

S.I.R. Tribal News



TRIBAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

AUGUST 2015

The Tribal Business Council continues to have monthly community meetings at the Tribal Resource Center to let the tribal members know what is happening with the tribe and allow the tribal members to ask questions on any matter they want to. These will continue to be held each month throughout the year. A flyer will continue to be sent out to the tribal membership when each date is confirmed.

I continue to be busy working with a coalition of tribes that formed the 1999 Compact Tribes Steering Committee (CTSC). The coalition has started the negotiation process for a new gaming compact under Governor Brown. We have been meeting monthly and going over tribal or State requests to change provisions in the current compact. I am working diligently to keep the Revenue Sharing Trust Fund being available to tribes with less than 350 gaming machines.

The Susanville Indian Rancheria uses these funds to pay for the Annual Distribution, Pow Wow, Member Assistance, Tribal Member Donations, Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Children's Fair Booklets, Sponsorships, Native Elders Circle, and Burial Assistance. I will provide an update on the negotiation process at the monthly community meetings.

I continue to serve on the HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), the HHS National Budget Formulation Workgroup, and the Indian Health Service's California Area Tribal Advisory Committee (CATAC). All of these committees are extremely important as they help identify the goals and objectives for the Health and Human Services as well as the budget priorities for the Indian Health Service.

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**The next SIR General Council meeting
is scheduled for
November 7, 2015 at 1pm
845 Joaquin Street,
Joaquin Sports Complex (Gym)**

The Tribal Business Council is also working with our DC Lobby Firm, Mapetsi Policy Group, and our Congressional Representative, Doug LaMalfa, to have some BLM land that they no longer want and is adjacent to the Upper Rancheria placed into trust status on behalf of the Susanville Indian Rancheria through congressional action. Congressman LaMalfa has introduced H.R. 2212 and the House Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs held hearings on the bill on June 10, 2015. On July 14, 2015, Senators Boxer and Feinstein introduced S. 1761, the Senate companion bill on the BLM land transfer, and the bill has been read twice and is now referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs for a hearing.

31.5% of the adult membership voted on the ballot measure supporting a medical marijuana grow facility with the measure passing by a vote of 146 yes, 79 no, 1 spoiled, and 2 no votes. SIRCO is looking into the feasibility of a medical marijuana grow facility with outside investors and is looking into the incident that happened in Modoc County with the Alturas Rancheria and Pit River Tribe. As more information is made available, I will be letting the membership know via the monthly community meetings and the quarterly newsletter.

The City of Susanville has approved the contractor for the Skyline Sidewalk Project along the north side of the casino and mini-mart. The contractor should start construction of the sidewalk by the middle of August and the project is scheduled for completion by the end of end of November.

The tribe is working with SHN (a survey and design company out of Redding) to redesign the Numa Street to Wada Street portion of Spring Ridge Road. For those of you that have traveled this road, you can see that the road foundation is failing and needs to be reconstructed. We anticipate starting the reconstruction of this portion of Spring Ridge Road in the spring of 2016.

The tribe recently experienced two fires on the Upper Rancheria. One was caused by a lightning strike on a juniper tree by the water tanks and the other is still under investigation as to the cause (lighting strike or fireworks) on a knoll below and to the left of the "L". Everything is very dry so please be careful with any open flames or flammable devices. If you see any smoke or anything else that is out of the ordinary, please call 911 so that the appropriate agencies can respond as quickly as possible.

On November 7, 2015, the adult membership will be voting for their choice to fill the three officer positions (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer). You will start receiving campaign letters soon from each of the candidates explaining their position on various tribal matters as well as their experience. Historically, there has been a large percentage of the membership voting on these very important positions. Please take the time to vote for the candidate of your choice in this and any other election.

If you should ever have any questions or concerns on an issue, please feel free to call the tribal office at 530-257-6264.

What is ICWA, and why was it passed?

“ICWA” stands for the **Indian Child Welfare Act**, which is a federal law passed in 1978. ICWA was passed in response to the alarmingly high number of Indian children being removed from their homes by both public and private agencies. The intent of Congress under ICWA was to “protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families” (25 U.S.C. § 1902). ICWA sets federal requirements that apply to state child custody proceedings involving an Indian child who is a member of or eligible for membership in a **federally recognized tribe**.

Who is covered by ICWA?

Indian children involved in state child custody proceedings are covered by ICWA. A person may define his or her identity as Indian but in order for ICWA to apply, the involved child must be an Indian child as defined by the law. ICWA defines an “Indian child” as “any unmarried person who is under age eighteen and is either (a) a member of an Indian tribe or (b) is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe” (25 U.S.C. § 1903). Under federal law, individual tribes have the right to determine eligibility, membership, or both. However, in order for ICWA to apply, the child must be a member of or eligible for membership in a **federally recognized tribe**.

ICWA does not apply to divorce proceeding, intra-family disputes, or juvenile delinquency proceedings.

Grants Writer

(530) 251-5603

Grants Update

The SIR continues to work diligently seeking grant funding to complete additional activities and begin new programs. Current grant requests include transportation planning, environmental projects, library activities, and youth and education activities.

In this quarter, we were awarded our annual Tribal Historic Preservation funding to continue working with outside agencies to ensure our Tribal assets are preserved and protected. Additionally, we were awarded funds to replace the sewer laterals on the Upper Rancheria. We expect to replace the laterals of 28 homes on the Upper Rancheria.

This upcoming quarter will focus on grant applications for continuing programs such as the Education Center and Diabetes Programs.

The Tribal Business Council would like to congratulate Tribal Members in some of their latest achievements

Tribal Member, Kelsey Hamm was selected female student of the year at Mt. Lassen Charter School. Kelsey, a first grader, was recognized for her humility, kindness, scholastic achievements, fearless attitude, and willingness to take on any challenge. Kelsey is an active member in the Susanville Fast Pitch Baseball, Awanas, and Community Church, she also enjoys being a part of raising rescue English Bulldogs.



District 48 Champions

Congratulations to Tribal member, Makau Michel (pictured front row, 6th child from the left) from the Susanville Little League's Minor All-Stars who finished out the season as District 48 Champions!



INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH ABOUT THE SUSANVILLE INDIAN RANCHERIA?

Deserea R. Langley a Susanville Indian Rancheria community member and graduate student at the University of California, Davis will be conducting a research study that focuses on the development of the Susanville Indian Rancheria. As a researcher and community member Deserea is interested in understanding the history of the Susanville Indian Rancheria to document for future generations.

Deserea is looking for participants who are knowledgeable about the growth of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, active community members, and participants who are interested in the continuance of tribal histories for the future generations of Susanville Indian Rancheria.

Deserea is committed to turning over her research materials to enrolled members of the Susanville Indian Rancheria. These documents will include oral interviews (conducted with tribal members, elders, and leaders), archival materials, and all research findings. If you are interested in participating please call.

Thank you for your time and I hope to speak with you in the future,

Deserea Langley

Tribal Member Achievements



Tribal Member, Donald Wanner signed a letter of intent to continue his education and baseball careers at the University of Texas Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas. Donald is a pitcher from Lovelock, Nevada and finished his final season with the Cougars in Susanville with a 4-3 record and a 3.82 ERA. He also led Lassen College with 38 strikeouts, innings pitched and was named to the Golden Valley Conference all conference team, the Golden Valley Conference all academic team and the all state academic all American team.



The Native American Honors Dinner is an annual event held for our local Native American High School graduates. This year, the Tribal Business Council would like to congratulate the following local graduates of 2015: JuliAnn Dixon, Alyssa McDaniel, Makyla Riemann, and Adriana Torres.

Also pictured: Tribal Chairman, Mr. Stacy Dixon, Tribal Secretary-Treasurer, Aaron Dixon, Sr., and Tribal Vice-Chairman Aaron Brazzanovich, Jr.

If you would like to submit something to share in the Tribal Newsletter, please contact the tribal office at (530) 257-6264 or email your article to sirreceptionist@frontier.com

Susanville Indian Rancheria Education Center

SIREC Programs Include: (Academic –Year) After School Tutoring, Child Care Voucher Program, Summer and Library Programs.

What Education Center has been doing:

Academic Year

- **SIREC students were honored at the Title VII awards for the Susanville School District in May**
- **Brandy McDaniel's taught us to make Pine Nut necklaces in June.**
- **SIREC end of the year awards were held in June.**

Summer 2015 Highlights:



We learned about acorn processing

We learned about native language through language games

We have been reading and journaling this summer

We went to Roxie Peconum campground to learn about local plants



We learned about animals from Turtle Bay Aquarium and Chico Creek Nature Center



We have 49 kids enrolled in our summer program. With a daily average of 38 students. We are still accepting applications.

Staff:

Anna Pasqua – Director

Ellen Payton – Administrative Assistant

Twila Alkoa – Tutor

Anthony Garcia – Tutor

Alise Temoke – Tutor

Michelle Lent – Summer Tutor

Casey Clay – Driver/Tutor

Nancy Parque – Driver/Tutor

Special Thank You to our Summer Peer Tutors: Tori Rieman, Mariana Miller-Flores, and Ayasha Valadez

Dates/Information to Remember:

- **Summer program ends on August 13th.**
- **SIREC was awarded the Summer Food Service Program and is providing free lunch and snack to our summer program students.**
- **July 20th RISE Star Lodge is coming to the center**
- **July 22nd we will have a field trip to Lassen College**
- **July 27th SIREC students will have a teleconference with D.J. "Eagle Bear" Vanas Motivational Speaker and author of the book Tiny Warrior.**
- **We are planning a one-night campout to Cradle Valley from August 5th thru 6th.**

We are looking for a Tutor/Driver, please contact SIR HR department if you are interested.

New High Tech security cameras have installed on all Joaquin St Tribal Facilities.



SIR Water Conservation Considerations

The City of Susanville has issued a Stage 2 Water Use Alert for residential areas. Even though we are not obligated to follow the City's Rules, we would like to support their efforts. Please help conserve water. Here are a couple of quick tips.



Take shorter showers.



Install a water-saving device in your toilet.



Fix dripping taps.



Turn off taps whilst brushing teeth.



Use a watering can, it uses far less water.



Raise the blades on your lawn mower. Longer grass requires less water.



Don't worry about any brown grass- it will green up again when it rains!



Check the weather forecast before watering your garden. It might rain later!

Off Road Vehicles and ATV's

If you are using Tribal Land to enjoy your ATV'S during please stay on the main roads, riding off the main roads causes' severe damage and erosion. Make sure that your ATV has an approved USFS Spark Arrestor.



Pets

Remember to keep your pets protected and make sure they have plenty of water and shelter. If you live on the Lower Reservation and you have a problem with dogs call the City of Susanville at 257-2171, or the Public Works at 257-1128 for Upper Reservation.

Considerations

An article in USA Today, that examined chained dogs, determined that dogs that are leashed in yards are more likely to suffer from anxiety problems. They are also more likely to display hostile behavior than those that are untethered. According to the article, dogs that are chained often have a lack of social interaction, which damages the dog's psychological well being. This can lead to an increased desire to chase or bite a person. It is illegal to keep you dog chained for more than 4 hour.



Reno Bus Service

**Do not forget we now have Bus Transportation services to:
Herlong
Reno Airport
Sparks area.**

**Special arrangements needed for airport drop off
call SIR Public Works Transportation at 257-1128**

RENO BUS SCHEDULE

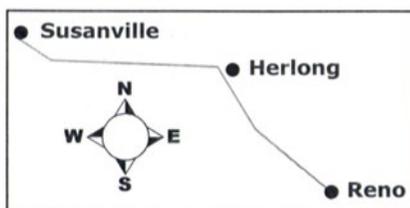
Susanville to Reno / Sparks, NV with stops in Herlong and Hallelujah Jct.

**Thursday, Saturday, Sunday
Excluding Legal Holidays.**

Our route will depart from the Diamond Mountain Casino located at 900 Skyline Rd @ 8:00 am and returns @ 4pm (approximately).

Due to increment weather, times may vary, and if the weather is severe the route will be canceled for that day. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Our Para transit vans will accommodate 18 passengers and two wheelchairs. Storage area is limited.



Discount Fare Qualifications

- **Students** (6-18 yrs) traveling to/from school or daycare
- **Child** (5-12 yrs) accompanied by fare - paying adult (**0-4 yrs Free**)
- **Seniors** (55 yrs or older) with Medicare or picture ID
- **Disabled** persons, meeting Americans with Disability Act criteria, with valid (or other transit agency) card and picture ID

Fares

Per Passenger Per One-Way Trip Upon Boarding

Route	Zone	Discount	General
1	SUSANVILLE / HERLONG	\$3	\$5
1	HERLONG / SPARKS	\$7	\$10
1	SUSANVILLE / SPARKS	\$11	\$15

FIXED ROUTE SERVICE

Includes one way trip between Susanville and Sparks RTC HUB Transit Center which allows connecting transportation.

Departure Times

Time

- 8:00 AM Diamond Mt Casino
- 8:20 AM Wal Mart Bus Stop
- 9:10 AM 2069 DS Hall St (Herlong) Bus Stop
- 9:25 AM W. Patton Village (Herlong) Bus stop
- 10:35 AM Sparks RTC HUB

Lunch 10:35 AM –1:35 PM

- 1:35 PM Sparks RTC HUB
- 2:35 PM W. Patton Village (Herlong) Bus stop
- 2:50 PM 2069 DS Hall St (Herlong) Bus Stop
- 3:40 PM Wal Mart Bus Stop
- 4:00 PM Diamond Mt Casino

Bus will leave approximately 10 minutes after arrival at each designated stop to allow for loading of a wheelchair, etc.

JULY NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

LET'S REALLY TALK ABOUT INDIRECT COSTS

In the last newsletter we discussed how an indirect cost rate comes about, how it is calculated and now...what? Once an *Indirect Cost (IDC) Proposal* is prepared for submission it contains all the calculations we discussed in our overview. To illustrate how complicated an IDC proposal can be, consider the fact that many, many accountants, like me, prepare them as a vocation. However, in order to do this professionally, you must have experience in routine accounting matters of a federal, state or private grant recipient...like the Susanville Indian Rancheria.

Complications aside (we can discuss these later), what is the proposal and who gets it? The proposal itself sets forth a narrative explaining all the costs to be included in the Indirect Cost Pool. You may remember from our first discussion that the *Indirect Cost Pool* is the collection of costs anticipated by the Tribe that cannot be attributed to any one program or an identifiable group of programs. For example, management costs for the Natural Resources Department are readily attributed to the programs in the NRD. The cost of doing payroll or paying invoices for the NRD is done at the Tribal government level and it is not cost-effective to identify costs specifically for the NRD and; are therefore among the costs in the Indirect Cost Pool. All such costs are described in the Proposal.

In addition, the calculations involved with the indirect cost rate are shown in detail. The raw data comes from two finished documents...the next fiscal year's Tribal budget and the previous fiscal year's audit. These figures are entered into a complex formula that yields an indirect cost rate - per the Tribe's calculations. It is therefore a *proposed* rate.

This Proposal is then submitted to an agency of the Department of the Interior who will review it and;

- compare the calculations with accepted methodology
- ensure the data in the proposal can be identified in the supporting reports
- review the narrative for any unallowable costs included in the pool
- questions the entity submitting the proposal regarding various aspects of the proposal
- comes to an agreement with the Tribe on what the IDC rate should be and;
- issues a letter to that effect.

The Tribe is then free to use this rate to charge every program for administrative, accounting, information services and facilities costs incurred by the Tribe to provide the services. The rate is applied as follows:

(Direct program costs - Exempt program costs) x IDC rate = Indirect cost charged

SUBJECT: LET'S REALLY TALK ABOUT INDIRECT COSTS

The rate is applied this way by the accounting system every month, to every program and reviewed by Fiscal Staff every fiscal quarter. The funds transferred from the programs to pay these costs are called IDC Revenues or IDC Allocated Costs. This is important to note because for these costs there is no other direct funding source. Therefore if the IDC rate is not sufficient to cover the costs the Tribe is *under recovered* and must make up the difference with Tribal funds. In the past years, the federal government has refused to provide these funds to Tribes operating its major programs like governmental and health care services. Many Tribes including the SIR are engaged in legal battles involving underfunded indirect costs where the Indian Health Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have not provided the funds to pay these. Numerous settlements have been reached with a number of Tribes to pay indirect costs incurred and/or paid. The SIR received such a settlement in FY 2014. That settlement was based among other things on the IDC rates for the years settled.

The IDC rate is also a factor in the Tribe being able to operate grants. Many of the grants to which we are attracted for social and cultural purposes are smaller. For example the Language and Library grants combined are less than \$15K. Potentially about \$6,900 could go for indirect costs. The Tribe's practice in these cases is to reserve the grant dollars for direct costs and pay the indirect costs with Tribal funds allocated from the Tax Account. The Tribe also subsidizes programs where the program only partially pays for the indirect costs. For example if the SIR IDC rate is higher than the indirect rate allowable by the grant and the Tribe wants to operate the program, the Tribe, not the grantor, must provide funds to pay them.

Bottom line is, a high IDC rate limits our ability to operate grants because subsidizing these grants:

- ◆ reduces the amounts it can use to enhance programs specific to our community, instead we find ourselves subsidizing IDC costs.
- ◆ discourages private funding to SIR because a greater than desirable percentage of the funds go to administrative costs.
- ◆ costs more when the rate is higher

Remember in the last newsletter we asked the question;

So what IDC% would the Tribe use for the initial two years?

Each Tribe when it first applies for funding from the Federal government is granted a *Provisional Rate* which it can use until it is given a *Fixed rate either with or without carryforward.*

Now that we've discussed the rate itself, how does the SIR manage its finances around the limitations of the IDC dilemma and what are EXEMPT COSTS anyway? Tune in next Newsletter.

A GUIDE FOR
STATE, LOCAL AND INDIAN TRIBAL
GOVERNMENTS

http://www.dol.gov/oasam/boc/ASMB_C-10.pdf

OMB CIRCULAR A-87 REVISED

https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a087_2004/



SIRCO NEWS UPDATE

The 2nd quarter of 2015 was filled with many new activities, significant growth, and business opportunities for SIRCO.

Internal Activities: SIRCO has been undergoing an internal restructuring which will allow efforts to be focused on all business opportunities that are not federal contracting or 8a program related. This means there will be a strong emphasis placed on development projects located in Susanville and Herlong. Additionally, opportunities that leverage the ability to obtain DBE/MBE/SBE certifications for contracts with diversity spend goals are also included in the business plan.

With the significant growth we are experiencing, along with the anticipated expansion in the near future, the SIRCO office will be relocating to trust property in Herlong. The new office space is located next to the SIRCO Property Management office and will provide the much needed space. We anticipate the move to be completed by the end of September. Our phone and email addresses will remain the same however our mailing address will change and we will post our new information in the next newsletter.

Herlong Development: SIRCO has been diligently working on securing a partnership to assist in establishing a manufacturing and distribution facility at building #2069 in Herlong. Once the proper licenses can be obtained and we are able to begin operations, we anticipate there will be up to 5 new employment opportunities to start in a variety of positions by the end of 2015. We hope that the tribal membership will be part of these new opportunities for the tribe!

Diamond Mountain Group & SIRCO Property Management: Diamond Mountain Mini-Mart, Diamond Mountain Smoke Shop, and SIRCO Property Management have all improved both financially and operationally. We are proud to report that all managers of these companies are tribal members and would like to welcome Jennifer Riemann as the new Store Manager for Diamond Mountain Mini-Mart. Success of these companies is critical as their contributions provide tax revenues to the tribe, fund future development projects for SIRCO, and provide much needed employment opportunities for tribal members and the community.

Future Outlook

SIRCO is in the process of starting up 3 new companies which will be 100% owned by the tribe. Two of the businesses will reside on tribal property while the other will primarily conduct business off site. There are also 2 additional business ventures that have great potential in moving forward and we will keep you updated on the progress once we complete our due diligence process. Again, with this growth on the near horizon, there will be a need for more employees and our priority is to hire qualified tribal members. Education and training is very valuable in order to take advantage of these opportunities so we encourage anyone interested in pursuing job opportunities to continue their education in order to be prepared. Should anyone be interested in learning what types of skills are needed for the various positions, please contact us.

Thank You,

Gretchen Cox

gcox@sircorporation.com



Want to know what's going on at your casino?

Make sure to sign up for the Diamond Club, check out our website at www.dmcah.com, & follow us on Facebook.

\$2,500
Free Play
Giveaway

SUNDAY, JULY 26TH
 2PM TO 4PM & 5PM TO 7PM

USE YOUR CLUB CARD ON
 THE SLOTS TO EARN ENTRIES

SEE CASINO FOR COMPLETE DETAILS

DJ
NIGHTS

SATURDAYS
9PM TO 1:30AM

\$2,500
Free Play
GIVEAWAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD
 2PM TO 4PM & 5PM TO 7PM

USE YOUR CLUB CARD ON THE SLOTS TO EARN ENTRIES

SEE CASINO FOR COMPLETE DETAILS

Timeless

FRIDAY, JULY 31ST
5PM TO 9PM
 SPORTS BAR

Night Flight

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
 AUGUST 21ST & 22ND
 SPORTS BAR

EDM4

FEATURING
 DJ JOHN THOMAS
 DJ M:MORTAL
 DJ ROOBZ
 SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH