

INFORMAL WORK SESSION MINUTES

May 12, 2010

10:30 a.m.

Oval Office

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Leslie Lewis.

Staff: Laura Tschabold and Rick Sanai.

Guests: Reynold Leno, PO Box 11, Willamina; Steve Bobb, Sr., PO Box 99, Willamina; Chris Mercier, PO Box 1763, McMinnville; June Sell-Sherer, 29995 Newsom Dr, Grand Ronde; Cheryle Kennedy, Rob Greene, and Siobhan Taylor, 9615 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde.

Subject: Reservation Consolidation Bill

Kathy called the meeting to order.

Cheryle Kennedy stated that the Grand Ronde Tribe is planning to introduce a bill into Congress to allow easier navigation through administrative procedures that tribes are required to follow in bringing land into the reservation. She provided background information about the tribe, historical treaties, and the Termination Act, and stated that the tribe is trying to acquire lands to fulfill promises made in the treaties. Rob Greene stated that the proposed bill would condense the process, thereby conserving resources and providing consistency in how lands are recovered.

Reynold Leno stated that it is important to the tribe to maintain good relationships with its neighbors. He agreed to provide a draft resolution in support of the bill. June Sell-Sherer stated that the tribe has contributed a lot of resources to community organizations such as YCAP and the fire stations, and making this process less cumbersome will free up resources and allow the tribe to support the county more. Kathy stated that the tribe has done an incredible job of making the West Valley area a prosperous part of the county and the Board is proud to be partners with the tribe.

Steve Bobb invited the commissioners to attend a Memorial Day celebration at the Veterans' Memorial. Siobhan Taylor informed the group of other upcoming events.

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary