

**Karuk Tribe – Council Meeting
September 17, 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
Arch Super, Member at Large
Robert Super, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large
Laura Mayton, Member at Large
Alma Mendoza, Member at Large

Absent:

None

Arch Super provided a prayer and Chairman read the Karuk Tribes Mission Statement.

Agenda:

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve the agenda, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

Laura Mayton moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve modification (4) to contract 25-C-188, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Meeting minutes of August 27, 2026:

Arch Super moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve the meeting minutes, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Alma).

Old Business:

None.

Language:

1. **Yítha**
2. **Áxak**
3. **kuyraak**
4. **piith**
5. **itrôop**

Guests:

1) Dylan Aubrey, Tribal Workforce Trade Association

Dylan is present with a Tribal Advisor and others. He noted that they do workforce and business development. They have strategic partners, George Plah who has the largest construction co. They continue to have meetings with CNRA and others to review limitations on co-management. They want to work together in Indian Country that will develop a co-governance agreement. This would be authority and ownership. All Tribes need to work together so that they put Tribal people to work. He wants to ask the Tribes to work together and have co-management in CA but across

the Nation. Tribal Workforce Training Association is their company and they have trust in Native American community. This is similar concepts to a Native American Union. The labor capacity is lacking but the first thing is that the contractors need to get the bids, native communities to have the jobs, and then other community members. He requested a private planning session with the Karuk Council to develop a plan and priorities for further developing this. Robert asked if there is a slide show or anything. Dylan will provide more information to review. There are couple projects that are happening. The last chance grading project is moving forward now and the project is not local and not tribal. There are issues with out of state companies to ensure that native American communities are involved. Another project, Redwood Trails. This is creating a new committee to oversee it and did not allow consultation from Tribes and did not put any Native Americans on the board that oversees the project.

Buster advised to work with Barbara on scheduling another meeting to further discuss items, if needed. CNRA is going to hire him as a consultant and as he is looking at is that maximum authority needs to have Tribes and flow through the NCTCA and CTCA. Buster will get him on the agenda for CTCA, TBIC and NCTCA. Buster will get him on the CTCA agenda as soon as possible.

Robert asked if the Tribes that are being talked to then he can seek letters of intent. The agency is a 501c6. They want to become super (8) which will become a prime contractor.

Director Reports:

1. Bill Tripp, DNR Director:

Bill is not present. Analisa is present to review the DNR report.

Toz presented contract 26-C-208 to continue the Spring Chinook project. It is work to specifically conduct outreach. It is a collaboration with Berkeley.

Binx Brink moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve contract 26-C-208, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Toz noted that it is not on the agenda but they may have to do a phone vote for a construction project. That information will be coming if they can obtain internal review.

Arch Super moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Bill's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

2. Eli Hensher-Aubrey, CEO:

Eli has been keeping the same focus as he does each month, which is supporting staff and supporting departments. A lot of his focus has been supporting the HHS program including HHS Strategic Planning this past week.

He is working with HR and the fiscal department. He thanked Laura and Tamara for all their work and for finishing the budgets for the Tribe.

He continues to follow up on actions of the Council and he will be on travel with the Chairman next week.

He first highlighted Eric's report. Quotes are going to be sought for Microsoft 360. KRBBI has been started and is moving along. IT is working with DNR on providing internet services to the DNR office in Yreka. They are working on a new IT organizational chart which will allow for space and additional employees.

Renee asked where KRBBI is going to start at. Eric advised that construction started on Monday in McKinleyville area. They start in OR in the beginning of October and he is coordinating with DNR and Michael Courts for cultural monitors.

There are additional items that are being completed in the HR Department and the PR department.

The Public Works department was able to move the old smoke shop to HC to serve as an office space and that works well because the RV Park will now have a full-time contractor.

The construction activities have been off to a solid start and the invoice has been sent to Yurok so the Tribe should be getting that money. Tyvin has taken the initiative to get with other groups and meet with other Tribes on serving Siskiyou County.

Scott asked if Tyvin will be able to review information and discuss further the opportunities that Dylan mentioned earlier. Eli will ensure he is Tyvin has information on potential meetings and receives information.

Star Harvest is a company that is interested in partnering with the Tribe on how to collaborate on cattle and cattle industry. Tyvin will follow up on this item with the Council at a later time.

KCWS attached their report including their case load and a breakout of those statistics. The lead Social Worker is attending training to become certified. Arch asked if seven desktops are going to be ordered for the program and if those desktops will be ordered for staff or clients. Paul noted that those items are desktops for staff. Arch asked about a grant for the security glass and entry way. That grant was assigned.

Eli then highlighted April's report including her client statistics. They are working closely on two grants that end at the end of this month. They are following up on the Tribal Court assessment that was held. The CTAS project continues.

Michelle Cook will have a raffle for those who have filled out skills bank applications at the Reunion. TERO is offering the purchase of work clothes. Michelle will be attending training with the HR Director which will allow them both to be custodian of records and adjudicating them. Internal training is going to be held for staff which will include contracts, agreements, and policies. Arch asked about budget review. The EEOC grant is 6% expended. There is funding that is in reserves and they can code training and travel to EEOC and they have four or five years stacked up. They are wanting a new vehicle and have folks take their drivers testing. The funding can also be used for Michelle's Deputy Assistant. However, that is in the indirect cost pool, so that is unclear at this time.

The HR facility has had some flooding issues of their facility which also affected Enrollment. The focus is to maintain HR operations and get back up after severe facility issues. A pipe broke in the ceiling and flooded the entire building. The facility is already having repairs assessed.

He then updated the Public Works Director reports. Which includes reports for Robert, Misty, and Darrel. They are doing the Orleans Infant/Toddler Center. The concrete work is being done next week. Beverly Manor will have vacancies shortly which can house additional staff and have less leasing downtown. The maintenance crews are actively working in all three communities and they have projects in all three areas.

KDOT will have bikes for the reunion and the staff thanked April's program for purchasing them for the kids and attendees. Misty noted that she requested for the parking lot to be added last year, but the BIA has not approved all the inventory items as of a year ago. There are many Tribes having this issue. The

Regional office reviewed it and sent it off but it is starting to get backlogged. Buster will send an email and they can follow up with a letter if needed. Buster is still waiting for information to send to the DOI for the fire invoices as well. Kirsten asked about applicants for the transit program and they believe there is one applicant but it hasn't been screened yet.

Jennifer Machen provided a report that included the activities of the 477 programs. Language is ongoing and Brionna is present to seek approval of some action items. 477 will support wear orange shirt day with a collaboration with the judicial department. 9/30 is wear orange in support of that. From Judicial the project is to work with Head Start for items given to the youth. They will also have items at the reunion for the event, including stickers and pens.

Eric has an action item. He has agreement 26-A-144 with Tribal Share Inc. The Karuk Tribe is a founding member of the information sharing back in 2021, but there is now an updated agreement. If a Tribal center has a cyber issue they can notify anonymously the others to ensure work can be on that and not have serious press around it. The Tribe entered into a waiver of liability.

Arch Super moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve agreement 26-A-144, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Binx chairing).

Misty then presented a letter of support from Caltrans. This will either have the Tribe be a partner or support their grant for the PROTECT grant at the slide outside of Happy Camp. The Tribe has been a joint applicant in the past as well as a partner. She first requested that the Tribe be a joint applicant but if that is not feasible then they are seeking a LOS. She sent the two-page breakdown of the roles and responsibilities for the difference. Misty briefed the roles and responsibilities for the group. Binx advised that there needs to be funding associated with the joint effort. Arch asked about the process and if this is approved by other departments as well. Erin commented that if it involves other program directors, reviewed, and signed off by others then it would be looked at by them. There is a discussion on how to collaborate on other items. Alma would either like to review this and move forward or review it later in closed session because it was received last minute.

Misty then commented that because the BIA has not approved Grayback on the TIP, but they are looking to apply for funding for the road.

Eli then called up Brionna, who is seeking approval of resolution 26-R-152 for the Head Start proposal.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve resolution 26-R-152 with changes, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

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

3. Sara Spence, KTHA:

Sara is present to provide a draft application for the Orleans Wellness Center, walking path, EV charging stations and full facility microgrid. They submitted the draft Yreka Wellness Center and another facility that will have offices, etc as a place holder but the design team will develop projects after the funding is received. They're hoping to have the grant application scheduled for a phone vote.

Her written report was provided. The most exciting item to her is that the final phase for the Yreka apartments and there will be 19 available for new applicants. She asked that folks share information to those interested in applying to update their applications and follow up on their paperwork if they want to apply.

Alma asked about outreach to get Tribal Members focused and ready for applications. Alma asked that this be posted as soon as possible. Robert asked that this be advertised at the reunion as well. Renee asked when people will be moving into the Orleans homes. They will be moving in soon.

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

4. Erin Hillman, Director of Operations:

Erin is present to review her report. She noted that they are moving pretty fast through their construction projects.

She presented change order (4) with Adams Construction. The contractor needed to order one more window.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve change order (4) to 26-C-051, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

She then presented change order (5) for the same project, 26-C-051. This will add an emergency switch for the HVAC system which was missed in the design.

Scott Quinn moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve change order (5) to contract 26-C-051, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

There is an additional change order, (6) which is damage that was inflicted to the sidewalk after the previous contractor left. This is also the same contract 26-C-051.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to approve change order (6) to contract 26-C-051, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

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

5. Sandra Huerta, Deputy Legal:

Jennifer Goodwin moved Alma Mendoza seconded to approve Sandra's report, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Phone Votes:

1. Request to approve resolution 26-R-147 authorizing submission of the Karuk Tribes model Plan. Passed.
2. Request to approve contract 26-C-193 with Shane Wyatt. Passed
3. Request to approve contract 26-C-192 with Bucky V. Lantz. Passed.
4. Request to approve burial assistance for Tribal Member #4807. Passed.
5. Request to approve resolution 26-R-142 authorizing submission to ANA for the Language Program. Passed.

Closed Session:

Binx Brink moved and Kristen King seconded to approve \$1,000 donation, to Orleans Elementary School 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Robert).

Robert Super moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to deny travel for Leece Larue, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Binx).

Informational: terminated employee #3801 would like clarification on paperwork and an update to match the policy regarding termination. During leave the employee missed a travel which caused a hotel room charge. Request for that charge to be reimbursed.

Informational: Tribal Member/former employee #2402 and spouse are present to request overturning termination and reinstatement. Remarks regarding multiple departments; KTHA, MMIP, Judicial, Education, Legal Department, Administration, TERO, previous Supervisor, and Council were provided. Tribal Member would like to prioritize initial request first. Council will take it under consideration.

Binx Brink moved and Alma Mendoza seconded to work with KTHA attorneys regarding Tribal Member #2402 and EDD, without admitting fault or changing decisions, 7 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara (Jennifer absent for vote).

Consensus: to allow Leaf Hillman and Ron Reed to assist on the Harvest Code.

Informational: T. Hayden, J. Lantz and T. Whittaker will work with R. Martin on identifying solutions of an on-call crew for restoration projects that can be used, similar to cultural monitor program. DNR is invoicing for the MOU with the Yurok Tribe and Tyvin is invoicing for contracts.

Alma Mendoza moved and Binx Brink seconded to approve Head Start policies and procedure manual dated today, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Alma Mendoza moved Binx Brink seconded to approve the joint project for Rattlesnake project with Caltrans, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Binx Brink moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve reimbursement for hotel for cancellation fee by #3801; \$149 from discretionary, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Council caucus: Alma Mendoza moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the updated travel policy, 6 haa, 1 puuhara (Arch), 1 pupitihara (Robert).

Consensus: to work with Western Rivers to pursue land acquisition near HC.

Consensus: to replace Scott Quinn attendance with Colleen Rossier.

Robert Super moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve a necklace \$125 from discretionary. Assemblymember Hadwick, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council Member R. Super noted that guests and/or those on an agenda should not attack employees in-person or otherwise.

Binx Brink moved and Arch Super seconded to approve RRC FY27 budget, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Staff left at 4:48pm.

Council Caucus: Alma Mendoza moved and Scott Quinn seconded for Ray Martin to draft a memo for employee personnel file to clarify that termination was based on approved policy, #3801, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Council Caucus: Consensus for Vice-Chairman to discuss a merit increase for employee #4052 with Supervisor, possibly \$2-\$4 per hour.

Next Meeting: October 22, 2026 at 10am in Yreka.

Ken Brink moved and Jen Goodwin seconded to adjourn at 5:05 PM, 8 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairperson

**Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider
Council Caucus, Secretary/Treasurer, Scott Quinn**