

MAY 9, 2009 ELECTION SUMMARY OF EVENTS

So many things have happened since May 9, 2009 and there are so many rumors and so much misinformation circulating out there that the Tribal Council would like to summarize the events to clarify the facts for the membership. Every Tribal Member is certainly entitled to their own opinion and political point of view, but we mustn't allow the facts to be distorted in this game of revisionist history that seems to be repeating itself over and over again.

In advance of the May 9, 2009 election, the Tribal Council became aware that the list of eligible candidates was not transmitted to the members with the election notice. This was not done by the Tribal Secretary because there was a delay in obtaining some of the background checks for some of the candidates. The Tribal Council convened a meeting on May 6, 2009 to discuss how to remedy the error. The Council considered cancelling the meeting, but there was considerable concern from the Council members that postponing the meeting and the election on such short notice would be unfair to the membership. Andrea Rodgers and Matthew Mattson suggested for the Council to pass a Resolution indicating that the failure to transmit the list of eligible candidates was harmless error and to request for the General Membership to ratify that Resolution at the May 9, 2009 General Membership meeting. At the May 6, 2009 Tribal Council meeting, Council Member Ray Mullen expressed some concern that the error could not be fixed and that he felt that the prudent thing to do was to have an information only meeting and postpone the election by about a month to make sure that the notice, along with the list of eligible candidates, was sent out to the membership as required by the Tribal Election Law.

The Membership convened and conducted some business and considered ratification of the May 6, 2009 Tribal Council Resolution after it was read into the record of the General Membership meeting by the Tribal Administrator, Matthew Mattson. The membership voted to ratify the Resolution and an election proceeded. Shelley Burch was elected Chairperson, Nina Repin was re-elected as a full member of the Tribal Council for a four year term and Gabriel de los Angeles and Thomas Zambrano were elected to two year terms as alternate members of the Tribal Council.

Pursuant to the Tribal Election Law, as well as Tribal Tradition and Custom, members that participate in elections have 72-hours to contest an election by submitting an election challenge to the Tribal Secretary. Numerous members of the Tribe submitted election challenges. The election challenges were presented to the Tribal Council and were considered at the May 14, 2009 Tribal Council meeting. The Tribal Council was deadlocked on whether or not the election challenges were legitimate and could not decide whether or not to dismiss the challenges or accept the challenges and order a new election. The Tribal Administrator suggested referring the dispute to the Tribal Court. The Tribal Council voted unanimously to authorize Councilmember Ray Mullen to file suit against the Tribal Council in Tribal Court to request a ruling from the Tribal Court declaring the Tribal Elections invalid. Councilmember Nina Repin was to join the suit and request for the Tribal Court to declare the opposite, that the meeting and the election was valid and should be upheld. It was discussed that these two arguments should be presented equally so that the Judge saw both sides of the argument. Nina Repin chose not to join the lawsuit and Councilmember Mullen proceeded on his own.

reinstated and the Tribe would conduct a re-do of the May 9, 2009 election and stop waiting around for the Tribal Court to rule.

On October 16, 2009, the Tribal Court ruled that the Tribal Elections of May 9, 2009 were invalid and ordered the pre-May 9, 2009 to conduct a re-do of the May 9, 2009 Elections. Most significantly, the Court ruled that the Tribal Council and the General Membership could not violate its own Codes or Constitution, even via Resolution. This ruling was not appealed despite recommendations from Mr. Connick and Mr. Mattson and is a foundational precedent for judicial authority in the Snoqualmie Tribal governmental structure.

By November of 2009 it became apparent that while the Council agreed that a new election was needed, a date could not be agreed upon because there were perpetual and constant accusations that the Tribal Secretary, Arlene Ventura, or alternatively, the Deputy Secretary, Nina Repin, would rig or screw up the election or conduct the election in a biased manner pursuant to a family political agenda.

Around Thanksgiving 2009, Mr. Mattson and Mr. Connick suggested an independent third party election administrator. Tribal Council passed a Resolution, unanimously, that was also agreed to by the Honorary Lifetime Elder and both Tribal Chiefs, authorizing a third party election administrator to run an election pursuant to the Tribal Election Law.

Judy Joseph recommended True Ballot and provided the Tribe funds to pay for the election. Joe Mullen, Tribal Chairperson, executed the contract and True Ballot was engaged to administer the election. True Ballot ran the entire process from that point after reviewing the Tribal Constitution and Tribal Election Law. Tribal Council appointed Frances de los Angeles and Cheryl Mullen to communicate with True Ballot as representatives from competing factions to answer questions about voter eligibility and eligibility to run for office. Arlene Ventura and Matthew Mattson were specifically left out of the process because of lingering and persistent allegations of bias or social engineering or manipulation.

On April 12, 2010 the re-do of the May 9, 2009 election was conducted. Shelley Burch was elected chair, Nina Repin was re-elected to a full four year term on the Tribal Council, and Jolene Williams and Jake Repin were elected alternates. An Oath of some kind was administered at the election by Pat Barker on April 12, but it was not the required Oath in the Tribal Election Law and the election specifies that the Head Chief must administer the Oath of Office pursuant to the language of the election law.

Everyone agreed that Head Chief Enick was required to administer the Oath exactly as prescribed in the election law and Chief Enick administered the Oath on April 15, 2010. The elected officials were set to be seated on May 15, 2010.

On May 6, 2010, the Tribal Council again identified that there were notice defects in the General Membership Meeting Notice and decided, given the experience of the previous year, to postpone the meeting. All Councilmembers were supposed to inform their families of the cancellation. Councilmember Nina Repin, as acting Secretary due to the illness of Arlene Ventura, sent out an email to cancel the May 8, 2010 meeting on May 7, 2010 and was supposed to post a Notice on the door of the long house in Monroe, WA on the morning of May 8, 2010 and advise members that showed up that the meeting was postponed and would be rescheduled later in the Spring/Summer out of an abundance of caution. It is unclear what happened on May 8, 2010, but staff members received letters dated May 11, 2010 signed by Nathan Pat Barker and Shelley Burch informing them of various actions and decisions of the assembled group on May 8, 2010. One letter was delivered to Matthew Mattson on May 13, 2010

Clearly this has been a long and difficult and confusing year. We hope this clarifies the events of the past year even if you disagree with individual members of the Council or some of the actions taken by individual members of the Council or the Council as a body. We hope you received and enjoyed the staff report that was prepared in anticipation of the May 8, 2010 meeting and was mailed to each head of household earlier this month and we look forward to seeing you on August 7, 2010. In the meantime, we hope you will consider joining the Tribe on the Canoe Journey and otherwise enjoy your summer.

SNOQUALMIE TRIBAL COUNCIL

May 13, 2010

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Nathan Barker (Pat)
6671 Humphrey Rd. S.
Clinton, WA 98236

Dear Pat:

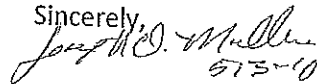
I have been ordered by the Tribal Council to issue this notice to you while I am still Chairman. I asked my family to help me write this letter because my hands are injured.

The Tribal Council is alleging that you intentionally participated in a General Membership meeting and tried to make it official and talked about issues you were not authorized to discuss and allowed non-voting members to participate and opened the meeting and participated in voting on actions against the agreement of the Tribal Council. The Council agreed to cancel the May 8, 2010 meeting due to improper Notice with agreement to re-schedule under proper procedure. Nina Repin, who was acting as Secretary at the time due to illness of Arlene Ventura, sent out an email to everyone that the meeting was cancelled and you participated in official actions anyway.

You are innocent until proven guilty, but under Resolution 74-09 you are in limbo and not allowed to participate in Tribal Council until a decision is made on May 26, 2010.

Since my term expires on Saturday, Mary Anne Hinzman, as Vice-Chair, will serve as Chair until the hearing date and a decision from Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Mullen" with the date "5/13/10" written below it.

Joe Mullen
Chairman

C: Tribal Staff