Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting
June 25, 2026 – Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairperson Attebery.

Present:
Russell "Buster" Attebery, Chairperson
Kenneth "Binx" Brink, Vice-Chairperson
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer
Robert Super, Member at Large
Alma Mendoza, Member at Large
Laura Mayton, Member at Large
Kristen King, Member at Large

Absent:
Arch Super, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large

Scott provided a prayer for the audience. Chairman read the mission Statement.

Agenda:
Scott Quinn moved and Robert Super seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Consent Calendar:
Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve the consent calendar, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2026:
Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve the meeting minutes of May 28, 2026, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Alma Mendoza).

Old Business:
None at this time.

Scott commented that that having a fire engine in Happy Camp is important. He noted that Tribal Member, Troy Hockaday had an inquiry last month about this. He asked for follow up regarding the topic. Bill noted that this can be discussed at the Project Coordination Meetings to request that an Engine in Happy Camp be available. They typically have staffing and rotate out for national assignments but when they go out that may be an issue if there is no coverage. He will note it for the ongoing meetings that are held with the USFS.

Language:
This morning he traveled up river "muduuk" up the hill.

Guests:
1) Phil Albers & Taralyn Ipina:
Taralyn and Phil are present to request services for the upcoming Mountain Dance. They wanted to express appreciation for continued support and the dance community appreciates the tribal support. The assistance for the trailers was done but they ultimately supported and upgraded the water system. They haven't had to do any digging of the grounds but have updated the area.

They are requesting porta potties, dumpster, and borrowing head rolls should they need to. August 13-22, 2026 is the Mountain dance. This year, for the first time the Yurok Peckwan dance has been scheduled. Usually there is a gap but this year there is a little overlap but that will put a strain on the items that are borrowed from museums.

Kristen commented that this year the Tribal Council has approved funding for food so they may access that assistance as well.

Kristen asked about insurance for the ceremony but Phil noted that it was not requested this year by the land owner. The rafters and boat access, are not an issue at this time. Eli commented that he has spoke to Misty regarding signs to not accessing the property during certain periods.

2) Preston Bentley, Tribal Member:
Present is present to seek the Tribes exempt status to host the April 2027 golf tournament fundraiser. He is working with Chairman Attebery and Ed Harris of RRC, to support his efforts. Buster advised that using the Happy Camp 501c3 status is the easiest way to do it. This would be for one event. Preston will be providing those funds to the Tribe and go to a department of the Tribe. For his senior project the fundraising proceeds must go to a 501c3 or non-profit so he is seeking the Tribes assistance. With a different entity in Happy Camp he will still be compliant with his senior project and be able to donate the money.

Director Reports:

1) **Eli Hensher-Aubrey, CEO:**
Eli is present to review his report and highlight the reports of his directors. He attended the NCAI Conference with Ray Martin and noted that the resolution they presented was passed without any issues or changes.

His focus is on supporting his staff and Council Members, attending meetings, and other projects as they arise. His focus has been 477 and Head Start this last month. He will continue to follow that path so that the school year is ready to go.

He highlighted Eric's report. Glass Roots Construction has been approved as a contractor for the KRBBI project.

Scott asked for an update on the email server. It is outdated and they will transition to the cloud soon, and have increased the space to accommodate the issue.

He highlighted the report of Chelsea Post. She has been busy working on the Holiday Party, Reunion and all Social Media items. She has been working with staff on Press Releases and Facebook accounts.

He then highlighted Tyvin Whittaker's report. They are reviewing the feasibility, design, and other services for $5k. He has been attempting to improve the quality of the RV Park. An RFP for a Park Manager is being flown currently. He will be compiling a report on each economic venture that he oversees and tracking their revenue, budgets, operations, etc. He will provide that information next month.

His next Director is Michelle Cook, TERO. She has a new TERO Deputy Assistant and a Summer Youth Worker. She is looking forward to training both and having extra support. For application screenings, contracts, interviews they have been busy. She will report on AVT services monthly moving forward so the community is aware of services that TERO provides. Buster asked about the AVT and if they are successful. Michelle noted that yes, they are successful and it is exciting to help Tribal Members in different avenues of their success.

Alma commented that in Tyvin's report she wants to make sure that they ensure that the Tribe is reaching out to other Tribal Member businesses so that the Tribe is finding ways to support local and Tribally owned. The Directors need to be aware of that as well, to support local people and be mindful of costs.

The HR report has multiple screenings, fingerprints, orientation, postings, policy reviews and disciplinary options. Another broker meeting will be set in July. HR Manager has been doing her tasks and Lisa Wilson has been processing health paper work, separation paperwork, and EDD. She continues to cross train her staff.

Buster asked about the position descriptions moving quickly and that being an issue. Is this a priority to get handled right away? With 3 ½ staff now they have the ability to move faster. Binx commented that something they talked about doing is onboarding including using videos, and orientation tools that have yet to be finished. Eli noted that this could be a good idea for the training group to start them up. He has a subcommittee who meets to discuss training opportunities.

The Public Works Department has several projects in the works including Happy Camp Administration, Happy Camp Medical Administration, Yreka Head Start, etc. Binx added that doing more projects in-house is important and saving funding on these projects is important. The Tribe having its own crew to do the work will save money in the long run for the Tribe. Plus the crew gains training and experience.

Eli would like to discuss the MMIP program. Jasmine has left employment and the Tribe wishes her well. Rebecca Super was the Assistant hired so she will cover for now.

April is present to review her report. She has had a lot of major things going on. She overviewed the services that the staff has been providing. They had a CalOES site visit and there is meeting that will be held with Eli, Tamara, and Buddy. Her particular grant did not have any findings, but the HHS program did have three major findings but she feels that those issues are a bit nit-picky. She has some policies that she has suggestions on, and then the fiscal policies will need to have discussion with Tamara and Buddy. She is assisting in bringing compliance issues into compliance. The BIA assessment for Court Assessment is scheduled for August 26th which will be used as a platform for seeking additional funding and then a jump off point for strategic planning.

The survey that is sent which was policing and law enforcement was discussed at KJAC. The State of CA is conducting a pilot program and the first round was missed this time but it may be an option next time, although the Tribe may not be eligible.

<u>Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Eli and Director reports, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.</u>

2) Gerald "Buddy" Machen, CFO:
Buddy is present to review his report. He noted that there is a site visit coming up with CSD and there will be property insurance which needs further review.

Scott Quinn moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Buddy's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

3) **Sara Spence, KTHA ED:**
Sara is present in Happy Camp to review her report. The second bulk mailing for down payment assistance will be sent out. The Board approved the second site for the Yreka Head Start. The open house for Second Avenue homes was completed. Once Chelsea gets through the pictures then a post will be made on social media and Housing will provide information for the newsletter as well.

The HAF is ongoing. A copy of the flyer for Amerin is due by July 24th for any school year children who wish to participate.

A fiscal clerk position has been posted. This position is vacant as the new Executive Assistant for housing has been selected and that leaves a vacancy in the fiscal department.

The open house for Orleans homes will be scheduled toward the end of July. The Orleans wellness center planning is ongoing; which includes Misty with for a park discussion and charging stations, etc.

Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Sara's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

4) **Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:**
Erin is present to review her report. She noted that on the HHS Administration building has a change order but it is a return or credit. The change order that is in the packet is a no-cost change order for the Skyline Project. 24-C-245 modification (2).

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve modification (2) to contract 24-C-245, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Communication on all three projects in Orleans is going a lot better but there are still struggles with staying on schedule.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Erin's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

5) **Bill Tripp, DNR Director:**
Bill is present virtually. There is one action item.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 26-R-103, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Bill provided information on agreements expiring and the Tribes agreement doesn't expire until next year, so there may be additional discussions on a time extension.

There have been some challenges with the agreements getting reimbursed timely and this has been an ongoing frustration. He has been working with Ray and Sandra on 638 contracting to use this avenue.

Bill has been receiving negative feedback particularly around telework but he will talk more about that at the DNR/Council Meeting. He did appreciate getting action items from the last meeting approved, so they can work with the contractor to get all position descriptions moved to new templates with updated pay scales.

He continues to follow up on the fisheries discussion regarding a request for grant information and there will be more closed session information with the Council at a later time, DNR/Council decision is needed.

Binx asked when they can burn the blackberries at the park. Binx asked if Bill was recently voted into a committee. Bill was voted in to be a delegate of the North state ITC Board, and the Council congratulated him.

Laura asked about getting paid from the 638 contract and noted that has been being worked on for years, and this is the BIA's preference. However, there are still some frustrations because he wants to know why there is the 638 and the multiyear funding agreement, and find one that works. The ongoing lack of reimbursements is frustrating and still occurring.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Bill's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

6) **Ray Martin, General Counsel:**
Ray does not have a report, but noted that the resolution presented at NCAI was a good experience and they did a lot of work which went uncontested. His written report will be provided to the Council via email and presented in closed session.

Closed Session:
Ken Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-100, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Ken Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-101, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Council Caucus: complaint received and reviewed by Tribal Council determined to be a misunderstanding and a clarification to Tribal Member will be provided.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the Transportation Press Release, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve $250 for bigfoot days sponsorship from discretionary, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve the Holiday Party FY27 budget at $65k, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to waive policy and authorize travel for Michelle Cook, Talonna Marshall and Debbie Whitman to Tulsa OK, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to deny travel request for TERO Commissioner at this time as the identified conference does not fit at this time.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve agreement 26-A-110 StarLink, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: General concerns over ongoing consultant relationship was discussed. Identifying that grant funding is being used and consultant written into the grants is explained.

Informational: Tribal Member and KTHA resident #RS is referred back to the KTHA BOC to ensure they follow policy regarding appeals.

Kenneth Brink motions and Alma Mendoza seconds to approve 26-A-103 6 haa 0 puuhara 0 pupitihara

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve contract 26-C-149, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Council Caucus: No minutes recorded.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-087 authorizing agreement 26-A-105 modification (2), 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 26-R-088 authorizing agreement 26-A-106 contingent on the GA Board vote, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 26-R-089 authorizing agreement 26-A-107, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Thank you letter was provided by a CIBA attendee to the Tribal Council.

Informational: Council Member L. Mayton requested a legal update on litigation. Verbal legal update was provided.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve porta potties, dumpster, water tank, access to the ranch for use of a brush dance at the ranch, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to rescind resolution 26-R-038, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Binx chairing).

Laura Mayton moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 26-R-092, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve NTE $6k for unauthorized purchases from 477, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Robert absent for vote).

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve waiving hiring policy and transfer CG from to FNP, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to pay for last minute cancellation by patient for $150 for hotel room, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Robert).

Council Caucus: no minutes recorded.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve agreement 26-A-109, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve waiving policy and transfer LP at the same wage to MA-YR, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Legal Counsel advised of potential land in Cave Junction. Discussion will occur with Economic Development Director.

Scott Quinn moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to support AB53 and co-sponsor it, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve a LOS for QVIR support with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the Parcel B letter of support for the Tribe, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve up to $45k discretionary for payment of water rights with KRRC, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: General Counsel requested assistance for Stanford Intern. After discussion it was determined that an approved agreement is required. Once paperwork is finalized then assistance will be discussed.

Laura Mayton moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve out of state travel for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Ray and Colleen July 20th week to Washington DC, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Staff left at 5:31pm.

Ken Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the revised engagement letter with Drummond Woodsum , 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Laura Mayton).

Alma Mendoza moved and Ken Brink seconded to adjourn at 5:57 PM, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara

Next Meeting Date: July 23, 2026 at 10am in Orleans.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Russell "Buster" Attebery, Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider