

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY 14, 2022**

***MINUTES***

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Ms. Rollings called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present**

Amanda O'Connell  
Jace Baldosser  
Lonyx Landry  
Ruby Rollings  
Ryan Ray  
Tracy Foster-Olstad  
Trina Mathewson

Del Norte County Representative  
Humboldt County Representative  
Trinity County Representative  
Humboldt County Representative  
Del Norte County Representative  
Trinity County Representative  
Humboldt County Representative

**Members Absent**

Wilverna Reece  
Evette Lewis

Siskiyou County Representative  
Siskiyou County Representative

**III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

There were no guests.

**IV. APPROVE AGENDA**

Ms. Foster-Olstad motioned to approve the agenda; Mr. Baldosser seconded;  
**MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

**V. APPROVE MINUTES**

Mr. Landry motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from December 11, 2021; Ms. Foster-Olstad seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## VI. STAFF REPORTS

### A. Executive Director

NCIDC staff has continued implementing social distancing around the office and while seeing clients for services. We have implemented phone intake procedures for clients and provide curbside delivery of vouchers and other documents to clients. Masks, gloves, and sanitizing supplies are all being utilized by staff. We are taking this very seriously and following both the federal and state mandates and guidelines.

We are also continuing to hold our Council meetings electronically/virtually. The meeting is however, still open to the public. Any person wishing to be a part of the Council meeting is welcome to come to the NCIDC Eureka office, where they would be seated in the Council Chambers. They would be able to watch the electronic/virtual meeting on the large screen TV in this meeting room, and allowed to participate during the public comment period. All guests would be expected to follow social distancing protocols. The Council Chambers are large enough to accommodate three to four individuals with proper separation. If more guests than that were to attend, the staff would relocate the public viewing to the third floor theatre area of the Carson Block building which is a larger space that can accommodate more people while still maintaining over six feet of separation between each guest.

Mr. Gehr introduced our new Operations and Human Resources Director, Mrs. Laurel Hunsucker to the Council. Mrs. Hunsucker addressed the Council and let them know she is excited to be a part of the NCIDC team. Ms. Hunsucker has been busy because we had multiple positive covid cases on staff and which required notifications. During this time she assisted with implementing a “working from home” protocol when possible and various things to keep NCIDC open and assisting our clients.

**CSBG** (Community Service Block Grant) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed an Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG LPA grant number 21F-4103 through November 30, 2021, with total expenditures of \$11,736.69. Our limited purpose agency funds pay for the core functions of the agency and in support of all other programs (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed an Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG SA grant number 21F-4104 through November 30, 2021, with total expenditures of \$113,469.33. We are working with our tribes to execute and expend both CARES and regular CSBG tribal contracts, we have experienced delays due to the pandemic (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG Discretionary grant number 21F-4456 through November 30, 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00. These funds have not yet been utilized. We plan to utilize these funds towards implementing WIOA Youth participant training, particularly in retail for the gift shop and general retail training (*copies in Council packets*).

Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed an Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG CARES LPA grant number 20F-3742 through November 30, 2021, with total



expenditures of \$4,621.29 (*copies in Council packets*). This contract is for the additional core functions as they relate to the pandemic and management of the CARES process. There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG CARES SA grant number 20F-3743 through November 30, 2021, with total expenditures of \$97,689.77. These funds are being utilized for Covid-19 related direct emergency services statewide and our PPE distributions. We are currently working on finalizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of PPE distributions to our statewide Tribal partners and Tribes. We are happy to inform the Council that this round of PPE will also have the option to include at-home test kits for distribution. (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG CARES Discretionary grant number 20F-3743 through November 30, 2021, with total expenditures of \$1,916.41 (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

**CARR FIRE** (National Dislocated Worker Grant code 1186) – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the Carr Fire monthly report for the month of November 2021 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1186 Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$267,636.87 (*copies in Council packets*). NCIDC staff coordinated with Whiskeytown National Parks to close the worksites. There was further discussion.

**2018 MEGAFIRES Workforce Development** (Butte County National Dislocated Worker Grant) – Mr. Gehr, Ms. Jones and the Council discussed and reviewed the monthly report for the month of November 2021 for the 2018 Megafires Workforce Development component grant code 1140 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr explained to the Council that the Megafires has two components. The first is the Workforce Development component, which covers the training and job readiness component. Once the crews have finished that component, they move into the Temporary Jobs component where we put them to work on a work-site where they can gain experience to then go out and find permanent employment. Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1140 Sub grant Agreement K9111522, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$269,571.36 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1203 Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$469,834.39. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> increment. (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1210 Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> increment that has also not yet been utilized (*copies in Council packets*). NCIDC recently implemented the new vaccination requirement for all new hires. This was out of concern for our employees' health and that of the public, as well as due to a mandate by the President for all federal subcontractors to have this requirement. Unfortunately, there is still a significant number of people not getting vaccinated in Butte County. Ms. Jones explained that the vaccination requirement has substantially decreased the number of participant applications, and we are still short of



a full cohort. We have three eligible applicants currently, but it is only financially feasible to pay for the training provider if we have a full cohort of at least five. As such, this is delaying the start of a new crew. However, we are persisting with our recruitment efforts, including reaching out to community partners to encourage referrals. There was further discussion.

**2018 MEGAFIRES Temporary Jobs** (Butte County National Dislocated Worker Grant) – Mr. Gehr, Ms. Jones and the Council discussed and reviewed the monthly report for the month of November 2021 for the 2018 Megafires Temporary Jobs component (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1202 Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$361,833.00. This is the 2nd increment (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1211 Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> increment that has not yet been utilized (*copies in Council packets*). Ms. Jones addressed the Council and explained that NCIDC staff is working with the participants and local employers in order to assist the participants in finding permanent employment upon the completion of their program. NCIDC prioritizes in-depth case management with participants in order to help ensure their long-term success in re-entering the workforce and finding quality employment. NCIDC also utilizes our community relationships to encourage employers to consider hiring participants. There was further discussion.

**2019 STORMS** (Severe Winter Storms National Dislocated Worker Grant) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed the monthly Report for the month of November 2021 for the 2019 Severe Winter Storms (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1216 Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$131,206.25 (*copies in Council packets*). NCIDC staff continued to coordinate with Whiskeytown and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on starting work. We do not currently have enough eligible participants to begin work so we are continuing to recruit and process participant applications. NCIDC staff are working with local agencies to conduct recruitment. Now that the Cahto and Soboba participants are nearing the end of their placements, NCIDC staff are communicating with the worksite agencies regarding another cohort of participants. There was further discussion.

**2020 September Wildfires DR NDWG** – Mr. Gehr, Ms. Jones and the Council reviewed the monthly report for the month of November 2021. The monthly report covers both the 2020 September Wildfires DR NDWG Temporary Jobs component grant code 1212 and the Workforce Development component grant code 1213 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed the WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1212 TJ Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1213 WD Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00 (*copies in Council packets*). Ms. Jones discussed how we are ramping up the program and recruiting participants. The Forest Service has



been working to clear hazards from worksites. Until they have cleared the hazards, it is not safe to allow the participants to start. In the meantime, NCIDC is continuing to reach out to the County of Siskiyou. However, NCIDC staff are not receiving a response despite multiple attempts, and it is likely that the staff person who will be our contact has still not been replaced/trained. As of now, NCIDC staff will continue to check in with the County of Siskiyou and United States Forest Service (USFS). There was further discussion.

**2020 COVID** (2020 Disaster Recovery COVID NDWG) – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the COVID NDWG Workforce Development component Monthly report for the month of November 2021 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1196 WD Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$16,757.78 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the COVID NDWG Temporary Jobs component Monthly report for the month of November 2021 (*copies in Council packets*). Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed the WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1195 WD Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$117,771.70 (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

**CA AIRRP** (California American Indian Rapid Response Program) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed the 2020 WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 541 Sub grant Agreement AA011047, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$129,758.52 (*copies in Council packets*). Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed the 2021 WIA/WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 541 Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through November 2021, with total expenditures of \$0.00 these funds have not yet been utilized (*copies in Council packets*). Ms. Owings, the new Emergency Response Coordinator, introduced herself to the Council and discussed that she has been attending the local Workforce Development Board meetings, as well as the America Job Centers (AJC) of California meetings, and making connections with other nonprofits that are doing workforce work here in Humboldt. She has also been working with Ms. Richeson, our Planner/Data Analyst to log into EconoVue and try to build a comprehensive list of all the tribal and tribally owned businesses in California. EconoVue is a workforce and economic development data platform that lacks in data regarding Native American owned business continuously needs to be updated There was further discussion.

**Youth Power Fund** – Ms. Flynn and the Council discussed the Youth Power Fund grant which NCIDC was recently awarded. The grant is in the amount of \$30,000.00 and can be utilized for general support of our youth organizing, leadership development, and power building activities. This funding will support the Del Norte Indian Education Center and Da'luk Youth Program. There was further discussion.

**Da'luk Youth Program** – Ms. Flynn introduced Mr. Feliz to the new Council members and Mr. Feliz provided a brief overview of the Da'luk Youth Program to the Council. Mr. Feliz also introduced Ms. Alisha Johnson, the Social Work intern for the Da'luk Youth Program through the Social Work program at Humboldt State University. Ms. Johnson is also an NCIDC Staff member and manages the Emergency



Services program for Humboldt County and is the LIHEAP Program Supervisor. Mr. Feliz discussed with the Council that one of the surprising benefits of utilizing the Zoom platform to meet with the youth groups is that youth from different Tribes in different cities get to meet and become friends, where with just the distance between them alone they may not have met otherwise. Mr. Feliz was excited to announce to the Council that he will now be offering limited, weekly, one-on-one counseling services to Tribal youth and young adults ages 12–26, residing in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Consultation and clinical supervision will be provided by Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and therapist, Mrs. Michelle Rainer. Mr. Feliz has his pre-licensing, and is currently working towards his licensure as an LCSW. The counseling services will be provided via a specific HIPAA protected Zoom link until it is safe to hold in-person sessions. (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

**DNIEC** (Del Norte Indian Education Center) – Ms. Flynn introduced Mrs. Angela Davis our Del Norte Indian Education Center (DNIEC) Program Coordinator to the new Council members and Mrs. Davis provided an overview of the DNIEC Program to the Council. The DNIEC is able to provide an after-school program for American Indian youth in grades K-5th and cultural enrichment activities. The DNIEC regularly provides activities for students with culturally relevant curriculum such as the Hupa, Yurok and Karuk Indian land tenure in Indians of Northwest California curriculum produced by the Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District, and also the respectful living series curriculum. The DNIEC usually has cultural arts groups, but due to the pandemic, they are now providing pre-recorded cultural presentations online. The videos are posted on the DNIEC Facebook page, the California Department of Education's (CDE) Facebook page and on the DNIEC YouTube channel. Presentations include Yurok stick games, Tolowa traditional plant foods, Tolowa dress making and basket material gathering and processing. DNIEC also provides Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) to American Indian students in grades K through 12<sup>th</sup>, within the Del Norte Unified School District. We provide direct prevention services such as tabling at community events (when available) and offering free smoking cessation kits as well as referrals for smoking cessation services. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DNIEC temporarily closed to the public and moved all our educational services online. We are grateful to be reopened now, however, as a direct result of the pandemic, our enrollment numbers drastically dropped. We now provide academic support to less than half of the students that we did before. This is a major hurdle to providing our services to American Indian families, many who lost jobs, homes and vehicles due to the pandemic. Despite the hardships brought on by a significant cut in funding and the pandemic the DNIEC continues to flourish and help serve over 100 families in Del Norte County. There was further discussion.

**LIHEAP** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the list of the 48 Tribes in our American Recovery LIHEAP program, showing how much of each Tribal allocation has been expended to date. Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed and discussed the 2021 LIHEAP financial report, LIHEAP CARES Financial report and the LIHEAP Carryover and reallocation report. We have opened up the LIHEAP funding to be able to assist more eligible Native households with their energy expenses. We currently have three different allocations of funding available for the LIHEAP program and we are actively



working to spend down one allocation at a time to be able to expend it all. (*copies in Council packets*) There was further discussion.

Written program activity reports for Humboldt, Del Norte, and Siskiyou County were included in the Council packets for their review.

*There was no public comment.*

Ms. Foster-Olstad motioned to approve the Executive Director's report for January 14, 2022; Mr. Baldosser seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **B. Fiscal Report**

Mr. Byfield and the Council reviewed and discussed the November 2021 Financial Report. During this discussion the statement of financial position was reviewed as well as monthly statements of revenue and expenditures for NCIDC's grant contracts (*copies in Council packets*).

*There was no public comment.*

Mr. Landry motioned to approve the November 2021 Financial Report; Ms. Foster-Olstad seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**Carson Block Unwind** – Mr. Gehr, Mr. Byfield and the Council reviewed and discussed in-depth the Carson Block QALICB LLC Exit flow of funds memorandum, the exit cash reconciliation spreadsheets and the AEDC loan documentation. There was further discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

Mr. Landry motioned to accept the unwind proposal and documents as presented to Council, Mr. Ray seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

*There were no new business items.*

## **IX. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

*There were no requests for assistance.*

## **X. PUBLIC COMMENT / INFORMATION / THANK YOU**

**Thank You** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a thank you card from the Dowd Family, thanking NCIDC for the assistance with burial services for their father, Frank “Roddy” Dowd (*copies in Council packets*).

**Thank You** – Ms. Rollings addressed the Council and thanked them for the flowers that were sent on behalf of the Council for Brombe Lewis’s funeral service.

**Thank You** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed a thank you card from Bonnie and Joe Alvarez from Happy Camp, thanking NCIDC for the food voucher they received (*copies in Council packets*).

**Public Comment** – Ms. Foster-Olstad addressed the NCIDC Council and stated NCIDC is a fantastic organization, whether you are providing the clinical services or referring to resources. I am very proud to be a part of this organization (NCIDC). Ms. Foster-Olstad was referring to the Da'luk Youth Program and Mr. Feliz’s counseling services in her comment.

## **XI. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., electronically/virtually.

## **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Gehr and the Council entered into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

Upon exiting the executive session, Ms. Rollings announced there was nothing to report out of the executive session.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Landry motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Ray seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Trina Mathewson  
Council Secretary

Prepared By



Cheyenne Souza  
Executive Assistant