

**Karuk Tribe – Health Board Meeting
August 14, 2025 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairman Attebery.

Present:

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman
Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman
Laura Mayton, Member at Large
Kristen King, Member at Large
Eli Hensher-Aubrey, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large
Robert Super, Member at Large

Absent:

Arch Super, Member at Large
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer

Binx read the Mission Statement of the Health Program. Chairman provided a prayer for the audience.

Agenda:

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

None.

Meeting minutes of July 10, 2025:

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve the meetings minutes of July 10, 2025, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Guests:

Jonathon Andrus, FMC CEO:

Jonathon is present to address the Tribal Council. He introduced himself as the President and CEO of FMC. He has been in the position for over 25 years. They are grateful for the partnership with the HHS Program as they work together to treat the communities. They are working with Rondi on an interface for the HHS systems. The new hospital was built in 1997. They are working to expand the hospital and additional 11 thousand square feet. The staff will now have a restroom or a breakroom, so they will be better set up to serve the community. Laura asked if they applied for Federal or State grants to help with the project, but they have not. This is a three-year project and they are hoping to obtain funding. The Tribe is very good at grant writing and there are opportunities that may assist. Binx asked what is the ask of the Tribe. There are community partners who donate \$100k per year, for three years as an example, but they are open to any type of support. The reality is that they need a donation.

Eric Cutright, CIO:

Eric is present to seek approval to two action items. He first presented agreement 25-A-114 which is with Facility Gateway Corporation. They help at the Happy Camp Data Center to check the batteries and keep the facility serviced and prepared for the power outages.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve agreement 25-A-114, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

He then presented agreement 25-A-133 with Multi-State Information sharing. They provide cyber security team. The Federal Funding was just cut so this will be a paid membership. Each organization will have a membership fee. They will charge \$2k per year. This is a good deal. They offer communication, filtering, and safeguards. This provides support in cyber security attacks. They report and assist in attacks to ensure all facilities know there are hacks and protection.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve agreement 25-A-133, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Michelle Weed, Gazelle Elementary School:

Michelle is the Superintendent and Teacher at the Gazelle Elementary School. She noted that there is State Legislation on racial mascots. The school is the Gazelle Indians. Marie Caldwell is working on this as well. They have to have a Federal Recognized Tribe to sign off to keep the name. If there is a Tribal School it can be exempted. Robert asked what the mascot looks like, because that is the most offensive part of mascots. Michelle commented that their mascot is a native American with a headdress. Ralph Starrit did their sign at their school. Laura added that she is not offended by the mascot but there are different views. Eli asked if Gazelle community and school is ok with this, and she noted that yes they are. She asked that the Council discuss this and provide feedback. She is open to discussions. She does not want to offend people. Buster thanked her for coming and presenting. Buster tried to explain the background on “redskins” and how that was viewed. Buster is of the opinion that there are more important things to worry about. Ray added that Tribes enter into MOU’s with the School District, and exchange for schools keeping the name or mascot then they will teach a curriculum in the schools that provides the correct history or knowledge of Native American history. The Council will discuss this and get back to her.

Old Business:

None.

Director Reports:

1) Ray Elliott, Director of Health & Human Services:

Ray is present to review his report. He presented a letter from a client at the Men’s Transitional Home who is now transferred to an independent rental unit.

There is a new custodian in Happy Camp; Yen. There is no wait list for behavioral health. There are openings and they expect referrals to start up when school starts. The SUD in Happy Camp will conduct weekly outreach and prevention at the school.

Men’s transitional house has some younger individuals. There have been three successful persons moving on. Jennifer asked who is overseeing the men’s transitional house while George is on travel. It will be covered by another employee.

He is working on a grant with HHHAP with Emma Lee, to see if he can fund a women’s transitional house. It is held in legislation but he hopes that it will be up and running by the end of the year.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Ray’s report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

2) Rondi Johnson, HHS CEO:

Rondi is present to review her report. She has been working with fiscal on her budgets this coming year. They have been meeting weekly.

She asked for a VISA for Francis Lott, \$5,000.

Laura Mayton moved and Robert Super seconded to approve a VISA for Francis Lott, \$5k, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

She thanked Cecelli and her team for working hard for the Elders. Sherile and the Transporters are doing a very good job. She is looking forward to going to Chandler AZ the second week of September. Jennifer asked if the extension was filed for HC medical administration building. Rondi noted that she has done this but they need additional information.

Robert asked if there are any more doctors. She noted there are interviews scheduled. They are interviewing for Happy Camp as well.

Kristen asked if there is a going away celebration for Dr. Chang. They are doing something but they don't want anything big. He did an excellent job for years. August 29, 2025 is his last day so the Council can send him something, if they would like.

Laura Mayton moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Rondi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Ryan is the new PHN. He is helping out as the new PHN and the Council welcomed him. With this additional PHN position, more information and outreach will be evaluated for the communities.

3) Dr. Skoblar, Medical Director:

Dr. Skoblar is present to review his report. They have passed the AAAHC with some changes and recommendations which they are working on. They have been learning to use the new EMR to make it work for them. They are working to develop workflows to monitor medications, assistance, reports, etc. These workloads are being developed to help in processes. They continue to work to build staff. He is keeping his head above water so far and it has been a wonderful growth period. They are trying to utilize the health portal and they continue to work with the patients to allow them to have more access to their reports. They are in a lag in Happy Camp and Orleans and they are working to modify schedules to provide services to those sites. He is transferring patients and care from Dr. Vasquez to himself. There is the hope to add another physician and a few nurse practitioners.

They added some services to TeleMed 2U for the patients. The providers will start having meetings that support one another including support and information sharing.

Eli asked about referring out to specialists. The community partners and insurance make a difference. His preference is face to face for specialty services.

Binx asked about referrals and contract health. There is information that is needed in the referrals and the primary physician needs to document accurately. Dr. Skolbar noted that some information is not being transferred. Rondi noted that referred providers won't take appointments. Eli commented that there are issues with getting referrals to Shasta Orthopedics. Danci noted that some specialties are only accepting referrals from their local areas. What that creates is a delay in services.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Dr. Skoblar's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

4) Cecilli Gonzalez, PHN:

Not present, report provided.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Cecelli's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0upitiahra.

5) Dr. Lew, Dental Director:

Dr. Lew is present to review her report. She noted that the concern about Happy Camp dentist coverage is important. The Receptionist at the dental clinic transferred to sterilization technician. In Yreka there is business as usual. She noted that she has worked at the Tribe for nine years. Over this time, they had over 70k patient visits. She has met everyone in Siskiyou County. She noted that the emergency visits were 14 people. There are orthodontic services and those are ongoing. The month of July is serving over 500 patients. Binx asked if anyone was seen in Orleans. Dr. Lew noted that there were three patients seen. Nikki works through her lunch and scheduled 7-8 but there were only 3 patients that showed up.

AAAHC report demonstrated issues about the eye wash stations (3) so they need to install those. They have fixed this. They marked the partition in the sterilization room and one room, so the work order is in to finish the wall. They suggested topical anesthesia to put on the consent form. They added it to the consent form already. All requests from AAAHC are being worked on.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Dr. Lew's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

6) Tonia Begrin, OR Clinic Manager:

Report submitted, not present.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Tonia's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

7) Susanna Greeno, Happy Camp Clinic Manager:

Susanna is present to review her report. She noted that the month of July they had 328 visits with 40% being native American. She attended the AAAHC review which the clinic was eye wash stations. They screened for 3 applicants for the HIM position. Tonia Begrin will be starting soon. Kiera Prukop is a MA intern, so she is doing her schooling.

eClinical Works has been a struggle. She has been requesting a meeting with Yreka staff for tricks and tips. She was happy to have the information on shortcuts that streamline the process. Patient count is 6-8 a day. The locum will be leaving at the end of the month and she hopes that she can return. The one locum that was recently added will be leaving tomorrow. Karuk reunion and health fair will be happening. eClinical should be used for billing as well. There was training provided on eClinical and it was separated by department. Buster noted that once the training was provided there is the follow up staff. Susanna reported that yes; Chad and Danci. Danci noted that that week of training was a lot. Retraining is important and adapting to those changes is important.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Susanna's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

8) Tonya Albers, RPMS Site Manager:

Tonya is in training. She turned in her report.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Tonya's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Each provider report shall be provided in the future. Eric noted that they have been working on e-clinical data collection and once they figure it out, they will be able to pull the reports that the Council would like to see; providers, departments, counts.

9) Cindy Hayes, Yreka Clinic Manager:

Cindy is present to review her report. The HVAC repairs have been ongoing. They will put gas in the lines to figure something out. Her budget is at 35%. The AAAHC review occurred. They will install pull cord lights as recommended. AAAHC requires them in the employee bathrooms as well, so those upgrades will be happening.

Laura Mayton moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Cindy's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

10) Robert Thompson, HRSA, Grants, Compliance:

No report.

11) Jodi Henderson, Operations Manager:

Jodi is present to review her report. She updated on the AAAHC review that recently occurred. There are some corrections that have to take place and they will need to clarify with FTCA about it. They will put the reports into EHB and send that off. She and Robert have been taking classes on USD and EHB.

Senior Nutrition has been struggling. The cook in Orleans has left. They will post that position. In the meantime, they will do sack lunches. They asked if the on-call can happen in Orleans. Happy Camp on-call will go down part time and they are working on that schedule.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Jodi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Closed Session:

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 25-R-133, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara. A budget modification will be done later to include ceremonial costs.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve out of state travel for Dr. Skoblar to Chandler AZ, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Each clinic is doing something at the reunion. It is mandatory to be there unless there are other arrangements.

Informational: Kristen McCullough continues to contact HHS CEO. The Council agrees to decline the services.

Informational: Council Member Hensher-Aubrey asked that the review of MOU's being negotiated with specialists to accept referrals happen.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Robert Super seconded to waive policy and posting, and put Tribal Member YS into an on-call training program within the PRC Department, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council has concerns about a check for cultural items that were purchased over the price acceptable. This will be discussed with the PHN.

Informational: Operations Manager provided the patient complaints, near misses, and incident reports.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve an altered work schedule for TK, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Kristen King). Supervisor shall organize or map out a plan to set employee up for success.

Binx Brink moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve resolution 25-R-144, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Laura).

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve resolution 25-R-143, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve modification (2) to agreement 22-A-115, 5 haa, 1 puuhara (Robert), 0 pupitihara. (Director of operations withdraws signature)
Robert Super excused himself.

Consensus: to review policy and implement pay schedule for employee GS, ES
Robert returned.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve employee #RP to use the van for Hoopa youth football, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Robert Super seconded to approve waiving policies, and hiring interns as permanent employees of the SUD Program and budget; LM and RB, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Robert Super seconded to approve a letter to PG&E regarding the Microgrid Incentive Program, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve remote work for Director of Transportation, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.
Jennifer left at 2:54pm.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve counter offer from CFO, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Executive Director applicants will not be interviewed.

Informational: interview candidate for TERO Director

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve agreement 25-A-136 waiving the pet fee, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to move forward and follow through and see if it's going to happen to with new website.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Tribal Member #JE to use the compactor, 4 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Laura).

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Christina and Loretta to set up for "Tell our stories" at the reunion, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara. Elders should know what their options are.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve burial assistance for Descendant D5587, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Robert Super seconded to approve out of state travel for Colleen Rossier September 23-25, 2025, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve out of state travel for Ray Martin to Seattle WA, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve Ray to AI symposium September 26, 2025, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: for General Counsel to move forward with discussions with Dr. Beckham regarding Parcel B.

Information: Dr. Beckham is winding down and he is selling off his archives. Shall be evaluated for previous.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve \$7k to the reunion budget from discretionary, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council Member Mayton will assist the Karuk Tribe in filing the CSC for Indian Health Services and the Karuk Tribe.

Informational: Tribal Council will offer grant writer support for FMC to seek funding for their project.

Consensus: Tribal Council is fine to support the local school (Gazelle) with honoring their Native American students and area, but will require the mascot to be representative of Karuk Indian values and not clipart versions.

Council Caucus: No minutes recorded.

Informational: Council Member Hensher-Aubrey disclosed contract with KILT to conduct Administrative Support consulting.

Chairman left at 4:57pm.

Binx assumed Chair.

Adjourned at 5:02pm.

Next Meeting Date: September 11, 2025 at 10am in Happy Camp.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell Attebery, Chairman

Kenneth Brink, Vice-Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider