

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 9, 2024**

***MINUTES***

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Ms. Rollings called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present**

Harold Bennett	Siskiyou County Representative
Jennifer Goodwin	Siskiyou County Representative
Lonyx Landry	Trinity County Representative
Mindy Natt	Del Norte County Representative
Ruby Rollings	Humboldt County Representative
Tracy Foster-Olstad	Trinity County Representative
Trina Mathewson	Humboldt County Representative

**Members Absent**

Amanda O’Connell	Del Norte County Representative
Jace Baldosser	Humboldt County Representative

**III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

*There were no guests recognized by the Council.*

*NCIDC Staff in attendance; Mr. Gregory Gehr Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Madison Flynn Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Chris Byfield Chief Fiscal Officer, Ms. Cheyanne Souza Executive Assistant, Mr. Rick Siegfried Systems Administrator, Ms. Shannon Bresnahan Bookkeeper, Mr. Thor Arwood Staff Accountant, Ms. Joyce Jones Eastern Regional Manager, and Mr. Vincent Feliz Da`luk Youth Program Coordinator.*

**IV. APPROVE AGENDA**

Mr. Landry motioned to approve the agenda with a closed executive session to be held at the beginning of the meeting; Ms. Foster-Olstad seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **V. APPROVE MINUTES**

Ms. Foster-Olstad motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from January 12, 2024; Mr. Landry seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Gehr, Ms. Flynn and the Council entered into a closed Executive Session. Upon exiting the closed executive session, Ms. Rollings reported that the Council had nothing to report out at this time

## **VII. STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Executive Management Report**

NCIDC uses a hybrid meeting format. The meeting is 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.

**CSBG** (Community Service Block Grant) – Ms. Flynn and the Council discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG LPA grant number 23F-4103 through December 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$13,303.46 (copies in Council Dropbox). This funding is utilized for our core administrative activities and supports all other programs through our official designation as a Limited Purpose Agency (LPA). There was further discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG SA grant number 23F-4104 through December 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$142,015.22 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Souza and Ms. Wilson continue to work with the Tribes to reimburse their 2023 Tribal contracts. There was further discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG Discretionary grant number 23F-4104 through December 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$0.00 (copies in Council Dropbox). We were able to use our CSBG Discretionary funding to backfill CSBG services due to the recent decrease in our funding allocations. The agency reported zero expenditures as this contract has already been fully expended. There was further discussion.

**DOL/WIOA** (Department of Labor - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number AB36642E50 (2021 CA Adult) through December 31, 2023 with \$304,784.00 in total expenditures (copies in Council Dropbox). This is the final report. There was some discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number AB36642E51 (2021

OREGON) through December 31, 2023 with \$206,924.61 in total expenditures (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number AB38813ON0 (2022 CA & OR Adult) through December 31, 2023 with \$52,089.98 in total expenditures (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number AB38813OL0 (2022 Youth) through December 31, 2023 with \$62,347.00 in total expenditures (copies in Council Dropbox). This is the final report. There was some discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number IA000052IY0 (2023 CA & OR Adult) through December 31, 2023 with \$0.00 in total expenditures as we are currently expending the 2021 funding (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed a DOL Employment & Training Administration Financial Report for grant number IY000027IU0 (2023 Youth) through December 31, 2023 with \$30,377.20 in total expenditures (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

**2020 September Wildfires DR NDWG** – Ms. Flynn, Ms. Jones, Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the monthly report for December 2023. The report covers both the 2020 September Wildfires DR NDWG Temporary Jobs (TJ) component grant code 1212 and the Workforce Development (WD) component grant code 1213 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1212 TJ Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through December 2023, with total expenditures of \$207,434.63 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1213 WD Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through December 2023, with total expenditures of \$73,800.00 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Jones shared with the Council that the clean-up and repair work completed by the NCIDC crews had a significant impact on this small Tribal community. There were limited funds available to the Karuk Tribe for disaster recovery on top of their governmental responsibilities. The assistance of the NCIDC crews helped return the public lands to their pre-disaster states so they could be used safely. Removal of fire debris from the private lands of community members who lived in the main part of town not only assisted with public safety, but also a quicker return to economic stability and pre-disaster property prices for the town. This has not changed since the previous report because the program is now closed. (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**2022 QUEST NDWG** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the monthly report for QUEST NDWG for December 2023 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1262 Sub grant Agreement AA311053, through December 31, 2023, with total

expenditures of \$83,587.90 (copies in Council Dropbox). NCIDC frequently works with participants with limited work histories so staff incorporate soft skills training into their case management. A success story of the grant is that one of the QUEST participants had never had a job as an adult and they are now in their late thirties and as a result of NCIDC staff support and the work experience provided through the QUEST program, the participant was able to obtain their first job.. This involves providing guidance on things like work etiquette and helps prepare participants for the workforce. There was further discussion.

**CA AIRRP** (California American Indian Rapid Response Program) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for grant code 541 Sub grant agreement AA311053, through December 2023, with total expenditures of \$73,659.73 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed the Rapid Response Quarterly Narrative Report (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Aymee Colegrove, our Emergency/Tribal Rapid Response Coordinator attended California Workforce Association (CWA) annual Meeting of the Minds conference. This is a yearly gathering of workforce thought leaders and decision-makers from all around California and beyond. NCIDC staff advocated for Tribal interests and participation, shared information about Tribal circumstances with attendees, kept up-to-date on developments in the industry, and connected with other workforce development professionals. There was further discussion.

**2024 Native Workforce Needs Report** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the detailed and in-depth 2024 Native Workforce Needs Report completed by Ms. Aubrey Richeson. There are a number of barriers in the way of achieving self-sufficiency among the low-income Native American population throughout NCIDC's service area and the state of California. The NCIDC primary service area consists of Del Norte, Humboldt, Siskiyou, and Trinity counties and is home to eleven federally-recognized Tribes, three of which have the greatest member enrollments in California. These rural counties contain large swaths of land covered in national and state parks, few incorporated cities, and many remote areas. The labor demand is low in many unincorporated areas, there are few training and educational resources, and access to basic resources including mental health care, public transportation, grocery stores and child care is limited or in some areas, nonexistent. This report describes the current employment landscape throughout the service area as well as barriers to employment identified by qualitative and quantitative research. This analysis includes secondary research and results from surveys and focus groups conducted by NCIDC from April to November 2023 to better describe and reflect the workforce needs of Native people in this region. (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

**DNIEC** (Del Norte Indian Education Center) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed an expenditure report for PY 2023-2024 through December 31, 2023, with expenditures of \$47,414.86 (*copies in Council packets*). This is the first quarter report. The grant term is from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. There was further discussion.

**TUPE** (Tobacco Use Prevention Education) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed a TUPE Prop 56 funding expenditure report for PY 2023-2024 through December 31, 2023, with expenditures of \$4,129.55 (*copies in Council packets*). The

TUPE funding allows us to have a designated person to go out into the community and talk about tobacco use prevention education at different school functions and community events. There was further discussion.

**TUPE** (Tobacco Use Prevention Education) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed a TUPE Prop 99 funding expenditure report for PY 2023-2024 through December 31, 2023, with expenditures of \$5,049.84 (*copies in Council packets*). There was further discussion.

**NICRA** (Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement ) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the updated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement issued from the Department of Health and Human services (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

**LIHWAP** (Low Income Home Water Assistance Program) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the LIHWAP Programs funding sources allocation report which shows how much of each Tribal allocation has been expended to date (*copies in Council Dropbox*). Ms. Flynn informed the Council that we recently sent out letters to our LIHEAP clients informing them that we still have LIHWAP funding available and requesting eligible applications as we are still in active spend-down. There was some discussion. Ms. Flynn and the Council also reviewed and discussed the LIHWAP Quarterly Performance and Management Report which covers the period of October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was some discussion.

**LIHEAP** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the LIHEAP Programs funding sources allocation report which shows how much of each Tribal allocation has been expended to date (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was some discussion.

**Staff/Program Reports** Written staff/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 Management’s report for February 9, 2024; Mr. Landry seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **B. Fiscal Report**

Mr. Arwood and the Council reviewed and discussed the December 2023 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 Dropbox*).

*There was no public comment.*

Ms. Foster-Olstad motioned to approve the December 2023 Financial Report; Ms. Goodwin seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Carson Block** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the letter of support for the funding of a backup power generator for our new tenant Lost Coast Communications. Lost Coast communications is a vital part of the emergency broadcast network. The emergency generator would be able to power the entire Carson Block building enabling NCIDC and several other nonprofit organizations to continue to provide much needed emergency services during a power outage (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Youth Council Application** – Ms. Flynn, Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the Youth Advisory Council Application drafted by Mr. Bubba Riggins. The NCIDC Youth Advisory Council will serve to provide the organization insight and guidance from youth advocates in our service areas. Youth will meet hybrid, either in-person or via zoom, monthly to provide updates and feedback from their respective communities. The input from this council will directly guide the NCIDC Youth Services Department in future programming. (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

- B. California Public Utilities Commission Resolution 24.01** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed resolution 24.01 which opposes AT&T's petition to give up the designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) so AT&T must continue to receive financial assistance from the federal government-established Universal Service Fund to provide high quality, and affordable telephone service to customers at all income levels in currently covered areas of California. The petition by AT&T also seeks to remove their obligation to their designated Carriers of Last Resort (COLR) areas, allowing the telecom company to discontinue copper-line phone service in their service areas if other voice service options are available. Ms. Flynn brought this information to the Council because this will have an extremely detrimental effect on rural Native American communities especially in rural areas where large gaps in cell and broadband services are prevalent, a common occurrence like a power outage or a cut line to a wireless cell tower, can leave residents cut off for days due to the lack of redundant services available. When emergencies strike, power outages often occur simultaneously, depowering cell towers, and overburdening those remaining thus leaving rural Native American communities in a dangerous situation; that loss of landlines in emergency situations would mean an increase in welfare checks on the

counties' most rural residents to assure their safety instead of relying on contacting them via telephone, adding to the heavy workload the rural sheriffs are under (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

Mr. Bennett motioned to approve California Public Utilities Commission Resolution 24.01 opposing AT&T's Request; Ms. Foster-Olstad seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **X. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

**Request No. 1** – The Council reviewed a request from Sheldon Osceola representing the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Eel Runner Tournament in any amount to assist with the High Stakes NDN Card Tournament (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

Mr. Landry motioned to approve \$500 to assist with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Eel Runner Tournament; Ms. Foster-Olstad seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

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

**INFORMATION** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the flyer for the Wintu Educational & Cultural Council of Northern California, Inc.'s Acorn Workshop. The event takes place on Saturday February 24, 2024 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Trinity River Natives Cultural Center in Big Bar, CA. (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

**INFORMATION** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed the Save the Date flyer for the NCIDC Red Road Summit. The event takes place on Saturday March 30, 2024 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Sequoia Conference Center in Eureka, CA. (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

**INFORMATION** – Ms. Flynn and the Council reviewed and discussed a flyer for the Construction Industry Education (CIE) Foundation's Humboldt Trades Day, a day for career exploration. The event takes place on April 25, 2024 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Redwood Acres Fairgrounds in Eureka, CA. For more information please reach out to Brittany Albaugh phone (214) 241-1090 or email: balbaugh@cie.foundation (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

**INFORMATION** – Mr. Landry discussed his continued engagement with the community to advocate for how offshore wind should happen. Mr. Landry is advocating to identify and share the community benefits agreements with all of the involved developers and will continue to keep the Council up to date. There was further discussion.

## **XII. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
The Annual Council photo has been scheduled for after the Council meeting.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Foster-Olstad motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Landry seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Trina Mathewson  
Council Secretary

Prepared By



Cheyenne Souza  
Executive Assistant