when you tie in the federal uh selling of homes or the federal lands for homes, home development, which lands are we talking to as it pertains to our treaty preserved areas in our 1855 or IGC? because right now that that legislation will have the very effect that Mr. Picard was talking about. And you just said that there's very little to nothing that can be done. Qei; yew;yew

So, when I think of that question or that statement look at uh the current status of the world. The Council on Foreign Relations is called uh AI and Biotech and um computers, a \$29 trillion opportunity, so a tribe. We understand what that \$29 trillion opportunities to 2040 will do to areas like Stibnite Gold Mine um.

The Uh They call uh exotic minerals or whatever it is, all of that we're not right now at a time that the federal or the trump administration has a 1.9, \$1.9 trillion budget request that is being paid by or going to be offset by cuts in the uh EPA protection agencies as well as domestic programs. So, we're starting to see what that effect will be to us and our people. And so, when you make a statement like that, it makes me wonder can you provide more so that the people will know uh so that action can be taken before that point of there's very little that can be done. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, mister Johnson in response.

Jon Word: Thank you, Mr. Johnson for the question. I appreciate it so um a little bit of clarification there um. First, though, I would say what can be done is that we can share the information we have, right?

And that's something I think we do uh very well as partners and their relationship we have and working together specifically uh, in this case when I was referencing the what can't be done from our side is as federal employees the Hatch Act forbids us from lobbying against right legislation or right supporting specific candidates or any of that kind of stuff that that specifically written basically in our position. So, if something is attached to a bill or some

legislation, for example, right? Ah that is something we can't act on, but it's definitely something the Nez Perce Tribe can act on.

Chair: Thank you. We'll recognize Erik Holt and then Solo Greene. Mr. Holt.

Erik Holt: Tac'meeywii, Erik Holt. 2708 um. So, I want to piggy back on what Mr. Picard and Mr. Johnson just stated um so negotiating with Native American tribes involve specific federal regulations tailored to tribal sovereignty and federal trust responsibilities, notably 25 cfr part 900, which is self-determination contracts and then 25 cfr a part 1,000 is self-government contracts. The not the one that I'm most concerned about is this 36 cfr part 800, which is section 106 consultation. um These regulations ensure travel participation and approval by the secretary of the interior. So as Mr. Picard brought up, we have tribal members that are being ticketed by your, your enforcement officers for hunting areas that were previously huntable. And now that we've come up to this point now and I'm, I'm glad MR. Johnson brought the, the language of that you used. And, and, so when I ask this before with Rick Brazil, way back when he was the supervisor and I asked him. How do you quantify and what sort of formula would quantify the treaty rights that you're negotiating with behind closed doors? Because you're, the individuals that are creating the contract language, creating the contracts that go into the bills come from federal um employees that crafting the language that any the negotiations. And so I'm concerned that we're not being awarded under federal trust responsibility obligations that you would have to uh include the Nez Perce Tribe in all negotiations at whatever level that is when it's talking about our treaty rights, and so I would like to know how you would quantify that formula that would determine a monetary value of our treaty right, that you're negotiating with. When you give a way these lands that you are the potlatch. um Those are some really good real, real concerns that we're facing today with real world impacts to our tribal members on. It doesn't seem to really um grasp or absorbed into you, I don't feel, because it's happening by your, the harassment of the people out there on the lands. That's what I'm most concerned about our travel membership that go out there and the lands and get harassed by uh because of the interpretation of your officers have based on our treaty rights. So, they don't really have that understanding. And I've always wanted to have a treaty 101 with all these enforcement officers were out there harassing our tribal membership. So, thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt. Response.

Jon Word: Uh. Yeah, thank you. To one uh couple things there. First off, I'm not going to try and quantify those treaty rights, that is uh an impossible task. And then, the, the

conservation officers you speak of don't believe the sir Forest Service, I believe they're Fish & Games, so I, I can't speak on their behalf of that.

Chair: Oh, Thank you. We have uh Mr. Solo Greene.

Solo Greene: Thank you. Good morning. My name is Solo Greene enrollment number is 2422. No wonder things I'm sitting here listening. and What others have got up and shared is true because in our treaties were able to hunt fish and gather on all of our usual and accustom areas. And one of the things that my dad taught us when we were growing up, he said, keep going back to those places where we hunt, where we fish, where we gather. and We've been going back to those places, like you mentioned up there in a Blues area, in a Saint Mary's area, the Clarkia area as well as up Lochsa. And up by a Red River, all these different places we hunt, we fish, we gather, and we find out that some of the land has been sold, whether it's to Potlatch, whether it's a land exchange, or whether it's to private owners, and we go to these places. And we get harassed sometimes, because we're fishing in one of our usual and accustom areas, and the owners are from California. and They pulled out their guns when my whole family was there, and my kids were there, and my grandkids were there. and What was mentioned just a little bit ago is true is that the employees of the National Forest Service need to be educated on our treaty rights, the landowners need to be educated on our treaty rights. Because if something happens, it's not on us. It's on you. I'm an educator. I've been in education for over 35 years. We take kids up the river to the Nez Perce crossing to show them where our ancestors and our, had, our people have had to come from the Top of the hill by the Wallowas. Down to the snake river we take our kids in our people to those places. Because that's part of our identity, that's part of who we are. As an educator, we heard yesterday that some of the biggest problems that we have right here on our own reservation is identity because of enrollment is one thing. But the other thing is the lack of connection to the land and to a lot of people, the land and to a lot of the national Forest Service and people in government to a lot of people, it's just land. But to us that land is our memories, that land is our identity, in that land is life. And We have to be part of those decisions when it comes to our treaty rights. And if the things that we do, including going up the river in a boat to educate people on who we are, and where we come from, the boat that goes up the river doesn't need a permit. As you guys discuss, we went to red bird canyon to talk about our own people. and We got pulled over and me, as a Nez Perce tribal member, I talked to the officials there. I said I'm a Nez Perce tribal member on exercising my treaty rights. This is where my people come from. And so, we're being harassed again for things that need to be clarified by you and your establishment when our treaty rights are real in the constitution of the United States, the identifies as, as a nation within a nation. It also says that the treaties are the supreme law of the land. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, MR. Holt. Thank you. I'm sorry. Thank you, Mr. Greene. Okay Mr. Green was our last speaker for our panel here, I'd entertain a motion to accept the report and excuse the panel. Trish Heavyrunner made the motion second Mr. Dallan Wheeler. If there's objection to the motion to accept the reports, excuse the panel, all those in favor please signify by saying aye oppose please say no. Motion Carried.

Thank you. and Thank you, Mr., Mr. Jason Word. No. No, good. See how you. Jonathan Word and Jason Lyons. Thank you, folks for being here.

10am – Human Resources Subcommittee, Nimiipuu Health, Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority Board Chair and Executive Director, Senior Citizens Advisory Board Chair, Circle of Elders Chair, Youth Advisory Board and the Boys and Girls Club of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Rachel Edwards - I serve as Chairman. Samuel Penney as Vice-Chairman. Shirley Allman, Jesse Leighton, Ryan Oatman, Ferris Paisano, Ashton Picard serve as our subcommittee members, and our assistant is Vestal Smith. The departments that report to Human Resources Subcommittee are Nimiipuu Health, Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority, Social Services, Education, Enrollment and (inaudible). I just want to commend a lot of our departments. Nimiipuu Health does an excellent job of serving our patients. And Housing Authority, I've been fortunate to serve a liaison to the board, and I would like to say that it's nice to have a Nez Perce Tribal member as our executive director, Doug Marconi, and our board Taricia, Stacey, Fawn, Shannon Jackson, Eva, I've been able to witness the amazing job that they do in service to our tribal membership. And Social Services, I've got to say the leadership of Jackie McArthur, how diligently they work to find grants to keep staff working and to keep service to membership so I really want to commend them because they do an outstanding job as well as our other departments. All our departments do an excellent job. So, it's again, really pleased to the progress and success that they have. I don't really have a lot. I know that our report is in the back. The Human Resources Subcommittee report starts on page 16 and goes through all that actions that we have taken are listed there. And also, I just want to say that our current enrollment is 3488. And it was good to see that there's so much interest in enrollment because it needs to be updated. (inaudible) and listening to every tribal member. I'm just glad to be here. I know that we have a huge panel so I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to the departments. Thank you,

They also purchased a portable a handheld X Ray that we learned from the IRT process which helps with patients that have um barriers with elders getting up for the X Ray services and individuals with disabilities and our youth and children. Next slide, please. Pharmacy partnerships. The GLP-1 waq'iswiisa medication assisted treatment (MAT)

carefully phased implementation we have provided in focus on safety evidence based. This is a roll out.

Pharmacy has worked cooperatively with waq'iswiisa program actively participating and providing tracking patient data. Their contribution and work is and was instrumental to the success of the program. In addition, medical has moved forward on providing medication assisted treatment (MAT) or more commonly known by providing suboxone or more commonly known as suboxone. This has been phased approached.

Nimiipuu Health currently has between 10 to 15 patients who utilize the program. In situations where patient can't go through outside offices, where patients go through outside services, they are we utilize our tour grant within behavioral health. Next slide, please.

The next slide, please. We have the patient feedback and QI. This is a patient advocate Aillia and she is here today. um They have patient comment boxes throughout the room. If you have concerns or complaints regarding Nimiipuu Health, please fill them out.

She's very woman, woman like. She's honest when there is no response. So, this also is feedback collected and reviewed. If we don't know, we can't fix it. Used to improve our services which you can see through some of our actions for 2025 refers back to those patient complaints, so some of the patient complaints and feed back in action.

Next slide, please. Feedback and Action. Fertility preservation services for patients undergoing medical treatments January 2025. This is how the patient comment form was submitted, and we are able to assist a patient with this. Hearing aid policy improvements April of 2026. Currently reevaluating the application of the denture policy which has been requested and asked through the patient process, patient comment process. For communication and customer service training which was um seven we had 17 incidents this report and 71 patient comments submitted. Next slide, please. The hot button item. Assisted living facility (Nimiipuutimt) "a place of healing, a healing place."

This is a living facility supportive living environment. It's a supportive living environment, not hospital or nursing facility. It's focusing on the tenant to be more independent. So, I need to explain that we have a presentation about it and we did a presentation with our staff about the ALF, which we're going to put on the website of Nimiipuu Health. So, please refer to that as well. And you'll see we're even a timeline of everything that's there. So you everything that has been documented regarding the ALF is going to be on that link with the with the um on our website. So, please visit that. Next slide. ALF status and challenges. Final steps. Water, inspection licensing, dependent on external agency's staffing and sustainability planning. So, Nimiipuu Health is going to be responsible for the financial piece of the ALF. So, that is a reevaluation of our contract support cost settlement. Our proposal is proposing that. Nimiipuu Health Careers Pathways Program, um again for

building our behavioral health capacity and then EMR expansion and laserfische implementation. We have our EMR, electronic medical records. We want to expand our greenway (inaudible). And then the Kamiah wellness expansion for fiscal year 26 and 27 is the target. Alternative care expansion and remote monitoring initiative for fiscal year 27 and 28 is the target. Roll outreach assessment and development and systems improvement initiative in rural dialysis access initiative project. CMS has not officially approved our on Nimiipuu Health for rural health transformation plan initiative but the first funding of 1.5 million will need to be obligated by October 30th, 2026, and spent by September 30th 2027. So very quick turn around very quick actions are gonna have to take place. Next slide, please. External environmental constantly changing. Organizational changes underway within Indian Health Service, potential impact to funding and programs, Medicaid, state Medicaid and other federal programs. It's evolving process. There is currently a great deal of uncertainty and change occurring throughout the healthcare systems nationwide, including Indian Health Service operations and tribal health programs. The state of Idaho has indicated their intention to move forward with a managed care organizations and we need to ensure that our tribal members covered by those programs continue to receive uninterrupted or diminished care. While many details continue to evolve is important that we remain aware, informed and flexible and new information as new information becomes available.

Regardless of external changes, our responsibility remains to continue supporting our patients, our staff and community during these challenges as they arise. Next slide, please. We continue to balance our growth and sustainability by facing our staffing challenges, careful expansion of services and focus on long term stability. Next slide, please. It's our responsibility. Our goal is to simply not just grow but be responsible with the growth and strengthen care for our people while maintaining long term sustainability. Key take aways is patient care remains the priority, listening and adapting to community needs and building responsible for the future. Next slide, please. And that concludes my report. Qe'ciyew'yew, Madam Chair and tribal membership.

Taricia Moliga – NPTHA Board Chair – introduction, housing report.

Taricia Moliga. I'll introduce myself like Roberta did. My name is Taricia Moliga. I am the Housing Board Chair and I'm the daughter of Trish Whitman, Lonnie Bisbee. My grandparents, Carmen Payne, Silas Whitman, Shirley Bisbee and Norm Bisbee. I have three enrolled Nez Perce children who are also are in need of spouses. We do have a list going. Let me know if you have children that like to be added, I have one Nimiipuu granddaughter. She's not enrolled or enrollable, but she is Nimiipuu and we'll make sure that she knows that. Ready? This is my first General Council report following Roberta's

point. Okay, good morning, everyone. Thank you for being here today. My name is Taricia Moliga and I am the Board Chair for NPTHA. On behalf of the Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority we're here to share updates on our housing programs, current projects and where we're headed next as an organization.

Next slide, please. NPTHA develops and operates housing programs for our people. We operate primarily through federal funding specifically, HUD dollars. What's important to understand is that this funding is not guaranteed long term.

It can fluctuate year to year and we are often competing at the federal level with other tribes and programs for those same resources. And other key pieces that HUD funding is largely restricted to serving low income households. While that is critical, it does limit our ability to serve all tribal members who may need housing support. We are currently actively pursuing additional funding opportunities, but we also recognize the importance of strong local partnerships.

We also want to remind everyone that our Indian Housing plan and annual performance reports are available for review. We encourage community input because your feedback helps guide us, what we prioritize and moving forward. Next slide, please.

The Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority is committed to providing essential housing services to our tribal members. We currently manage over 135 housing units. And our team is about 22 staff members that is divided into key areas.

Admin, housing, counseling and maintenance. Each team plays a crucial role in our mission. Our focus remains on safe, affordable housing and sustainable long term development. Next slide, please. The Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority Board of Commissioners provides policy, oversight, strategic direction and accountability for the organization.

The board continues working closely with leadership and staff on planning, development and operational priorities. Let's take a moment to recognize our dedicated board members. We have Stacey Kash Kash. She is our vice chairwoman.

Fawn, Dumbo, our secretary/treasurer, Shannon Jackson and Eva Higheagle, both valued members. I'm really excited uh to be able to work alongside these ladies. They are very passionate. Ask a lot of questions.

uh If we don't agree, we can always respectfully come together to make decisions that we feel is in the best interest of our people. Next slide, please. As of now we managed 135 housing units, including both rental and home ownership opportunities.

We recognize that housing needs across our communities remain critical and that many members are still in need of safe, stable, and affordable housing. Addressing this need continues to be one of our highest priorities. We are actively pursuing funding opportunities, partnerships and development projects to expand housing availability and create more opportunities for our people.

Currently, we are in the process of adding 25 new housing units, which is an important step forward as we continue working toward long term housing growth and sustainability for our people. Next slide, please. Kuuts kuuts (Nimiipuutimpt ?) Little Village. It's one of our major projects right now. We have five buildings totaling 20 units and construction is about 75% complete. We're focusing on durable modern designs that will hold a long term and be easier to maintain as you can see in the photos above, Wce also have tribal members actively working on this project, which is something that was really important to us and that we're really proud of.

The next steps include finishing exterior and interior work on completing inspections and moving toward leasing soon. Next time. Slide, please. Adeline Court is one of the big milestone for us to get these tiny homes and its officially complete.

These are park model homes designed for single residents and we have already started moving tenants in. This project helps expand housing options, especially for individuals who need stable independent living. We are also reserving a portion of these new units to support our upcoming HUD (inaudible) program, which will provide housing opportunities for native veterans. So this project is not only expanding housing but also helping us prepare for future programs and services.

Next slide, please. Our safe shelter. This project is a collaboration with the Nez Perce Tribe. NPTHA's role in constructing the shelters while services and operations will be handled by the opiate response program. The goal is to provide a safe, stable environment for relatives experiencing homelessness and support them as they transition forward. Honestly, with this project, it's gonna take more than just one or two programs to help get these people to where they need to be. So, this will be a something that we will need to all work together and make it successful so that we can help all of our relatives get to the next steps of housing.

Next slide, please. We are excited to collaborate with Nimiipuu Fund and Seven Sisters Community Development Group. This partnership is crucial for the development and implementation of our housing strategy.

On March 18, we hosted a housing strategy session that brought together 32 participants from various organizations. The goal was to foster collaboration among partners, identify existing housing gaps and brainstorm potential solutions. By working together we are not only building homes, but we're also creating a sustainable and supportive environment for all of our community members.

Next slide, please. We've been heavily investing in our staff training across multiple areas. This includes wood stove installation, weatherization, energy audits and safety training. Our team is working toward certifications and we're building local capacity so that we can handle more work in house and respond more efficiently to our community needs.

We also have staff attending financial workshops and admin conferences where they are

learning from other strong organizations and institutions. They bring that knowledge back to NPTHA and help introduce new ideas, systems and initiatives that strengthen and how we can operate and improve our work place. Overall, so this just isn't about technical skills. It's about continuing to grow as an organization and better serve our community from every level. Next slide, please. Here are some photos highlighting the work that our staff has been putting in. A lot of behind the scenes effort goes into building skills and strengthening our workforce and we're very proud of that progress and our staff for the work that they do. Next slide. On the operation side, we're focused on maintaining our current housing, addressing work orders improving response times and making sure home stay safe and livable. At the same time, we're planning ahead finishing projects, launch new programs, applying for funding and continuing development planning. It's a balance of taking care of what we have while building for the future. Next slide, please. We are also preparing to launch the HUD Dash program. This collaborative effort involves the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Nez Perce Tribe Veteran Services program. The program is designed with two primary goals, offering rental assistance to eligible veterans and providing case management and supportive services through the Veterans Affairs. This ensures that veterans not only receive housing, but also the essential support that they need to thrive. Currently we are in the development and prepare preparation phase. Our dedicated staff are completing the necessary training in coordinating efforts with our va partners.

This groundwork is essential for a smooth and effective program rollout. This is an important step forward in ensuring that those who have served our country, receive the support that they deserve. Next slide, please. We want to invite everyone to our Home Fair on June 4th from 10 to 3. There will be vendors, demos, food and resources available. It's a great opportunity for the community to connect with housing services and learn what's available. Next slide, please. As we turn our attention to our ongoing efforts to improve housing, we're focusing on two main areas, energy efficiency upgrades, and health and safety improvements. These initiatives are vital for enhancing the quality of life within our communities. Our CPRT program is helping us level up our housing, everything from wood stove replacements to weatherization and energy efficient upgrades. This is also building skills within our team and setting us up for a long term sustainability and honestly they've been putting in some really good work. and They are here today so go and see them and get signed up. so Our team for the CPRG is Chloe Thompson, Jennifer Arthur and Will Boyd. I believe that they have a booth. So if you are a home owner that lives on the reservation go and get an application and get signed up, next slide, please. So, there's just some more work that they've been doing. We have 16 participants get signed up to be trained in wood stove installation. I wasn't aware until this that we only have a couple in our area that are actually certified to do this. So I believe we're working with Dan's Wood, Stove and Pipe

and getting our people also trained to be able to do that work. Next slide, please. Just some more work that they're doing. We were going to have CPRG come up and present to you guys. But for the sake of time um, I'm just going to go through their slides quickly. Next slide. Just some more uh of them what they're doing. Next slide, This project has officially moved in to implementation. Since applications opened April 1st, we received over 50 applications and completed initial assessments for 25 homes. This project will improve housing conditions, energy efficiency and air quality while also supporting workforce development within our tribe. Next slide. Here's our crew after installing um a wood stove. Next slide. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide the report today and share the work happening at NPTHA. We're excited about the progress being made from new housing developments and energy projects to workforce training and new partnerships. These efforts represent meaningful steps forward for our people in the future of housing. At the same time, we recognize there is still so much work to do. The need for safe affordable housing continues to grow and we remain committed to finding creative solutions building partnerships in pursuing opportunities that will help us continue expanding housing for our people. We appreciate the continued support collaboration and shared vision as we continue building toward a stronger future together, we're really thankful to be able to have stolen Mr. Doug Marconi. He is back home. He is our new Executive Director. I'm going to give him some time to address the General Council and he's been doing some great work and we told him when he first got here, what we wanted to do was build. And since you've been here, we've been building. So thank you.

Doug Marconi. Taac meywii. Good morning again. That's uh pretty strong board of uh native women, educated. Five of them, my bosses. I think I have one more boss too at home. Her name is Tina (sp?) She's La(sp?)u and um supporting me in my efforts to come back home and work for our people. I appreciate the opportunity. I think I need the lights on. I don't have any slides to. She talked a lot about the activities that we do. I want to encourage anybody uh for to visit these booths while you can. And their staff are here. Chloe is here. She's ready to uh implement applications and discuss more about it. And we have our uh manager of that program, stand up in the back there. He's in a red shirt. Look for him. He can give you more information on the program and its uh got a pretty big um timeline left, I only say 3 years, 4 years. so There's a lot of work that they plan to do in the next couple of years. I would be amiss if I didn't mention ur, my Senior Executive Assistant Jessie Rose Peter, she couldn't be here. She's helping her family gather roots today I believe. Caleb Carter, our Maintenance Manager, Erik Holt, Assistant Maintenance Manager, Lori Ann Cloud, Finance and Operations Director. These folks really deserve um the work that they do. They deserve a hand for all the efforts that they've had over the

years. I just get to come in and do the fun stuff, so to speak, They're the real bones behind this uh organization. And I want to make sure I mentioned that because uh I yeah I get some of the limelight and get to take pictures and shake hands and do that stuff for the people. But it really is the work that they do that supports what we are as an organization. I want to acknowledge at this time, the community I recognize that not all needs have been met as quickly as our people deserve. There's been delays in work orders, been delays in construction schedules or modernization projects that causes frustration and those concerns are valid. We hear them, we respect them, and they guide our improvements. Despite some of the significant challenges this year, the housing authority remains fully committed to improving housing quality, expanding access and strengthening service to all tribal members. I would be amiss if I didn't mention our housing authority uh work that we've done with some of the travel programs in particular, tribal executive leadership sitting here in the front with us. They helped us out and guide us, even though we're not directly under them, we we consider ourselves reporting to them on all things um, serving concerning tribal contacts with our leadership, NPTEC board. and as our liaison said there are challenges into operation and I wanted to read some just have a couple minutes I could spend before we get time to the other the presenters. This is a real thing. This is happening in our government right now in Washington DC. This came out last week Native American Housing Block grant, which is our funding source, is on the chopper block. Trump's budget proposal is a dangerous violation of tribal sovereignty. The Trump administration proposed 2026 federal budget includes the complete elimination of the Native American Housing Block grant, which is the IHBG. Critical funding stream that serves as a backbone of housing programs in Indian country. I'm calling this proposal what it is. It's an assault on native life, tribal governance and a federal trust obligation. This is a political and existential that IHBG is not a hand out. It's a legally mandated obligation of the United States of the government under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act. Otherwise known as NAHASDA. It affirms the inherent sovereignty and tribal nations to govern and administer their own housing programs in alignment with their values, culture, and community needs. Eliminating this program would dismantle not only the consistent funding stream that tribal nations used to build, rehabilitate and maintain housing on the reservation and tribal communities. Lets be clear about something here. Native communities are already facing housing crisis. Overcrowding on reservations is 8 times national average. Roughly 276,000 new units are needed to immediately meet the demand of Indian housing block grant shortage estimate.

Any tribal housing authorities are only local providers. We are the only local providers of affordable housing and emergency shelter for native families and communities. To propose eliminating this program under the jurisdiction that is duplicated or unnecessary

is not only false, it's shameful and dangerous. The administration's vague reference to opportunity zones recently and state controlled initiatives as alternatives completely ignores government government relationships between tribes and federal government and removed native voices from decisions that impact our lives. I just wanted you to know a little bit about why it's important when our leaderships go to Washington, DC, or Boise or other state and uh federal programs you know being at the table. You've all heard it before. If you're not at the table, you're going to be on the menu. I guarantee you I've seen these tribal leaders across the nation when I worked in Washington DC last year when we visited the capitol building in the senators and congress folks. There were other tribal leaders there as well. I represented the National American Indian Housing Council. So I sat in a lot of consultation meeting and their leadership was asking, regardless of other travel leaders sitting around them, they were asking for more funds or support. Now I'm asking our leadership here continue. I know I've been invited by the Chairman Wheeler to attend meetings in Washington. DC. I apologize for not able to be to make those meetings. I focused on our construction and as its wearing down, I want to be able to be present and advocate and do our part for the many you heard many homes are trying to build. It's not enough. We have tribal folks that are coming out of college, nowhere to stay. We have other elders that need housing with different kinds of units. We're looking at a supportive service housing.

The tribe was able to uh work with me and talk a little bit more about using the Schwab Screw factory. What's the name of the property? Schwab property and make set aside about 10 unit 10 acres for available units there. So we want to work together with Carol do some more training, have some more housing um even in Kamiah, I have been up there this year a couple of times. We have a representative that I work with there, uh very strong leader, you all know who's advocating for her people in that community and we're not forgetting about him. We're gonna try to do our best to do some more developments in the rest of the area is a communities. So that being said I yield the rest of my time to the other panelists.

Chair. Thank you, Mr. Marconi. We will recognize Loretta Islas.

Loretta Islas. Taac meywii,, good morning. um My name's Loretta Islas. I'm the daughter of Phyllis Penney and Frank Penney and I have five children. I'm here on behalf the Nez Perce Tribe Senior Advisory Board and the Chairman of the Board. Um We had the elections this past year um and I want to read those off to you because we have three new members um representing Kamiah is Allen Slickpoo and Martha Oatman, Martha being a new member. Um Representing Lapwai is myself and Trey Blackeagle. Trey being a new member. And the Orofino elected members were Betty Kinzer and Melissa Wight with Melissa Wright being a

new member. In the um one of our most recent meetings we have, we see the need that um we needed orientation for the new board members coming on um, so they would have the access to our bylaws and what time six is and everything that goes along with being a board member. I'm gonna go ahead and um oh before I forget. um We're in the midst of doing the elder of the year, which is something that we do each year, the Senior Advisory board. We have time lines and um so the nominations were open all ready for a month. um We had uh Matt and put a list together of those who were nominated. Persons who were nominated or I'll give you the history behind that um 70 years and older. The persons who can nominate have to be 55 years or older and then enrolled Nez Perce. And then um the nominees are 70 and older and enrolled Nez Perce. So that list has been put together and the ballots are in the box, have been here. They were out there on um yesterday, on the table out here, but we moved it on the other side. So it's on a table in the back there um with the ballots. Also um, we have a ballot box at Chief Joseph Complex, Chief Lookingglass Complex, Tweepuu and NPTEC office. So If you're not able to get to the ballot box today, you can always go to your local um area to make that vote. Um Part of um excuse me, I'm going off my notes here, part of the information or um I know it's really important for um our tribal elders to get that information. And I know um it's always been a challenge um um we've discussed that with the because elders don't always um do social media or whatever, but we do use communications. That's our main form of um getting information. Now um and they've been really working. Thank you. Farren for putting together your here and communication staff are put together um the information to get out um on Facebook.

Excuse me. Um So Like I said before, there are um three new board members um that were elected, but with three board members, new board members or three board members that um have moved um that are not on the board now, and that's and but they we really integral contributors to the Senior Advisory Board and I would like to thank them. That's Marilyn Bowen from Kamiah. Gloria Johnson from Orofino, and Susie Weaskus from Lenore. oh Also I have um there is a hand out if you want more information on the back table. The upcoming um event that's um on plan um where we will be in uh announcing the elder of the year will be on June 5th. and That will be at the um elders day and that is being held by the senior social services and senior center. Georgie. She and will be part of that, too. And obviously, by and the presenting of the elder of the year so I'm gonna give you a little bit of information on um the Nez Perce Tribe Elder Day. It's going to be on June 5th at Clearwater River Casino Event Center from 9:30 am to 3 o'clock pm. and that's inviting all tribal elders 55 years and older. No children are allowed at this event. No exceptions. Registration opens up at 8:00 am with bingo, lunch and door prizes. This is a um and at this event they'll be honoring the men and woman of the year, elder woman of the year Nez Perce. So this was a something that was sent out to the other tribes. So we actually usually

get visiting tribes coming also. um So it says please share this event with the elders in your family, um The vendors, they need to contact Taricia Moliga. Their phone number at 208-843-2463 and tariciam@nezperce.org. Or if there are any questions contact Jackie McArthur at 2088432463 or Jackie M@nezperce.org. And that's me. Thank you.

Chair. Thank you. Ms, Islas. I would like to invite Circle of Elders Chair, Marjorie Hyde.

Marjorie Hyde. My name is Marjorie McAtty Hyde. Probably most of you don't even know who I am. My mother and father were Abel and (inaudible) McAtty and I was born and raised here, Stayed here until I went away to college clear back in what my sons always teasing me for stone age when they were still writing on rocks. You know, bBut it wasn't that bad. But you know I've had a long beautiful career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a social worker. And that took me all over the country and I was grateful for that experience. So when I retired about 16 years ago, I ended my career at Warm Springs. and I was really blessed with being able to get to know many elders at Warm Springs, Yakama, the Bad River Chippewa in Wisconsin. And It really inspired me a lot and blessed me more than anything that be able to be with these elders and learn from them. So when I came home, I just enjoyed my retirement because being a social worker, you come in contact with all the awful things that people have to go through. So as a result, I withdrew from everything for ten years. People were wondering, what are you doing here? And I said I'm tired, but I just stayed at home because I needed to heal my heart you know with all the stuff that I had seen our people go through so the first um time I ever got involved in anything was the Circle of Elders when my big sister I always called her, Tootsie Walker came and she called me up and she said, Marj, we decided we want you to become a part of the circular of elders. And I thought, are you kidding me you know? And I sat down and I said, okay, because I was raised, you never tell an older person no no matter what they ask you. so I agreed I would become part of the circle. And I ran into my bedroom and told my daughters what was happening and I said, you girls want to laugh with me and they looked at me said why it's not something to laugh about. You should be proud that they asked you to become a part of it. So that's how I felt this whole time that i've'd been on and it's been I about 5 years now. But I learned so much even from the elders that we had on our circle that aren't with us anymore. And every time I we had a meeting, I always learned an awful lot from Si, Allen, Jimmy Spencer, Bernice. They were all just beautiful elders. And there were many times when I called and talked to them. They were lonely. So, we just talked. So, that's something that we as elders go through. We have these times when we wish somebody would just call. So, I guess I'm going to get int to my lecture you kind of part before I talked about what the Circle of Elders really does. You know, you really need, if you still have your mother, father, especially mothers need go be going up, your aunts and

uncles. Reach out to them as much as you can because one of these days you're going to look for them and they're not going to be there. You won't be able to ask them anything anymore. I go through that with my own mother. There's questions that I have now, I can't even answer it. But I guess I'll have to ask her whenever we get together again, hopefully in heaven. So, I encourage all of you to making contact with your aunts, uncles and elders in your tribe. Don't limit yourself just to family. You talk to all of them. Because you never know what they might be going through. The Circle of Elders was formed long time ago back in the early 90s to preserve the language, culture and history of our people. And especially ensure that our traditions and culture continue and flourish into the next and future generations of our tribe. So, it's you know, that's what our role is. I want to mention all of our members of our Circle. Leroy Seth is our Vice Chair. Julia Davis Wheeler is our Secretary. Florene Davis, Rosa Mae Yearout, Gordon Higheagle, Charles Axtell, Carol Wheeler, Connie Evans, Mary Jane Miles, Gwen Carter and Jess Kipp. These are all our members of our Circle. And we've been doing an awful lot of work because we been functioning with some outdated bylaws and and that um the go in our circle and what are supposed to be doing. So we revising those and finding out the last I here area that we're going to put in there in that ah the the development of the standards for certification of language speakers over the Nez Perce language. So, we have a um a group of members that will be working with Tatlo to establish the standards and that those will be incorporated into our bylaws so that future generations can look back and say well this is what they were trying to do a few years back and may uh give them something to in improve one if they really feel they need to do improve the standards. Because there isn't any right now. The other thing I would like to acknowledge on that is um Dr. Arthur Taylor did some real beautiful work in establishing some standards. When he was on there in NPTEC. He did I look wonderful job. I read all of his documents and they were just really meaningful and if you ever have the opportunity, you might try to see if you can find a copy and see what he wrote down. He took it all the way to Washington, DC. and his work was uh really productive and still is and function. What the Circle does, the circle as we work closely with a lot of different programs. We work with Dr. Angel Sobotta at Wazzu in her projects regarding stories in the language. We also have other programs that ask to come before the circle to discuss some concerns that they might have. We also work with Dr. Philip Stevens at the University of Idaho in his position (inaudible). He's been down several times doing this work (inaudible). and has done a lot in establishing the Native American language there at the university. So, we worked pretty closely with him. Um What our hope is, is to strengthen the language, the teaching of our language and so our kids will and grandchildren will hopefully have a strong interest in learning to speak and to learn our language. But like with my own experience when I was in Lapwai High School I took 2 years of Spanish. Didn't do anything When I went to college, I took 2 years of Spanish too. Didn't

do anything with it. One of our new members in on our circle took German and she said I don't know what I'll do with German. So if we had had the opportunity to learn our language, my mother and father spoke our language at home all the time. So I had a good understanding of our language and I would say words at home, especially to my own kids, but you know the places that I worked just didn't walk out the door and start talking Nez Perce when you're on the Yakama reservation or Warm Springs reservation or even back on the in Wisconsin, I couldn't do that. So the only time I ever heard my language is when I called mom and talked to her. Another lady that I knew growing up, used to always call me and talk in our language all the time. And the other one that I just truly, dearly loved was Aunt Cecilia Peele, that came from the Greene family. But, I used to always meet up with her (inaudible) and as soon as I walked in, she'd always look at me and she'd be sitting there on the bench combing her hair, getting ready to braid her hair. She would always say eeh, iice', manaa kuusa? It was just beautiful. So, those kind of experiences I really treasure and that's what I think our Circle of Elders would like to see for our younger generation, even all of you. Because I can honestly call you all kids because you're all way younger than I am. I would just encourage you and I think like our members of our circle would encourage you to learn your language, especially, so that it doesn't die out. But remember our traditions and values and culture because they're important. And I can honestly say and I always tell the Circle members that I'll always be held accountable and responsible for anything I say. So, please honor our traditions and culture in the way that we were taught. Don't take it. And just kind of throw it around and say, I don't need that part. I don't need that part. Because, honestly. there's been a lot of times when I'd be when and I see things there and I yeah oh my gosh I can't believe that's going on, you know. That's why you've got elders to for all of you to be able to talk to and ask, is this what I need to do? So, I really encourage to always be asking the elders question while you still have them. You'll be moving up in to that position some day, too. So you need to be knowledgeable so that 200 years from now, our culture, traditions, values and language, most important, will still be here. And people know that the Nez Perce Tribe is still alive. Thank you for listening me to me and also for listening to my lecture without walking out. Thank you.

Chair. Thank you, Ms. Hyde. We'll invite Joyce McFarland for Youth Advisory board.

Joyce McFarland. Taac meywii. I'm Joyce McFarland. My dad is the late Larry McFarland, Sr., and my mother is Rosa Yearout here and my other dad. I don't say my step dad, say my second dad, John Yearout. Also, I'm the sister of Mike, Yogi, Dawn, Kathy, Angel, Gloria, Jack and Abe. and I want to say that I have 39 grand or 39 children. Their children are my children. So that's what I just want to say when I heard other people appreciate that.

Before talking about Advisory Board, I'm going to put on my Education Manager hat, and my coworker here, Diane. I don't know if her ears perked with me, but the lady Ms. Yancy, that was here. I don't know if she's still here, but um their family is very distinguished and educated. They are in the in Atlanta Nez Perce. They have a doctor, and they have a higher degree, not that education is the only thing, but when she said that, I'm like I know that family, They're highly educated and there are 4 or 5 that come to the scholarship program. So I just appreciative of seeing her being here and knowing those are the people out there that we don't often know about so I mention that. For youth Advisory board, oh shoot, I left my notes. Tori, since you're younger, can you bring it to me?

Chair. So, there's just been a request for folks. They're having challenging time hearing when we have people visiting. So, again, if you want to visit, go out in the hallway or outside, Just be respectful of the other assembly members who are trying to hear and listen to the reports. Thank you.

Joyce McFarland. And I am going to keep my. this report brief since this Tori's first time reporting. I'm gonna give her more time and Boys and Girls Club. But for the youth advisory board, we've been working about 145 members from our attendance for the last couple years and they come from CV, Kamiah, Orofino, Lapwai, Lewiston, and Clarkston, grade seven through 12 and it is established by resolution to this um to this group here, General Council. Our focus this year has been um having them learn more about the treaties. and so um we are doing training for them on what we call the 1855-A5 project. So, Treaty of 1855 Article Five, education article. We've had wonderful um gatherings with them um sharing this information. So basically what we're doing is we ask them, how does your family exercise treaty rights and they often say hunting, gathering, fishing. um Those young people, including General Council, often don't say education as a treaty uh reserved right. So we're educating them more. But we have presented to them the Treaty of 1855, Article V, education treaty of 1863, article IV education, Treaty of 1868 Article III education. And also um part of this work is also looking to have a Treaty 101 um training and that's been something that um we've been advertising out on our table there and want the tribal membership to know. We have scheduled that, the Education Department scheduled that training for June 11th at the casino and right now we're doing registration basically for the food. And I want to acknowledge this idea for Treaty 101 came up at this General Council Fall um 2024. So we're kind of just going forward with it and you know starting first to look at 1855 and then I know Aaron Gould, if he's there, he educated me on how many more treaties then uh we don't even talk about. There's a lot to do but just getting people together and talk about the different articles reading the treaty starting with some education, basic education and we say our inherent and reserved rights. Well, who are our people, you know, before those treaties. We lived here for thousands of years. Where did

we live? What was our life like? We wanted to start with some of that, that knowledge and then some background about treaty making, you know, so um constitution, those type of things. Maybe just have it as a discussion among tribal members. um But I think that's very important and we can learn so much from each other. That's the intent. So, June 11th and you guys know why June 11? You guys know why June 11th? Anybody? The day the treaty was signed in 1855. So, we get that date June 11 at the casino, I would love to see everyone go. The reason I mentioned as part of the Youth Advisory board because we talk to them about this conference and I asked the young people, I said, do you want your own conference or training about these treaties or you want to go with everyone else? And so what they said is we need to be with our elders to listen to what they say. So basically these Nez Perce Youth Advisory board, we're going to invite them as well because that's what they said. They want to be there to listen I love that. um They've also supported some of our work on the Nez Perce history of 1877 and Otis Hatton was here in January. We had some Youth Advisory board attend with the elders. They helped with the mic and helped serve. So that type of thing. um Also one thing about these um sessions we ask them about priorities, and they do say language. So right now I talked to Tatlo and he's here but you know we only have so many language teachers. I said Tatlo, I'll write a grant. What if we get language teacher consultants? They don't work full time for the tribe but they're consultants and then we can have a language class at Clearwater Valley. At Kamiah. At Culdesac. At Orofino. At Clarkston. Lewiston and Lapwai covered but you know there's people here that probably know the language. I see Otta, she's a teacher, you know, there's others um. That's one thing that we're just saying they the young people are saying language, language, language, language. So let's come up with a new way to get them language and so that's something um we talked about moving forward on. I want to mention in the strategic plan, the NPTEC strategic plan, pillar number one, building our relationship with the land and people. Under this Pillar is (inaudible) war memorials with youth and elders. And so that's something that we're working on. You know how do we bring them together more around this war memorial? And this is where I just kind of want to end is that um talking about the 150th anniversary of... I did go forward as the Education Manager with a resolution talking about an advisory period. So what we're gonna be starting our community meetings basically you know on the reservation, near the reservation, at Colville, at Umatilla and say, what do you guys want to? What's important for you in a hundred and fiftieth anniversary. I know Sergio was there and had a good conversation with Marsan and you know and let's just hear what this is a major turning point for us you know. 150 years since that event. 50 years since we started ceremonies and you know other things like really I just think um people need to be thinking about to like what do your families want to do? Because we hear from young people, including adults saying I don't know if I had ancestors to go through that events of 1877. Start there. Start

there start talking to your families. oh yeah We did have one and I don't know Kay is here yeah Kay is here. I'll use an example of what she said. She said, um I don't know if I had an ancestor that made it to Canada after Bear Paw and I was telling this to Otis. And Otis said, oh yeah, Lookingglasses brother, he made it to Canada and so she just needed one other person to inform her. But anyway that's what we need to do in such a major event. So myself, Jackie MacArthur and then we ask for a representative from all major entities, we're just gonna go around and start doing listening sessions and I already reached out to Colville, Soy Red Thunder and he advised me the best way to proceed with them. So just just know lookout for that as well. But I mentioned in relationship to this youth advisory report is because it comes from that that um NPTEC's action, say, bring the youth and elders together at war memorials. So, qe'ci yew'yew', that's my report.

Chair. Thank you, Ms. McFarland. We will invite Victoria Conan with the Boys and Girls Club.

Victoria Konen. Taac meywii. Can hear me? Yeah, this is my first report. I'm very proud to be standing before you. linim weniikt waas (nimiipuutimpt). Soyapotimptkii Victoria Konen. linim haama Levon Konen. Nahtote hiiwass (inaudible) Leland Mitchell, Jr. Nahiice hiiwaas Sonya Mitchell. Nahqalaac hiiwaka Lem Mitchell. Nahelhiwass Sylvia Mitchell. Nah haqhiiwas Sam Pablo. Nah haqhiiwass Dolores Pablo and iinim puux Phyllis Penney. Hiiwaqa Frank Penney, Sr., and Lem Mitchell, Claire Johnson, Sam Pablo, Sandy Frank, Grant (inaudible), Mary Rose Higheagle, and I'm named after Lucy Hill. So just hearing that people previously speak before me and yesterday you know I've been taught by my elders, my family, how you represent yourself, how you present yourself. and so I'm trying to live what is taught to me and then also to my family. Um I'm very prideful of where I come from, who I work for. So this is I get emotional because people who have loved me and taught me are not here today and just in the last few years, I've had this step up in my family, um Be the historian, be the one that they seek, which is odd for me because I'm the youngest, one of the youngest. And so I don't mean to disrespect anyone either, but it's um it's just been a journey and so being vulnerable and apologize, but I'm only human and so enough with the introduction, but I'll give the background um. so I've been um the executive director officially since January of this year and I'm very excited. um I've been a youth development professional, which is our program staff for on and off total 4 years. I've been a board member for 2 years, the unit director for the last few years before I officially became executive director. and So in my journey, I thought the Boys and Girls Club, you know it's just a place for me to kind of have a place that where I earn money and get my education at the same time. you know. I went to Northern Arizona University for a couple of years, came back home and then finally graduated at LCSC with a degree in anthropology, minor in Nez Perce language, and then an associates in natural sciences. and My love has always been

for the outdoors, fisheries, our culture, our history. But somehow I kept coming back to the Boys and Girls Club, you know. In my mind, I'm like that's not where I want to be, but it's where I needed to be and so everything I've learned, all my mentors, everyone, I use that today with my staff because I love our kids, I love our youth. I know how it was growing up for me. I've heard stories about others how they grew up you know their childhood. And so the Boys and Girls Club, we play a vital role in nurturing our youth of the Nez Perce reservation. These clubs provide a safe and engaging environment for children and teens, fostering personal growth, academic achievement and cultural identity. Boys and girls clubs are community based after school and summer programs for youth ages five through 18 and kindergarten through 12th grade. They provide a safe, affordable space for young people during non school hours and summer. Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who needs most to reach their full potential as productive and caring responsible citizens. Our vision is to provide a world class club experience that ensures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors with all members on track to graduate from high school and a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship and living a healthy lifestyle. So, today, Boys and Girls Club of America is the largest youth service provider in the nation. We have nearly 250 clubs reaching over 120,000 native youth and American Indian/Alaska Native, American Samoan and Hawaiian tribal communities. Native clubs prioritize the well being of youth, families, communities and staff through culture, life enhancing programs and membership that fosters resiliency for native young people and meet the needs of the community. Boys and Girls Club is one of the nation's largest youth service provider for native youth, over 90,000 natives served and nearly 150 tribal communities represented. And, so, take the time to recognize that we've had a Lapwai for a long time. But within the last couple years, you know, our Kamiah unit has established, and is continuing to grow because we want eventually to have clubs in all our communities on the reservation, Orofino. We do help Culdesac but like all the towns because we want to reach everyone. And so the native vision, it's for American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and American Samoan communities that seek to embrace Boys and Girls Club to be provided the opportunity to work in partnership with the entire Boys and Girls Club movement and achieving our ambitious vision of great futures for all young people while sustaining and respecting each communities unique cultural values, tradition and ways. So that basically encompasses what I want us to achieve at the boys and Girls Club, too.

At this time, I want to recognize our policy board. Policy board is established for the purpose of advising the Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee on day to day operations of the Boys and Girls Club of the Nez Perce Tribe. To inform NPTEC of potential grant

opportunities to help fund the club's operations activities and facilities and to assist with NPTEC duties and responsibilities as exclusive manager and operator of the club consistent with applicable Boys and Girls Club of America rules and regulations. Our Board Chair Chantal Ellenwood, Vice chair and Safety committee Chair Dorothy Sherwood, Secretary/Treasurer Pauline Bisbee, Resource Development Chair Evelyn Bohnee, our member Julie Seely, member Alexis walker in the back. Our member Stella Samaripa and our NPTEC liaison Samuel Penney. And, also, with boys and Girls Club Native Services, they provide us another liaison (Inaudible) who's our Director of Organizational Development. So he is our bridge to Boys and Girls Club of America nationals. We have two committees. Our safety committee is the governing body of each members, member organization must establish and maintain a safety committee that is chaired by an active board member. So, we meet quarterly, We implement solutions to ensure the safety of all members, employees, volunteers, and visitors. um Since I started, my focus has been on our policy and procedures because when I explained my position, I say that we're a hybrid because I'm under the Nez Perce Tribe. But I also have to follow the Boys and Girls Club of America. So, it's the layers of safety that we have. But it can get confusing if you only know one side. Our Resource Development committee is board lead group responsible for planning and leading a local club's fundraising strategic development efforts to ensure diverse income sources. So works with the executive director and staff to build a comprehensive plan to secure funding, foster donor stewardship and engage full board philanthropy. I wish I had slides, but again, um be in the first time I'm presenting at General Council, I didn't know if I would be on the agenda or make it. But I do have um our reports at our group and then if anyone wants to see it, I can email or give it to you. Currently, during the school year we have 371 registered members and that's not only tribal kids. We accept all kids. um We work in Lapwai, Culdesac, Kamiah and Kooskia. And just because Lapwai is established, we've had more attendance um monthly in the thousands. Kamiah has got their attendance up though in the 200 per month. And so each day they're always recruiting and just you know willing to accept all the kids and meet them where they are. For the year 2025, um we have last emphasized meals and snacks served. After school, um the, a lot of behaviors we see the kids are just hungry and so we have a grant that we, you know, set aside. We want to feed them full meals and not just a snack. We want them to have full meals. So for Kamiah, in 2025 they served 320 for breakfast, 833 lunches, 1,614 snacks. for Lapwai we've served 1,158 breakfasts 2,055 lunches and 10,469 snacks. And then we can't forget our teens. We have teen nights, so we've served 327 dinners. Another goal of mine is just been funding um, you know, tribal programs, there have been cuts and the reasons are valid and, so I've been working you know alongside my board and native services to apply for grants. And just this year, we received eight grants, 2,500 for a native track scholarship, 2,500 for a safety

award, 4,000 for an endowment award, 5,000 for the Rachel Ray foundation, which emphasizes our cooking. Kamiah did cooking classes and did a cookbook. \$15,000 for the Lily foundation cultural preservation grant, which is very awesome because as we talk about language and culture, we want to partner with people in our community that can help us keep that language preservation, our cultural preservation, all our practices, and to have field trips you know. We don't want to just stay secluded to our building we want to go out and about to where we have been talking about our usual and accustomed places. 25,000 diplomas to degrees. This is our college and career readiness. Each week our teens have gotten lessons on how to apply to college, what's a resume, who do you need to talk to? And it helps because our staff are in that situation now. They are current college students or past college students. Another exciting one is \$150,000 which we got from (Inaudible) Coca Cola. It's our teen center expansion grant. and we're just excited because this is going to help us really strive to have that college and career readiness of technology purchases and you know workshops within our community. You may have attended a couple of our fundraisers which has been the Christmas shopping spree this year. We raised \$5,200. And so we were able to sponsor about 18 kids. They got \$200 each for clothes, necessities, gifts for their family. And so that's always something to look forward to and volunteer for and our annual breakfast fundraiser. We raised about \$29,000 and we're just appreciative because that focuses on our youth of the year program, which we compete at a state level. And that wouldn't have been possible without the partnership of Enterprise and our Clearwater River Casino. So if you go to the casino and you got spare change, you can donate to our club. Every little bit counts. So, we appreciate you supporting the casino but also supporting us. Recently we had our Seaport River Run on April 25th um. All I had to do was apply to become a beneficiary and our plan for that money, we have yet to determine what we raise, but we want to have a teen day because I feel like our teens kind of get lost in the mix. You know, they're older, they can take care of themselves a little bit more. But our focus is to have a teen day where Kamiah and Lapwai and anyone in the surrounding community will come together and you know just have a time of camaraderie. Basketball tournament definitely eat and play games. So, I have high hopes and dreams for our club. We definitely had a lot of partnerships and sponsors. um I'm really thankful for our community because you know if I don't know something, I know somebody who knows somebody, and that's what I've learned, um even just attending national conference.

I've met so many people, especially in the native clubs that we can collaborate even when we're across the nation. So, I'm just excited um I just yeah, I, there's a lot that I want to talk about, but again with time. But just a reminder for all our club parents, um we do have shutdown week the first week of June June 1st to June 5th, and that's our time for our staff to really get the trainings of trauma-informed, um CPR first aid and then just get prepped

for summer because we have a lot of activities lined up summer brain game while the like a track meet, bowling, movies, library, museum visits, swimming. And then yeah uh qe'ciyew'yew. Yox kalo.

Chair. It is now 11:49. If we don't have any objection or I'm going we'll just recess for lunch and return back at 12 50. The 14th annual Chief Joseph and Warriors Memorial Committee barbecue luncheon fundraiser today. So, we'll come back and have questions and answers for this panel. So, you guys are not excused, by the way. We're coming back for questions.

Richard Arthur. Thank you, Madam Chair Oatman. I would like

Recess for lunch 11:49 am to return 12:50pm.

Chair: Call to order 12:56pm

Richard Arthur – motion to Direct NPTHA to give a rental relief of \$300 for all rental units managed under NPTHA for the month of Juen, due to the economy.

2nd Judy Oatman

There is nothing for us to get the relief.

Robert Kipp – where's the money coming from?

Richard Arthur – comes out of the program income, and if it is not used every year they get to use it unrestricted. Housing can afford that.

Taricia Moliga– the board had discussion for the same reason for the cost of living.

Alene Powaukee – just to assure that whatever the Housing Board decides, I would like to see the decision. I would like it put somewhere that the general council can see.

Question has been called

Motion Carried.

Alene Powaukee – need clarification, is there a new plan or the same plan? If its a new plan I have not see it processed with a 45 day. Have you done the review? How many tribal member have you tried to meet based on Richard Arthurs statement.

Rachel Edwards – those come through NPTEC, it is a continuation plan. As far as I know there were no changes.

Alene Powaukee – what about the changes? Who do i talk to about that?

Rachel Edwards – you can speak to Jackie McArther or Miranda Domebo.

Doug Marconi – we had a meeting this past week, telling us hold on, send your leadership, and our minutes can be obtained by request.

Chair: I will recognized Robert Kipp, Joanne Marek.

Mr. Kipp – what ideas are do you have for the gas station?

Taricia Moliga – the Arm & a Leg gas station, we were thinking of doing a new housing

Joanne Marek – I have a couple questions, 1 I like the resolution that states that every elder must have a medical condition to receive meals delivered. 2 – I pay for medication for my heart, that is non-generic, and the clinic wont bring in my real medication. What I pay its a 3 month supply that turns out to be \$47 a month. But, would you take medication that your allergic to? And if you refuse, the doctor's note states you're refusing your own health.

Rachel Edwards – Will follow up with the resolution that each elder must have a medical condition.

Joanna Marek – the reason I know there is a resolution, is because the clinic contacted me to verify that this individual that I am helping has a medical condition, needing a wheelchair and walker. My niece cried, she said I can't even bring you a meal auntie.

Roberta Bisbee – Tyler Power is our pharmacist, and would like him to answer to that, and we do have a few employees who are taking notes.

Tyler – I have taken notes and should be able get the brand names for.

Danae Wilson – the senior wellness center – we put in a well for water. And will touch base with you on the senior wellness center and will be ready to open next week.

Angela Sobotta – I have been a part of the language for 29 years. Updating for certification to teach the language. And we want people to be fluent as we have other that are proficient.

Dave Holt – we have maybe 20 titocan students, and they do a family history then it makes the sooyaapoo teachers and expert. Housing – there a tomahawk camp and I though the tribe purchased that. May have the potential to be mini housing project?

Taricia Moliga – if the tribe did purchase that land? Housing will take it.

Danae Wilson – that is tribal land and it was under a lease to an individual and recently took it back to land commission, was thinking for a diabetes clinic, dialysis

Doug Marconi –

Roberta Bisbee – next mens wellness, you should bring more men with you. In regards to the site location, we proposed a renal dialysis program. we had a possible investment, who run treatment centers and this could also be a site location for that as well.

Connie Guillory – read from a paper – there are resolutions that say tribal preference and with non indians they will go into contract and then train tribal members. The manual does not work and is not followed. You are given a duty to work for your tribal membership.

Rachel Edwards – we hear your concerns.

Susie Weaskus – Vitoria, you had a great presentation. Marjorie, you finally stood up and spoke of our traditions. Need to take care of ones here on the reservation.

Roberta Bisbee – I am aware that you have reached out to Ailia, and since this is a personnel issue we do not speak of it. We have contracted, and are now looking at referral process.

Marissa Rickman – Encourage them, all the ones without food don't gamble, if your sick its your own fault from what we eat. Housing, shout out to housing, the little village trailer court, now the new young mothers will get to live in there. I see these little houses for all out younger people. Thank you all for the progress in housing.

Roberta Bisbee – was complaining about it and was not aware that they were calling. In some cases, it is something we do to our own bodies.

Taricia Moliga – we still have a lot of work to do. And thank you for acknowledging that and thinking of those will be able to move into those houses.

Julian Matthews – went to the nuclear presentation- issues will health affect side of the nuclear reactors. Skate park – need fund to finish the skate park, would like to see the tribe and clinic to match \$50,000 to finish the skate park.

Rachel Edwards – April 28th, Ryan Oatman sponsored an item to write for a grant to help with finishing the skate park.

Roberta Bisbee – great idea for an agreement to finish the skate park. For the nuclear we will have someone come over for that review.

Doug Marconi – is this about the skate park, i will get a contact to finish the skate park as he has built skate parks on other reservations, in regards to getting that finished.

Rosa Yearout – Question – there's always a concern of about "what if I fall, nobody will hear me or help me". Does NMPH have answer to any of these? Is there a solution that can be offered?

Roberta Bisbee – I know I had reached out to Jackie McArther for demographics regarding this type of assistance.

Jackienna Hopkins – We used to have a life line, but then they went under and now we do not have very good internet for this system to work. But currently working on it, and trying to find someone to assist with this.

Joyce McFarland – the couch in the front looks yucna

July Greene – Shoutout to Vitoria, thank you for that. Housing – shoutout – the block of small housing section that is called Adeline, as

Taricia Moliga – yes that was intentional, and her family said she would be happy to know what what built there

Gwen Carter – 249 – NMPH, curious of our health records, they started going when it started back in the 1950' and 60'. I would like to know what types of ailments they had. My daughter stated that the state of Idaho has opened a grant for “down winders” as fall out from nuclear waste.

Roberta Bisbee – if I could please have Tina Bullock come up regarding records? It was about the family trees and it should be shared with families. I do know we sent out information in social media.

Tina Bullock – if you want your record, you can submit a request, but I do not know if you can get the actual record to you. There is a restriction on who can request records.

Loretta Islas – Thank you for that, and wanted to recognize our tribal liaisons.

Gary Dorr - 1951-1962 for all of the month of May, if you have 1 of 15 different cancers. If you are a descendant you are eligible for 25,000\$. I would like to know who are affected by Hanford, medically we need to know what the affects we will see if we move forward with the nuclear modular.

Roberta Bisbee -

Chair – Motion by Danae Wilson, sorry Carla.

Carla Timentwa – thank you, it's nice to see all Nimiipuu to accept the reports and excuse the panel.

2nd Trish Heavyrunner.

Question

Motion Carried.

2:22 –

Chair. would like to invite the law and order subcommittee intergovernmental affairs law and justice executive officer, chief of police Mark Benson, opiate response manager Brooklyn Baptiste gaming commission Gabriel Bonnie Terrell director Melvin wheeler, internal commission chair Mary Tall Bull.

Law & Order Subcommittee

Aaron Gould: Hello, I'm Aaron Gould, uh I serve as chairman. Uh, I'm honored to bring you a good news/bad news report. Um, right now, I serve as chairman, Shirly Allman serves as vice chair, Rachel Edwards and Jessie Leighton and Ryan Oatman also uh sit on the subcommittee with me. and Thank you for you guys support this year. uh I've been here for a year and definitely have learned a lot about government, our government, our civil government.

Um. I appreciate that a lot of challenges uh internally and externally. And that's how I'd like to kind of present my report is how Law & Order is experience in in that intergovernmental piece of our subcommittee, is how we're talking to (audience- speak up!)Is that better? uh I don't know what you call it all that, but it's so important thing to internal external Law & Order, and Intergovernmental affairs. The intergovernmental affairs piece, I equate to how we talk to other governments via the state federal um in those particular uh arenas. Um. Good news, uh I don't know if you're all aware of the uh National Wildlife Federation versus uh National Recreation Service, NOAA.

Um. That was an order came out in February 25th of 2026. And this is the long culmination of how law and order to protect our fish, our water. and We're still in the fight. There's a lot of other hurdles and a lot of other um issues that are to come out of this and I said some of the similar things that the fishers meeting here awhile back, but the trajectory of the case from back in 2008 when the Nez Perce tribe was the only sovereign to fight for fish. The other three tribes are sister treaty tribes sign their Salmon Report saying that the dams are part of the environmental baseline. And this civil government chose to fight for fish. The states said it was part of the environmental baseline. And the feds said that the damage are part of the environmental baseline. and This sovereign stood against all the rest of them and say, no, there is not the environmental baseline.

That's important. We took that stance in 2008. I was that at that time and I you know helped uh also serve commission at that time. I helped make that position. and Some of the former NPTEC, you know, that's here uh remembers those discussions in 08. But recently this court case, you see a different attitude, a different spin, you see the federal government standing by themselves and now we have two states, Oregon and Washington standing with us and saying no, the dam is not the about environmental baseline.

And you have the others. The salmon core tribes are now sitting, sitting with us as well. So, we didn't, took that stance in 2008. Where would we be today? So, even though you know we have a lot of problems, but the trajectory of regressing to progress it truly is we, we were very close to losing our treaty position and our ability to honestly and spiritually culturally speak about fish.

So that that is the importance of law and order, as I see it, that ti'maalwit, how we have our law, our order of foods, and whatever the description put from the word Indian, if it's up river, down river, long or short here, whatever description you put in front of that word Indian. We all have that relationship to our food. and I really appreciate that.

That's why you know uh some of our folks might think we spend too much time talking about fish. and We'll spend too much time talking about um other issues, fish and is so critical because that gets us involved in all these other different arenas. and It's still not satisfied.

And then that court case you know Judge Simon, you said some pretty unique things about Indian status and Indian treaties ready into the public interest. A lot of public interest that we, the United States and the judiciary honor these treaties and take them to account and wrote his order. We can all read it, it's so It's up there on the web. You can you know Google the stuff February 25, 2026, Judge Simon, salmon river, or salmon and dams Columbia River. The news a lot of work there and it's ongoing.

And then the next court case that there's a law and order is the United States versus Oregon on the Shoban thing. You know, and I might step on um the natural resource subcommittee report a little bit, and he can go into that as well. Choose to um Mr. Picard. A I don't want to say too much because one of our members might be here in the room. I don't I'm not sure who's in a room. Uh. And here when know I'm talking about but I don't want to say too much, but uh really weird argument that was made.

I heard it, I listened to it. I was in the courtroom on the twelve four down there in Portland about 6 weeks ago, and one of the questions I was asked during the court case when it come to the Sho-Bans and come to the treaty tribes, judge Simon ask have the rights of the Sho-Ban been adjudicated, they said no. And I agree. And then there's Judge Simon ask well how about the treaty tribes have those guys been adjudicated? And our attorney, wasn't even our attorney. Some other attorney answered that question and said, yes, and I didn't like that response. I made a funny face and kind of looked at him kind of funny. So, but the judge can see me, yeah so yeah. Anyway I was making a funny face in the courtroom that then a response because the attorney then rattled off like uh and (Nicer ?) versus Taylor, Tulee, uh Sufer brothers, uh Winans of course, and courtiers versus Oregon and is versus Washington, and the Mason cases, and just rattle all those cases off. And what the current response for me was, no, our rights have not been adjudicated.

That's why we're still in this fight. So, the adjudication factor of judging what our rights

really are. It's up to us to account for treaty, not just 155, but you I got, I can argue ten, but I know six directly related to the United States and Nez Perce uh 2 in '55, 1 in '58, 3 in '58. Then another that's, we say, 2, 1, or 3. We're listening to the Spokane and Couer'D Alene treaties directly related to Julyumpsh fans of Postfalls.

The '61 and '58 treaty, the military treaty, and the '61 the mining treaty. The '63 treaty is also a mining treaty and of course a civil war treaty as well. And Judge Simon also made a point to say all these are peace treaties these are peace treaties because we have treaties of war as well, peace and war.

So, there's on all the four cases are going to go down the line on historical accuracy. and We have to provide that historical clarity, provide legal clarity to our position, its still open. so That's what we're experiencing now externally.

This, that, that conversation doesn't intimidate me. I, that's when, ask my co-NPTEC members, I will rattle off and I really do like history, and I talk about it, um, at length. And then the closure, on the closure. It is a closure, but it is also an opening. I don't know if you guys have heard or read the Veneno sect. from the US Supreme Court on November 10th. No, excuse me. No, yeah November 10, 2025. Isn't that the Senate justice Ford section, I justice Thomas. Listen to this. Are you for overturning Marshall trilogies? Are you for overturning the major crimes act, the general crimes act and giving all jurisdiction back to the civil government of Indians. Imagine what that means.

We made the argument for it and United States standing law. It's quotable, it's silable. You can Google it. Veneno, V E N E N O, November 10, 2025, there has been talked about and over since the before treaty. Marshal trilogies is in 19, you know, 23 to 1933 was the Worcester versus Georgia, Cherokee Nation, and Johnson v. McIntosh.

So, if they willing to overturn those particular, hoop on our neck, jurisdictional positions on us. What's left for us to do incept to put it into account? What's our legal account?

Criminal account, civil account.

Are we going to use those two frameworks for civil and criminal? Or can we do something different cultural account. When do we violate our law? Are we forced to look at it through their lens to look at us?

Because they also talk about overturning the European the discovery doctrine. It's pretty wild. You should read it. That was finally said put out in public for anybody to read November 10, 2025, but I know Veneno, I encourage everybody to read it because this is a, the future of these children we talked about. It's going to be a bright future if we get it right. I know all this is just happening from last general council. So, this is not something that's old. It's brand new.

It's not some old discussion it's still is this is it just reshaped to well you should be talking about and resting up and getting those uh. Not all my positions I said, but I guess I'm trying

to create a better one. One that allows for a lot of discussion because it's not just uh 25 USC or 25 CFRs anymore. We have a larger, a larger discussion to have amongst ourselves as a people.

And I'm very humbled to you know stand in front of you and deliver your news, I guess. I don't know if it was good news or bad news depends on how you, you know, interpret our condition today. But it's definitely worthy of a discussion.

And the expression of our rights from, you know, if you look at article three, the treaty travels right there uh first clause. First the paragraph article three is all treaty travel and the second clause is you know, you know hunting, fishing, gathering, pasturing.

And to take into account, you know, and I would argue that in it, any kind of restriction don't apply to the Nez Perces because we couldn't read and write. um I know at least over 200 of us could read and write at council. uh We stop song groups, four of us who were preparing notes and making sure our record was straight because we could read and write both the read and write.

You can look at that 55 treaty and read it word for word. Understand why there's a treaty travel with free access to the nearest quick highway in common citizens of the United States, fishing in common with the citizens of the territory in all usual and accustom places. I don't I saying usual and accustom because that maybe a treaty that's not reserved to us, but reserved for a territorial citizen, but what we reserve is something larger.

This goes back to, uh internally, how we're gonna choose to enumerate and regulate not only are use but other peoples' uses. The use and the fruit, they use our property, right? Who would we choose to share this with? So, there's, there's, there's a big discussion happening that you know all the federal Indian law scholars, you know. Like a cross turtle island, North America, Canada. You see where this is going. They're struggling. Because all of what they thought they knew just flip. You. You'll see to (inaudible) of us out there. Everything flipped.

This is good news. And I would like to make a run at a listed internships for our young people to get more involved and know more about the treaties to give some legal internships, or historical internships, or just because this is something that I know that the state curriculum at Lapwai or Kamiah or Orofino are not going to teach our kids. We can teach them that, sure.

But think the government can actually help with that. and It's not that one interpretation is, is the only one centered. Theres many leading that's going to be the right one. So, and there's a lot of work there, a lot of work for a number of generations to get this one right.

And Judge Simon, I'm expecting good news from them both in the National Wildlife Federation versus National Recreation Service. um According to his order that he put out uh right now, it's a full of night for a bill. uh US guardian stuff.

The Sho-Bans opened up the, I'll say they opened up the bag and we're gonna be fine. because it's, it's going to be good. And that order for him in that court case is going to be out in a month. So, you guys hear about this in a month.

So, that goes to uh, you know, some of the internal things that we need to correct and address and I'm kind of looking forward to the Fish and Wildlife Commissions report as well. And maybe he'll come and see me chew out or I can chew him out, but would mean uh or NPTEC and the commission gonna work together on a lot of this stuff. And we already talked about this, and you know, that's and I go to the fish commission somewhere regularly try to get there every time.

But uh personal one question went from two meetings a month to one meeting a month and but with these issues coming up, I like to put I back to you 2 days a month. You know, this just kind of let, let people know that. That, you know, I'll be pushing for that here. uh This coming up this whole or as soon as possible because it is getting critical, then we get more you know minds and around this and understand where we're at today. And I'll leave this as some food for thought because you can look at my report, my superior report and it's pretty bland. I mean there's sometimes we didn't have any resolution or any ADMIN actions.

And We're asking for it. and That's I'll leave that to Sam to the kind of help I with that one. Why things aren't coming through, but there's plenty of issues, I, there reasons why that I don't want to get into um in our report, but I'll address uh comments and questions.

Theres some food for thought and this is um I'm not gonna advocate for machine learning or AI, been hearing it called different things. But I know that uh but and this is not news. Now what it was is kind of secretive back 8 years ago when I first found out about it, uh they were using AI in the ocean to patrol and look for illegal harvest the fish.

And it was these uh the western states of Europe, so France, Iran, Germany. How, how they're sharing fish in the ocean and how their fishers are doing. So, they had to you know localized among them, but they all agreed to it. All the sovereigns did there.

And what this AI did is always a went out and looked for the follow GPS trackers and use who was what and which sovereign. And if the older fished or little they big fish taking data. So, during season and post season they have the ability to the AI would write the complaint and sent it to the proper jurisdiction for prosecution. So, one person or a team of people didn't have to go there and try to track all the information all at once.

And with site that chairman or that company for over-fishing. So, I would think, I'm excited because I come from a fisheries background, data background. I'm like woah, we need something like that for the tribe to look for wrongdoing, to protect the resources and our people.

So, there's some opportunity there and then you don't have necessarily we have the bigotory right, but we don't have the understanding, I think to build that infrastructure to do

something like that. So, I just wanted some food for thought. It's not going to be any time soon.

Because, you know, the bad AI, you know, this creating as, you know, all the BS'ers are going to apply for them in the Columbia Basin here. But it's gonna be uh, there's some definitely, it's a tool, that can be we can use it. I just want to make that little pledge. We'll play because of those, level the playing field for us small guys to do really big things. Uh with that I'll conclude my report and pass it on. But I really, you know, give us a really hard question. Give me a hard question, I want to answer and I want to know leave the discussion to somewhere we can actually you know, feel, feel ourselves moving forward with our Law & Order here and governmental agenda. from the tribe and civil government of Nez Perce people. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you Mr. Gould. We are just going to go down the table. I like to recognize uh gaming commission. Gabriel Bohnee.

Gabriel Bohnee: Good afternoon. uh didn't know we're going tallest and shortest, but we'll keep that from uh. We'll keep that in line.

That's how we just lined up a naturally, I guess. So. uh Good afternoon. Again, my name is Gabriel Bonnie are my roll number is 3066, and I'm the son of uh Kay Seven in in the late Philip penny. So, I don't wanna get in my family is on each side because it's a thing about related to most of the reservation.

But luckily, I found my wife Carmelita that also a Nez Perce Tribal members. So, have a proud Nez Perce family of four and also a young baby uh, uh, uh gran, said granddaughter that we're taking care of I 9 months. And so, uh you know we take a lot of passion uh as a gaming commissioners in and the gaming commission staff and putting forward and that the gaming commission is where we, is one area where we get exude our sovereignty as a tribal nation. And it was through a lot of work of other tribal nations in building up to where we are today.

Uh, you know, Uh. Since the last time I was up here, actually when I was up here, our our elder that's passed on from Oneida nation who was a great leader, uh basketball player that played in this gym, but lead tribal gaming for, for decades in strengthening tribal, other tribal nations to have this ability to provide gaming. you know He passed with the same day that I gave my report in the fall at camera last fall.

But last year the game few of the gaming commissioners in and our staff we were able to make it to a Oneida and see their lands in in their long house and how they've exceeded

their how they've done their sovereignty in in battling the, the townships of uh Green Bay and their local communities gaining back their lands with their businesses you know that they have shopping centers Walmart's on them. And then they've done really well. So, you know there there's a future up there that way we got to keep striving for.

and I think we're setting a good base when we have this stability uh as giving a little bit of history and people always want what does gaming commission do? Well, we're the regulators for our own gaming rate uh Enterprise here at the Nez Perce reservation. And in our areas, uh you know the Indian gaming uh regulatory act came along in 1988, but it was set by tribes that did high stakes bingo in the 70s uh.

Early 80s, Oneida was one of them uh seminal camp is on in California. There's a lot of these tribes that pushed forward gaming and and ah gaming has a lot to come out of bingo. But I in 88, it came with the the Indian gaming regulatory act and that gave you know the tribe uh, you know this commission is created under that provision which helped enact to support and promote tribal economic development, self sufficiency and strong tribal governments to the operation of gaming on tribal lands.

And that's straight from the language of the act. You know, the act provides a saturated basis for the federal regulation of Indian gaming in the authorities for tribes to regulate tribal gaming for themselves. The Nez Perce tribe established the gaming commission once we got going and you know this is the reason and you know and we're struggling with the with the effects of our current administration in our in our current president.

You know, he has struggles and he's been a fighter of this Indian gaming regulation since its beginning since he was a failed casino operator in land developer. But we're, we're successful because we have that authority to sovereign and keep other entities out of our business, as we see fit. So, uh our commissioners uh I serve as the president.

Uh. Robert Kipp is our vice president, and EVA Higheagle is our secretary. We all serve a 3-year terms and, and we're you know we apply and we are appointed by, by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee and we act on the uh on behalf of NPTEC and the, and the tribal folks. As the gaming commission, we have a lot of authority to make the final call and say on issues and the regulations that get put forth on how tribal gaming regulations are done here at the Nez Perce tribe.

So, uh, you know, this is our responsibilities you know include regulating and monitoring the aspects of all tribal gaming. Uh, we coordinated, we coordinated its regulatory responsibility for the appropriate jurisdictions. You know, we have to work in certain areas with the FBI other uh, uh criminal jurisdictions when we do our efforts to license our individuals and folks that want to do business with us, uh we provide training and, and technical assistance to tribal to other tribal entities.

And that's something that I've been getting on our, our current commission staff uh who, who consists of Leotis McCormack as the director, uh Ken Kipp as our gaming agent, Mark

Susan as our chief compliance officer. uh Alene Powaukee, as our internal auditor and uh Liz Minkey as our licensing agent, agent you know as a small group. But you know uh when we have misunderstandings, you know, I tell them you know don't get frustrated. We need to go provide technical assistance to so we can get an understanding and communicate with those folks that are regulating because when you're pushing regulation, they don't like being pushed back against.

So we got to create those conversations to make sure we have the best path forward because the end effect is the best for both for the tribe in general, for each one of us in this room as we do our we protect the gaming assets of the Nez Perce tribe. And we're happy to see the success of our gaming operation here on the Nez Perce reservation. So, uh Now we review a big thing we do is review and approve tribal gaming ordinances in the management agreements in conjunction with NPTEC.

uh We uh, uh you know, to have Indian gaming under the Indian gaming regulatory act, you have to have a state compact, which we have with the state of Idaho and, and you know, I've looked and we haven't changed our compact one word us. It's uh, its inception and I believe 1993, you look at other tribes you know as they developed. Yeah, they've had some revisions, but you know we still have our compact in place with Idaho.

But you you've heard of the aspirations of our business across the river in the state of Washington where we still need to look and work with NPTEC and our enterprises in on that aspect of having to gain as compact from that state also because we have to have that before we can move forward. Uh, the other thing is that they have gaming. We have to have a tribal gaming regulatory agency.

And the Nez Perce tribal gaming commission is that tribal gaming regulatory authority for us. So, we have that established so going into another state for those aspirations, you know we're probably that authority and we need to learn about Washington state law, how they do it, the ins and outs to make sure when the Enterprise goes develop, you know uh there's under the Indian gaming regulatory act and, and the CF RS that that came out off of that. you know There's many uh what they call mix which are minimal, minimal internal control standards.

And then you know as a tribe, you, you have to like any federal law, you gotta take that federal law, accept it. And even if you're a state and you got accepted to that point, then you've got to meet or exceed those standards. and We have that ability to do that through a tribal internal control standards.

But we've adopted the federal mix as our takes as a tribe. uh and so, we got this going for us and we're moving forward from with that. uh Another big piece you know is the gaming uh itself. you know No machine.

If we uh for enterprises buys machines, it cannot be it has to be regulated from its point of inception to when it hits our floor. So, if the machine is being produced in Vegas or

wherever you know it's, it's, it's done, it's fixed. It's locked.

And that thing is it doesn't get certified on our floor until our gaming agent can get approve that when it arrives on our on our property and put on into our properties for, for usage. and We did have an example last year were unfortunately one of the Enterprise, the company that was delivering some machines accidentally cut the, the lock straps that you know the tribe had put on the machines. and so, we know we had to send those machines.

You know No, we can't accept the machines because those seals were broken on that on that package. So, this is how it gets done to make sure that you don't get corruption from other locations. And we do our staff does a great job of this. Uh. Licensing overall you know we within our ordinance, we have standards for how we want to see the people that we hire and the contractors that we hire. And so, a lot of our business at our meetings we as commissioners we meet twice a month is you know at the end, we review the, all those licenses that come before us. And you know, we I think uh, it was good to see the retention rates that Nikoli and, in his report, brought out.

And you I can say that for us, you know we keep numbers also. and they and They go on 3-year cycles when we approve licenses, they're for 3 years. So, since I October through the end of March, we've approved 19 temporary licenses.

So, there are people that come in new brand new into our facility as new employees. We approved 18 permanent licenses and those are new employees that have passed their temporary period and we proved there permanent licenses. and We've had 28 renewals. So that's good to see a high number of renewals of people that are in our system that we don't have to go on re-vet because they've been in our system you know how we we know they know how we license and it makes you know nothing is easier, but it's good to see uh so uh some of the challenges that uh that we have in another area is auditing and our 2025 report uh. you know we uh We had the uh auditor here yesterday, uh Jiang Xi and we used Bluebird CPAs as our auditor for ah the fiscal year 2025-time frame. And there, were, there were no findings within our audit of the information that we sent forward in and that's good to see.

Oh, you know, we did get uh, uh virtual audit. And for the end of this administration, there's a lot of challenges for NIGC to get out and, and visit. So, we did you do a virtual audit here uh in April, and we had to submit a lot of information like a regular audit for, for our uh agent within NIGC to review our information.

And She didn't have any findings, or hardly any record, or no really negative comments or recommendations forward for us as a as a gaming commission moving forward. And you know, a lot of this is why we get clean reports and it is the tough work of the staff. You know, they're the day to day operation, but I really think Sis Powauke, in her hard work to be diligent and be onery and get our managers to as we send it out but also you know to her,

she reports to Mark Susza who is you know a former uh employee on the operation side, but just their ability to keep communicating and getting the information that we need so that we can close out reports and move on to the next because we do have a tough schedule as we do, uh you know like we're saying we audit on the seat on, on CFRs. And uh, the CFRs that we follow are 542, 543. I don't believe we audit on the 542. That's class three gaming. There was a suit by the Colorado Indian tribes, I believe in 2018 and so uh, that's not regulated.

Uh, it's there's a pause and stay on that. So that doesn't get we don't have to audit on that portion which covers class three gaming, which all our machines, I believe our class three at our facilities, they are all class three machines in our facilities. But we do, do uh the 543 in those areas that we cover underneath that or uh have a whole list here is uh in in you know the, like I said, Sis for her to go through.

We set a schedule for the year and I believe we set the schedule in August of 25 for uh fiscal year uh 26 and the areas that we cover are you know bingo, gaming promotions and player checking us complimentary service or items or what's known as comps the, the kids for kiosk and cash, the management information systems, surveillance, audit and accounting and in the revenue audit, you know these are all different areas. We get these internal audit complete. So, when we go out for external audit, it makes a lot easier in knowing that we regulate it first and we're doing a great job.

So, I think the staff for all the hard work that that you uh some our challenges that we have coming up and that we're working on is we've had some areas where uh some things weren't defined uh great for, for us as the current gaming commissioners and the gaming commission staff. We ran into some issues and looking at some of the like the background issues so we are uh re-formatting and looking how we vet and take in. uh I think uh my cousin Lex had a good with resolutions, how we take in information, how we read it and how we try to spit it out for a positive or, or we're gonna accept or, or move forward.

So, we're working on how we have wording. We're working with our Enterprise uh staff on the other side on things so that we you know we set the framework, we set the policy in our Enterprise follows what, what we try to give them. So, uh We're hoping to get through that.

So, in future you know we don't run into these difficult decisions that we had to make during this past time frame since the last general council. uh Another thing that came online uh that the Enterprise is ready to use is a facial recognition technology in and technology at at, at our casinos. And, and you know When we we got wind of this as a gaming commission, you know we said, hey, you know we're the regulators here.

We need to figure out how this policy was the institutional control procedures for how they're going use this. How are they going to use it? Like I said, we we talked to other uh

jurisdictions in making sure that the use because this is personal identifiable, PII, in the in the federal world, personal identifying identifiable information in a sensitive data that you know you probably don't want out there.

Do we have it on the walls that, hey, we're collecting this and how this putting forth and and, so you know, we're putting the best for product uh to have our enterprises implement that in the best way possible. So, everybody should feel safe and good when they come into our casino.

Uh Lastly, uh you know I'll just wrap it up that you know it our staff is a great group to work with. They do their jobs very well. We're a small staff. I think you know we have some challenges uh you know I think ur saying anybody's old or anything, but we didn't really do being a small staff retention.

You know, if we lose a piece, we're definitely gonna be hurting. Uh. But, the current pieces that we do have you know we need to get out there to keep them trained because there's a lot of uh issues that are going on that we need to keep, keep on top of. uh and you know and It goes into some of the ambitions like with, with, a if we get red wolf up and going sports betting you know in in any country if you're watching you, you know you uh sports betting is getting very tough.

Tribes are fighting uh for the was that right for sport betting or to make it exclusive to tribes? Only in their states. I believe the night is fighting that in the state of Wisconsin because I think everything you got Facebook or anybody you're getting advertisements for cowshee(?), which is a future commodities trading of betting site or I go with the other one, see it all the time that people are winning bets that you know we're gonna attack Iran or whatever people winning money.

These are future tradings that they're uh going around the system in affecting sports betting. So, the things that we are trying to just educate ourselves on and that we're looking forward as we, we move forward for the Nez Perce tribe. And like I said, I you know um it's an honor to serve in this role when I first got into it, I thought it was just going to be a part time thing and get some money, but you know I've got into it.

I've gotten very passionate about it and it's, it's a fun job to uh take on as part time. But you know like I said, the passion is there and protecting because this is what protects the assets of the first tribe that our enterprises brings to us that we, we gain the fruits of and that we you know get to talk about here in this meeting today.

So thank you for your time and I turn it back every madam chair. Thank.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Bohnee. We'll recognize uh Chief of Police Mark Benson.

Marc Bensen: Thank you now. Good afternoon, um Mark. Benson chief of police for the Nez Perce tribe uh just go over some quick statistics uh since October 1st uh.

My officers responded to 972 calls for service. We had a 63 arrests, adult arrest and eight

juveniles, uh community engagement um. You always see my officers out there were involved with community. We enjoy developing relationships.

uh We're always out there with. Anytime you guys ask us, you see us out there. Parades, uh school events. and of course any time you guys ask for any type of funeral escort, we're honored to be out there um.

I've never seen that before as, as an officer and I it's a great it's a great tradition. We're, we're very proud to do that for you all. um For equipment um. With grant funds, we've uh purchased five patrol vehicles through this since last general council, um the vehicles were outfitted and they're out on the road.

Also purchased eight laptop computers with grant funding with uh, uh training uh on this cycle, you'll see a beam which we've been focused on. We've had a couple officers. Some officers go through a flooded corrections and patrol academies uh nearly a total of 25 out hundred hours of training in the last 6 months uh.

Some of the topics are in service, firearms training, firearms instructor, field training officer high risk domestic violence, child exploitation, material child and sexual abuse, trauma of stocking advanced investigation and prosecuting domestic violence. Forensics to interview certification, crime scene processing and photography, sexual assault investigation academy, trauma informed training, drone pilot school, basic investigator school, FBI leadership school. Um. And we also for the first time in the history of the department, we have a defense tactic instructor.

The defensive uh tactics is basically a rest technique how to properly and safely arrest people. that's never We've never had that here. um So for the first time we have so someone that can continuously and safely teach our officers who makes the tribe and our officers safer.

Um and it's uh It's tough to find someone who, who wants to be an instructor because you go to that class and you get me up and spent a lot and, and a lot at the top class. So, officer Chase Lane Macks, our new DT instructor, um our criminal investigations division um.

They've been very, very focused on cooperative work um.

They've been working with the FBI to Idaho state police, and Couer'D Alene tribe, BIA, City of Lewiston, um practically targeting drug use and sales adjacent to the reservation. See ideas actually working on several cases involving child abuse sexual assault in close cooperation with the natural process. Tribal prosecutor's office the FBI and the US District attorney's office.

Um. Also, we've been partnering with uh the Idaho internet crimes against children are called AI CAC. and We're working on becoming a full time I CAC partner, um I CAC basic protection of children against internet crimes, which of course you guys know is becoming more and more prevalent. So, um as you can see, our focus is on protecting our most vulnerable people on the reservation is our children. uh with CID, we're also working with

uh our rescue to combat human trafficking and child exploitation.

Um Sexual Assaults, suspicious death, and felony possession, a drug possession. um We are grateful that our members support of our investigations and we're maintain, maintain vigilance in reporting the crimes to appropriate channels hiring um we're working to be fully staffed always. uh We just had to go through the academy uh academy down on our teach in New Mexico.

Uh they're going through our field training right now um. We have one lateral uh applicant who is going through the process. And we're always, we're always looking for a qualified applicants. We're currently down four, I believe.

So, um One thing we I wanted to talk about is our uh our um BIA program review that I, I wasn't at uh last general counsel because I had back surgery and missed. So, uh, uh program review um every 2 years, the BIA comes and does a program review? It's uh it's a lot other, other, other law enforcement agencies out outside of outside the reservation. Do these things to they're, they're either called lectiple or CLEA. Basically, some an outside agency will come in and say, can you do can you do investigations patrol is your equipment is your training is everything within a national standard. Um So, not just us, but other agencies have to go through this too.

Do you do police work within a national standard? Very simple, uh my last agency we work? Leer, approved national accrediting agency. We went through the process for 20 years straight. So, it's, it's arduous, it's a lot of work, but you can but you're performing within a national standard you're nationally accredited police agency. Um When uh the last time this this travel department went through it in 2023 before I got here, our program review we were at 37%, pretty solid F. Um Your department went through it in July. They were in 88% huge improvement. Your officers were very, very hard to get there. and with A with a few minor adjustments, few minor improvement you're now at 96%. We have one thing left to do. and That's 100% evidence uh certification that's like documenting every piece of evidence.

We still have evidence from 1991 when the BIA was still here that we that were inventory. and uh Jacob Aubertin is working on that board. So, that's the last thing we have to do to be in 100% compliance.

But your department, is a is a national to be a nationally accredited agency. So that's something you guys can be very proud of. For our jail, jails is coming along with the, the commander Williamson has done a lot of work.

Um the jails ready to go, the facility is ready to go, um building. The everything, everything is there they've done. um We uh had two more go through ah Sage Lone Bear and Mckenna Bambaugh, had gone through the academy. Um they were the first in the program to be nationally so accredited when they went through.

So that that's a big achievement for, for the corrections officers licensing and certifying the,

the restorative Justice Center. we have to We have to self-certify and go through a process on our own. um Commander Williamson.

We've, we've hired a consultant and we're done it. We've worked through our own certification program, our own policies that will meet Idaho jail standards. We're going through that. we We have our own um certifications board.

So, we're going through the process with OLC. um we're getting We're getting through this. So, um we've gone through the BIA safety inspection, all of our everything's ready to go there. So, and you know we're, we're doing our best to get through it and it's we're having a hard we're having a hard time with outside agencies when it comes.

We're uh housing, housing, our, our people. uh Nez Perce County has refused plenty of our plenty of our uh inmates for various reasons. So, it's very frustrating for us. So, but the jail is coming around, um hope we can ah find the funding for staffing in the future. But thank you very much.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Bensen, we will recognize Melvin Wheeler, our TERO Director,

Melvin Wheeler: Tac'huluxp, it's been a long day, long week. uh You can find our report on page 33 on the law and justice report booklet.

Uh Today you want to talk about growth, opportunity, safety in future. We are building for our, our people through the ns per tribe taro tat program. The TERO TF program was created to open doors. Our mission is not just deployment.

It is empowerment. We work every day to help tribal members, youth and community members gain access to training education, apprentice ships and meaningful careers. We believe our people deserve opportunities that create long term success and stability for generations to come.

One of our projects we are most excited about right now is our summer youth work group program, this program designed to give our youth real world experience responsibility, membership and confidence. Too often young people are told they need experience before getting a job, but nobody gives them the opportunity to gain that experience. Through this program, we are changing that lot.

This is having an open house to announce the application process on May 12th, at 9:00 am here at the Pineewaus gym. So, you got some of youth that are you want to get in involved May 12:00 at 9:00 am here on your U are youth are learning. Workplace are expectations, communication skills, leadership, accountability and teamwork.

They are earning wages while building pride in themselves and their future. Most important their learning that their community believes in them and is willing to invest in them. We're also proud to announce that our memorandum of understanding with the united steelworkers this partnership represents major step forward for our program and our community through the same oh you creating stronger pathways into workforce

development, safety education and training opportunities and labor partnerships that will benefit our tribal members for years to come, partnership is bigger than paperwork is about building relationships, creating opportunities where people can succeed industries that provide family support and careers and long term stability.

Another exciting step forward is that Julia Gould and Laatis Lawrence are becoming train trainers and safety and general education. This means they will be certified to teach and trained other workplace safety workers' rights hazardous work, environment and Carol compliance. They are working towards becoming leaders who can bring it's not directly back to our community instead of always relying on outside resources.

Safety is not an option. Safety saves lives. First time we received this grant, we helped 15 clients with funding and help them into Union based programs for a total of \$155,000. We are on a second round of funding for the Native American assistance grant for a total of \$200,000.

This means new clients can get \$10,000 to help them with their apprenticeship program. Clients that want to reapply again could get up to \$5,000. This grant helps our clients remove barriers through their employment. Only requirement is that the apprenticeship program must be Washington approved the labor union, carpenters union, an electrical units all qualify.

We had our 3-week concrete basic training with Baker Technical Institute, BTI. When BTI staff came and taught the clients, uh ten class of ten clients, the concrete basics, they learned how to measure mix, pour, and building forms for the sidewalk. During this training, the clients, the BTI started the sidewalk out here in front of the Pineewaus center. We, because of weather and time they didn't get a chance to finish it. TERO TF has a great relationship with Terry Construction, and they were able to come and help along with the clients and finish the sidewalk with the help from the out that TERO camp program we did. the pave uh the sidewalk in front of the Pineewaus.

It's been here since building was built. So, it's a brand new sidewalk. So, appreciate that. Their work we're doing today is about building the next generation of leaders, workers, trainers, and advocates.

I'm incredibly proud of how the Nez Perce tribe TERO TFprogram has come from creating youth apprenticeship opportunities to develop partnerships to gain a state certification, to being recognized across the Pacific Northwest for being the Top five were tribal apprenticeship programs. It being recognized by the Department of Labor for graduating two youth classes of apprentices age 16 to 24 years old, continue to grow because we believe in serving our people, none of this work happens alone.

It takes partnerships, leadership, community support, and people of writing and standing up and invest in the future. I want to thank our tribal leaders here, our partners, the united steelworkers. Our staff, community supporters and especially the, our youth or believing in

this program, the future of workforce development in any country is not coming someday. We are building it right now. Yoxkalot. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Wheeler. So, we'll recognize our law and order, or Law and Justice, excuse me. Our Executive Officer, Eva J. White.

Eva White: Good afternoon, I'm (inaudible). I guess it's good to go last because it cuts down on what I have to tell you.

So, um I'm going to just go over briefly overview of those things that haven't been touched on already. Um, we do have our report, our complete reports in our um and our handout or book that we have handed out, and we've also got a QR code that you can standing in order to get a copy of that as well. So, um. First of all, our department continues to operate with 58 dedicated staff, while working to fill 11 critical vacancies (Audience – louder).

Uh okay You think I'd be louder because I was a judge for so long, but um okay. So, we, we, um operate with 58 dedicated staff while working to fill 11 critical vacancies, including the chief judge position on several opens, openings within the prosecutor's office and the police department. Despite those challenges, our teams have remained committed and steady in their service to the Nez Perce people. And then within the Law & Order executive office, we completed several major cities, excuse me, major accomplishments.

We secure Bureau Indian Affairs funding to soundproof the courtroom, we updated the Peacemakers Court handbook, and we execute, we executed new interim judge contracts. Idaho Legal Aid also partner with us to provide free legal clinics to tribal members.

I'm looking forward, we are preparing a full upgrade of our court recording system, and we anticipate starting the court expansion project this fall. So, um. With regards to the judicial services the court conducted 531 hearings over the 6-month period. Also reorganizing staff rolls cross training clerks and transitioning to a new interim court administrator.

The caseloads have remained high across the criminal, civil and family matters. And the team continues to ensure fair and respectful treatment for all court of issues. Oh, excuse me, all court users, um our probation department strengthen community partnerships.

They supported sobriety of events. Corroborated, excuse me, correct? Collaborated with regional law enforcement and incorporated cultural activities such as tradition traditional medicine gathering with clients all to encourage accountability and healing.

The prosecutor, excuse me, the prosecutor's office reported important shifts; misdemeanor cases have decreased while felony cases have increased that reflects stronger investigation and more provable cases. The tribe also complete completed its first successful prosecution under the special tribal criminal jurisdiction, historical milestone protecting tribal victims regardless of an offender's enrollment status, the public defender's office managed more than 100 active charges, including juvenile cases and continued strong involvement in the human development support.

They also began implementing a new case management system to improve efficiency and reporting. And finally, our child support program engaged over 150 community members through events. Distribute more than \$155,000 in child support to families and managed 347 active cases, while expanding family engagement and parent support initiatives. So, those are the programs that did not report here today.

So, um. Basically, in summary, even with our staffing challenges, the Law and Justice Programs remain strong, adaptive and committed to serving our people with professionalism and integrity.

Chair: Okay that was our last speaker on this panel. It is now 3:30. We're ahead of schedule. The floor is open for questions or comments for this panel of July Tess Greene, David Holt, Mary Oatman, Jared Rickman, Amanda Lopez, okay hold on. I seen Susie Weaskus, Tonia Garcia, Joanna Merik, Dorika Powaukee.

July Greene: Thank you. um I have several, several questions oh um that all of you guys up there trying to keep it real quick.

Um, I know it's hard to hear the people don't speak into the mic. Um okay. For the judge, uh I'd like to come meet with you sometimes. Uh, involving a court case and I know we don't want to talk about that. But, um, one, in one court session our family was in there supporting the Greene family that was in the court session and because there was a lot of supporting our family member that the judge at the time said we can't be in there because it was intimidating the other party while the other party was represented by a sooyaapoo. Who apparently not remember this lady this gal but she used to live at our home, in our family home, and she said she was assaulted in our home while she was living as, I don't know what how she was living in our home at the time. But she said she was assaulted in our home and she was a young girl. And so that she that they kicked out our family and said we couldn't be in there, but then they let that lady who was representing that other couple still staying at court and represent that couple. Although, she said she was assaulted in our family and, the Greenes, she blamed the entire Greene family and that we're a bunch of alcoholics and this and that, well that should have been a conflict of interest at that very moment when that lady who was representing the other couple, saying that she that we're not to be trusted because she was assaulted in our family home. Well, I'm telling you right now we're not all alcoholics.

I'm 25 years sober of alcohol. My brother is 26, 27 years sober. My mom, she doesn't even drink. We're all not alcoholics. We are, I mean, to judge others based on my past. Yeah, I might have drank in the past.

My past does not define me and I know there's a lot of um uh an alcohol and drug free people in here that still say the same thing there. Intimidated don't want to don't want to say they're sober because people still, um, judge them because of their past and I told this

one young lady; no, your past does not define you, let it go. Our past is not define us. And we all need to know that, and we need to know that so we can move on. But I wanted to bring that up because and that's what I want to come talk to you about because this whole case was, was so corrupt. And because of that, um the, the children that were involved were um uh given to a non Nez, non N, a non native.

And we can't see those kids where they're, help, they're kept against us. They, they we can't. They can't come to us. They can't come with us on my, our, our group, our annual Burgdorf, a fish and chip that I've been doing my whole life, my whole life, I've been going every year, and they can't come with us, they're kept from us.

And to me, they want to see us and they want to be with us. To me, that's a form of child abuse. So, I want to talk to you about that case because it needs to be revisited and when families come to the law, um, Law & Order subcommittee and there trying to reach out to NPTEC, you don't have to know the names or you don't have to know the family names and the situation of the case to just know that that there is something that didn't go right.

There's something that's not right in that situation, at least take a look at that process, same with our Human Resource Manual that I was fired before in the past. and I prove myself during that process somewhere and uh my boss at the time overturned the, I didn't have to finish up, the process because I convinced her that I shouldn't have had to been fired that time. She wrote a letter for me and overturned it.

I didn't have to finish up that process. That process should ended right there when that supervisor overturned that situation at that moment. We know where does the saying that tribal law, Law & Order code that we have to finish the process. We don't have to, but we need to learn our policies and pre, procedures. They're there for a reason.

To the law enforcement officer, my house was bashed up by your officers, knocked down my whole entire door frame. Theres. They're on trust property just because the state says they took new action that they can go on anybody's property doesn't mean they can go on everybody's property.

There are still tribal laws that are in place, teach your officers all that. They need to know that they need to know there in somewhere different. We're in the sovereign country; we're in the sovereign nation.

Just because the state says something doesn't mean it applies to us on the reservation.

And they need to know that my door, I don't have a door right now. And finally, um TERO.

You guys had a project. I kept my mouth shut for a couple of years.

You had a project where you gave all these people that participated in that training \$9,000.

You gave it to all the kids except my son and my grandson for whatever reason you came up with and said, if they finish out this and that they can get the remaining balance, my grandson never got the remaining balance. But someone in your office, your son got \$9,000

and he took off as soon as he got his \$9,000. Does he have to pay that \$9,000 back? Because you told my son, if they don't do this they don't do that, they have to pay that money back.

The half of the 9,000 they got and that applies to the gal you have in there her husband non Nez Perce. How could might see him at all the projects, before my own sons and my, my nephews and all the tribal members that are trying to get trained. They're not being called out, but I see someone's husband that's non tribal out there every project and their kids so that husband and all those kids in that same household from your staff all got 9,000.

Chair: Thank you, miss. Thank you, Ms. Greene. Response from the panel.

Eva White: Thank you, madam chair. Um, Ms. Greene, please do come speak to me. I'm no longer the judge, but I supervise them. So, um. And this goes to everybody who's here you do have a concern with regards to any of the law and justice programs.

I cannot necessarily change what's happening, but I can address it and make sure that if is incorrect, doesn't happen again. So, um please bring your questions, bring your concerns to my office. That's part of what I'm here for.

Melvin Wheeler: Yeah, thank you for that question on the, I know that grant its on the uh, something that Laatis has been working with on the uh, the young people with. And you know, the grant went out to uh, to the people that were willing to work with the Unions. And they had to provide a certain amount of time within a Union, working. Areas for them to get to work. So, its important that there's some criteria that had to be met and uh, it wasn't met. So, thats why, one of the reason they had (inaudible). If you want to come to the TERO office and talk to us during office time, we can discuss it further.

Mark Bensen: Ms. Greene uh, yes come see me about this particular door, I will look into the case for you. Thank you.

Chair: Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: I agree with the review of policy procedures uh across all the tribe, NPTEC prove those policy procedures, and they need to be reviewed from time to time. And I do agree um for the HRM stuff, uh I defer to the ED for response. And uh that's appropriate. Glad you reviewed the policies and procedures for.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. We'll recognized David Holt, Mary Oatman, Jared Rickman. Mr. Holt.

David Holt: Thank you, madam chair, panel. Dave qiiwn, David Holt. Every year I try and speak to the same subject. This year, again, the railroad right away act is a congressional act just like our treaties, it has that much authority.

And I brought this up a number of times, not just to Enterprise, land, et cetera, but right now, there's a I believe we're not utilizing what we have there because of the there's fish constraints, like a Fish and Wildlife. They're bound to certain types of environmental uh constraints because those rails most likely, all the time follow the river systems or the, the water, the impact directly the environment, whether it's spills on the Columbia or the possible spill down at Spaulding, with all of the herbicides chemicals there right, a few feet away from the river.

I don't know how that solidified there, but my concern is that we need, need to as a tribe, take hold of that congressional recognition and do a uh brain. I guess, everybody get their brains together because I it follows cross utilization of um Enterprise programs, law and order, environmental integrity, et cetera. Everybody is impacted.

Are people used to stand near the old ladies who have their huckleberry baskets and they, they would pick them up and take them to the the gathering grounds. Our men would get picked up and taken to the fisheries, the places that they had along the rails because those railroads went along the water systems, and the then they recognize are so called rights. When it came to the people in the rails, transportation of our trees, our goods, the crops, et cetera. So, there, there's many avenues of approach. And I just need this body and the tribe to wake up, get up, do something with it. But anyway, that that was one point. The other point I wanted to bring up was the gaming.

Every year I talk about um forensic audits, well um usually that's that stems from my knowledge of uh US um well US code, a code or federal code of uh 18 section 1163, dealing with uh that type of crime on the Indian reservations. That section should be uh number 1 page in our law order code and that doesn't specifically say white collar crime in it, but it, it lists a number of uh the concerns that white collar crime does uh engulf. So, I believe in providing for uh section 1163 out of the USC 18 would should be a mandate in our Law & Order code. Um Second, we need, as usual stating, our regulators need more than just internal audits. And when it comes to external audits, we need specifically a forensic audit.

And that just makes everything clear that we are sitting in a uh green environment. For instance, the, we could have had a uh an audit when the fire burned down the the the gaming, uh, building down there.

All that information went up in smoke when they had the fire along the hill, people are saying money has disappeared in garbage bags never made it back. When you you got new computer systems, it should be an automatic uh forensic audit away from external so called and the internal audits.

We, we need a white-collar crime uh section, but we necessitate and I believe it should be a mandate forensic audience, not just Enterprise, but across the board, tribal inclusive.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt response from the panel. Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: Yes, thank you, Mr. Holt. um I'm not familiar with the railroad right of way acts, but I am familiar with the land grant, the railroad land grant apps, and the right of way act. So, right of way easements and, please, this, I'm not the authority on this. But if you want to look at you know easements and right of way and well how tribes should manage or you know, or use our treaty your perspective, you're looking at those right of ways or easements. And a lot of stuff is being renewed or reopened. Um I would point you towards the 2022 court case, there's actually two, um, published uh case law on the case of uh Lake County Board of Commissioners, or excuse me, Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribe versus uh Lake County Board of Commissioners.

And it's about right of away, and it's about easements. And the CSKP have the exact same treaty as the Nez Perce, the 1855 treaty. And that, what's unique about that court case and, you know, when we go to court or we get pulled into court, we get to talk about uh; what's your treaty right Indian? And we have to kind of you enumerate that, talk about that, go through the whole exercise, go through the case law and go through everything else. What's unique about this court cases, the federal judge actually enumerate the United States is right to travel through our reservation. Different. Different lens. So, I urge, you know, all of us to look at those easements and especially the railroad, uh public highways; railroads piece of that, water is a piece of that, as a public highways as written a treaty and also just you know, the highways themselves.

So, there's definitely a lot more work in uh comprehension that needs to uh materialize. And I appreciate the common question. And on the you know 18 USC uh 1163, um talk to you more about that. That's, it's a pretty heavy uh code there. I just looked it up. Um and that's again, what's the lens through the treaty, you know, Indian money. The Indian money thing. So, how are we gonna uh reach around and apply the law back to ourselves or begin to enumerate it for ourselves? So, are we gonna go through the law, come back around. So, there's is a lens, so you have to look at that law through a lens. So, if we got to use federal law to address our concerns. So, uh TERO is the federal law. TERO is a federal law. But we enumerated it through tribal code, so, but there's still a federal law. So, those two laws aren't competing they're lining. So, that, that there's a big difference there. So, I'd like to talk to you more about the uh 18 USC 1163 um. I'm not on B&F, so I don't wanna, I can't answer for audit or anything else I did. I wanted to talk about history and treaties when I got on and elected. So, the financial situation as well I'm not to familiar with. But I will go through it this year, this year I do plan on getting on B&F. So, appreciate the question and concern.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. Mr. Bohnnee.

Gabriel Bohnee: For the, for the gaming. As noted, the gaming commission, we perform our internal audit and then we as a gaming commission do an external audit, the Enterprise system uh that handles cash and, and operations. They do a separate external audit within themselves. So, for us, is putting through you know like I mentioned, the uh mix and the ticks that we go through, uh you know uh, our ticks 543.18 is, is on our cage volt, uh kiosk in cash. Uh 543.21 is our surveillance systems that gets internal audited every year, and 543.3 is our auditing and accounting that gets through our internal audit every year. So, you know, we're covering all our bases. If we get a suspicions, uh are such you know, where we, we get more on, on the floor activities and we get we get complaints in, we do take those investigations in our current staff are, you know, we do have the is internally we were starting out and began investigation that is working in hand in hand with our Enterprise partners. Is when we ask questions and go to that side, and nothing has, uh you know, in my current time and on the gaming commission that has warned, you know, for us to, to go there. uh Cash transactions that were through our tribal gaming regulatory training. You know, there's commerce codes, uh suspicion activity reports, you know, things are happening on the floor that we have to look out for. We are required by law to take a look at those because we, uh like I said, we implement, uh as we said that we at the federal regulation and how we internalize that as a uh law order chairman, he says, and then we enumerate that through our tribal system and how we and how we apply those.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Bohnee. Uh. We'll recognize Mary Oatman, Jared Rickman, Amanda Lopez.

Mary Oatman: Thank you, madam chair. Hemeeq'is Qeci'yew'yew Hinyuwat and happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers and prayers to all of our families are impacted by MMIP which is every single one of us as survivors of attempted genocide of 1877. Um, I wanted to first, madam chair, address a question to the Law & Order executive, you mentioned 531 cases in 6 months and said that there's been an increase in misdemeanor uh decrease in misdemeanors and increase in felonies. Um, if you could just kind of give us an estimated breakout by percentage of felony misdemeanor family and other civil kind of where that, that 531 pieces kind of break out. So, we kind of see exactly how criminal we all are in here. Um, the law enforcement um related to uh criminal activities and criminal prosecutions of our treaty under hunting violations. There has been a significant uptick in criminal prosecution of our hunters and gatherers and fishermen. In Idaho county, um I'm just, I mean I heard it with my own ears on a zoom call with one of my nephews where the prosecutor told him your treaty is not relevant to this court matter. It was a possession of an elk. How's the treaty not relevant in that port pertaining to our treaty harvest? And he said, no no no no, we're not arguing whether or not you have the treaty, right? It's being in possession of the animal that we're prosecuting. We've got a lot of work ahead of us

people, as far as my relatives, as far as pushing back against these local jurisdictions that are comprised of only state citizens who are being allowed to not only violate but interpret our treaty rights. So, when it comes to resources and call to action. Are there any record legal notices? uh Legal opinions from our Office of Legal Counsel, administrative action from our NPTEC because this is an individual attack, they're picking us off one by one, just like what they're trying to do with our sister going up the river and the Forest Service trying to attack her over this permit. We need the resources. You guys are the one with all the zeros in the bank account are (inaudible) with some treaty resources so we can fight back individually in court because a lot of us are doing that. We're taking the time out of our work schedules to help our nephews who are scared. They go out and provide for their families because these armed militia, county law enforcement, they are standing on guard, waiting in our usual and accustomed sacred territories. So, its rapid river war times all over again the biggest differences we're not as organized as treated Warriors as we were then. And I don't think that our NPTEC is nowhere as near as radical as they need to be like we were then. So, please, that's all I ask, I pray, open handed that you please help are mess with those resources. Create those legal opinions command our Office of Legal Counsel to create that legal record and in closing, I know there's been a lot of questions about what's going on with the hemp. We don't have any of our help commissioners up here. Um, word on the street the program has been dissolved. I have a 100 lbs. of hemp seeds if you want to grow hemp come see me I'm giving them all the way to our community. They are fiber seeds. We need to growing this seed and healing our land. We need to be rematriating our soil. So, I have a freely seeds for whoever wants to grow. Not sure you, today come me.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Oatman. Response from the panel.

Eva White: I'm sorry, I was trying to do math and I'm not that good at it, but um what we have for the digital services and exactly the distribution of hearings I have to have um be able to provide that to you at a later date. But 531 hearings were held, but there were um a total of 171 cases that were filed in general. um So 62 of those were criminal cases. I don't know how many of those hearings were criminal hearings. I would have to do an actual um request for that information from the court um and that would take a little bit of time, but um so 72 criminal cases that include 112 offenses, 79 civil cases, ten probate, ten divorces, ten protection orders, and then um there was nothing going, nothing that I had with regards to how many child related cases there were custody that type of thing. I mean as they may have been included in the civil numbers, but I can look into that further for you if you'd like me to do that and try to get some percentages for you.

Chair: Any further response from the panel? Chief Benson.

Marc Bensen: Mary, um, I'll be, I'm on, I'm on the outside but my suggestion to any

anybody. I've seen some of these cases on, on, on the issues with the Idaho county and I actually did battle with the sheriff of Nez Perce county on trespassing issue. I, my suggestion to the tribe is find the right battle and fight it. If, if, if, it's a poaching it, if they're calling a poaching issue, if it's your, if it's, you guys believe it's a good treaty battle, fight it. That's I, I, I've, I've seen them do, and I, I know if you get. If, if, the tribe got together and fought, fighting, fight it. It's just, it's just, I, I'm from, I'm from the outside. I see what, I see. And I think there's been some battles you guys can go after and win. So that's, that's what I see. Okay, I'm, I'm, I'm the big guy from the outside, but um I swore an oath to protect you guys. Some things I can't do and that's one of them, but I, I do see what I see. You guys, should, you guys find the right and battle fight it.

Chair: Mr. Gould, did you have a response yourself? Mr. Gould.

Mr. Gould: Thank you, madam chair. I'm gonna go off on a little history tangent here and yeah, Rapid River the Warriors, I was 4 years old when it first started in 80. I'm sure it was long before that. Um, my dad has, a lot of you elders can attest, were criminals just for hunting and fishing and criminalized that way for a number of years. Stories about you know shooting animal right before dusk and then coming back a few hours later after you made sure that Idaho Fish & Game wasn't there. Old yellow snow. There's probably people in here that can remember those stories about the old yellow snow, the idea of giya(?) during the Rapid River standoff. And it wasn't really talked about, but it was kind of I, I seen the connection and the I just mentioned the uh Sho-Ban thing, US v. Oregon. And it's, it was in there. He kind of slid it in there, but he talked about the law of equities, the law of equities. So, you can Google that up and read what it says and you know I'm not gonna you know I am not a legal scholar, I have zero college, you education when I read this stuff kind of incessantly, uh I study the history um dusted off old treaties, enumerate stuff uh coming from my myself and, and look at how it, it's been applied or not applied. And going back to... so just put in context. So, it was individuals that filed the first federal class action lawsuits. It became so Sohappay versus Smith that was in you know 1968, uh 68409. And it was a bunch of, you know, 14 complainants all from the Columbia River. In those, complaints were consolidated into 68513, which was the United States versus Oregon. United States joined the consolidate those that class action lawsuit. And that's still on going today. So, we have the Bologna decision 1969, where the state shouldn't regulate, but they still do it, right? And that's the hard part, is like, okay you, you violate this injunction called the these uh the order of the Belone decision. Or you know, in a weird way with the Bolt decision, the us to be Washington for 50% and 50/50 harvest sharing arrangement. And then I we go into the Rapid River Wars. You know in 1980, we had Columbia River stuff happening down there, all, all this entire time uh to the case 1942. Here's the interesting thing that, I'll open up the door, might appreciate. But the

Washington attorney general that argued the to the Tulee case on behalf of Washington and lost. Um, his name was um, gosh dang it. He was looking up, no, Theodore Little. So many older people might remember, Theodore Little? So, the Theodore Little argued the case on behalf of Washington. So, Washington could you charge the Yakimas to, for a fishing license on the Klikitat River. Theodore Little lost that case in US Supreme Court, became the Tulee decision.

And he, after, after he loses, he does a weird move and joins the Navy. Goes to the Navy um does a, you know, he's officer of course because he has a college degree, goes to school, goes to the navy, goes of World War II, he joins, yeah he has a weir trajectory. And I found it very interesting to see in 1953 he's representing the Nez Perce Tribe out of Clarkson Washington. And representing us for the Mason decisions; Mason 1, 2, and 3. He joined the good guys, right? He came to our side and he actually won some pivotal cases; Mason 1, Mason 2, and Mason 3. It was Mason versus Umatilla, or excuse me, Umatilla versus Mason from the district level or uh the Circuit level. But Ted Little represented us and won some very pivotal cases that were instrumental to, yi sneaker up. But um.

They uh Ted little and Charles Loose. Charles Loose is an attorney for the Umatilla, Ted Little is an attorney for the Nez Perce, and they won those three court cases. And for the Umatilla, they couldn't even hunt on their reservation. This is, you know, right at 1953, the public law 280. There was a challenge to public law 280, for the thought to waited directly teen 1955 and one that was Mason one. Mason two was for off reservation fishing that Mason three was for off reservation hunting.

So, then they won all three cases, double those, right there. We were right there. NPTEC was in the chambers at the Pendleton for the oral arguments in uh Mason two. And me I'm still looking for a brief, if I'm for a brief of what we said back then in 1957 or 56, so this is went down the middle of the Celilo of falls demolition, as well. So, there's, there's all these things coinciding all at once and we just a little arguing on our behalf and it rolls into it there was never fully materialize or accounted for do this class action lawsuit, called Sohappay versus Smith, that consolidate into the US complaint call the United States versus Oregon is still ongoing today. You know, administratively was dismissed in 2018 is still ongoing today. Sho-Bans are, write, wrote their complain. So, we have a trajectory of how we got here. Meanwhile, our rights have never been adjudicated. They were accounted for by us. that's, that's, my that's my point uh, thank you Ms. Oatman for the um let me tell the story a little more, cleaner. I guess, I mean there's so many different threats to the story I can go on and on about any particular subject, that doesn't exist anymore. Actually, some of the stuff is you know these legal tests have been uh set aside in a lot of different places so hoping the legal openings are, are broad, and the closer we get to actually achieving the tree and participate the fish's meeting as well. Closer we get to actually administratively of

the doing what's right by our treaty on our side of the sovereign treaty account, the closer we get, the more aggressively we will be attacked. And that's something that we see individually, you know, I have a nephew too. We're finding some in Oregon right now. and I and I will not ask, OLC for help. Like I know that just, they, they're not going to help me, because they're not gonna read what I've read and understand things on the level of uh not so much the complexity, but clean how cleanly uh how the clean logic will get you to a better place, especially with the treaty and understanding that this will that our ancestors left us is just for us to conduct, it's a probate, we got to do this. It's our state and we will live up to it. So, and... Cutting me off?

Chair: Okay, Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: Cutting me off?

Chair: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Gould. It's 4:06, 4:07. We have Jared Rickman, Amanda Lopez, Susie Weaskus, is Tonia Garcia, Joan Marek, Dorika Powaukee, Ashley Oatman, Marie Arthur, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa, Antony Johnson, Aqua Greene.

Jared Richman: Good afternoon. Jared Rickman, enrollment number 3094. Three questions for three individuals on the panel. First one be Mrs. White. I keep track a best I can with tribal news, whether it be through social media word of mouth or whatever, and I like the one to the single job opportunities we have. I notice that we're hiring for both prosecutors.

My question is, what's gonna to happen once those prosecutors the decide that we ever going to drop, their contract is up. And we have someone else coming in to fill incoming permanently higher or worst-case scenario, we budgeting out to a nearby county? And if we're budgeting up to a nearby county to take over, I don't agree with that because that's us in a roundabout way or basically have to say it's just giving up our sovereignty as a nation. Does you, do better than our own people can interpret what we can and cannot do as guaranteed by our forefathers and our family members who fought and died for the treat. If that is the case and we're hiring someone uh outside entities, say for example like Clearwater County to come in and try to prosecute tribal cases. I don't agree with that. That is us, and a big-time example of us given up our sovereignty that will come back and bite us in the end. Hopefully we're not. But usually when something big like that means that means someone's coming and someone's going. And hopefully we have a backup plan for that.

Second question is for chief Benson. Sir, you know you know I work for conservation. of course I'm a senior conservation officer. Nobody none of my people can get a hold of anybody in my department to get a hold of you. You ARE the front line for tribal police. You

ARE the backup when it comes to Nez Perce County in particular. Harrassing tribal members saying that we're trespassing and if you don't know, sir, ask. Ask that's what you are in that position for. If my department fails to hold up our end of the bargain and I as a tribal member who hunts and fish, that's all I eat. If I want a steak, I'll go out and buy it if I want beef or want and buy and eat it that night. If I want Chinese I eat that night, you come to my house is nothing but salmon Buffalo, Elk, huckleberries, or cous cous. So, I don't just hunt for social media. This is my life, this is what I do, and this is what I'm teaching; my wife and I's uh younger kids to do. So, when you say that that's the fight you guys want to fight, sir, you're part of us, we hired, you're here. Nobody came back up in my department to help our tribal members out. You're the face, we're supposed to be working together. You should know what an individual tribal member can and cannot do. It's pretty simple as an individual tribal member who chooses to hunt and or fish on private property that the current reservation back in 1863, they can, as long as they're not hunting and shooting at any homestead's, shooting at livestock, damaging the property. And the other thing you mentioned, Nez Perce County, and then I know, because I ran into a few times this fall not taking our in custodies. Hell with them, cut the contract with them then. If we're still waiting for a jail however long it takes, then let's, let's go to Asotin County. They got a new big jail, seems like they could use some business other than Nez Perce County always giving us the run around. And another thing we have a tribal dispatch system here. Our IT program set up everything from one end of the rez to the other end of the rez. Why do we gotta keep contracting out the Nez Perce County? Certain individuals usually like, you know as well as I, down to flex in our teacher, get them certified in communications to be dispatched. And that's how our own dispatch. It's none of these outside county's businesses, what we do and how we handle our business because they sure whine and crying when they need outside assistance, but when the vice versa, I listen to the radio, I listen to the calls and get the run around. I'll be there in a minute. I'm do this, do that. I get tired of hearing that. It's nonsense, sir. And I get I have these conversations like this with my chief, and him and I go back and forth big time about this. Because I do practice is much treaty rights as I can, because if you don't use them, you're gonna to lose them. Mr. Gould, we talked a lot about Sho-Ban, you did. My next question, sir, what can the Nez Perce tribe to legally to stop them not only from trying to fish down in Zone 6, but they keep every now and then setting up what I call raiding parties. Coming down further than the south of the salmon trying to come in on different sections of the Big Salmon as well as the Little Salmon. They've tried to camp in the past that Rapid River. The last couple of times they've done that has been a couple of years ago and I wasn't on shift to take care of it at that time. I had another individual in my department tried to handle it as best he could. What can we do legally? Because they put out social media to all their members stating that they can hunt and fish in all our areas that we do. They put it out every year. They, and

they specifically named these places by name if Imnaha, Tucannon River. They name the upper what they call it upper four, uh which we call it, uh, Lostine River, Imnaha. What can we do? When I do run into everyone, every once in a while on the, in Oregon, I document it, I try to get plates, I try to turn it into uh Idaho county which sometimes they'll run with it, sometimes they won't. Fish & Game won't touch it, that's all. That's between you Indians. But county don't care. Idaho County don't care. They'll run nothing. I tell them this is what the violations are. And sometimes they'll run with it if they have time, most of the time they don't.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Rickman. Have a response from the panel.

Eva White: Madam chair and MR. Rickman with regards to the job opportunities that you talked about there is, was um unexpectedly that the prosecutor's office became um became a, unstuffed. This, this was not a plan issue. This was not something we could we could we were able to know well enough in advance to have another person set up to come in, but it's the intention to bring in another person to work for the Nez Perce tribe who focuses on this first tribal cases. That's what we've had in the past and that's what we intend to have. Right now, I am working with um the one attorney that we have through. He's working actually with child support enforcement, but he is a prosecutor and I have been talking with him with regard with regards to hopefully doing some interim work so we can keep these matters moving. But um this was a very short um time period, and we, last time they had a prosecutor position open, my understanding was it took a year to fill that. I'm hoping we won't take a year, but it will be somebody who will work internally. It will not be contracting with any um county prosecutor or anybody like that. It will be somebody who works with them in the Nez Perce Tribe.

Marc Bensen: okay, Mr. Rickman. I'm talking on the jail on the jail costs uh on jail um. We, we are having problems with Nez Perce County of course um. A, I am working on a contract with certain county that they are \$880 a day which is a lot higher than anybody around so they would be a backup. I currently have a Clearwater County that we use frequently which is a lot less. I have a contract we just recently opened with Colville uh call tribal jail. So, we do have. We do have jails we could use and we're still continuing to work on, work on that. With a truck, with a tribal communication system, the startup cost would, would be high. It's something we eventually want to do. We want to get our jail open first. Um But it's something we, we have we have considered what the jail would be the prior to get open first. And as far as the treaty, what I was talking about with Mary, is picking out a good case to fight. That's what I was talking about. Um, and as far as you guys being up with, you guys being open. Anytime you guys I'm here 40 to 60 hours a week. You guys, you guys want me or need me? I'm here. Your chief knows my number. You guys know how to get hold me,

and you guys' do know I'm here.

Chair: Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: Thank you, madam chair. I'll try to be brief. Um I see the discrepancy on the for the jail just kind of follow up on the jail thing. So, on the report it says we're the tribe's seeking jail(?) certification. We're not, we're gonna self-certify. Um totally legit under Idaho standards to get open for, um. So, we're not have to send our people to uh Nisqually or Clearwater County or anywhere else. We have to do it right here. I think we take better care of them um and address you know federal needs that goes from wherever you know that all that stuff is um, lifted to the experts to figure that one out, but we're going to self-serve a front the jail. And to the um Sho-Ban thing, like I said, I don't want to say too much. I'll talk about we have done in the past. So, in 2011, the Sho-Ban filed a (inaudible) to go fish the Imnaha, we filed an injunction on them in uh US v. Oregon. And they basically showed up and we beat them, but there's a weird part. So, they, they've tried it already, legally. And I did the same thing. I documented what they did over there and everything else and that their GMP, and it went to an enforcement action in US v. Oregon. And so, we took that civil response so in kind of working some of my, before I got cut off um. Uh, what we can do for Rapid River Wars, the civil response versus, you know, actual, you know, what we did from my understanding. So, and go to (inaudible) and I was going on as the Idaho had sued, Oregon and Washington for their federal of apportion of the whole 50%. So, that went to US Supreme Court in the case to each other when US Supreme Court. But there was no Indian involvement in that court case. So, there's three publications in that. The last one was in 1983 after the Rapid River War, but uh Justice O'Connor said that hours of surplus plant than anything left over after the Indians are satisfied and Idaho's complaint was dismissed without prejudice they could bring it back. So, in this in the Sho-Bans um assume to have a federally recognize right. It's a state, but state recognized right. So, that's why IMG's saying what they're saying. This is not new news for us. So, for our tribal member who's representing the Sho-Bans, I'm, I'm, kind of worried about that because I don't want them running back to say whatever I'll going you talked about it later though. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. uh Just for the assembly's information, that's 419, we have Amanda Lopez, Susie Weaskus, Tonia Garcia, Joanna Marek, Dorika Powaukee, Ashley Oatman, Marie Arthur, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa, Anthony Johnson, Aqua Greene, Jasmine Higheagle. Ms. Lopez.

Amanda Lopez: Thank you, madam chair and um good afternoon General Council. um I'd like to give some comments and question and maybe some um recommendations. So, first, I'd like to comment that um in my position at Uuyit Kimtii (?). I brought um many issues to subcommittee and those have been heard but not quite addressed. So, coming

to subcommittee kind of feels like it's falling on death ears. Um, I don't know if its leadership who's not quite getting together or if it's individuals but um these issues are regarding victims of crimes is very important. Um, the next part of that, let's see. With the gaming commission I mean we're talking about Sho-Bans on encroaching and coming up further North. They've done that with gaming there now gaming in Boise, it's kind of like WOW okay let's do gaming and Zim's. Why can't we get a casino in McCall? There's a lot of funding and money down there that we could be trickling up here. So that's something we should think about the future. Um, with our chief of police and our um in our jail that's already been echoed. I work with crime or victims of crime where we sit down and do safety plans. How are we going to keep this person safe? We have individuals in our community that are contracted jails will not accept. We do an arrest for DV, we do an arrest for sexual assault. They're released back into the community or if Orofino won't take them. Nez Perce county won't take them, a, they're too drunk, they're on drugs, they're violent person. So, my suggestion and recommendation would be to terminate all those contracts and go ahead, use that money and staff the jail. So, um looking at that would probably be helpful.

The other part is we have excessive force and intimidation happening with our officer. One, in particular that I've been dealing with um with victims and with our Now or Later in Life Program with elders and our homeless um that female officer is very intimidating. Pulling people over saying that it's for routine practices um and encroaching on lands when she doesn't have the right too, and this is of course their words um.

And the other part of that is not being followed things like that. So, they're just not feeling safe part of the public safety. Um Another question I have is I, I heard you state we have records from 1991. What is your record retention policy?

Because we are hearing a lot about different records that might be in question. So just wondering about that. And then lastly um, I mean you said that, you know, I wasn't anticipated with the prosecutor's office. You know, everybody's kind of leaving positions need to be filled and everything I'm working with victims that are filing a protection orders. It's also happening like within our court. um So beefing that up a little, I did work with the victim. They didn't get a call for over a week you know that's really heightened um security for them to have that protection order. And hopefully you can give some guidance to as people are leaving, I know you have your expertise. Um, and that's basically it. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Lopez. Response from the panel.

Marc Bensen: Okay, on the on the jail issue um. Yep, if we could dump all of our contracts and have and be fully a staff to run our own jail that would of course that would be ideal. Um. What's called an ADP, our average daily population for now for the tribal members being incarcerated is anywhere from 7 to 11. Um. That um, that would be ideal. We, if, if we

could do that, uh we would need we would need to hire six more staff. The budget we've been given is for six staff, we need 12. Um, if we if, if that was that was given to us in the budget, we could do it, we could cancel contracts or have them as a backup only. So, that's what we need to. We, we work with what we're given. So, yes. On any excessive force issue, bring that forward to the police department. Any excessive force by policy we investigate, and if there is an issue we will deal with it. That's what we will do that is that is a policy is if there's a pattern and there's something an its not being seen, we will deal with it. Records retention, it depends on the issue, if it's a misdemeanor or felony. We have, we have records retention, of 7-10 years and it depends on what we have, how we have it, and how we hold it. Whether it's a hard copy, whether it's in computer storage. It depends on what we have per policy, yeah, and we do have a policy.

Eva White: Um, with regards to the court system and the length of time for a hearing. Um, we're still without a chief judge and we also have a turnover with regards to our court administrator. Um, we're starting to settle in, we do have a new court administrator. Um and she's being very um careful about making those things are taken care of. But I will make sure and make contact with her, um, in regards to that. As well as, court staff, right now we have a judge that's here for only two days a week. And then he appears the other three days by on Zoom or by phone, that's part of his contract. So, but we're looking to get the chief judge, we actually have an interview moving forward, uh, um, hopefully soon with that position. But I will definitely like to look into that issue and I'd like to talk.

Chair: Ms. (inaudible), or are you passing it down? Mr. Bohnnee.

Gabriel Bohnnee: Uh, Gaming Commission, it uh was mentioned, you know, we are the regulators or the gaming commission to the tribe and uh the Enterprises, most likely will need to go acquire land in Boise area and then move in that direction. You know, we would be the regulators over that. As noted through the enterprise report and the current processes that are going on in Clarkston with Redwolf, and attaining, that whole process would have to be done and the timing. But, you know, being within the state of Idaho, uh, we already having compact, you know, how that is uh, a possibility. But, you know, as mentioned we're just the regulators at a point where we regulate gaming and uh, we would be willing to move forward as such. And just like with Washington, you know, it's a new state, a new compact, you know, so we are looking forward to those opportunities and dollars we have to gain from those.

Chair: Okay, so we shall recognize Susie Weaskus. We have Susie Weaskus, Tonia Garcia, Joanna Marek.

Susie Weaskus: Yeah. Uh, thank you, uh. I had several concerns. I guess, uh, when I hear that tribal police are getting training, it kind of bothers me, we do things for training and are they going to stay with the tribe for a long time? Because, I remember when they hired Danny, he was a county probation officer, and he worked for the tribe as a tribal police officer, and they gave him all kinds of training. And then he left, and now he is some kind of big police officer in Asotin County. So, that concerns me that free training is being offered to the police officers. That's one concern with Law & Order. Another one is, um, the dog problem. Um, my grandkids and great grandkids can't play outside because of the dogs and the officers respond. And it bothers me that they might get bit and that they can't even play in their own yard and they have a big ole trampoline out there. And the officers say that um, that we don't have a dog ordinance or a dog person. And I thought, well I've done this complaining and complained to NPTEC since last fall. So, when is this going to happen? And the other concern I had was uh, when Harry Slickpoo got his award, um he had a pamphlet. And that pamphlet, down by Southfork the Sho-Bans named it one of their tribal names; and I thought, how dare they? And you know, I can't read their language, I don't know what they called it. But then I was talking to Eric with Fish Commission, and he went down and pulled it out. And I thought, good for Eric. So, now Harry Slickpoo got this grant and thought he could be naming all these places. I hope he can pick a good Nez Perce name for Southfork. And that's all. Thank you, folks.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Weaskus. Response from the panel. Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: Uh, the code does say that there's a dog person or dog catcher, can't really use that language, but that the police should not perform the function of the dog catcher. All of them. So, I put that email in after you sent it to me. Sorry to nepotize here, but auntie, yeah, you did send that to me, and I did forward it on. And I did find that piece to the code and forward that on to the LOEO, the chain of command.

Marc Bensen: On, on the dog problem. We are taking on dog calls the best we can. And we are turning them over to the uh, LC Valley Animal clinic. If they are a dangerous animal, we are still citing dogs. We are also, um, still taking dogs that are, forced, to farm people. So, we are still handing dog problems there (inaudible). Uh, as far as, uh, the training is concerned, um, part of training good officers is sending them to training. Um, since I've been here, we have lost two officers. Uh, one officer went for the money, and one officer went because he got divorced and left. But uh, we have uh, part of the way to keep an officer is to provide good training, and you know, our benefits package is pretty comparable to uh, departments in the region. So, we're keeping offices, and uh, we're keeping them trained, and the best training for you. Uh, so, uh, its working, its been working

out, and we're focusing on training to what's most relevant to the community. So, um, the training we are providing is working out for the department and the community.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Uh, Chief Bensen. We have Tonia Garcia, Joanna Marek, Dorika Powauke.

Tonia Garcia: Uh, my name is Tonia Garcia, and I wanted to address the Police Department. I've had a relative taken to Orofino and he wasn't the right person, they misidentified him. Another person got sent to Orofino jail, and they were almost mug for their pain pills in there that the clinic had given them. So, how safe are they? They are not let out up there, outside, and they are stuck in their cells. But the thing that brought this to my attention is the high bails, and the act itself, it shouldn't have been put out in a public forum. That domestic violence act, it should have been in a public forum for the tribal members to discuss it and what the implications are. And there wasn't any, it's an emergency amendment that passed that. Now there's some good things in there, but there's far more worse things. Because we're practicing sooyaapoo justice, not restorative justice. Our tribal court does not reflect our cultural values. We've made felonies out of our people, felons, at an alarming rate. Now I would say, if we can't fix this to make it work for us, we need to rescind it. And the police need to be trained better. All that officer had to do was turn around and ask another person, is this who he claims to be? Because it was at Valley Foods, where he was arrested, mistakenly. And I don't know why it was passed under an emergency amendment. Bail is at, there some people where their bail is at \$50,000, a \$100,000. The man down the street that shot two people, his bail was at \$25,000 for Nez Perce County. Now this Act is very harmful to our people under those circumstances, we have to manage it. We have to get our court going, our justice system reflecting our traditions and our values. I, I feel very bad for some of the young people that went and from what I see from the court and some of the decisions, they're not applied, the same standards aren't applied to everyone. But I would also like to say this about tribal preference, that resolution has never been rescinded, it must be honored. Especially when they are going to face real hard economic crimes. So, probably in the future some time, I would like to see our tribal constitution revised to reflect that the priority and responsibility of NPTEC is to look out for the welfare of its tribal members, because if we're gone there's no treaties or anything. So, we have to take care of each other, respect each other, and honor our traditions and culture. We don't, our elders didn't force things on anybody, they talked about it, they discussed it. So, I would like to see a lot of input into see how we can make this act work and if it doesn't, then I would move that we rescind it. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Garcia. Response from the panel.

Marc Bensen: On this mis-ID'ing, mam, you can come talk to me about that. I can work that out. That part we can do. Um, the bail and the other part, that would be...

Eva White: Sorry, they turned it off. Thank you, Ms. Garcia. I appreciate your comments. This occurred, I was not here when this occurred and I'm not exactly sure as to why it was put into place the way it was put into place. I would be very happy to speak with you, if you would ever like to come to my office and meet with me so we can discuss this. Um, we have had conversations in front of the subcommittee in regards to this um, the issues that are going forward. I have had discussions with the court staff and the judges with regards to the amount of bail. We're, we're working on it and I'm doing what I can do. But like I said, it all happened before I was here. But I agree with you, that there needs to be some changes that are in place and that's what I'm trying to do. The difficulty of course, is that the chief judge will have to be put into place and that we won't, we don't have any prosecutors until I can hire a new one. So. Um but, I can work with any interim as well, to address that as well. To make sure that the bail is more appropriate.

Chair: Mr. Gould.

Aaron Gould: Thank you, madam chair and Ms. Garcia for the question. Uh, that resolution that you're talking is uh, 24-506. And in March in our 2nd Law & Order subcommittee, we did a review of that, and we ask staff to bring forward any questions or bring forward concerns, on how it should really work and of course rescission is always an option. And it didn't end there; we are going to continue that discussion. Because what was a part of the, it was my fault, I was in Tuscan at a (inaudible) conference, but I did put it to the agenda for the last one we just had. So, I might not be Law & Order chair this week, but I will make sure it goes on the agenda, make sure there's a resolution. And I'm sure you're going to hold me to it. To make sure we discuss that 24-506 where, and all of this, the stem, I think the root of misunderstanding is. (inaudible) So, I appreciate your comment and concerns and fortunately (inaudible), Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. We recognize Joanna Marek and then Dorika Powaukee. So, one second, let me read the list here. We have Joanna Marek, Dorika Powaukee, Ashley Oatman, Marie Arthur, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa, Anthony Johnson, Aqua Greene, Jasmine Higheagle, Connie Guillory, Gloria Greene.

Joanna Marek: Okay, I don't know if everyone can see me. I apologize. Um, first off I just want to make a comment. I did snap at Connie Watters, I mean Connie Guillory. Uh, there was no clarification that I did not ask that a resolution be developed against the elders program. I just wanted the resolution that states that every elder has to get a medical report to be provided meals. So, Connie, I'm sorry, and I hope everyone else understands

that. And for the other one, I never asked for food. I know my roots, if I don't have sooyaapoo food, I know where to go dig and get my food. And like I say, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, well I probably eat to many. But if I really am, or my family really be starviing, I know where to get our foods. We'll never starve. Madam Chair, I would like to request that the audit reports and findings of 1924 and 1925, that were just completed. That would be a motion. For any tribal member, and I thought it would be a good place to bring it through Law & Order. For anyone who violates it, as a tribal member, lets any one of our entities that charges can be filed. Because our audit, unless you guys can tell me where to get it on the website, but I've been looking for them on the web. So, that would be a motion I have. Or do we just request it?

Chair: Ms. Marek, so our secretary has it right. So, your motion is for the 1924 and 1925 audit reports that were just completed.

Ms. Marek: Yes, the audit reports. From all entities, we're tribal members, we're entitled to those and those should never not be out here.

Chair: Ms. Marek, do you mean 2024 and 2025?

Ms. Marek: Yes, I'm sorry.

Chair: Ms. Marek, we just want to make sure we have this correct. If you just want to read it again, your motion.

Ms. Marek: My motion would be to release the 2024 and 2025 audit reports, fact and findings for all the tribal entities.

Chair: Ms. Marek, just so we have it correct. So, the motion is to release the 2024 and 2025 audit reports for all the tribal entities.

Ms. Marek: Yes, the facts and findings as well.

Chair: Oh, the facts and findings.

Ms. Marek: I'll just let everyone know, that if I don't get a second that I'll go in, because legally I'm entitled to those.

Chair: Okay, Ms. Marek. So, we have to motion to release the 2024 and 2025 audit reports, and the facts and findings for all the tribal entities.

Ms. Marek: Correct.

Chair: Is there a second? Second Ms. Guillory. Is there any discussion on the motion? Ms. Danae Wilson.

Danae Wilson: Um, madam chair. The 2025 wont be completed until this fall for the tribal government, but the 2024 is finished.

Chair: Is there any further discussion? Ms. Alene Powaukee.

Alene Powaukee: That was going to be my point of clarification, is that if that is what you're looking for, to include the 2025 tribal audit because I know it doesn't get done and normally isn't discussed until the September.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Powaukee. Is there any further discussion on the motion? Any further discussion on the motion? Sergio, Sergio Islas

Sergio Islas: I guess, are we talking financial audit? Or are we talking like operations? And when do these have to be done by? So, we go by fiscal year at the clinic. And then gaming is like (inaudible) and I think one of theirs is done by calendar year. So, is that what we're talking about? Or are we talking about any and all audits? Or are we talking purely financial audits?

Chair: Ms. Marek, are we talking financial audit?

Ms. Marek: It will be all financial audits for the programs, and I've been on there, so I know that they're yearly, quarterly, whatever. We want the facts & findings, I do.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Marek for that clarification. Is there any further discussion on the motion? Any further discussion on the motion? If there's no further discussion on the motion, I'll recognize the call for the question. All those in favor of, to release the 2024 and 2025 financial audit reports, including the facts and findings for all the tribal entities. Please signify by saying I. Those opposed please say no. Motion Carried. Ms. Marek.

Joanna Marek: Thank you, Madam chair. The other one I wanted to address, I know I believe Land Services would be tomorrow. But we had worked, when I was on council, so this would be for Law & Order too. There was, um, I will have to go back through the railroad grant act, I'm not sure, but they still have to come back through the tribe. And they were at trespass from the time they had erected that railroad. And that's money owed to the tribe, um as well as the roads, I know that. Um, a lot of my work was held up, not worked on. Because they weren't going to reelect me. So, it dropped. But I think of the money, every day, these railroad cars illegally parked. Who do they owe money to, but the Nez Perce Tribe, and not the state. And that would be it, I guess until I get to Land Commission because I do have some other things. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Marek. Mr. Gould.

Mr. Gould: Thank you, Ms. Joanna. I'd be happy to share some information with you and whatever you have. Thank you.

Chair: Okay, so we'll have Dorika Powaukee, Ashley Oatman, Marie Arthur, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa, Anthony Johnson, Aqua Greene, Jasmine Higheagle, Connie Guillory, Gloria Greene.

Dorika Powaukee: Good afternoon, everyone. I will keep this short and sweet. I have been working with Stanford University, with their codex department, which the center for legal chromatics, uh Urban Logic, and school of engineering's, uh, Bruce Kahan. So, I have a company that is a strategic political, strategist consulting company. And I have a Anella Tucker, who is currently at the tribal legal department, who is working as an assistant, currently working down there with Bruce Kahan. And what we're doing is, we are taking our tribal code, and our treaties, and our land information and putting them in a data analysis so that each and every tribal member has access to um, all of our treaty rights. Um, all of the tribal laws that basically are falling short because of obvious staffing situations. I want to shoulder what Ms. Marek just said about the railroads. Because the railroads are all; well because there is one that is on part of our family trust. And that money would be, she's talking about getting money back from the state, but realistically it would be calculated, it's called an inflation rate calculator. And you take that from when the contract was actually initially signed to when it was no longer of use. So, you take that calculation and put that into the GDP of the United States at its current and that amount would be what would be owed to the tribe. So, that's how that would work. And that's a separate legal amount, that obviously our OLC would have to handle. But this, what I'm talking about is for each and every individual, and all I'm requesting is a meeting um, with the subcommittee, uh, with Urban Logic, with Stanford University, with um, with our crew. To explain what we do, um, the data analytics collections and um how it would apply to our treaty rights and helping individuals so that we can start getting on this, because my fear is. So, we just had a, um, somebody driving through the reservation with a camera from Google, and they came from California. And I don't even know they are allowed to do that, I think they were trespassing. Because from what I understand, in order to do something like that, you have to be approved by the SCC, and through the SCC you have to have a contract federally with the Tribe in order to have anyone come and survey our lands. And they were just driving around, recording. So, anyway that's all I have to say and I'm just hoping that we can continue further in a meeting. That's all.

Chair: Thank you, uh Mr. Gould.

Mr. Gould: Yes and thank you for your concern. And only if you bring Gravi Ablaski (?), I love his reading, I wrote, uh I love what he writes. He does pretty cool things out of Stanford,

bring him. It might be more suitable for him, because we will work on that, because it sounds like a much larger thing that, you know, I was advocating for A.I. But it sounds like you guys already got something cool like economics models running, I'm definitely committed to talking with you. We will have a conversation later, don't to take up the people's time.

Dorika Powaukee: Yeah, we were talking about it earlier and I wanted to let you know we were already doing it. Okay, thanks.

Chair: Okay assembly, we have 10 more people. It's five o'clock, uh, questions and answers will still continue with this panel, because they are on the agenda for questions and answer for tomorrow. Judy. So, there's a motion to recess. Is there a second? Second Gwen Carter. All those in favor, please signify by saying I. Those opposed, please say no. Motion carried. I would like to invite our Chaplin, Ferris Paisano, to close us for the day. Then I would also like to recognize Mr. Larry Greene, he is up here for the TERO Commission. If you have any TERO Commission questions.

4:57 – 7am polling is open

Saturday May 9, 2026

9:11 – calling meeting back to order.

Chair: Invite our panelist back up, we will continue with the questions and comments. Oh, excuse me, I would like to invite Mr. Ferris Paisano up to open for our final day of general council.

Mr. Paisano – prayer

Chair: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Paisano. So, today we are to continuing the Law & Order inter-governmental affairs. We're at the question and comments for the panel. so Again, we have the law and order and government affairs chairperson Aaron Gould, law and justice executive officer Eva White, Chief of Police Department Bensen in gaming commission, Gabriel Bonney, tarot director Melvin wheeler and the general commission representative Larry green.

Law & Order Subcommittee panel – resume questions & comments

Ashley Oatman: I came in and asked, uh, um, I believe to Bensen, how many times where they allowed to break restraining orders? Whether they are temporary restraining orders or granted the regular amount of time. Um, how many chances are given before they picked up or any action is taken by any law enforcement? Uh. There seems to be a lot of miscommunication

between the prosecutor's office and um law enforcement. Uh, I just wanted to see if there was anything done or if you guys had an action plan to fix those solutions, fix, come up with a solution to fix those miscommunications? And then um, I believe that was it. I just the where are the policies on the un stalkers, looked into and how many chances are they given before action is taken by law enforcement?

Chair: Thank you. Miss Oatman. Um, Chief Bensen.

Chief Bensen: With the current, with the current tribal code um. I haven't had any um direction and change for what we have. Um we received, we received 911 calls or cases for stalking or harassment. If we have a valid case, we'll make the arrest or report charges to the prosecution. Um like I said, with, with the tribal law we do have in place, we make, make the arrest or report for the case the um that's that's what we have. That's and we make cases um if, if, if the drug judge or the prosecutor lets them go yeah. Doesn't, doesn't, they don't serve jail time we have, we have to go out in another call goes through. We have to make another arrest and it's frustrating for us on our side too. um A majority of my career has been uh special victims, violent crimes and I've seen this happen in other jurisdictions too um. But once we do get a case, we we do present, produce, present our cases to the prosecution. Um and as far as I know, there is no new tribal codes for harassment or stalking in place. We have, what we have is in place.

Eva White: So, uh, this is apparently something that came up before I came, but in as the LOEO, but I would ask you to please make an appointment to come and speak with me so that we can address those policies. I have not been made aware of what those policies might have been, but I would definitely um help you move them forward.

Chair: Mr. Gould?

Aaron Gould: Yeah, uh, thanks for your concern. I don't know enough about it to answer intelligently. So I'd like to talk to you on the side, if that's ok? Chase this one down with the LOEO so I can understand it a lot better. I'm aware. So, I would appreciate the time to talk to you, is that okay?

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. We'll recognize Marie Baheza, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa. Ms. Baheza.

Marie Baheza: um Hello, my name is Marie Baheza, enrollment #3177. I am a member of Chief Whitebird band. One thing I wanted to bring up, and one thing that's um you know was brought up yesterday by Mr. Rickman about dispatch. We do have the infrastructure for dispatch when John Williamson and I were looking at servers, um, for the jail server, we order to capacity, and so we already have the infrastructure to be able to do dispatch.

There is no cost, startup costs that you need to pay upfront. That's already there. The only thing that you have to worry about the salaries and computers for those dispatchers, we built that we ordered that to capacity. So, we could have our data transferred from our old servers and also from Nez Perce county. When I was there back in September, I was working with Nez Perce county and LPD to be able to get that data transferred, and of course that project has not even been continued on. So, I don't know where you guys are on with that. But one of the things that occurred when those jail servers were installed back in August 2024 a week before those servers were installed. A detective requested it to destroy three servers. Three police servers that contained police records from 2006 to 2016. All, all of your cases from, from those times if you are a victim during those times, guess what, the police do not have any record of it. There's not here is no proper documentation to track the chain of evidence that you talked about yesterday that saying that we are up to standards. No, we are not. We are not up to standards because you do not have proper chain of command, the documentation to back up all the evidence that Jacob Aubertin is um is categorizing. You do not. And another thing is and this is where my whistle blower was because I filed a whistle blower on this same issue. And ever since then I've been retaliated against because I brought this up to my leadership. And it also...

Chair: Ms. Baheza?

Marie Baheza: Yes?

Chair: So, we're not speaking about any personnel issues.

Marie Baheza: We're talking about policy violations, we're talking about potential criminal... criminal offenses here.

Chair: So, if you want to keep it in that broad prospect.

Marie Baheza: Okay well let me see let me read to you what it says in the federal statutes regarding destruction of records, from 18-2071: concealment removal or mutilation generally, A. Whoever willfully and unlawfully conceals and removes mutilate, obliterate or destroys or attempt to do so or with intent to take so takes and carries a way any record proceeding, map, book, paper, document or other thing filed or deposited with any clerk or officer of any court of the United States or in any public office or any judicial or public officer of the United States shall be fined under this title imprisonment not more than 3 years or both who ever having the custody of any such record proceeding map book, document paper or anything; Willfully unlawfully concealed, removes, mutilate, obliterate, falsified or destroys the same shall be fined under the title or imprisonment not more than 3 years or both and shall forfeit his office and we disqualified from holding any office under the United States as used in this subsection. The term office does not include office held

by any person as a retired officer of the armed forces of the United States. Now, what happened is it was investigated and it was deemed a personnel issue. It is not a personnel issue. This is a crime against the people. And it was covered up. Now I only know collusion by uh definition, but seeing it at this level is despicable. And it's asinine that it has to, it has to be come to this, and it's asinine to me that it has not been presented to the tribal membership. Because I did add it to my fall, uh general council report in 2024, I added into my spring General Council 2025. When I presented that to my leader to my chain of command and it did, I did not get funneled out to the general council. So, you can see my frustration because this was not, this is not common knowledge, and it was being covered up under executive session. So, there is collusion in this, and I would like it to be investigated by an external agency.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Baheza. Any response from the panel?

Eva White: So, this incident happened before I came on as LOEO and I have followed through um as requested or required to address the issue with regards to whistle blower I. um That was my previous that was my predecessor and I followed up where he hadn't. I do know that any evidence that's related to any cases that were filed during that time is currently in, there are boxes of actual hard copies of that evidence. The prosecutor's office also has copies of anything that was regarding to any cases as with the federal government, if there were any federal matters that were dealt with in the tribal court would have anything as well. So, any of that information that would have been on those servers with regards to cases that were filed have those backups, or those hard copies are there. um This is uh an issue that we have addressed a number of different times. There are a number of reasons why those towers were um we're not treated as though they wear servers. And the main. One of the main ones was there was nobody who knew, besides Ms. Baheza, who was what was on those servers. But there was an investigation, there was no criminal intent, so it did not go out to any outside investigation.

Chair: Mr. Bensen, or Chief.

Chief Bensen: Uh, nowhere in my contract where it says... Wow, on the server issue, we've gone over this several times. Again, there was no criminal intent. The person in charge of the servers, their maintenance or upkeep or how they should be properly placed was Marie Baheza. They were found in a pile of rat filth, un, unkept, undocumented. They look like they were in a pile of garbage, people.

Chair: Chief Bensen.

Chief Bensen: Uh

Chair: No, Mr. Chief Bensen. I don't appreciate that response. If you could answer the question without being subjective about it.

Chief Bensen: What? That's a comment? I am answering the question.

Chair: Mr. Chief Bensen, we are going to continue to Mr. Gould if that's how you are going to continue to respond.

Eva White: Um. So, this was an internal um issue that was taken care of or that was addressed if you have more questions about it and you feel that there's something else that should be done. Please come to my office and I will follow through. I follow the procedures. I follow the processes that were required. A determination was made. If you don't agree with that, come and speak with me and I will move, I will do whatever it is that I need to do or that I'm allowed to do, to take care of it. But I just wanna make sure that everybody is aware that any important information regarding those cases, there are hard copies that are in the appropriate places and has not been lost. It has been lost as far as on the servers go, but it has not been lost as far as anything that goes in front of the court or anything that a prosecutor or um anybody would need to deal with any of those cases from 2016 and before.

Chair: Mr. Gould?

Aaron Gould: Thank you, madam Chair. The legal maximum, of all law is written on mantle of public trust. I say, I agree with you. I want to see an outside investigation.

Chair: Ms. Baheza, a quick follow up.

Marie Baheza: Madam chair, what I would like to do is present a motion to have an external investigation on the server issue.

– ***motion*** to have the Election Judges to oversee an external investigation on Nez Perce Tribal Police Department's destruction of servers that contain criminal data from 2006-2016 with a follow up to Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee withing 60 days, and to have NPTEC provide a budget.

Chair: So, Ms. Baheza, just give us a second to make sure we get your motion correctly. Ms. Baheza could you repeat it again?

Marie Baheza: I'd like to place the motion for an external investigation on the destruction of the servers that contain criminal data from 2006 to 2016.

Secretary Oatman: Okay, just so I have it clear, "a motion to have an external investigation on the destruction of servers that contain..."

Marie Baheza: criminal data from 2006 to 2016.

Aaron Gould: Madam Chair?

Chair: Mr. Gould?

Aaron Gould: Madam Chair, uh, I would suggest a time frame with the motion maker.

Marie Baheza: With a follow-up being presented to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee within 60 days.

Chair: Ms. Baheza, do you want to come read it? Okay, to the assembly. The motion has been made by Ms. Baheza, "To you have an external investigation on the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department's destruction of servers that contain criminal data from 2006~2016 with a follow up to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee within 60 days." Is there a second? Second, Gloria Green. Is there any discussion on the motion? Ms. Judy Oatman.

2nd – Gloria Greene

Discussion

Judy Oatman: Oh, thank you, I'm Judy Oatman. I am for this motion. and I think it's a, um really a good addition to some transparency, especially in that department. NPTEC um But I think that the motion makers should probably, I guess add to this to direct NPTEC to come up with some money for this investigation because that kind of it's gonna cost some money, it's gonna be an external investigation. We're already in dire straits, we you know we're going broke in our in our jail department. Um. This is really disheartening because this is the heart of our people, and this is their livelihood, this is their freedom and this is all of the sun for you guys playing any kind of games with it. You know? Um I just wish our tribe wouldn't keep going backwards with, you know, we've made these mistakes in the past and we, we bring some people back to make the same mistakes again. And I just, I don't know when we're. I, I told them, NPTEC, why are you guys? We need to go with some new blood in the LOEO. We, we need more independence and stuff because even my own stories with, with the atrocities, atrocities that when she was current judge would you know were right, but I'm not going to get into personnel. I'm just saying policy wise, we're making some big mistakes by going backwards. That was backwards. So, Ms. Baheza, if you don't mind amending it to make sure that NPTEC includes a budget so that this does get done in 60 days because I'm all for it. Thank you.

Chair: Is there any objection to including what Ms. Oatman...

Marie Baheza: Uh, Madam Chair, I do agree with that amendment.

Chair: And if there's no objection from the assembly will include that verbiage. Before you, Mr. Holt, we had um Kay Seven.

Kay Seven: Kay Seven, enrollment #1905. So, Judy is correct, you know? We're wanting to have a, a legal system, judicial system that is fair, transparent with integrity that people can trust. I think we began to lose that trust when we saw an episode include, colluding in this room that we were witnessed to when an executive director stood up and presented a resolution seconded by the human resource director. A General Council chairman and NPTEC chairman stood in this room and let this personnel issue float for 4 hours until it was let go. From that point on, we watched a staff member come up and tell us what they were seeing in the Law & Order system that really what I remember is what we heard was very concerning because you couldn't hear a needle drop in this room. So, since that day I've not trusted certain individuals in this organization and have referred to certain individuals as part of the club. Do you belong to the club? Are you an individual running for a tribal elected position and want to be part of that club? And so, if we're going to do an investigation, is the investigation going to be from an external party that is neutral, has the qualifications to tell the story that's really happening with our judicial branch of the Nez Perce tribe because there are things going on. We watched a prosecutor leave, two leave recently. Is that because certain members of our body, whether you're in leadership or management, are trying to weed out certain people who have integrity, who have the qualifications, the professionalism to lead a law enforcement department for the Nez Perce Tribe was a little um, annoyed because our law enforcement has done good things. Our chair, our, our chief has done good things. He's known. He has a reputation nationwide for what he does, but no one talks about that. Even our communication system, they like to talk about good news, but they won't talk about our law enforcement system and the good things are doing. So, who's holding that information from us? So, I want a fair, unbiased, neutral investigation that will tell the full story and bring out some of the things that are hiding under the carpet because there's something under there under the rug that we don't know about and we need to learn.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Seven. The floor will recognize Mr. David Holt.

David Holt: Madam chair, panel, general council, ti'pis qiiwn old man David, David Holt. Just a, a matter of information and not go on one side or the other. When it comes to crime in Indian country, whether it's the show bands down in uh southern part of our country infringing upon our treaty rights as Niimiipuu. The FBI has stood up and said, if the Shobans do that, we are the first ones that you should contact. um and This is a matter of record that when the Shobans come up, we call the FBI. But according to law and crime on the Indian reservations that US code uh 181163, as I talked about yesterday. And also, any kind

of white-collar crime on the Indian reservations, it talks about computers and uh, in essence, the, the servers as automatically being under the the wings of that law. So, the FBI actually has jurisdiction under that type of crime. The cost, financial cost is not a burden to that type of investigation. And they are the ones that provide for that type of investigation.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Holt. So, I have um let me see one Joanna Marek, Connie Guillory. Anybody Else? Hold on, Ms. Marek. Mr. Ryan Oatman. And then um go ahead, Ms. Merrick.

Joanna Marek: Thank you and good morning, everyone. um I am for the motion. Um Number one, everyone knew and I read. So, I don't know of but was NPTEC that took it off the air, off of Facebook. But I read some really interesting things that my home is supposed to be a drug dealing home. um I had a granddaughter. Forgive me. She and her boyfriend were living with me. I did not know he had any kind of a record or was wanted or anything. And then all of us sudden I had marshals and I know one of them had to be the ICE because of how they're dressed. I see on TV. I talked to my granddaughter about it because I said, you look at Facebook says my home is a drug dealing home and I never did that. This is what my people now think of me and it hasn't stopped. It's rampant in this community. So, I support this. I really support this because I know I'm not the only one that's an innocent home, an innocent people that are being labeled. I'm not perfect. I'm like any one of us. I'm blessed with the good, the bad and the ugly. And I ask for forgiveness if I ever judge because I'm not perfect, or I get on my soapbox. So, I am in support of this. It works for only certain people. Thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Marek. We will recognize Connie Guillory and then Ryan Oatman.

Connie Guillory: Good morning, everyone. Wow, I thought some of this was had left yesterday. but Um, I would like to say, I forgot my notes at the house to say, but um, we have, well the Law & Order chairman knew, other staff elected leaders knew. But I think if you were to um summarize everything that has been said, we're a mess. It's like someone said, let's not go backwards, but we are, but we do. And I don't know what the answer is. I do know that it takes money to make change. We're gonna have budget hearings and every year in status quo. Every year status quo nothing changes maybe the dollar amount, but the philosophy or the intent behind um the uh, the line items, the departments, whatever remain the same and I do know that they ask for input from the community. I do know that I don't know who comes out. I know I didn't, but maybe I will now, but uh I guess uh from this all because I forgot my notes. Um To Mr. Gould that a new person, new ideas, new hope, maybe. Because what you've heard for the last 3 days is not hope. What you've heard is the dysfunction within the organization. thank you.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Guillory. We'll recognize Ryan Oatman.

Ryan Oatman: Okay, I just want to start off to say my name is Ryan Oatman, parents are Kenny, the late Kenny Oatman and uh Paul Walker Moody.

My grandparents are Ron & Lois Oatman and they raised me for a majority of my life when I was younger. So, A lot of my uh, my inability to not tell the truth is from my grandpa on. So, I'm just gonna say right now that I don't trust NPTEC to make that choice for the external investigation because we're not all getting along. That's just the truth. We're all on different sides. So, ever since I got elected May 2021, there was two divisions, two sides and I was up the boat this way or that way. And t's a bunch of bull where executive, where the, the executive directors of this tribe and this is how we operating and been operating and I'm getting tired of it. And I, you know, I'm scared for the new, um NPTEC people that are gonna get on because this is the mess they're gonna walk into. You know, and I'm a master, I have a master's level you know. You know, um I've always been able to pick my team and hire a good team. But on NPTEC you just get thrown on a team. You don't know how you're all gonna mesh you know and what your ethics are, your professional backgrounds or what have you. But I don't trust our NPTEC to pick this external investigation. You know, I'm with Kay, there's a lot more going on than just this subject that we brought up. And I support you, Marie, and I support what you bring into the floor. You know. You're a tribal member from this tribal community. I grew up with you, I've known you affectionately as hamburger. You know, we go way back. So, uh, we are tribal people, the communities, and we got to make the change. We can't have people come out from other communities. Non tribals make decisions for us, we got to do it, we got to save ourselves. We got to listen to our people like Judy said, the people are on Top of everybody, not NPTEC. That's the way it should be. You guys should be coming up what to do. Thats the way it needs to work. Judy, it needs to be the school of fish going after the shark. That's what it needs to be. So, I'm just kind of tired of this bull and I had to be honest about it. Qeci'yew'yew.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Oatman. Okay, Mr. Oatman was our last speaker. Marisa Rickman.

Marisa Rickman: Hello, good morning. I'm Marisa Rickman. And Um, I need to confront the, the Law enforcement of our tribe, and I've been dealing with problems for years with our law enforcement,

Chair: Ms. Rickman, are you speaking to the motion that's on the floor right now?

Ms. Rickman: What's the motion right now?

Secretary Oatman: Motion by Marie Baheza, is a motion to have an external investigation on the Nez Perce Tribal police department's destruction of servers that contain criminal

data from 2006 to 2016, with a follow up to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee within 60 days and to have NPTEC, I think, provide a budget or something. I haven't added that part yet, so.

Ms. Rickman: Oh, I need to talk after this motion. But, I agree with it. I agree with it, but have to say something after.

Chair: Ms. Judy Oatman.

Judy Oatman: Thank you madam chair. So um. In light of uh what we just, um I guess was told by our elected leader, I think we need to reconsider um the motion to maybe go. We need to, we need to find an independent panel that can do this and I don't know if it would be with resolutions committee or have our election judges who I do trust, maybe have our election judges, have them? If the motion maker would mind say the election judges come up with the external investigation, even if that means a referral to the FBI, then that happens. We have to clean our tribe up and if that means an FBI investigation then sobeit. Miss motion maker if you could add that to say our election judges, the people we've entrusted to do the probably the most important job we have, which is our elections. If you could and that to have them be the personnel to go in and, and because I, they've been vetted to be there. So, if that's okay with the motion maker, I would like to amend that to have the resolution or the, the election judges election judges make that selection. They since we can't trust our nine NPTEC right now. Thank you.

Ms. Baheza: Um Madam Chair, I do agree with that language. Um, I do what believe our election judges do have um integrity and will carry this out.

Chair: If there is a no objection from the floor to adding the election judges. Okay there's no more further comments regarding, or to this motion, I'll recognize the call for the question. Okay folks, all those in favor to have the election judges oversee an external investigation on the Nez Perce tribal police department's destruction of servers that contain criminal data from 2006 to 2016 with a follow up to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee within 30 days and to have NPTEC, I mean 60 days, excuse me, and to have NPTEC provided budget. All those in favor please signify by saying aye. Those proposed please say no.

Motion Carried.

Chair: So, here's our list of uh speakers. I have, excuse me, Darlene Pinkham, Carla Timentwa, Aqua Greene, Jasmine Higheagle, Connie Guillory, Gloria Greene, Gary Dorr, Marissa Rickman, Willy Allman, Robert Bulltail, Roberta Bisbee. So, no Darlene Pinkham. Carla Timentwa? Aqua Greene, come on down.

Aqua Greene: Uh, Good morning. Felt like the prices right. Um, uh My question, I guess comment is to the Law & Order. uh I understand that there was awards and recognition done. I know our first uh tribal member that spoke, spoke about a specific police officer, female, and we all know who it is. And I think she knows who she is and she takes pride in her name which, if someone had a bad name for me, which I know there probably is, I would not take pride in it and say this is who I am because I harassed and terrorize people. I wouldn't take pride in that personally, but for 1 week, there was over 12 posts about this one officer who was awarded, I believe, officer of the year. And what was that based off of was based off of stops was it based off of maybe money collected because we know how the city and the county is. We know at the end of every fiscal year and every month there trying to meet their quota, and the cops are out there. I understand that we want a good rapport with Nez Perce county. But it's got to a point where Nez Perce county is out here, parked where tribal cops parked more so than you see him downtown cruising around and you look at our population.

Lapwai is a small population; Nez Perce county is a huge population. Where, when you want to have more cops out there where there is a higher population, and then sitting out here, cruising our streets. I remember when I was growing up, we didn't have staters in in uh county crews in our streets, terrorizing people. I don't appreciate it and I don't like it. I did make a comment of an officer. He's new, I don't even know him, mustache. There's a cop places coming behind me and it's fast it's really fast while I pull in by the, the Lapwai like little park did by the Leighton's. I pull over because I thought oh my gosh this is a like something bad happening because how quick the cap pulled in, and aggressive so I knew there's something going on. So, I immediately pulled over and thought hopefully whatever is going on is you know the matter is okay to only find out the matter was me, the cop pulls up behind me and I'm like well wait, he's pulling me over and I was like fabragasted because I could do understand like that was a he cut off the highway, it was it was fast, it was aggressive to a point where I thought something serious was going on. Well, I had a taillight that was out and I thought oh my gosh my tail line I even asked them, why am I stopped while your tail lights out? I know when you make a stop, the police report on who they're stopping, where they're located and if it's a ten, 10, 6, 10, 4, what your numbers, what every officer understands those. And here comes Megan pulling up, flashing her line in the car, terrorizing. and I was like, is this call is this called for you have backup for a taillight out. I mean that to me was ridiculous. And then she I pulled out my phone because I'm going to record, I know, I'm sorry, I don't trust them. I trust a few, I, I do trust our tribal cops that are next person. I do trust them. There is a rapport, there is a true rapport with them and they do really care about the community. They do understand growing up, up here. And so, I did I pulled out my phone and her first response, but was oh you put me on

Facebook, and I thought really that's what your response is. That's what your care is and your character at that. I just think it needs to stop. I want to know why one cop who you get the most complaints about maybe every one needs to start filing a written complaint if you are harassed write a written complaint because as complaining on Facebook is only gonna go out to community members and we're gonna have 100 people agree with us but until it gets to the folks its literally not gonna go nowhere. So, I encourage tribal members write a written complaint that's it.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Greene. Any response from the panel?

Chief Bense: Thank you, Aqua. On the, on complaints on officers on your, your Nez Perce community Facebook pages; I, I, I'm not on, I don't follow. Um, if you, if you do have an officer we do follow up on complaints if we do have written complaints. Um, we, we dealt out punishment we dealt out written reprimand we're giving people time off for, for things they have done, done wrong. So, we if, we have, if we have something in writing, we, we will follow up on it. Um, I, that's, that's, that's, that's how it works. If it's, if it's written, we can work on it. So, if you have a complaint on an officer, we will follow up on it. I'm, like I said, we have received written, we have, we have received written complaints, we have dealt out and we dealt out discipline for them. And that's for any officer.

Chair: Thank you, Chief Bensen. Okay. So, Jasmine is manning a polling station. We have Connie Guillory, oh Jasmine. Why aren't you manning a polling station? Folks, is everything okay? So, again, we're going to have um, decorum in the building here and whatever the issues are? So um, just keep it respectful for to each other, towards, towards each other. I'm not sure you know what's being said or what have you, but I do I this work. Uh Ms. Rickman we have a list of speakers here, we're going to continue with those folks. I just wanna, you know, thank the assembly. uh you know, We're all passionate. We all um love our tribe and we all want a great future, not only for us, but for people we're never going to see. So, with that you know I just uh implore, you know, that we just treat each other with kindness. Uh, Ms. Higheagle.

Jasmine Higheagle: Tac' meeyii Oy'kalo, iinim weniitk Aayat tuukit, sooyaapootimkii Jasmine Higheagle. Um. So, I have some questions for uh for Eva. Um. that Resolution NP 24-506. Um, from my understanding on the on the website page, that's when we adopted the VAWA. Um. But I also heard from previous uh people that have spoke with the confusion with the to lower the enhance sentencing. In the prosecutor's report, um she listed special tribal criminal jurisdiction NP 25-035, which is enacted in 2024. Um. So, I just have questions about that resolution and which one if that's a similar um as a tribal member not understanding when the enhanced sentencing actually began, because both of these say for 2024, but in the uh prosecutors report. It says October 2023 to March 2024,

it says there were 69 felonies, and 85 misdemeanor. So, I'm curious like when, when was that enacted? I know there's like a timeline of when we, we think we were doing it, but how is that legal to be doing enhance sentencing? We don't even have a paper trail of policy to show when that began, um, the other thing that I had a question about um, I felt like the prosecutor uh was um causing some more like division but also throwing a low blow at our NPTEC. There's a section in there that says if the NPTEC does not rescind this authority, the first prosecution will not be the last um and I don't believe there was even a conversation about anybody rescinding the VAWA act, right? That's a good thing for us to have for, um, to be able to prosecute non-Indians on a reservation. And even though there was there was only been one and my fear has being somebody part of community and who I work with like we are creating more harm, I believe in consequences but I also believe in rehabilitation in the report to for the tribal police that talked about doing over 7,000 miles. Right? 7,000 miles for transport. We have tribal members that are not able to even go into jails because uh their mental health, substance abuse um, and why we aren't pushing rehabilitation for our people is my frustration. We need a break cycles, right? If we're gonna continue to criminalize them without the support when they come home, right? We don't have the policies within our human resources. I ran into that even for myself because I have a background. I've so like for people returning home, we're putting up more we have more barriers set, instead of supporting them, especially for our men, right? Especially for our men. In the, in the report to from the prosecutor, it says controlled substance offenses remain the dominant threads consistent with patterns seen across Indian country where addiction and relational fractures of domestic instability account for the majority of serious criminal conduct. There's a pattern for our people, right? Alcoholism, drug addiction, domestic violence. All those, those are things like where our people need to heal from the break those cycles. When there being only criminalizing going to jail, they are in survival, they are not healing, especially our men. You can't go in there and be vulnerable. You can't go in there and just be honest about who you are right? And the things that you've been through because it could be used against you in a prison setting. Native Americans have the highest in crimination for federal prison felonies and we as a community like they are still our tribal members, right? We, we have to create these programs and I know you walked into this position with like a lot on your plate, right? And I am frustrated because I as a tribal member never knew when we got the enhanced sentencing. I'm trying to find information on it and I'm not getting anywhere for it, right? Anywhere for it, when, when it started, when it happened. But the other part of that two is a lack of consistency. I work with a lot of people so I know who is getting help and who isn't. Right? So, a lot of our tribal members will reach out to me if they're not getting the help or they, they have to go to prison, they have to go to jail and then you wait a whole year, and then you have this opportunity, which I had to find out to make a motion to go to treatment,

then if you have the opportunity to go to treatment. Then you try to go to your A-Sam right to get your assessment it says you've been sober that whole time so you don't qualify for treatment anymore. Like why are we putting that prior to them getting help? So, the article three, the Nez Perce Tribal court orders are removing tribal members ability to carry firearms necessary to exercise treaty rights subsistent rights directly affecting food security cultural practice of family stability. If our men, if our people are felons, we have some that are doing great, completely come ah got off probation, got off paper, but then now he's facing charges because he had a firearm caught on a camera, right? Our people if they're gonna change rehabilitate come back into society but they are going to be a felon. There's nothing in the code that shares expungement. Right? We don't. We don't have that in there. There's also nothing in the code that shows like what even the, the felonies, the misdemeanors and what they say class E, class B, but there's no definition to tell us like what that means. Right? So, we're just going off, we show up the court and then we're going off like by, by what they say and what they do, um.

Chair: Ms. Higheagle, if you can conclude.

Ms. Higheagle: Yeah, yeah I can do it. So, my other thing uh for the just the tribal law enforcement um, my, for the tribal law enforcement, just the like be mindful or the like the teachers do for the cultural... like the cultural, um oh what is it? Um Like for, for ourselves you know like the what, what is the proper uh, proper chain of command when we do want to report you know against a tribal officer you know and how, how they're treating, but also like when we are on the hiring two. So, we, we have two officers that are prior uh correction officers and they are treating our people like we're all criminals not like tribal members.

Chair: Thank you, Ms. Higheagle.

Eva White: Um. Thank you, Ms. Higheagle. um with regards to when it was adopted in those those resolutions. I know I'm saying this a lot, but this happened before I came back. It wasn't in place when I left as a chief judge and I and when I came back, this was all happening. So, this was a previous LOEO as well as the chief judge at the time. Um, I would I will look into how this all occurred. I've had other unfortunately, got the matters that have been dealing with, but I again would like to have a meeting with you so that I can make sure I address those questions to you. And then I can share that and maybe a report to the General Council or um make the next general council or something um where everybody can know I'm not trying to keep that information away. I just don't know what it is. um I will be honest when, when it was brought up when I was the chief judge, I didn't think it was appropriate. I didn't think that it worked for the tribe, but after I left it became it, it became law. So, um I will definitely look into all of these issues that you're having or that you've raised because I share a lot of those concerns. And I have been speaking with the chief,

with the current associate judge, I've been have been speaking with the law and justice programs that it is law, but there's also a justice part of it. We need to ensure that that includes taking care of those defendants, making sure there's rehabilitation, make sure those options are available to them. So, I understand your concerns and I guess I would like to have a specific meeting with you so that we can you can lay those out for me again and I can make sure that we are addressing them.

Chair: Thank you, uh, Ms. White. So, we have... Mr. Gould?

Aaron Gould: On the complaint thing. I don't know the exact process, but I do know that BIA also has a citizens complaint form that you can fill out. So, that's external to the Nez Perce Tribe, right, for a 638 law enforcement contract. So, just to be clear that there's internal process that I'm sure Vincent can oversee, but is also the concern of BIA process as well. They should, just to let everybody else know that as well too, to the screens point as well.

Chair: Thank you, Mr. Gould. Uh. We're going to continue with Gloria Greene, Gary Dorr, Marissa rickman, Willie Allman, Robert Bulltail, Roberta Bisbee, Joanna Marek, Connie Guillory.

Connie Guillory: Yes. Yeah, Eva White. Your position is to write policy and procedure, right?

Eva White: That's part of my position, yes.

Connie Guillory: I think you've heard a lot or enough, and I think you need to prioritize and, and I understand about, "well I wasn't here when, dah dah dah," you know like that. Well, I don't know what was put on your plate and I don't even know how long you've been employed, but this needs to be a priority for your position. Thank you.

Eva White: Uh Ms. Guillory, you know just to um clarify the, the, the priority with regards to the VAWA and TOLOWA? Um, I just want to make sure I have I correct.

Connie Guillory: I don't know, I wanna say all of it um. Law & Order. I know we're only bringing up specific citations. But I think you could begin with that. And then from there, so that next general counsel, we're gonna hear the results from uh policy and procedure.

Gloria Greene – 490 – law enforcement jail, I understand that it is still not operable, I understand that there is not a contract on it under 638. Now we've had this jail sitting out her and still isn't up to standards and would like to know when we are going to stop paying other jails to house our prisoners. We need to prioritize to get that building going. There are a couple officers that are a little zealous.

Chief Bensen – I do agree we need to get it up and going, we do have a fully functional building, we need staffing. We have 6, for run the jail we need 12 officers. Staffing needs to be a priority to get run.

Aaron Gould – 2 law & order subcommittees ago – we will get the approvals to get it done. Don't know what the admin restraints are. Tribal could hold them; cross deputization is unnecessary.

Gary Dorr – the motion was passed, i hear him mentioned, this is our congress, this needs to be....

Aaron Gould – you missed the motion, yes

Chief Bensen – the NTPD is ready for a full investigation

Marisa Rickman – I have a complaint with Law Enforcement – nuisance is my nickname, because I have a neighbor who has a drug house. This morning i went to get my coffee cup, and saw a young boy moaning because he was out of it on some drug. Tell them to come as soon as they can.

Chief Bensen – come see me there at any time, my office is open to any tribal member. Please come see me and we will work with you.

Robert Bulltail – no disrespect to you ladies, but i have domestic violence on me, and it is not nowhere near what it was brought up to. Who is allowing these ladies to submit these reports without no accountability. If you could look into on accountability, to say what is true and not true.

Chief Bensen – if someone reports being injured, the laws are designed for victims. You are welcome to come talk to me

Roberta Bisbee – 1. according to our code there is no public intoxication code, regardless of who it intoxicated. 2. we need to do this and its a reminder of who we work for, get on that page, for Bensen. 3. electronic record system, we are missing a court records system for all records for court, we need to organize, then moving to iCloud, how is behavior health assessments – move to iCourt, we could have helped. 4. reputation, reminder to Mr. Bensen, what happens to women behind the scenes, when his outburst occurred this is not knew and the other part is professional conduct, if you know things needs to be re-evaluated and fixed it. 5. Assessments – of reports, what is our talk issues, what do we need to focus on, haven't heard anything from them. 6. if there is complaints they should have been included in the recognition program.

Eva White – I do want to talk about the electronic record system, I do accept my responsibilities. If we could meet and speak about it.

Aaron Gould – write it up and posted it and it should be an issue for NPTPD should not have trouble getting it added to code. Data sovereignty issues, so there are other ERS used in other tribal courts to take a look at. Sometime is a memo that is lost on a desk, or missed, that was approved.

Joanne Marek – Issue I would like through the chair of L&O sub and possibly the finance... you are using my enrollment number for funding, we don't provide services to people who live off the reservation, but their number is used. I would like to have numbers of all enrolled tribal members that do not receive services, then a number of people here who do not receive services, what is the impact of using the number.

Motion: To receive a report at September 2026 General Council, showing the financial impact if all members are not included, specifically the enrolled members living off reservation.

Chair – kindly thank the assembly for giving us time. So, Ms. Marek?

Joanna Marek – What I feel, what the General Council needs to see is the difference between the enrolled members who live off reservation, compared to the ones who live on reservation. The difference between, not including the ones who live off reservation, for all funded services they do not currently receive.

Danae Wilson – Yes, we do include all enrollment when applying for a grant and lot of these services require to live on reservation to receive them.

Julian Matthews – Back to the skate park, I saw everything after dark, pay for it now or pay for it later. I would like some type of commitment to finish the skate park, and would like to see a commitment from Law & Order Subcommittee to write grants or find money to use for this purpose, as it is healthy and safe, to support the skate park.

Aaron Gould – I cannot commit the whole of NPTEC to support and find the funding to finish the skate park.

Shirley Allman – Introduction – make sure that, we hear a lot of concerns in the subcommittee, and move forward with resolutions, have solutions made for all concerns. Did take action, to have an external investigation, so they asked again. If you don't feel like they're being heard. When a panel is addressed and asked for a meeting later, not this is why the tribal member is here asking for this to be answered.

Dennis Paul – I'm Gunny – story, was out of state and had a severe medical problem. They took care of me and came home with a stack of bills. Submitted it to the contract health, and someone had already taken care of it.

Darlene Pinkham – Wanting to know - officer, explain himself about him. What is his job?

Chief Bensen – My job, mam?

Darlene Pinkham – would like resume – or work history.

Chief Bensen – moved to Moscow, went to marines, went to U of I for degree, have been here almost 3 years, contract is up in October 1, 2026.

Darlene Pinkham – Thank you for explaining.

Erik Holt – 2708 – TERO – Melvin, talk about a youth developing work skills. Wanted to see NP involvement, and TERO is doing good and there are trades that are in dire need.

Melvin Wheeler – we have people coming through and appreciate all the help you do in training our youth.

Judy Oatman – Chief Bensen – have so many things, the writings on the wall, I hope you take a look at this officer – as she has nothing but complaints of her from the people. TERO – what about Kamiah, we have needs up there in Kamiah. You know all numbers are counted. Look into the officer before she shoots someone.

Bensen – any documented for abuse and neglect, contact us, we need documentation.

Melvin Wheeler – Thanks, Judy, for that. We always reach out to all communities and Laatis, has reached out. The door is open they just have to come in. We haven't had an interest from Kamiah at the moment.

Frank Weaskus – What are we doing about the administration, this crazy man? I would like NPTEC to get together with all the tribes of the pacific northwest to show all the tribes how we battle for our tribal rights. We would be ready to fight in the courts. This will happen, our rights are next, we need to stand together at tribal people in the Pacific Northwest.

David Scott – Introduction – questions – Veterans liaison, I have a brother in Spokane in dire streets living from day to day, and my income is capped. I asked for a gas card from Mary Taylor, and she said your brother is not a veteran unable to help. But I am a veteran and should be able to get assistance with gas no matter where I go. I want to know through you and the judge, what have you done about my brothers and sister over across the track? What is NPTEC doing aside from provided port-a-potties, that enabling. What actions have you done?

Danae Willson – our entity group, we are all there to work through the issues. All entities are working to get a closure over there and we are making sure there is a plan to moving them out and vacating the area by the end of summer.

Roberta Bisbee – Comment we are using our Tore funds and are helping with clean-up, a lot was the property owner. Will be working on everyone knew where to go. And we do have the gas card regarding medical support.

Margarita Bulltail – 5167 – I was wondering, if this is an official meeting with minutes and recording, well its in writing now. We spoke it, its in writing now, now take care of it.

Chief Bensen – As an officer, we need an individual incident about an individual officer. We need a record to take course of action, and make it easier to follow as a written complaint versus a verbal complaint.

Erik Holt – motion to accept the reports and excuse the panel

2nd – Susie Weaskus.

Motion carried.

It is now 12:02 – will lunch and return at 1:30.

Chair: 1:33 calling meeting back to order.

Natural Resources Subcommittee Panel – Ashton Picard.

Ashton Picard – going last, a lot of the other reports have already touched base on a lot of issues. Alpines is the exclusive use, not up for questions, some areas have already been adjudicated. Have accepted a lot of grants and contracts for improvements for habitats. addressing invasive species, working on the sea lions that have been moving up the Columbia. 4 hatcheries, 3 of them are run by Nez Perce tribal members, Laatis Shebala Dworshak Manager, Clearwater Manager is Kayla Warden.

Jesse Leighton – introduction – history, 3 key points culture, health, mitigation that we have been making. On record we have been working on climate change since 1990's and early 2000s. Work has gone back further than the committee that started in 2019. Culture – fisheries, as these are a major part our... then goes into explaining all the way habitat has been affected. Health and infrastructure, mental health and connection to the animals and the land. The impacts are great and have TEK and innovative modern solutions. Water habitat, other new energy,

Shirly Allman – introduction – need to get this from the recording

Erik Holt – introduction, offer well wishes to the mothers out there. Will assure, Tribe of Nez Perce Indians will retain their treaty rights. Our Law & Order Code criminalizes our own people. How does our code affects us; as one non native is able to go out for a buffalo hunt, yet cannot carry fish across the creek. We can't create a document that circumvents our treaty. We have lots of issues where court systems does not interpret treaty rights for off reservation. Some of those who have been ticketed, and not recognize the treaty right to hunt. Has been a tribal right and not an individual right. Where the Idaho county is not recognizing the treaty. Fisheries, have been trying to provide better runs with better management and allowing ceremonial fish set aside. Spiritual Bucks – if you don't get paid for doing things. This is the first time that we have 3 women on Fish & Wild Commission. We call ourselves Salmon People, yet we don't honor the first salmon. We don't have funds in the Fish & Wildlife Commission does not have the funds to do this honor. Judge Simon's order will come on June 8, 2026. Regardless of his decision, this will want to be taken to the 9th circuit court. Concerns about the buy back.

Scherri Greene – Accounts need to be paid, need a new application, need to take care of our wastewater treatment because if it goes down it cost just under a million dollars. Read off all the accounts and amounts that needs to be paid.

Julian Matthews – Never heard back for my resolution of Buffalo. What is the status? I haven't got any word. Have a new resolution to support wind and solar power within the Nez Perce Treaty of 1855 lands. - when they did SEPA - Read the Resolution he is presenting.

Motion to adopt the resolution.

2nd – Gary Dorr

Gwen Carter – I would support this, if it doesn't affect our sacred sites.

David Holt – I like what Gwen said. Solar power, the most creative solar panel system I've seen was in Australia, and they do not infringe on our sacred site and development.

Judy Oatman – I don't know how the wind or solar panel are going to save salmon, I don't want to see all these power things up on our reservation.

Ashton Picard – Curious on the background of the county opening their farm lands to wind and solar. I would rather us put thought into this before jumping into this type of power.

Danae – We have had a lot of tribal programs put input in, and there are a lot of affects already .

Gary Dorr – We don't look into replacing the energy source of the dams, how can we move forward.

Alexio Domebo – I would like to lease my land for this instead of wheat crops.

David Holt – they abut to the railroads and there is no effect as its already on a roadway that is already made.

Julian Matthews – I appreciate the comments, I'm not going to push something that will effect our sacred sites, i do not support the farms as they pour so many different things into the rivers.

Conducted a hand count.

44 – yes

29 – no

Motion Carried

Judy Oatman – concern – land commission, comment period for the Kamiah mill site. We were set up with a man who has a lot of information that he is not sharing. Starr Lockhart, stated there is arsenic and methane, is 15 feet deep. If it ever caught fire, it would burn for 10 years. NPTEC and subcommittee, Executive Director, and NMPH needs to provide the truth and clarification on this Bluebird property.

Shirley Allman – We want to have a clear plan for clean up, and it's after the fact that we are finding out this stuff and now we cannot undo what we have already started or purchased.

Danae Wilson – Trent Waddy – is trying to clean up the asbestos that came down after the wind storm before it get into the creek. So if there is anyone who can help haul this aspestiss off. Brown field clean up, and will continue test to see what is underground.

Gary Dorr – presenting a resolution -

2nd – Gayla Gould

Discussion and Comments

David Holt – This is part of our responsibility to protect everything sacred, and contamination has and still is taking place. I support this resolution.

Julian Matthews – Strange to me, that leadership has directed us to attend a workshop. DOE is now under Donald Trump. No NPTEC were there. When we

Shannon Wheeler – Things that have been put in previously, has been down with out tribal consultation. Treaty rights are not who the Nez Perce are, so we are trying to do.

Ryan Oatman – we did not meet to make sure this was for education, we all need to be on the same page before we move forward with nuclear energy

Danae Wilson – This education process has gone to 13 subcommittee. We know this federal administration will do whatever they want. If we don't have anything in writing, we have nothing to bring to them. Seven Sovereigns meeting, when they ask the tribes what we wanted to get to dam removal, I started calling to see what the tribe actually wants then we don't have a standing. We have to have the same message, as its all of us as a tribe. We're all the same to them. We didn't have a request ready for them to allocate money. So, this is very restrictive, for us to gain any of the knowledge.

Ashton Picard – We have not made a decision as a 9, but we have met on all of this. It has been around since the 40's and 50's and right now today it generates 25-30% of the nations current energy. When we talk about data, our phones carry a lot of data, we all know the phone towers went down. And all of Lapwai didn't know what to do. We will need to be a part of the policy discussions as it has already been approved through the administration.

Alene Powauke – I don't know if I can support this resolution, I would like a little more information before putting my hand up.

Liz – what was said earlier, is silos, there appears to be silos in the back of the chambers.

Gayla Gould – I don't support this, and this is an environmental racism.

Gwen Carter – When you speak of nuclear power to people who have lived through the nuclear.

Motion carried.

Judy Oatman– Motion to accept the report and excuse the panel

2nd – Jared Rickman

Motion carried.

4:15 – ballots arrived

Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee Officer Elections.

Seat 1: Marsan Lawyer

Total Votes: 645

Rachel P. Edwards: 292

Marsan Lawyer: 353

Seat 2: Ashton Picard

Total Votes: 645

Ashton Picard: 353

Elizabeth Arthur-Attao: 287

Invalid: 5

Seat 3: Alexis Walker

Total Votes: 645

Alexis Walker: 385

Marie Baheza: 257

Invalid: 3

Adjourn. Motion Shirley Allman; seconded by Gwen Carter to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:08pm

Closing. NPTEC Chaplin Ferris Paisano.

- a. Retire the colors
- b. Drum: Nez Perce Nation