



NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2022

Via TEAMS Microsoft Meeting

DOA Building, North Carolina

WELCOME: Rev. Ricky Burnett, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:02 am with a quorum present. He acknowledged and welcomed guest, the Commission Members, Tribal Leaders, Chiefs, State Officials, and staff.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: The agenda was adopted by consensus.

INVOCATION: Chief Michael Jacobs, Waccamaw Siouan Tribe, presented the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Furnie Lambert led the membership and guests in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

TRIBAL AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

| | | |
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| Coharie | Isabell Freeman-Elliott | Present |
| Coharie | Lenora Locklear | Absent |
| Cumberland County Association for Indian People | Helen Cook | Present |
| Cumberland County Association for Indian People | Gladys Hunt | Present |
| Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation | Joshua Welch | Present |
| Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation | Carolyn West | Absent |
| Guilford Native American Association | Shelia Epps Wilson | Present |
| Guilford Native American Association | DeVane Burnette, Sr. | Present |
| Haliwa Saponi | Karen Harley | Present |
| Haliwa Saponi | Charles P. Richardson | Resigned - Absent |
| Lumbee | Larece Hunt | Present |
| Lumbee | Ricky Burnett | Present |
| Lumbee | Furnie Lambert | Present |
| Meherrin | Constance Mitchell | Present |
| Metrolina Native American Association | Walter D. Baucom | Present |
| Metrolina Native American Association | Rebecca LaClaire | Present |
| Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation | Tony Hayes | Absent |
| Sappony | Dorothy Yates | Present |
| Triangle Native American Society | Danny Bell | Present |
| Waccamaw Siouan | Elton R. Jacobs | Present |
| Waccamaw Siouan | Chief Michael Jacobs | Present |



ROLL CALL *(Continued)*

STATE OFFICIALS

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|---|--------------------|---------|
| President Pro Tem Appointee | Gerald Goolsby | Present |
| Speaker of the House Appointee | Wanda Burns-Ramsey | Present |
| Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary | | Present |
| Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary | | |
| Department of Commerce/ ESC, Mabelle Sanders, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer | | Present |
| Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary | | Present |
| Representative: Sheila Holman, NCDEQ | | |
| Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Victor Armstrong, Deputy Secretary Health Equity | | Present |
| Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner | | |
| Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs | | Present |
| Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Adhoc- Non-Voting Member | | Present |
| Designee: Chris Southerly | | |

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

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|-----------|--|--------|
| NCNAYO | Kaloni Walton - Non-Voting Member | Absent |
| NCNAYO | Dylan Hammonds (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member | Absent |
| NC NACOHE | Joshua L Richardson - Non-Voting Member | Absent |

STAFF PRESENT

Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
 Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary
 Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development Program & Supporting Undergraduate Native Students Program
 Pamela (Shena) Brewington, Program Director, Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)
 Steven (Steve) Maynor, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program
 Candace Lowry, Program Director, Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act Program
 Tenley (Nikki) Locklear, Program Director, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program

OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice

OTHERS PRESENT: List is on file with the Commission.

ETHICS STATEMENT: The Executive Director read the Ethics Statement on Behalf of the Chairman Burnett. He urged Commission Members to declare any conflicts of interest, or the appearances of conflicts of interest, that may exist in relation to any business matters before the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None noted.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 3, 2021, MEETING MINUTES: The minutes of the December 3, 2021, meeting were presented. The minutes were accepted by unanimous consent, with no correction or objections from the membership.



APPROVAL OF JANUARY 27, 2022, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES: The minutes of the January 27, 2022, special meeting were presented. The minutes were accepted by unanimous consent, with no corrections or objections from membership.

PRESENTATIONS

NC Pandemic Relief Funding Update: Mrs. Stephanie McGarrah, Executive Director North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO) presented the following:

- Discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fiscal Recovery Funding: The State of North Carolina was given \$5.4 B from the federal government to help with the recovery of the state and its people, The appropriated budget was passed the Legislature on November 2021. This is federal funding and the treasury released guidance (final rule) in January 2022.
- Discussed the State Legislation (HB 334; SL 2021-189):
The amount of \$715,285 was allocated to each of the following tribes: Coharie, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, Sappony, Waccamaw-Siouan
The amount of \$4,000,000 has been allocated to the seven tribes listed above on a per capita basis.
An amount of \$250,000 has been awarded to each of the following Urban Organizations:
Cumberland County Association for Indian People, Guilford Native American Association, Metrolina Native American Association, Triangle Native American Society
- The Commission provided NCPRO staff with contact information for the tribes and organizations.
- Discussed the overview of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) Process for Tribes. Noted that the federal government designated the funds for a specific purpose.
- Ms. McGarrah informed the Commission that the NCPRO will meet with each individual tribe to ensure clarity on the funding they received.
- An agreement will be sent out to the tribes for signature and certification.
- An online portal will be established (PANGRAM account) and tribes must request funding through grants management portal (called PANGRAM).
- Expressed that the tribes obligate funds by December 31, 2024, and expends funds by December 31, 2026.
- Noted that the tribes' complete reports on use of funds and return them to NCPRO (Ongoing).
- Discussed Project Planning Template re goals on how to use SFRF. NCPRO will set up individual meetings with the tribes to review templates.

QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSION:

- Commission member asked clarifying questions regarding the above dates. Ms. McGarrah informed everyone that December 31, 2024, is when funds must be obligated. She added that the funds need to be fully expended by December 31, 2026.
- Question was asked about the unspent monies. Ms. McGarrah stated that the unspent money will revert to the federal government.
- Ms. McGarrah advised that NCPRO will help and guide the tribes with how the funding can be spent.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett requested Ms. McGarrah to email her presentation to the Commission.



The presentation “North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office NCPRO” was emailed to the Commission members and is on file at the Commission.

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Engagement: Mr. Reginald Speight, State Director, NC State Office, Rural Development presented the following:

- Provided a brief bio of himself.
- Presented the Biden-Harris Plan for Tribal Nations:
Provide reliable, affordable, quality healthcare and address health disparities among tribal nations.
Restore tribal lands, address climate change, and safeguard natural and cultural resources
Expand economic opportunity and community development in Native communities
Invest in education and youth engagement.
- Mr. Speight highlighted President Biden State of the Union speech in which he referenced building from the bottom up and middle out. To expand fairness and opportunities.
- He explained what it means to tribal communities in NC: Affordable housing; Reliable broadband; Clean drinking water; Better health care including for healthcare for Native Veterans; Safer communities for women, children, and elderly. Mr. Speight expressed that he is committed to achieving tangible outcomes and results oriented in rural development areas.
- Mr. Greg Richardson thanked Mr. Speight for his presentation and expressed that he will follow-up with him with regards to establishing a partnership with him and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA).

No handout was provided.

Chairman Rev. Burnett acknowledged and welcomed Secretary Pamela Cashwell, NC Department of Administration.

GUEST PRESENTATION – Not listed on the agenda

Remarks and Updates:

NC Department of Administration, Pamela Cashwell, Secretary

- Budget items were highlighted at the December 2021 meeting
- Discussed Deputy Director position is posted, and the job posting has closed. Received twenty applications, in the process of reviewing and setting up interviews.
- Announced a Director and Associate Director positions at the NC Department of Cultural Resources.
- Informed the Pandemic Program Coordinator for research and impact on native communities. Mr. Greg Richardson is in contact with Department of Administration, Human Resources regarding job description required to post the position.
- It was noted that Secretary Cashwell will be guest speaker at the Unity Conference which starts after the Commission meeting later this afternoon.
- Discussed the Procurement Rules reviewed by the Rules Review Commission regarding the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Noted that this is good for all businesses, small businesses across North Carolina and for state agencies. Under these new rules a state agency can spend up to \$50,000. The amount was increased from \$5,000 to \$50, 000



- Secretary Cashwell encouraged small business owners in the tribal communities to register in the Eprocurement system. She encouraged small minority or women owned business to reach out to the Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) office and go through the process of getting certified as a HUB vendor and business.
- The Secretary informed the Commission that this is a unique time in history. This administration under Governor Cooper leadership will provide many new opportunities for HUB businesses.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett thanked Secretary Cashwell for attending the UNC Chapel Hill Pow Wow, during the preceding weekend.

No handout was provided.

American Indian Heritage Commission Overview and Update: This item was moved to later in the agenda.

Robeson Community College Update: Mrs. Melissa Singler, President, Robeson Community College (RCC) presented the following:

Provided a brief overview of Community College program:

- Doubled the capacity of the LPN nursing program, now serving forty-eight students instead of twenty-four students. Noted that RCC is sending one hundred and sixty-eight students into the workforce annually. Announced that there is tremendous need for nurses in hospitals and community.
- She has expanded the Industrial programs, added engineering which is focused on robotics.
- Discussed in brief programs for simulation game development, medical sonography program
- Noted that the above programs generally take two years to complete.
- Discussed Workforce Development and Continuous Education Program, this program has a much shorter training time. Certification or license in a given program may take only three months, six months or one year. RCC offers programs such as: Community Health Care, Emergency Management Service (EMS), Massage Therapy, Barbering, gunsmithing, sleep study, construction, and various other programs.
- Noted that RCC is getting ready to launch a new truck driving academy.
- Announced that the fall 2021 was the best fall semester in the history of the college. The college is on track to break enrollment history this spring.
- April 6, 2022, is the grand opening for Military affiliated Resource Center/ Veterans Center.
- Discussed in brief 1500 sq ft renovations on campus
- Received allocation for \$19M, for a Workforce Development Program.
- Received additional \$1.4 M for a power generator.
- Discussed the expansion of facilities on campus and announced that the additional funding will enable Workforce Development program to create more jobs.
- Discussed Long Leaf grant received from other community colleges at no cost tuition free.
- Noted that RCC and other community colleges used COVID Relief funds to pay off student debt, allowing students to complete degrees without having to pay out-of-pocket.
- Informed everyone to encourage community students (high school or graduates) who wish to pursue skill or trade or four-year education, to meet with their community college staff and discuss options. Expressed that money and other resources are available for students.



- In conclusion, President Singler stated “success does not happen in a vacuum, neither does failure”. She thanked everyone for supporting Robeson Community College and making it successful. She also thanked Ms. Audrey Hunt, for her support, and noted that she is currently serving on the local board of trustees and is one of the strongest advocates.

No handout was provided.

QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Commission members requested clarification on simulation game development.
- President Singler indicated that it is a software design program, consists of testing, and programing. Anyone who wants to use computer software or hardware to design, implement, or manage information system such as data base service, business intelligence, and many others. Game development is a very flexible certification.
- Clarification on COVID funding helping to pay off student loan. President Singler clarified this funding is for student debt not loan. When students receive books and have not paid for them, these funds can cover such cost. The rule is students must pay for the books before they return. The college paid off the small balances (cost approximately less \$500 each). This has helped students finish their curriculum.
- Questions regarding on-line programs was asked. President Singler informed the commission that RCC does have several on-line programs due to the pandemic. Students can join in-person or on-line programs. Except for the welding program, because it is in-person training. Students can participate in-person learning with other programs. She indicated due to rise in gas prices, students may opt for on-line classes.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett requested President Singler to forward her presentation to the Commission.
- Mr. Richardson congratulated President Singler for her effort with Work Force Development Program at Robeson Community College.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs discussed in brief the highlights from the Executive Director’s report as follows:

- **Campbell University** – Mr. Richardson expressed that the university agreed to host a leadership type of training at their facility. Mr. Richardson proposed to host a cultural type of curriculum and NCNAYO Conference at the university soon. Expressed appreciation for Campbell University and Robeson Community College, explore new avenues to educate students, expand horizons and these measures provide good opportunities for American Indian students.
- **Commission:** The Director announced that the Commission was created in 1971, the appropriated budget to start with was \$12,500. The Commission budget last fiscal year was over \$7M. It has now reached to \$9.6M, end of fiscal year June 30, 2022. With all the various programs and its funding, the Commission can provide opportunities and grants for American Indian students. The Commission also provides service to the American Indian community at large with Housing Voucher Assistance, Economic Development, Indian Child Welfare, Domestic Violence, Workforce Development Programs, Low Income Energy Assistance Program, etc.
- **Accomplishments:** Mr. Richardson applauded Mr. Steve Maynor, Director for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program for his work. It was noted that the program has brought in over \$3M in



emergency housing vouchers. This has elevated the Commission to a new level in terms of services. Expressed that with all this funding the Commission is currently providing housing assistance beyond the tribal communities with Housing Choice Voucher funding.

- **Pandemic Funding Update:** The Indian communities have received \$10M in funding for tribes and organizations towards pandemic relief. Noted that this is an historic achievement. The funding goes directly to the tribes. He advised that questions regarding this funding need to be directed to the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office (NCPRO).
- **Continuation Budget Recommendation for FY 2023:** Details are listed in the Executive Director Report.
- **Historic Canoes found in Waccamaw Siouan Tribe:** One of the Canoe has been removed from Lake Waccamaw and is now being treated for preservation at Fort Fisher. He thanked Mr. John Mintz for his efforts on canoe preservation. Details listed in the Executive Director Report.
- **2022 NC Indian Unity Conference:** Log-in on the United Tribes of North Carolina website. Agenda and link for the virtual event is posted on the website.
- All other topics discussed are listed in the Executive Director Report. The report was distributed in the Board packet prior to the meeting.
- The Executive Director Report was adopted by consensus.

The handout “Executive Director Report” is an official part of the minutes, it is on file at the Commission

50th ANNIVERSARY PLANS: Chairman Rev. Ricky Burnett requested volunteers to work on the 50th Anniversary event. He noted that the event was postponed due to the pandemic. Volunteers are needed to organize this historic event. Chairman requested members to notify their interest via email to Mr. Greg Richardson.

COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS: Rev. Burnett announced Action Items Only

Adhoc Goals Committee: Chairwoman Wanda Burns-Ramsey on behalf of her committee recommended the following:

Action Item:

- During Updates from Committees: All Commission Committees need to be given 10-minutes to present Committee activities. Committees may yield their time to other Committees. The Committees need to inform the Executive Director prior to preparing the agenda or 10 days prior to the Commission meeting.
- Each Tribe and Urban Indian Organization to be given 5-minutes during each Commission meeting to make their presentations. Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations may yield their time to other Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations.

Information Item:

- Prior to any high-level meetings, Committees that are involved need to come together to discuss and prepare for the meeting.

Comments from the Commission:

- Chairman Rev. Burnett informed the Commission that since the recommendation was from the Committee the vote will be taken at the end of the meeting.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there were any questions regarding the items discussed. It was adopted by consensus, with no objection from the members.

The handout of the Goals Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 2, 2022, was distributed in the Board packet.



Adhoc Land Trust: Chairman Furnie Lambert requested Mr. Greg Richardson to present an update. Mr. Richardson noted that a follow-up meeting is being planned and Chairman Lambert will be included in the virtual meeting.

No handout was provided.

Veterans: Mr. Richardson informed everyone that the Veterans Awards will be presented at 4pm tomorrow, during the virtual ceremony at the Indian Unity Conference. It was noted that the awards/ plaques will be handed to the Veterans after the conference, since the event is held virtually. The announcement will be made as follows: Name of the Veteran, Tribal Affiliation/ Association, Branch of Service, Grade, Rank, and Year(s) of service. There is one award for each of the tribes and three award from the associations.

No handout was provided.

Cultural Resources: Chairman Danny Bell noted that the Culture Committee did not have a quorum and is unable to present any action item. He requested for a reduction in total number of Committee members in the Committee. He explained, if five members, then with three members present there is a quorum. He added that this does not apply to all Committees.

No handout was provided.

Employment and Training: None.

Environmental Justice: None. Commissioner W D Baucom informed Chair Rev Burnette that he is not the Chair of this committee.

Health Committee: None.

Indian Child Welfare: None. Commissioner Helen Cook Informed Chairman Rev. Burnett that she requested to step aside as Chair of the Indian Child Welfare Committee.

Indian Education – Finalize State Advisory Council on Indian Education Appointment: Chairwoman Yates discussed the following:

- Noted a letter drafted by Secretary Cashwell and Commission Executive Director on requesting representative on the Textbook Commission, this letter was sent out to the Commission members for review.
- At the SACIE meeting, the SACIE Chairperson was asked to submit a name, American Indian educator to serve on the social studies leader's institute, March 29-30, 2022. Ms. Yates informed that Ms. Shanon Brayboy has agreed to serve on that institute. She will be doing a session incorporating AI history with the new standards. Ms. Brayboy expressed her interest in serving on the textbook Commission. She has submitted her application on the State Boards and Commission website. Recommended a motion to nominate Rodney Jackson, Cumberland County Association for Indian People (CCAIP), Title VI Director, for SACIE position of Title VI Director. It was noted that at the December meeting, Tamara Carter did submit her application, however, she misunderstood qualification requirement for Title VI. Ms. Carter does not have a Teacher Certificate or license for North Carolina. Therefore, the Commission had to find a replacement for her nomination. Only one complete application was received for this position from Commissioner Gladys Hunt, CCAIP. However, the required nomination letter was not submitted to the commission as required.
- The NC Dept. of Public Instruction cannot release the names of the American Indian educators due to privacy laws. Chair Yates informed that SACIE needs a database of American Indian



educators. Requested Commission members to encourage their respected tribes and organizations to get their American Indian educators to complete and submit the educators' form. Chair Yates expressed that the single one-page form was mailed to each of the tribes and organizations and noted that SACIE received a low response to this request. Ms. Dorothy noted that all AI educators need to complete and submit these forms to Ms. Kimberly Hammonds, Commission staff liaison for SACIE and will retain the forms for future reference. A database listing American Indian educators will be created for future appointments.

- Recommended a motion to send a letter from the legislative committee to legislator to mandate American Indian studies and to promote graduates to have the flexibility to wear their cultural items during their graduation ceremony.
- Recommended a motion to follow-up on the UNC Pembroke Resolution in support of students being required to take American Indian history course.
- Announced American Indian Scholarship Fund, due March 1st. On February 9th, received 45 applications. Funding is from the American Indian license fund towards the scholarship. The applications will be reviewed by the Committee. Chair Yates informed if Commission members or community members would like to participate in reviewing the applications, they need to notify her directly.

No handout was provided.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Mr. Greg Richardson requested Chair Yates to submit the list of the motions and recommendations she discussed in her presentation. Mr. Richardson informed Chair Yates that the Commission needs the intent in writing for clarification purpose.
- Commissioner Larece Hunt requested Chair Yates to clarify Mr. Rodney Jackson nomination. He asked if this is an at large position?
- Chair Yates noted that Commissioner Gladys Hunt supported Mr. Rodney Jackson application for this position. She noted that on his supporting document it is indicated as Lumbee Tribe/ Cumberland County Association of Indian People. Lumbee tribe for his affiliation as American Indian and organization as Cumberland County Association of Indian People, Ms. Gladys Hunt.
- Chair Yates recapped on Ms. Tamara Carter, application for Title VI, and noted that Ms. Carter had checked as Title VI educator. Upon reviewing the application, Ms. Carter did not indicate her educator license. Requirement is that the license information must be indicated in the resume. Ms. Carter confirmed that she is a Title VI Director and does not have an educator license. It was noted that Ms. Carter was confused because she is working as an educator for the Columbus County School System. Chair Yates indicated that the confusion was on her part, and she does not have an educator license.
- It was noted that the Commission has approved for five parent and five educators, per legislation approval and requirement. Among the five educators, one of them must be a Title VI Indian educator Director or Coordinator. Chair Yates reiterated that this person must be a fully licensed educator as per the legislation requirement.
- Chair Yates confirmed that Mr. Rodney Jackson is currently serving his first term. The position is a two-year term.
- Commission Gerald Goolsby asked clarifying question as follows: If the seats need to come from a certain area or is it just the requirements? What difference does it make if Lumbee or CCAIP endorses it?
- Chair Yates responded that the vacancy needs endorsement from tribe and organization. If it does have the endorsement the Education Committee will accept the application.



- Chair Yates confirmed that at the December 2021, meeting Commission Gladys Hunt and Commissioner Helen Cook noted that Mr. Rodney Jackson recommendation should come from the Cumberland County Association since he served in that association. However, the full Commission voted in agreement with them.
- Commissioner Joshua Welch asked clarification on the regalia, noted that the legislation passed HB 30 in Utah.

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced a ten-minute break. The meeting reconvened at 11:49 am.

Indian Housing: Chair Elton Ray Jacobs noted no action item at this time.

- Mr. Greg Richardson presented an update from the January 27th meeting. He informed that the action was taken to nominate the Indian Housing Authority vacancies. The Commission has prepared the letter and mailed to Governor Cooper for action on the appointment recommendations.

Legislative – 2022-2023 Legislative Agenda Recommendations: Mr. Greg Richardson presented this item on behalf of Chair Tony Hayes.

- Discussed the legislative item process for new members. Legislative process starts in January of the calendar year and ends in December of each year. Chair Hayes is requesting 2022 legislative items to be emailed to him and copy Mr. Greg Richardson, so a legislative list of items can be generated throughout the year and discussed at each Commission meeting.
- Noted the following items for discussion purpose only: (1) Remove offensive mascots from schools; (2) UNCP requirements on American Indian History for all graduates; (3) Urban Organization Tribes to be funded annually in the state budget. Operation budget for each of the tribes in a continuing basis. (4) Standard course of study for American Indian History Culture. The Executive Director g noted that he is not sure if the Commission can require a university such as UNCP to adopt an American Indian History curriculum. (5) Education Committee will request legislation that will fund an Indian Education Coordinator position at DPI.
- Note: That the goal is to continue gather legislative items at the June meeting, discuss items at the June, September meetings and present as action item at the December meeting. These items will be discussed and shared with the DOA Legislative Liaison.
- The Executive Director expressed that consultation with the DOA Legislative Liaison is required, to ensure that the items are appropriate and not in conflict with DOA's legislative agenda.
- As of now the Legislative Committee has five items on the 2022 Legislative Agenda.

No handout was provided.

Recognition: No items to report.

Chairman Rev. Burnett requested Chair Yates to repeat the Indian Education Committee motions. Chair Yates repeated the motions as follows:

- SACIE Position: First motion to nominate Mr. Rodney Jackson, Cumberland County, Title VI Director position, Second Term
- Second motion was to send a letter to the Legislature to encourage and mandate American Indian studies.
- Third motion to follow-up with Chancellor Cummings on the UNCP Resolution in support of students being required to take American Indian History Course.



Chair Yates repeated the recommendation as follows:

- Commission members to encourage their respected tribes and organizations to circulate the educator forms, complete them and return them to Kimberly Hammonds on staff. This will enable the Indian Education Committee to create a data base of American Indian educators.
- Chair Yates noted that the form was emailed to tribes and organizations, titled “American Indian Educator Form”. She informed everyone that the Committee did not get a good response. Recommends tribes and organizations to circulate the form around in the communities. When a vacancy does come up, the Committee will have the resource available on the prospective educator. Commissioner Gerald Goolsby requested the second motion to be repeated. Chair Yates repeated “motion to send a letter to the Legislature to encourage and mandate American Indian studies.” He asked if this is for high school students. Chair Yates noted that the motion did not specify grade levels. Question was asked where are they going to encourage and mandate (schools, colleges, community colleges)? Chair Yates stated that the Education Committee did not discuss further.
- Commissioner Gerald Goolsby informed Chairman Burnett that the second motion is incomplete currently. He expressed that the motion needs to be completed before the Commission could vote on this motion.
- Commissioner Ray Jacobs informed Chairman Burnett that he feels the same, second motion is not complete.
- Commissioner Rebecca LaClaire asked clarifying question as follows: (1) Legislative question regarding next step; (2) The second motion that was made by the Education Committee, expressed being on the Education Committee in making the motion to withdraw.
- Chairman Rev. Burnett and Mr. Greg Richardson informed Commissioner LaClaire that the item should be on the Legislative agenda for discussion.
- **Commissioner LaClaire confirmed the second motion is withdrawn from the Education Committee and will be placed on the Legislative agenda.**
- Commissioner Helen Cook needed clarification on the letter regarding mandate. She suggested the Commission needs to discuss further.
- Mr. Greg Richardson confirmed that there were no other motions.

Chairman Rev. Burnett opened the floor for discussion on the motions presented as follows:

- First motion to nominate Mr. Rodney Jackson, Cumberland County, Title VI Director position, Second Term. Commissioner Gladys Hunt informed that Mr. Jackson worked in the Cumberland County School District so the nomination should come from Cumberland County Association of Indian People and not Lumbee tribe. She expressed that Mr. Rodney Jackson is committed to the children in Cumberland County School District, he has no objection with CCAIP submitting his nomination for second term. Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there is any objection. No objection was noted.
- **Second motion to send a letter to the Legislature to encourage and mandate American Indian studies. Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there is any discussion. Commissioner Rebecca LaClaire requested to withdraw the motion. Mr. Greg Richardson noted that the letter will be placed on the Legislative agenda.** Commissioner Goolsby asked if the letter would go as is from the Legislative Committee to Legislators or would there be a discussion and will the letter be brought back to the Commission. **Commissioner LaClaire informed that she withdrew the letter from the Education Committee.** Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there is a consensus on the second motion to withdraw the letter from the Education Committee. No objection was noted.
- Third motion to follow-up with Chancelor Cummings on the UNCPL Resolution in support of students being required to take American Indian History Course. Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if



there is a consensus on this motion. Secretary Cashwell asked for a clarification, if there is a letter of recommendation to UNCP regarding the Resolution. Education Committee Chair Yates responded that at the December meeting, Chancellor Cummings presented the UNCP Resolution in support of students being required to take American Indian History Course, the Education Committee is recommending the Commission to follow-up with Chancellor Cummings on the results of this resolution. **Secretary Cashwell clarified that this is a request for information purpose. Chair Yates confirmed yes.** Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there is a consensus on the third motion. No objection was noted.

- Chairman Rev. Burnett suggested if he could bundle all three motions together. There was a unanimous consensus. No objection was noted.

Chairman Rev. Burnett asked Chair Burns-Ramsey, Adhoc Goals Committee to repeat her motions. Chair Burns-Ramsey repeated her motions as follows:

- All Commission Committees need to be given 10-minutes to present Committee activities. Committees may yield their time to other Committees. The Committees need to inform Mr. Greg Richardson prior to preparing the agenda.
- Each Tribe and Urban Indian Organization to be given 5-minutes during each Commission meeting to make their presentations. Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations may yield their time to other Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations.
- Commissioner Goolsby asked for clarification, if a committee needs more time, how does this work? Committee Chair Burns-Ramsey noted that if a committee needs more time, the committee Chair must email Mr. Greg Richardson (while the draft agenda is being prepared). Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs asked a clarifying question to Chair Burns-Ramsey if the action items will be emailed to the Commission or committee minutes will include action items. He expressed action items need to be emailed in advance with the Board packet. Chair Burns-Ramsey noted that she checked with Mr. Richardson, and he noted that Chair Burns-Ramsey did not have to send prior to the Commission meeting because it is an action item of the Committee. She stated that the minutes has not been approved, minutes will not be approved until the next meeting, but the motions were made. Chairman Rev. Burnett asked if there needs to be more discussion or does he have a consensus on these action items. There was a unanimous consensus. No objection was noted.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Mr. Greg Richardson went over the agenda for the 47th NC Indian Unity Conference, Raleigh. The virtual conference will begin at 2 pm this afternoon. The agenda was submitted to the Commission via email. For more information, please check the United Tribes website, unitedtribes.org
- Commissioner Connie Mitchell thanked everyone for their condolences and support during the sudden death and loss of her beloved son. Chairman Rev. Burnett thanked Commissioner Connie and expressed that the Commission will continue to lift her and her son up in prayers.

FLOWER FUND REPORT: Commissioner Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary/Treasurer, stated the following:

Flower fund balance \$ 235.59. Commissioner Burns-Ramsey collected \$459.59 towards the flower fund at the December meeting.

No handout was provided.



ANNOUNCEMENT FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS: Commission members announced their upcoming events.

Chairman Rev. Burnett announced a ten-minute break. The meeting reconvened at 12:45 pm.

PRESENTATION (Continued)

American Indian Heritage Commission Overview and Update: Mr. Reid Wilson, Secretary, NC Department of Cultural Resources thanked everyone for the flexibility and opportunity to present the following:

- Discussed the creation of the new American Indian Heritage Commission, provided in the state budget passed in November 2021, for twelve Board members.
- Two-staff members job posting for Director and Associate Director position are extended to March 18, 2022. He requested to notify candidates interested, they have a chance to apply.
- Expressed the first AI Heritage meeting will take place after staff is appointed.
- Noted that the new AI Board members will seek guidance from this Commission on best ways to be successful and achieve the goals and objectives. He noted that there will not be any duplicate in issues that might be created.
- Expressed that the new Commission would like to be partners of all tribes and organizations.
- Informed that the new Commission will participate in a broad spectrum of culture, events, and history, throughout the state. Education, Celebration and Preservation of American Indian culture and history.
- Secretary Wilson listed a few preservation efforts in the state of North Carolina. Noted funding to preserve the Watauga Mounds in Western North Carolina. Updating the site of Town Creek. Effort to make these the best historic sites.
- Discussed summer internships from UNC Pembroke.
- Discussed outdoor recreation opportunity in Cherokee for two days. Secretary plans to visit mounds and meet the Cherokee leadership. Interest in exploring the wide diversity of culture in the state of North Carolina.
- In conclusion, Secretary Wilson expressed he is looking forward to the new American Indian Heritage Commission to be an asset to the American Indian Community. Expressed that the two Commissions will have a lot of opportunity to collaborate and benefit all people of North Carolina.

No handout was provided.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION:

- Commission member Danny Bell informed Secretary Reid that there were not enough scholars in higher education. Suggested a collaboration between Cultural Department and Education Department for American Indian Scholars.

VOTE ON ACTION ITEMS:

Motion was recommended to approve all the action items which included Agenda, Meeting minutes (December 3, 2021, and January 27, 2022), Executive Director Report, Indian Education Committee motions, and Adhoc Goals Committee motions:



ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Coharie | Isabell Freeman-Elliott | Absent (left early) |
| Coharie | Lenora Locklear | Absent, |
| Cumberland County Association for Indian People | Helen Cook | Present, Approved |
| Cumberland County Association for Indian People | Gladys Hunt | Present, Approved |
| Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation | Joshua Welch | Present, Approved |
| Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation | Carolyn West | Absent |
| Guilford Native American Association | Shelia Epps Wilson | Present, Approved |
| Guilford Native American Association | DeVane Burnette, Sr. | No vote recorded |
| Haliwa Saponi | Karen Harley | Present, Approved |
| Haliwa Saponi | Charles P. Richardson | Absent |
| Lumbee | Larece Hunt | Present, Approved |
| Lumbee | Ricky Burnett | Present, Approved |
| Lumbee | Furnie Lambert | Present, Approved |
| Meherrin | Constance Mitchell | Present, Approved |
| Metrolina Native American Association | Walter D. Baucom | Present, Approved |
| Metrolina Native American Association | Rebecca LaClaire | Present, Approved |
| Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation | Tony Hayes | Absent |
| Sappony | Dorothy Yates | Present, Approved |
| Triangle Native American Society | Danny Bell | Present, Approved |
| Waccamaw Siouan | Elton R. Jacobs | Present, Approved |
| Waccamaw Siouan | Chief Michael Jacobs | Present, Approved |

STATE OFFICIALS

| | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| President Pro Tem Appointee | Gerald Goolsby | Present, Approved |
| Speaker of the House Appointee | Wanda Burns-Ramsey | Present, Approved |
| Department of Administration (DOA), Pamela Brewington Cashwell, Secretary | | Present, Approved |
| Designee: David Elliott, Deputy Secretary | | |
| Department of Commerce/ ESC, Machel Sanders, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Betty Marrow-Taylor, Chief Diversity Equity Inclusion Officer | | Present, Approved |
| for agenda, minutes, and Executive Director report (noted unable to vote on motions, she came in late) | | |
| Department of Environment Quality (DEQ), Elizabeth Biser, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Sharon Martin, Deputy Secretary | | Present, Approved |
| Representative: Sheila Holman, NCDEQ | | |
| Department of Health & Human Services, Kody H. Kinsley, Secretary | | |
| Designee: Victor Armstrong, Deputy Secretary for Health, and Equity | | Present, Approved |
| Department of Labor, Josh Dobson, Commissioner | | |
| Designee: Julie Ryan, Director of Govt. Affairs | | Present, Approved |
| Department of Cultural Resources, Advisor, John Mintz - Non-Voting Member | | |
| Designee: Chris Southerly | | |

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------|
| NCNAYO | Kaloni Walton - Non-Voting Member | Absent |
| NCNAYO | Dylan Hammonds (Co-Chair) - Non-Voting Member | Absent |
| NC NACOHE | Joshua L Richardson - Non-Voting Member | Absent |

Motion carried.



ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further items to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting, was made by Commissioner Furnie Lambert. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gerald Goolsby. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2022, location to be announced.

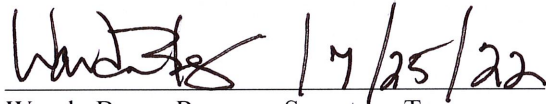
 7/25/22

Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary-Treasurer
NC Commission of Indian Affairs
(Sign & Date)

 6-2-22

Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary
(Sign & Date)

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on June 2, 2022.

 7/25/22

Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary-Treasurer
NC Commission of Indian Affairs
(Sign & Date)

Quarterly Commission Meeting
Celebrating 50 Years of American Indian Advocacy

DRAFT AGENDA

March 10, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Via Microsoft Teams

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| Welcoming Remarks | 10:00 am |
| Call to Order & Adopt Agenda | Ricky Burnett, Chairman |
| Invocation | Chief Michael Jacobs, Commission Member |
| Pledge of Allegiance | Furnie Lambert, Commission Member |
| Roll Call | Daphne Pinto |
| Ethics Statement | Greg Richardson, Executive Director |
| Approval of December 3, 2021, Meeting Minutes | Ricky Burnett, Chairman |
| Approval of January 27, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes | Ricky Burnett, Chairman |
| Presentations: | |
| NC Pandemic Relief Funding Update | Mrs. Stephanie McGarrah, Executive Director North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office |
| US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Engagement | Mr. Reginald Speight, State Director NC State Office, Rural Development |
| American Indian Heritage Commission Overview and Update | Mr. Reid Wilson, Secretary, NC Department of Cultural Resources-Invited Ms. Tracey Burns, Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Cultural Resources-Invited |
| Robeson Community College Update | Mrs. Melissa Singler President, Robeson Community College |
| Executive Director's Report (Quarterly Program Reports copies included in packet) | Greg Richardson, Executive Director |
| 50th Anniversary Plans | Ricky Burnett, Chairman |
| Commission Committee Reports | Action Items Only |



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|---|---|
| Adhoc Goals Committee | Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Chair |
| Adhoc Land Trust | Furnie Lambert, Chair |
| Veterans -2022 Indian Unity Conference Veteran Award Announcement | Furnie Lambert, Chair |
| Cultural Resources | Danny Bell, Chair |
| Employment & Training | W D Baucom, Chair |
| Environmental Justice | |
| Health Committee | Connie Mitchell, Chair |
| Indian Child Welfare | |
| Indian Education -Finalize State Advisory Council on Indian Education Appointment | Dorothy Yates, Chair |
| Indian Housing | Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair |
| Legislative -2022-2023 Legislative Agenda Recommendations | Tony Hayes, Chair |
| Recognition | Larece Hunt, Chair |
| Other Business | |
| Flower Fund Report | Wanda Burns-Ramsey, Secretary/Treasurer |
| Announcement from Commission Members | (2 Minutes Only) |
| Adjournment | 1:30 pm |
| 2022 Commission Meeting Dates | June 3 - LTBA September 2 - LTBA December 2 LTBA |