

**Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting
July 23, 2026 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 9:58 am by Chairman Attebery.

Present:

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman
Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer
Alma Mendoza, Member at Large
Laura Mayton, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large
Arch Super, Member at Large
Robert Super, Member at Large

Absent:

None

Prayer was completed by Arch Super and Chairman read the Mission Statement.

Agenda:

Scott Quinn moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

Alma Mendoza moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the consent calendar with changes to number 5, and to review number 3 for agreement numbers on page, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2026:

Arch Super moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve the meeting minutes of June 25, 2026, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 2 pupitihara (Arch/Jennifer).

Language:

Guests:

1) Miguel of Immanuel Rising:

Miguel is present to discuss behavioral health services for substance abuse, cultural relevant services, etc. The challenge in the area is not having housing, appropriate staffing, resources, etc. With this information they have determined to mitigate the issue within areas that are rural and that have had catastrophic issues. They have their CEO present, team member, Beth and Trisha, partners Rachel and others working along the Klamath River that was recently impacted by the McKinney Fire. This company brings in resources and creates holistic healing. The purpose is to heal people and identify projects to work on healing folks. River restoration is an important issue and the sovereignty of the Tribal Land is definitely respected. They will be working on river restoration in a culturally appropriate manner to heal. There are funding gaps and challenges with grant funding, so this may be a resource that can assist. The funding sources and partnerships the Tribe has will not be affected by this group conducting work in the area. Employment and substance abuse, and challenges with that, is going to be an issue. They will start with the Klamath Restoration and will be working with other Tribes in the areas. There is funding for wrap around services to folks.

Miguel represents the non-profit agency and he introduced Brian. Brian commented that they want nothing from this Tribe but to help and do the work that is their calling. Two years ago, they were working with other agencies and running a company called Water World Impact. The group that they worked collaboratively with is the administrator of projects and provide funding oversight on the ground of the projects. They wanted to open this up to all nations and that will now include Tribal nations. All Federally Recognized Tribes can draw on this funding. The IGO is a collaborative nation that throws money into a pot that solve issues for underserved folks.

Laura asked if the Orleans Community needs repairs of the water system but the Tribe does not own it. With that, the projects that the Tribe seeks would have to be theirs (Karuk's) and that would be the partnership they are hoping to build with Tribal Nations.

There is contact information that can be provided and allows information to be shared. Once the Tribe signs this agreement they can share information on several project options. Jennifer asked about a health clinic and they noted that yes, healthcare and access to healthcare is an issue so it is a possibility.

Director Reports:

1) Eli Hensher-Aubrey, CEO:

Eli is present to review his verbal report and hardcopy was turned in this morning. He is working closely with 477 and HR, continuing to follow up on his staff needs. His look ahead is to continue this support.

Eric Cutright from IT was KRBBI and the Orleans last mile. Binx asked about switching to StarLink due to access. Eli will receive an update on that process.

Chelsea Post, the Public Affairs and Strategic Communications Director is working on press releases, reunion, and all other information. She is working on show casing the youth activities over the summer.

Tyvin continues to work on the economic development report and there are appraisals for businesses and then he continues to work on the facility leasing of buildings.

April's report was highlighted and has 53 open active cases. Orleans has a vacancy for KJAC so if there are any Tribal Members in Orleans who are interested, then that would be good. There are grants to be submitted by 7/30 so they are hoping to get those in. Arch asked if the vacancy can be filled by Yreka or HC and Eli will follow up.

Michelle Cook's report was highlighted including outreach and information to be provided to the community. She and her Deputy will be attending travel as needed.

Taylor's report was highlighted including ongoing postings and available positions being posted.

The office of Public Works has ongoing work in all three areas. They have many facilities being worked on, special projects, etc that is happening. Misty is having work done in each area and the delivery of the transit van. Darrel is working with PR to ensure help and outreach is ongoing.

Laura complimented Jack and his crew for their work on the re-use of property and re-using the rock and dirt being for other projects. That saves money and is a good use of materials and resources.

Eric then presented resolution 26-R-085 for modification (1) to agreement 25-A-014.

Binx moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-085 which authorizes agreement 25-A-014 modification (1), 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Eric then presented agreement 26-A-111.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve agreement 26-A-111, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch Super).

Eric updated that Frontier has increased their rates and he has just received the first quote to replace the phone system. The new system will be an online phone system. If the Karuk Tribe wants to offer phone lines after the fiber is installed that can be an option.

Chelsea Post discussed the concept of a copyright with Bruno for cultural fire information. Chelsea was provided an opportunity to draft an agreement.

Modification (1) to an agreement was presented by Tyvin for the website developers who are doing the intranet. There was discussion on the agenda development and minutes, clarifying that Barbara has not seen it yet, to determine if it is a viable option. It will reduce time and the headache of developing agendas and creating packets. That is one modification. The second addition is a tracking management tool which will allow for asset tracking and room space reserving. This will provide an inventory system tracking. This will provide a full life cycle, track depreciation, and usage over time for vehicles. The fixed assets list is done already so this is something new for this company. Laura is concerned that this was not discussed or reviewed as an option internally but is provided as a cost for an outside company to do. She is not saying no to either one but it wasn't viewed or evaluated by the people who do the work. Tyvin noted that it will be built for the purpose of what the Tribe would use.

It will be vehicle, rooms, cars, equipment, IT equipment, etc asset tracking. Eli noted that this is a way to track and monitor registrations, due date, and be more helpful but not have to update a spreadsheet. Scott added that there needs to be discussion with folks that do what the Tribe needs and have them evaluate if this workable for the entire Tribe. There was a link that was provided to the discovery documents, scope of work, product requirements, and that link was sent to the people they have identified to review. Again, the Council asked that the persons who do the work evaluate it. This will be tabled to closed session.

Scott Quinn moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-137, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 2 pupitihara (Arch/Robert).

Arch Super moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Eli's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

2) Sara Spence, KTHA ED:

Sara is present in Happy Camp to review her report. She first presented 26-R-108.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 26-R-108, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

She then sought approval of the agreement 26-A-113 for participating o-link tribes.

Arch Super moved and Robert Super seconded to approve agreement 26-A-113, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Arch Super moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Sara's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

3) Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:

Erin is present to highlight her written report. She has been doing some phone votes as Barbara has been out of the office. New Markets Tax Credit needs finished and completed. There is a Board of Equalization form that needs filed. The group is behind on some TNGF reports. There are several items coming through. ICDBG was funded for the Orleans Senior Center. Emma Lee and Akana wrote the grant. She has been working with Buster to get him onboard to accept the funding.

For folks that are having difficulty with position descriptions she asked for patience for staff because she feels that they are caught up or getting caught up.

The Health Administration building in Happy Camp has no upstairs windows. It is going to be storage. Erin clarified that there are no offices for upstairs and that can be storage and was the design that was approved by the Council.

There may be some issues in getting the TNGF grant in for the 8/13 application due date but she understands that the grant needs to be in on time, so she will be working on it.

Kristen asked about the childcare center. The foundation will put the project behind schedule. Bobby has reached out to Trinity Valley Engineers to identify how to resolve the issue. They are seeking an engineer opinion on the foundation and then will meet with the Council.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Erin's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

4) Bill Tripp, DNR Director:

Bill is present to review his report. He noted that he wants a single point of contact for the NFWF approval. The technical items can be done at the Project Coordination meetings. A decision does not need to be made right now, but a decision will need to be made soon. The folks that were at the meeting, including Scott, Buster, Binx, Erin. By the time the proposal goes in then they need an official delegation type of person. There have been some discussions on connected watersheds which may include the Elk Creek Watershed. They are working on a map to identify what is NEPA approved. The GIS folks are connected now on the overlap of current NEPA projects and this will assist in identifying places that work can be done. Scott asked if there is a timeline for NEPA exception? Bill reported that there is no exception but there can be added discussions into plans and they have only so much time after an incident is declared controlled for an exception.

Cleo commented that there is a categorical exclusion that will help with the watershed work and that could cover things to beaver, mechanical work, etc. Seeking an exemption may be an option and speaking to Colleen about this could be important. Binx then noted that the Inaam and Titus Creek drainage was brought up. Bill commented that they did discuss this and they are considering the Inaam boundary does not have any negative effects there but they want to work on the eligibility determination and start the process. This is going to be a lot of work. They want

to continue to work on Seiad, switch the swoon project at the swillup creek drainage, and then build from there off the shared values of WKRP.

Cleo is present to seek approval of a task order can be approved.

Arch Super moved and Kristen King seconded to approve resolution 26-R-120, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

DNR then sought approval of resolution 26-R-124 for LIDAR surveys to assess prost-dam removal effects. This is to approve the Yurok Tribe to do LIDAR surveys and to ensure the Tribe approves access to the Tribes air space. Yurok Tribe did reach out but it was last minute. The survey's started last week.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve resolution 26-R-124, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx noted that this project is billable and he asked if equipment could get up there and get into the McKinney fire scar for work. Jack noted that the Tribe doesn't own equipment but DNR does. There was a separate code that was set up in Ishpook leasing to track this and there was a fund that has been taken. Laura clarified that that is not the case. The fund was set up and payments made on equipment, then when it's used that fund conducted repairs, etc. If a discussion needs to happen then it needs to happen and a final decision on what it will be used for. Cleo commented that the Yurok Tribe is ready to integrate an operator that can deal with the project.

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Bill's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

5) Ray Martin, General Counsel:

Not present, report sent to Tribal Council.

Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Ray's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Phone Votes:

1. Request approval of resolution 26-R-107 KTHA FY27 Indian Housing Plan. Passed.
2. Request approval of resolution 26-R-113 authorizing a grant proposal for SOD. Passed.
3. Request approval for current contractor to maintain karuk.us email account. Passed.
4. Request approval of burial assistance for Tribal Descendant #D0067. Passed.
5. Request approval to provide a one-time bonus for employee. Passed.
6. Request approval for two letters of support for MKWC CalFire funding. Passed.
7. Request approval of a letter of support for the Siskiyou County DA CAC in Siskiyou County. Passed.
8. Request approval of a letter of support for AB1575 CTFC. Passed.
9. Request approval of letter of support for AB1824. Passed.
10. Request approval to issue a tribal trailer to LC. Passed.
11. Request approval of statement to Head Start children & families. Passed.
12. Request approval of statement to the community regarding Head Start. Passed.
13. Request approval of a letter of support for MKWC for grant proposal. Passed.

14. Request approval to donate \$1,000 to Huffman lunch while in DC from discretionary. Passed.
15. Request approval to provide burial assistance for Tribal Descendant #D00617. Passed.
16. Request approval to waive the Pithvuyram Center rental fee for CM. Passed.
17. Request approval to allow a third party to access employee email accounts. Passed.
18. Request approval to provide burial assistance for Tribal Descendant #D05696. Passed.
19. Request approval to support the Yurok Tribe's 60-day notice to quit. Passed.
20. Request approval porta potties for a family gathering in Orleans. Passed.
21. Request approval of resolution 26-R-066 to HAF for climate action efforts. Passed.
22. Request approval of porta potties, dumpster, water for Orleans Brush dance. Passed.

Closed Session:

Informational: Strategic Communications position shall review all posting information prior to submission, all passwords and administrator privileges shall be with the position and to ensure consistent messaging is evaluated.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the ICDBG Orleans Senior Center press release, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: puuhara for a super bowl donation.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the Orleans Community Services District to use remaining ARPA funds for a modified project \$139,387.23, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Director of Public Works, Economic Developer and CEO will work with Legal Counsel on an agreement to rent equipment to the Yurok Tribe.

Alma Mendoza moved and Kristen King seconded to approve waiving the CDL requirement for the OR Clinic custodian and offer employment, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 2 pupitihara (Arch/Laura).

Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to review all position descriptions and evaluate which positions may move CDL's to qualifications and not requirements, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to decline the Connor Cardlock property and to move forward with an assessment with the priority with the Tribes property.

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve offering \$1.2 million for Happy Camp property, 6 haa, 1 puuhara (Scott), 1 pupitihara (Alma).

Robert Super moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-118 authorizing agreement 26-A-119, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to decline the lube and oil business in Yreka

Laura Mayton moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to move the Deputy TERO Assistant position to full time, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to rescind Transportation Department Director telework agreement and return to full time office location, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Alma Mendoza moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve employee #3829 increase from \$28 to \$30 per hour, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: The internal identified group to make decisions regarding Slater Fire funds (USDA) has been identified as Bill Tripp, Jonathon Birdsong, and Chris Christopherson. A review committee will be developed in the future.

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve waiving the travel policy and authorizing local travel and staff with resource orders to travel with Chairman approval, 7 haa, 1 puuhara (Arch), 0 pupitihara.

Informational: DNR Director advised that the DNR staff have conducted their own internal survey regarding Council approved policies. The Tribal Council requested that information and advised that the matter be explained and to also express the change was not or is not restrictive but enhances services to those who work onsite.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to give them away (5-6 trailers that are bad), 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve out of state travel for Dr. Skoblar to attend out of state travel 9/10- 9/13 for medical conference, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve increasing VISA's for Jennifer Machen and Cheryl Bearchild to \$10k, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to post the 477 Director position to seek qualified applicants.

Alma Mendoza moved and Kristen King seconded to approve procurement and select case worthy to connect e-clinical software, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: A request for the total spending on e-clinical was requested and to identify that if the Tribe is not using RPMS to have those shares returned from the compact. CEO will handle this.

Employees Drawn: Brionna, Chase, Roseann, Ish, Alexis,

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the indirect cost proposal for FY27 and submit, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the FY27 insurance liability with Hub International Northwest LLC, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: August 5th DNR Meeting will be moved to HC and Secretary/Treasurer will chair the meeting.

Scott Quinn moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve 26-C-147 with Dr. Beckham, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve a letter to BOR regarding ESA decision and Yurok litigation, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consensus: to submit the legal memo regarding Siskiyou County Sheriff clarifying their ability to enforce a trespass order.

Informational: State of CA lawsuit shall have an analysis including pros and cons, along with proposed budget. Additionally, all legal costs currently should be provided and a briefing on what those services are.

Arch Super moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve a \$3 per raise for KF, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch)

Informational: Updates were shared regarding staffing shortages and ability to complete tasks, communicate, or follow policy with documentation was discussed.

Consensus: to accept the ceremonial assistance guidelines. 30 days before the ceremony and attach the current ceremonial calendar or request.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to have no-rehire status for employee #3424, 7 haa, 1 puuhara (Arch), 0 pupitihara.

Informational: HR matter was updated by the CEO to the Council and final memo shall provide clarification.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve letter of recommendation for Sophie Neuner-Weinstein, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Robert).

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to adjourn at 6:14pm.

Next Meeting: August 27, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider