

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 8, 2023**

***MINUTES***

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Ms. Foster-Olstad called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present**

Jace Baldosser  
Jennifer Goodwin  
John Green  
Lonyx Landry  
Mindy Natt  
Ruby Rollings  
Tracy Foster-Olstad  
Trina Mathewson

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

**Members Absent**

Amanda O'Connell

Del Norte County Representative (Excused)

**III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Ms. Delores Boyles “Duzy” with the Karuk Tribe, was welcomed as a guest by the Council.

**IV. APPROVE AGENDA**

Ms. Natt motioned to approve the agenda; Ms. Goodwin seconded; ***MOTION*** carried by unanimous vote.

**V. APPROVE MINUTES**

Ms. Natt motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from August 11, 2023; Mr. Baldosser seconded; ***MOTION*** carried by unanimous vote.

## **VI. STAFF REPORTS**

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

NCIDC staff have continued implementing social distancing around the office while seeing clients for services. We have resumed in-person intakes and client consultations as well as continuing phone and online intake procedures for clients and providing curbside delivery of vouchers and other documents to clients. The office is now open to the general public. Masks, gloves, and sanitizing supplies are all made available to staff to use on a voluntary basis.

NCIDC is moving from all virtual meetings to 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.

Mr. Gehr will be presenting today's meeting as Ms. Flynn is traveling out of the area for a Rapid Response conference.

**CSBG** (Community Service Block Grant) – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG LPA grant number 23F-4103 through July 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$17,571.16 (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.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG SA grant number 23F-4104 through July 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$89,317.70 (copies in Council Dropbox). We continue to work with the Tribes to execute and reimburse their 2023 Tribal contracts. There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council also discussed and reviewed the Expenditure/Activity Report for CSBG Discretionary grant number 23F-4104 through July 31, 2023, with total expenditures of \$23,330.47 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the CSD Organizational Standards submission notification. Mr. James Scott, our CSD Field Representative notified us through email that he has reviewed and accepted our CSD Organizational Standards submission and we have a 100% score on our submission. Management commended Ms. Richeson and the NCIDC team for working together to complete and maintain our organizational standards.

Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the audit transmittal report for the CSBG contracts 20F-3742, 20F-3743, 21F-4103, 21F-4104, 21F-4456, 22F-5103 and 22F-5104. The audit review completed by Mr. Jeffrey Takili, our CSD Management Auditor, stated the review did not disclose any findings requiring corrective action;

therefore, the audit has been closed (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**DOL/WIOA** (Department of Labor - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the WIOA Program quarterly report. The period covered was April 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023. The report reported that we had 24 people complete and exit the program and we currently have 60 participants that are enrolled (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion. Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed and discussed a DOL Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act WIOA subgrant agreement AA311053 Modification #2. The purpose of this modification is to incorporate WIOA Rapid Response funds into grant code 541 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

**CA AIRRP** (California American Indian Rapid Response Program) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the closeout documentation for last year's Rapid Response Program grant code 541 and Sub grant agreement AA211111 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion. Mr. Gehr and the Council also reviewed and discussed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for grant code 541 Sub grant agreement AA311053, through July 2023, with total expenditures of \$7,012.40 (copies in Council Dropbox). Ms. Flynn continues to attend the meetings and roundtables as we still do not have an Emergency/Rapid Response Coordinator. There was further discussion.

**2020 September Wildfires DR NDWG** – Mr. Gehr, Ms. Jones and the Council reviewed and discussed the monthly report for July 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). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1212 TJ Sub grant Agreement AA111058, through July 2023, with total expenditures of \$167,863.24 (copies in Council Dropbox). The last of the participants will continue cleaning up fire debris and repairing fire damage and they will complete their temporary job placements in August. NCIDC staff will assist the participants with finding and applying for permanent employment. NCIDC staff will also continue recruiting for new participants and working with the Karuk Tribe on collecting information about the potential private property worksites. NCIDC is working with the local training providers on scheduling training for the new participants as we prepare to start a new cohort. The trainers are contracted to provide fire fighter training for the recent fires in the area and it has been difficult for staff to coordinate with them. Staff continue to check in and have two possible training providers so that we may move forward with scheduling participant trainings as soon as possible (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**2022 QUEST NDWG** – Mr. Gehr, Ms. Jones and the Council reviewed and discussed the monthly report for QUEST NDWG for July 2023 (copies in Council Dropbox). Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed the WIOA Summary of Expenditures for Grant Code 1262 Sub grant Agreement AA311053, through July 2023, with total expenditures of \$12,918.82 (copies in Council Dropbox). Participants successfully completed the occupational training with the Hoopa Valley Fire Department, in partnership with the Tribe, and have been enrolled in their work experience positions.

It can be difficult to enroll participants remotely when they are not comfortable with technology. We have a user-friendly online application that can be completed over the phone that includes document upload options, but not everyone is aware of how to upload documents or can figure out exactly what they need to provide without direct assistance. Ms. Penny Cordova from the Hoopa Valley Tribal Employment Rights Office assisted NCIDC staff with obtaining all necessary documents (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**DNIEC** (Del Norte Indian Education Center) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed an expenditure report for PY 2023 with expenditures of \$164,223.34 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**TUPE Prop 56** (Tobacco-Use Prevention Education) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed a TUPE Prop 56 funding expenditure report for PY 2023 with expenditures of \$15,287.78 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**TUPE Prop 99** (Tobacco-Use Prevention Education) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed a TUPE Prop 99 funding expenditure report for PY 2023 with expenditures of \$18,754.59 (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**Da'luk Youth Program** – Mr. Vincent Feliz, our Da'luk Youth Program Coordinator, addressed the Council and shared his insights from the professional development conference titled “History Health and Healing in Indian Education” sponsored by our IEA Program, UIHS and Eureka City Schools (ECS). The cultural education training for school administrators, principals, teachers, and other school staff for ECS, as well as a handful of representatives from the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) Board. Mr. Feliz shared our view of our county and our tribes and the beauty of the culture, along with local Indigenous history with the staff during the training. The surveys collected after the event reported that they felt very impacted by the training. Mr. Feliz expressed that he felt it was a very powerful couple of days. Eureka City Schools has offered a commitment to continue these trainings for three more years. Mr. Feliz thanked: The UIHS Staff, Ms. Flynn, our CAO, Ms. Asbury, Da'luk program assistant, Ms. Villalobos, Da'luk Intern, Mr. Tripp, Indigenous Education Advocate, and Mr. Riggins, Youth Outreach Coordinator for all of their dedication and hard work to make these events possible. There was further discussion.

**The California Endowment** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the closeout report for the California Endowment funding which was utilized to fund our Indigenous Education Advocate (IEA) program. The project was titled Supporting Native American Students for Education and Health Equity (copies in Council Dropbox). The IEA program will continue using funding from the Skyline Foundation (previously called Yellow Chair Foundation). There was further discussion.

**Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the Approval for Funding letter from The Center at Sierra Health Foundation and The California Department of Public Health awarded

NCIDC \$500,000.00 in funding for the Youth Suicide Prevention Media and Outreach Campaign (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**Promise Neighborhoods** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the final executed contract agreement between the Yurok Tribe and NCIDC. We are excited to be getting this program up and going. We are hoping to hire an Indigenous Education advocate and support staff, tutors and mentors to cover services for the youth of Del Norte County (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

**2022 Single Audit** – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed and reviewed the 2022 Single Audit submission email which stated that the 2022 Single Audit had been accepted by the Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) (*copies in Council Dropbox*). There was further discussion.

**Walmart.org Disaster Funding** – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the closeout report and thank you letter for the Walmart.org disaster funding. The Walmart.org foundation reached out to us and asked us if we would serve as a pass through organization because of our contacts and connections with Native Tribes. They offered us funding to assist tribes in the recent disasters, particularly with flooding and the storms. We distributed a statewide survey to all of our Tribes to determine their funding needs and the Tribes listed in the closeout report requested and utilized the available funding to fuel generators, purchase food, medicine, hygiene items, manage temporary evacuation shelters, purchase blankets, distribute drinking water, and provide porta-potties (copies in Council Dropbox). There was some discussion.

**LIHWAP** (Low Income Home Water Assistance Program) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the written request for a six month extension for the spend out of the LIHWAP funding. We have not received an approval yet, but we are hopeful. Mr. Gehr and the Council also 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). We are in active spend down mode for the LIHWAP program and are continuing to assist clients. There was some discussion.

**LIHEAP** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) – Mr. Gehr and the Council reviewed and discussed the list of the 48 Tribes in our LIHEAP program, showing how much of each Tribal allocation has been expended to date (copies in Council Dropbox). We are currently spending from the carryover-eligible funding and are prioritizing priority population emergencies with minimum payments at this time. 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. Natt motioned to approve the Executive Management's report for September 8, 2023; Mr. Baldosser seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **B. Fiscal Report**

Mr. Arwood and the Council reviewed and discussed the July 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.*

Mr. Landry motioned to approve the July 2023 Financial Report; Ms. Rollings seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**Carson Block** – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed the contractor noises that could be heard during the meeting from the renovations that are happening in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor center space, the future home of Lost Coast Communications. Mr. Gehr also shared we have rented out a five room suite in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to Vineyard Offshore, another offshore wind company. There was further discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. 2023 Winter Food Cards** – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed utilizing the ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm) cards from Walmart this year instead of the Grocery Outlet cards. Vouchers to the Hoopa Shopping Center in Hoopa and the Kingfisher Market in Happy Camp would still be available to clients that request them due to transportation or other various issues. The ATF cards from Walmart limit your purchases; you are not allowed to buy alcohol, tobacco products, anything related to a firearm or lottery tickets. These restrictions are preferred by funders (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

**B. Banking Issues** – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed the recent issues with our primary operating account at US Bank. Even though the agency implemented Positive Pay there was still an issue due to Payee Verification not being fully implemented. Positive Pay matches the check number and the check amount to verify the authenticity of the check before it gets cashed. One of the days when we put our mail into the Postal mailbox up the street somebody went in and fished the envelopes out to look for checks and the agency became a victim of a check washing scheme. We have reported it to the bank, the bank fraud unit and to the police. They have opened an investigation. The agency has opened a new operating account, closed the old one and implemented full Positive Pay with Payee Verification which will deter check washing schemes as now the Payee must also match the data uploaded to US Bank daily in addition to the check

amount and number. We have also modified our in-house mail procedures, the mail now goes directly to the post office and does not go into the blue post office bins. There was further discussion.

*There was no public comment.*

- C. 2022 IRS Form 990** – Mr. Gehr and the Council discussed the 2022 IRS Form 990. Mr. Gehr asked the Council to table the 2022 IRS Form 990 so they would have adequate time to review (copies in Council Dropbox).

*There was no public comment.*

Ms. Natt motioned to table the 2022 IRS 990; Ms. Goodwin seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

- D. CORE Hub HAF** – Mr. Gehr, Mr. Landry and the Council reviewed and discussed the Notice of preparation of a draft environmental impact report for the Humboldt Bay Offshore Wind Heavy Lift Multipurpose Marine Terminal Project (copies in Council Dropbox). The notice was submitted by the Offshore Wind Community Benefits Network. The network consists of; The Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Blue Lake Rancheria, California Center for Rural Policy, Changing Tides Family Services, College of the Redwoods, Humboldt County Association of Governments, Hoopa Valley Tribe, The Northern California Indian Development Council, Peninsula Community Collaborative, Peninsula Community Services District, Redwood Community Action Agency, Selkie Land + Sea, Sierra Club North Group of the Redwood Chapter, and Surfrider Foundation Humboldt Chapter. Ms. Flynn has been attending the meetings as well as Mr. Landry. The notice is a comment to the harbor Bay Recreation District about the preparation of a draft environmental impact report for specifically the marine terminal associated with the offshore wind project. The notice provides a thoughtful and in-depth review of the pluses and minuses that would be involved with offshore wind and the need to watch out for things such as, sex trafficking, men's camps, degradation of fisheries, and environmental issues. It also talks about the opportunities for communities to maximize whatever benefit that the these providers are willing to negotiate with us to improve our community. Mr. Landry expressed the he is trying to negotiate, advocate and do anything and everything he can, so our community truly benefits. He feels one of those ways is through community benefit agreements that are part of the different lease agreements and the different legal permitting that have to happen for the developers. Humboldt Area Foundation, the CORE Hub group, has realized the key role that Mr. Landry has been representing in this process and in making native voices heard. HAF has reached out to NCIDC and offered to put together some funding to help pay Mr. Landry through NCIDC, whether as a consultant or a staff member. We do not believe it would be appropriate to act as the pass-through entity for this funding because it creates the appearance of a conflict of interest due to Mr. Landry's position on our council. In brainstorming alternatives, Mr. Landry, Mr. Gehr and Mr. Terry Supahan, the Director for TrueNorth,

discussed the option of True North acting as the pass-through entity. The board consensus was that offering this to TrueNorth would be the most appropriate course of action (copies in Council Dropbox).

**IX. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

**Request No. 1** – The Council reviewed a request from Shawna Morales representing Eureka City Schools in the amount of \$2,500 to be an event sponsor for the California Native American Day Celebration held Friday September 22, in the Jay Willard Gym at Eureka High School (copies in Council Dropbox). There was further discussion.

Ms. Goodwin motioned to assist with \$2,500 from the North Coast Grantmakers Youth Leadership Funding to be an event sponsor for the California Native American Day Celebration; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote.

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

*There were no public comments.*

**XI. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 13, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., in-person and virtually.

**XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Gehr and the Council entered into a closed Executive Session. Upon exiting the closed executive session, the Council reported that there was nothing to report out of the executive session.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Goodwin motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Baldosser seconded; **MOTION** carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Trina Mathewson  
Council Secretary

Prepared By



Cheyenne Souza  
Executive Assistant