

Commission of Indian Affairs
 Quarterly Commission Meeting
 Raleigh, North Carolina
 September 11, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott
Coharie	Don Carter
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Barbara Melvin
Eastern Band of Cherokee	Patrick Lambert
Haliwa Saponi	Barry Richardson
Sappony	Shelia Wilson
Lumbee	Larece Hunt
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert
Lumbee	J. Garth Locklear
Metrolina Native American Association	Earlene Stacks
Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries
Triangle Native American Society	Brett Locklear
Waccamaw Siouan	Lila Spaulding
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton Jacobs
President Pro Tem Appointee	Paul Brooks

MEMBERS ABSENT

Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels
Guilford Native American Association	Julia Phipps
Haliwa Saponi	Ruth Ealing
Metrolina Native American Association	David Baucom
Speaker of the House Appointee	Ray Littleturtle

STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner
 Designee: Tina Morris-Anderson

Department of Health and Human Services, Lanier Cansler, Secretary
 Designee: Maria Spaulding

Employment Security Commission Moses Carey, Jr., Chairman
 Designee: Patrice Fields

Department of Administration, Britt Cobb, Secretary
 Designee: June Michaux

STATE OFFICIALS ABSENT

Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Dee Freeman, Secretary
 Designee: David Knight

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

LeAnn Martin, Assistant Attorney General

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON PRESENT

Christy Agner

STAFF PRESENT

Greg Richardson, Executive Director
Sue Brewington, Workforce Development Coordinator
Missy Brayboy, Director, Health Initiative
Elk Richardson, Director, Workforce Investment Act Program
Sadie Barbour, Director, Community Services Program
W.C. Groves, Director, Section 8 Housing Program
Kerry Bird, Program Director, NOT on Tobacco Program

OTHERS PRESENT - A list of others present is on file at the Commission office.

SWEARING IN

Mr. Wayne Goodwin, Insurance Commissioner, conducted a swearing-in ceremony for new and returning Commission members. Those being sworn in were Brett Locklear, Triangle Native American Society; Roy Maynor, Cumberland Association for Indian People; Don Carter, Coharie; Paul Brooks, President Pro Tem Appointee.

ETHICS STATEMENT

Greg Richardson read the Ethics Statement on behalf of Chairman Brooks. No conflicts of interest were reported.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Brooks asked for corrections to the June meeting minutes. Tina Morris-Anderson noted that she should be listed as being present in the minutes. Commissioner Larece Hunt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Roy Maynor, that the minutes be approved with noted changes. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Brooks noted that this was the annual meeting of the Commission and called for nominations for officers. Commissioner Roy Maynor made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert, that the slate of officers remain the same: Commissioner Earlene Stacks, Vice Chair; Commissioner Lila Spaulding, Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Larece Hunt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Elton Jacobs, that nominations be closed. Motions carried.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

The Committee Assignments list was distributed to the members. (See Attachment) Chairman Brooks requested that members review the list and let him know if changes should be made. Greg Richardson noted that the list would be edited after this meeting. He also noted that

customarily, new members replaced their predecessors on the list, but if there were other committees the members were interested in, they should contact the Chair.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – GREGORY RICHARDSON

The Executive Director's Report was distributed to the Commission members. He noted that this report was for information purposes. (See Attachment) His report today would be made by the following individuals:

Christy Agner, Legislative Liaison gave an update on legislative items pertaining to the Commission. (See Attachment)

Donna LaRoache, Fiscal Office, gave the Budget Update. She noted that 39 ½ position were abolished during the most recent round of cuts. The Commission was fortunate not to have any cuts at this time, but Facility Management had 17 position cuts. The Department is under a 5% reversion, which affects all appropriation grants. All vacant position have been frozen, only one month of supplies are approved for purchase, only essential travel and critical purchase are being approved at this time. This 5% reversion does not apply to federal grants.

There was a question regarding the current vacancy at the Commission. Deputy Secretary June Michaux noted at this time no vacancies will be filled.

LeAnne Martin gave an update on legal issues pertaining to the Commission at this time. She noted that two petitions have been submitted to the Administrative Hearing's Judge: one from the group being represented by Barry Nakell and the other by Ed Brooks. The decision of the judge is that the group being represented by Barry Nakell is the governing body of the Meherrin Tribe and that Chastity Hall should be sworn in to the Commission as the Meherrin representative.

Ms. Martin reported that there are two groups claiming to be the NC Indian Cultural Center Board. K.B. Hall and Eric Locklear have both claimed to be chairs for each group. The groups are claiming that the Commission is improperly trying to control the Cultural Center and that the Bill governing the Center is unconstitutional. Ms. Martin is working with State Property, who actually govern the Center, to ascertain who, in fact, the correct Center Board is.

Program Director Reports

Sadie Barbour, Acting Director of Community Services reported that we are serving seven counties: Halifax, Warren, Cumberland, Sampson, Harnett/Bladen and Columbus. Services include In-Home Aide, Transportation, and a Meal Site in Sampson County. Ms. Barbour introduced Tammy Jacobs, who has recently been hired as the Community Developer for Bladen/Columbus County.

Missy Brayboy, Health Initiative Director, reported on the activities of the American Indian Teen Tobacco Program. The focus of the program this year is Tobacco Free Schools. This program is sponsored by the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund. Mini grants have been awarded to Guilford Native American Association and the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi.

WC Groves, Section 8 Housing Assistance Director, reported that there are 936 units on the program at this time. He noted that the program brings approximately \$3 million to the Commission each year.

Elk Richardson, WIA Director, reported that the program is continuing to provide Classroom Training to eligible participants. We are also gearing up the Adult Work Experience component of the program. He noted that the program is funded for \$275,000 per year to operate.

Greg Richardson reported for Mickey Locklear, Educational Talent Search Director, that the program is serving 650 students at this time. The program is funded by the US Department of Education.

Greg Richardson reported for Kim Hammonds, Economic Development Director, that the SUN's program is now taking applications. This program works with the WIA and Talent Search program to assist students.

New Strategic Planning Effort

Greg Richardson reported that the Department has mandated that all divisions develop new Mission Goals. He noted that the Commission staff has been working with the Department to complete the Commission's new "Mission, Goals, Measures and Visions. (See Attachment).

Commissioner Barry Richardson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert, that the "Missions, Goals, Measures and Visions" be approved as submitted. Motion carried.

Riverside County Course Discussion

Greg Richardson reported that a meeting was held on May 29 to discuss the RGC. (See Attachment)

Ethics Act

Greg Richardson reported that new criteria have been created to determine whether a board is covered under the Ethics Act. He noted that the NC Indian Housing Authority has to comply with the Ethics Act at this time. It is not now known whether the Commission or any of the other boards the Commission makes appointments to will be affected. He will forward information regarding this issue as they become available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AdHoc Land Trust – Commissioner Furnie Lambert, Chair

Commissioner Lambert reported that the committee did not meet this quarter. He noted that the Lumbee Tribe is working to get land ready for trust and this process should be complete by the December meeting. He will report at that time.

Veterans Committee – Commissioner Furnie Lambert, Chair

Commissioner Lambert reported that there will be a "Stand Down" celebration on November 7, 2009 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and invited all to attend.

Commissioner Lambert reported that the location of the Community Based Outpatient Clinic would be announced soon.

Commissioner Lambert reported on a home for transitional veterans that will have 38 beds and employ 140 people. This is a new construction being built with grant monies. Location for the building is forthcoming.

Commissioner Lambert reported that the Veterans' Ball was held on June 27 with many in attendance. Colonel Phil Locklear of the U.S. Air Force was the special guest. Plans are underway for next years' ball.

AdHoc Legislative Committee – Commissioner Roy Maynor, Chair

Commissioner Maynor reported that the committee did not meet this quarter. He requested that Legislative Agenda items for the 2010 session of the General Assembly be forwarded to him by November 1.

There was discussion regarding an Indian Child Welfare bill introduced in the last session of the General Assembly. It was noted that the Commission had gone on record at the June meeting not to endorse the Bill.

It was recommended the a letter be forwarded to the Department of Health and Human Services requesting them to review the current ICW bill for understanding and to involve the Commission and the local Indian tribes when Indian children are involved. The AdHoc Legislative Committee will consider this recommendation.

Cultural/Religion Committee – Commissioner Ray Littleturtle, Chair, Absent

There was no report from the committee.

Brandi Brooks from the American Indian Center shared the Cultural Tourism Handbook that has been published. Randi Byrd, Program Assistant with the American Indian Center, shared information regarding the NC Humanities Council Curriculum Guide. These publications can be requested by contacting the American Indian Center.

Commissioner Brett Locklear commented on a request he received to bring a concern regarding the Hyde County Correctional Facility. The concern stems from the alleged treatment of the American Indian inmates in relations to religious freedom practices. Greg Richardson requested Commissioner Locklear to forward that information to him. He noted that the Commission has a process in place with the Department of Correction to review these concerns.

Sonya Corbett from the Cumberland County Action Program spoke to the Commission regarding the Weatherization Assistance Program. This program involves conducting energy assessments, and then making the improvements at no cost to the household. (See Attachment). It was noted that the Commission makes referrals to this program in Harnett, Sampson, Warren and Halifax Counties, but the program is available in all counties.

State Advisory Council on Indian Education Annual Report

Priscilla Maynor distributed and reviewed the SACIE Annual Report with the Commission. Recommendations in the report included:

- Establish and implement a broad array of innovative high school reform programs to provide rigorous academic experiences for American Indian students and aggressively identify, enroll, and monitor all students who would benefit from participation in such programs.
- Develop and implement nontraditional outreach and communication strategies to effectively reach all American Indian families.

- Integrate accurate information regarding Native culture in all aspects of the curriculum.
- Establish supportive and caring school environments for all American Indian students.
- Identify and eliminate barriers that inhibit the participation of American Indian students in innovative educational opportunities.

Commissioner Brett Locklear recommended that the Education Committee consider a subcommittee to draft legislation that would give SACIE more power and policy creation as it relates to American Indian students. Chairman Brooks asked Commissioner Locklear to chair this committee and work with Commissioner Earlene Stacks, Education Chair, to name members to the committee.

It was recommended that the chair of the Education Committee meet with the Governor's education secretary/cabinet to ensure that issues relevant to American Indians be considered.

Economic Development Committee – Commissioner Ruth Revels, Chair

No Report

Education Committee – Commissioner Earlene Stacks, Chair

Commissioner Stacks reported that the committee did not meet this quarter. The following items were offered for information purposes.

The NC Indian Youth Conference was held in June at UNC-Wilmington.

The Talent Search Program sponsored a college survival workshop for seniors in Washington D.C. this quarter. Forty-four seniors attended the workshop.

Fifteen students attended the National Indian Youth Unity Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico.

The Talent Search Program sponsored a workshop for ninth graders in July.

Commissioner Brett Locklear announced a Native American Educator Summit scheduled for 2010 at North Carolina State University. He requested that the Commission consider collaborating with this effort.

Recognition Committee – Commissioner J. Garth Locklear, Chair

Commissioner Locklear reported that the committee did not meet this quarter.

Human Resources Committee – Commission Ruth Ealing, Chair

No Report

Spencer Foundation Grant Proposal

Joan Pennell, Marianne Latz and Derek Oxendine from the Center for Family and Community Engagement at NC State University spoke to the Commission regarding a Peer Mentoring Program that has been implemented in the Multicultural Student Affairs Office at NC State. (See Attachment) The primary objective of the program is to contribute to the advancement of first year students by aiding in their academic, emotional and social adjustments to college. They are

proposing to work with the NC Native American Youth Organization. Commissioner Brett Locklear made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Elton Jacobs, that the Commission endorse the effort. Motion carried.

Census 2010 Presentation – Patrick Clark

Mrs. Clark spoke to the Commissioners regarding the upcoming census. She distributed information that included a practice census form. With Mrs. Clark were Christine Mackey, Partnership Specialist and John Richardson who encouraged the Commission members to make sure that their individual communities are aware of the census and work to get every American Indian counted.

Commissioner Garth Locklear made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Larece Hunt, that the Commission endorse the efforts of Mrs. Clark in regards to the 2010 Census. Motion carried.

Items From Commission Members

Commission Barry Richardson announced the National Congress of American Indians Conference scheduled for October 10 in Palm Springs, California. He commented on the importance of having North Carolina Indian presence at this conference. Commissioner Furnie Lambert made a motion, seconded by Commission Elton Jacobs, that Greg Richardson attend this conference. Motion carried.

Commissioner Furnie Lambert announced that the Museum of the Carolinas in Laurinburg is now open. He noted that they would like to have information on all North Carolina Indian tribes in the museum and that display cases have been set aside for this purpose and encouraged the members to take this information back to their respective tribes and organizations.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Lila Spaulding, Secretary/Treasurer