

**Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting
August 27, 2026 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10am by Chairman Attebery.

Present:

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

Absent:

Alma Mendoza, Member at Large

Agenda:

Binx Brink moved and Robert Super seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

Arch asked about the resolution for the State funding. Barbara explained that this is usually reviewed and it is not a full proposal.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the consent calendar, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Meeting minutes of July 23, 2026:

Arch Super moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve the meeting minutes of July 23, 2026, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Old Business:

Kyfaat Yahotai “Don’t be late”

Guests:

1) Josh Saxon, RRC:

Not present.

2) Neal Bergman, Elders Program:

Neal is present to seek approval of a project and travel allowance for non-employees. Laura asked if alternates can be drawn and Neal confirmed that they will select alternates for each location. Laura asked if they have a spouse or caregiver, would they be permitted to attend. It may be an option and they will consider this moving forward but for now, the minimum attendees is elders. Transportation is an issue but they are working on it.

Arch Super moved and Robert Super seconded to approve the Elders Native American Day 477 trip, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster will be down there so if he can connect with the Elders that would be good. CTCA hosts Native American Day and he will be available. Jennifer has her CDSS meeting and she will come down as well and Jennifer asked if they can get together and have dinner with the Elders. These are all concepts and they will work on that.

3) Julie Burcell, HCES:

Julie is present to introduce the new Principal at the Happy Camp Elementary School; Melissa Rhodes. She invited any Council Member to visit the school and meet the teachers and staffing.

Julie was present visiting Buster and they commented that they have been working with a person to do inspirational speaking to the local area. This year the school has figured out a way to do a golf clinic. They have paid just over \$10k to do a golf clinic and there is a speaker who will do assemblies. Binx asked about Yreka but it was not included so Julie offered to connect that school with this information to seek that service for them. Julie was requesting funding from Buster and he referred her to the Council. They are seeking \$720 resort fee and \$400 for lunch. Arch asked how many Tribal Members are going to attend. Julie explained that she is unsure and does not have a specific answer but Happy Camp has 70% Indigenous enrollment.

Binx asked that if this person could be paid from opioid funding. Buster noted that they will have this discussion.

Director Reports:

1) Bill Tripp, DNR Director:

Bill is present to review his report. Bill appreciated the new template that was sent out and Tim completed it so he is getting himself briefed on this month's report as well. DNR is working on grants that are large but they are currently being drafted with a deadline of 9/17. This is a very competitive grant opportunity but they need all these pots of funding for the new Fire Resiliency Center.

The private donor work is ongoing and that will compliment their projects. There were previously discussions to reduce funding but with recent visits they will keep the funding at \$3 million toward their fire resiliency center. Binx added that these tours went well and show actual needs in the areas.

Bill then added that the Council Initiatives portion from the Planning Session has been done. Bill noted that Cleo and Tim were able to get the task order finished to get equipment on the McKinney Fire project, which will add to the Tribe starting a construction company.

Binx asked if it was alright to talk to Emilio to do a project in Happy Camp for clearing. There is funding set aside for this. The funding is allowable and Bill will follow up.

Arch Super moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Bill's report, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

2) Eli Hensher-Aubrey, CEO:

Eli is present to review his report and then he will get into the Directors that he oversees, there are several staff that have action items.

Eli has been handling his normal duties and supporting others. He has spent a lot of time working with HR, 477 and the Health Program in the last month. He has a list of the Council initiatives that he was assigned to. Construction Company was identified and he noted that the work was

done at Admin, Ground moving in Yreka, Childcare facility in Orleans. He and Jack will be working on equipment purchases. Jack and Tyvin are working on two locations in town for a gas station in Happy Camp. Microgrid needs to have a meeting set up. 477 overall he works with very closely with them. The Director position is flying for that. The Committee has been meeting to develop their roles & responsibilities. They have been spending time reviewing the plan. Down payment assistance is being worked on through housing. The childcare for Orleans has shifted but Erin, Jack and Bobby are doing a good job working on that project. HR continues to review position description and get through their tasks, now that they are fully staffed they will be assigning tasks and cross training to ensure coverage. In-house trainings have been ongoing. Looking ahead he will continue to support his staff and keep programs moving forward.

Binx asked about the microgrid. Eli noted that there is a larger discussion that needs to be held to bounce back on this and to create a microgrid that works.

Scott asked if there is a plan to continue discussions for restoration projects. Binx noted that a joint letter is coming out to DC to ask that funding be released. Binx noted that the restoration groups are considering Karuk as well to do some work. Tyvin and Jack have been working on items and additional avenues to support projects. Shane White has stepped up to provide support and bringing on other folks.

Eli highlighted that Chelsea has created the elder calendars, reunion, and newsletter. The sketches are being developed to ensure they are not using AI in flyers. Chelsea is creating position description flyers and doing recruitment outreach. All Department social media accounts have been transferred to karuk.us email accounts, all are included into the Tribes account.

Highlights from Tyvin is that he is working on a gas station company in Happy Camp and discussing the viability of two different parcels. The bedding has been ordered for the Klamath Resort Inn. Laura asked about the machines for the laundromat. Jamie is processing the check and the delivery should be in October. Laura asked that the cost be increased for laundry services, per unit. She asked if there is the ability to program the machines. Tyvin will check.

The interim 477 Director provided an update on the 477 activities. The language program has progressed and they will be in closed session to further discuss this.

April Atterbury's report shows the case load for the program/court. They continue their operations on Title X of the Children & Family Code. The Tribal Court assessment took place yesterday and this is done every 3-5 years.

He highlighted Michelle's report, including the many trainings that have occurred and outreach for the Membership. TERO staff and a Commissioner attended a conference in Tulsa OK which provided valuable information regarding Tribal Employment Rights in Indian Country. They are going to start working on the Summer Youth Employment Program for FY27.

HR has been focused on recruitment for Executive level positions. There has been a push to get those postings on other platforms. Harassment training was held and the contractor will do a virtual training that can be shared. She did provide the curriculum if the Tribe wants to facilitate this as well.

Public works consists of; Jack, Bobby, Misty, and Darrell. There is a lot of work ongoing including the farms, dance grounds, roads, elders walking path, facility building and maintenance, emergency preparations, and conducting emergency plans for tribal business. Laura asked about

spaces and moving programs into the Beverly Manor, it was noted that it is not determined who will move into that site but there are people wanting to. Laura recommends that it be from offices that are downtown leasing move to the Beverly Manor. Buster asked about leasing facilities and this should allow reimbursement. Tyvin commented that the building must be owned or in trust. Eli commented that multiple buildings are going through the process as of now and the largest hiccup was the building plans and blue prints which are a requirement. There is also the requirement to have a third-party appraisal. That is all being worked on.

Tyvin then presented his action items. Tyvin noted that he submitted a grant late, which is a resolution 26-R-145. Laura asked about the analyst position, and then having an indirect shortfall. Laura recommends a contractor. Jennifer asked about the \$31k unrecovered indirect cost. Tyvin noted that this is what was just discussed. Using a contractor is better and should be edited to allow that change. The grant is for \$463k.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 26-R-145 with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

He then presented contract 26-C-189 for management services. Laura would like to see how the park is doing a profit / loss standpoint. She would like more information. This will be tabled.

Bob then presented contract 26-C-070 modification (1) with KAS & Associates to do civil engineering for the Yreka Head Start. There were discussions on water issues as well as annexing the property, which needs to happen.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve modification (1) to contract 26-C-070, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Eli's report, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

4) Sara Spence, KTHA ED:

Sara will be mailing out the workforce housing policies and those applications will be going out shortly. There have been two vacancies filled with Tribal Members at KTHA, and that is great for the workforce and housing.

Arch Super moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Sara's report, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

5) Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:

Erin is present to review her report. She commented that she has a few closed session items. The TNGF equal shares was announced for \$1.9 million. The contract for the Orleans project was cancelled and the project will be done in-house. The Orleans Senior Center was funded for ICDBG. There was an update on the Yreka Head Start.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Erin's report, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Buster thanked Erin for her work.

Phone Votes:

1. Request approval to provide insurance certificates for \$40k, \$180k, \$500k, for Mountain Dance Ceremony. Passed.
2. Request approval of draft ESA Amicus Brief. Passed
3. Request approval of substantive changes to amicus brief. Passed.
4. Request approval of Op-Ed title “Restoring Salmon Means Restoring the Whole Klamath Ecosystem”. Passed.
5. Request approval of a LOS for Conditional 2026 Tule Lake Flow. Passed.
6. Request approval of the unlawful use and trespass letter for the Benter Allotment. Passed.
7. Request approval to contribute \$2,500 for DC luncheon attendance. Passed.

Closed Session:

Laura Mayton moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the pilot OJT project from TERO and to ask for KTHA to fund the position #Tribal Member, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: TERO wants to target the group without a lot of skills, trade programs, work experience, etc. TERO Director has reached out to 477 but has not heard back as of yet. Eli will make the connection between the staff.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve out of state travel for Buster Attebery and Ray Martin to DC September 20-24, 2026 for Native Summit Whitehouse invitation, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve resolution 26-R-141 authorizing agreement 26-A-122, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Tribal Descendant KR is present to request confirmation and understanding why services to her children are restricted. Notation of continued contact with Director and Chairman have resulted in no results on continued services to the children. Director was called and five additional services were provided, including clarification that all youth need time to participate in the funded activity, sharing the funding to cross more youth.

Council Caucus: Council with employee, no minutes recorded.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve the op-ed regarding AB1891, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch Super).

Consensus: deny Construction Manager recommendation of staff transfers.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve the Language Department Year 2 plan, and the three pathways to certifications/credentialing processes, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve insurance for the DD tournament softball with required waivers, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Arch Super moved and Robert Super seconded to donate \$500 for the Golf Clinic proposed by HCHS, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Laura Mayton seconded to approve the Karuk Tribe’s comments to the State Water Control Board, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Robert Super seconded to approve letter regarding AB2218, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Robert Super seconded to approve letter for AB1891, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Laura Mayton moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve donating \$5k for Binx and Scott to attend the Huffman hootenanny if needed October 16-18, 2026, 5 haa, 1 puuhara (Arch), 1 pupitihara (Scott).

Binx and Kristen left at 3:10pm

Informational: Legal memo that was drafted and submitted to the Tribal Council for potential service area expansion. Deputy General Counsel detailed the process including routes with IHS and BIA.

Informational: Council Member Goodwin and Vice-Chairman will attend section 106 OMB consultation meeting. Ray will ensure that this is going to happen and be scheduled.

Informational: legal recommends changes to personnel policy XXX. Legal Counsel will redline the language and submit for approval.

Informational: Legal update was provided on several projects under the legal department.

Laura Mayton moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve CEO to have access to HHS CEO email account for 90 days, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Scott Quinn moved and Robert Super seconded to approve CEO to have access to CFO email account for 90 days, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council Member Goodwin requested to provide 3 months of health insurance coverage for former employee. Tabled.

Informational: Internal structure changes have not occurred and will not be implemented until stabilizing current changes.

Informational: Council Member R. Super discussed additional concerns on late reports. This causes issues.

Informational: CEO and Health Board developed topics for the HHS Strategic Planning.

Informational: CEO presented travel for the Education Director and the 477 Deputy Director. After review of the agenda, it was pulled from being presented.

Informational: Meeting with CEO, Director of Human Services, Finance, and employee has not taken place yet.

Next Meeting Date: September 17, 2026 at 10am in Orleans.

Laura Mayton moved and Robert Super seconded adjourned to adjourn at 6:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider