

NC Commission of Indian Affairs

University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Bob Caton Fieldhouse

1 University Drive

Pembroke, NC 28372

June 6, 2014

(Adopted Sep 5, 2014)

Vice Chairwoman Shirley Freeman presided over the June 6 meeting on behalf of Chairman Ruth Revels. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. with a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Commissioners Furnie Lambert and second Commissioner Larece Hunt. Motion carried. Motion to approve the June 5 meeting minutes and the May 9 (teleconference) minutes was made by Commissioner Jeff Anstead, second by Commissioner Faline Locklear-Dial. Motion carried.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Roy Maynor gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS

President Pro Tem Appointee	Daniel Locklear	Absent
Speaker of the House Appointee Lumbee	Faline Locklear-Dial	Present
Coharie	Isabell Freeman Elliott	Absent
Coharie	Charlene Jacobs	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Present
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Sam Lambert	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Marvel Welch	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels	Absent
Guilford Native American Association	G. DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Present
Haliwa-Saponi	Jeffrey Anstead	Present
Haliwa-Saponi	Charles Richardson	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Daniel Jones	Absent
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert	Present
Meherrin	Chassidy Hall	Absent
Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Jessie Jacobs	Present
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries	Absent
Sappony	Dorothy Crowe	Absent
Triangle Native American Society	Brett Locklear	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Shirley Freeman	Present

NCNAYO	Jasmine Jacobs	Absent
NCNAYO	Jeremy Locklear	Absent
NCNACHOE	Toni Henderson	Absent

STATE OFFICIALS

Department of Administration, Bill Daughtridge, Jr, Secretary		Absent
Designee: Bill Bryan		Absent
Employment Security Commission, Sharon Decker, Secretary		
Designee: Dale Folwell		Absent
Department of Health & Human Services, Dr Aldona Wos, Secretary		
Designee: Sherry Bradsher		Present
Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner		
Designee: Tina Morris-Anderson		Present
Department of Environment & Natural Resources, John Skvarla, Secretary		
Designee: Brad Ives		Present
Department of Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, Secretary		
Designee: Steve Claggett		Absent

STAFF

Greg Richardson, Executive Director	Present
Ruth F Maitz, Administrative Secretary	Present
Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development	Present
Stephen Maynor, Community Development	Present
David Grigsby, Program Director, Section 8 Program	Present
Elk Richardson, Program Director, Workforce Investment Act Program	Present
Mickey Locklear, Program Director, Educational Talent Search Program	Present

OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT-University of North Carolina Officials attended the Commission meeting and are on file with the Commission

ETHICS STATEMENT

Greg Richardson read the Ethics Statement on behalf of Vice Chairwoman, Shirley Freeman

WELCOME FROM THE LUMBEE TRIBE

Mr. Tony Hunt, Tribal Administrator and Jan Lowry, Council Member, representing the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina welcomed the Commission to “Lumbee Country”.

WELCOME FROM THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE

Jarrod Lowery, Community Liaison, brought a brief message from the Governor’s Office.

- Governor Pat McCrory wanted to say thank you to all the people of the state and recognize people who do great things within the state
- Policy team would like to have ideas from the Commission membership on Indian related issues
-Open invitation on policy – any issues facing the American Indians with in your communities we are asking the commission to channel that information to him

-He indicated that he has looked at instate tuition for members of American Indian tribes. In his research he found there are 80 out of state students in community colleges, undergraduate, graduate and Doctoral programs within the state system. The Governor's Office believes that if the students come to N.C. for school they will stay.

GREETINGS FROM REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES GRAHAM

Rep. Graham indicated that the legislature is in the short session. Within the legislature there is an American Indian caucus which he chairs. Representative Graham wants the communities to know the caucus is an avenue to use if there is an issue, you must talk with your representative and hold them responsible to the needs of Indian people. Representative Graham explained that when an Indian related issue comes before the Legislature, his fellow legislators confer with him. Rep. Graham impressed on the Commission membership when there are Indian related issues before the Legislature, every commission member needs to talk with their elected officials, via telephone or writing letters. Legislature will begin their long session in January 2015.

Representative Graham acknowledged the hard work being done by Jarrod Lowery and bringing the in state tuition issues to the forefront. This is a topic that needs to be explored, since many American Indians live over the borders South Carolina and Virginia, therefore missing the advantages NC schools have to offer. Commissioner Locklear thought it would be appropriate to bring in outside people, especially those currently working in higher education, not necessarily just the Board of Governors who are not always people working in education, to work with this legislation, since a lot of research has already been done.

Currently the commission does not any legislation before the short session of the General Assembly.

Greg Richardson questioned mentioned HB 1115 "Enhance State Tribe Recognition Process", which gives the commission 30 – 120 days to review and report findings for any group applying for state recognition. If this passes this act becomes effective July 1, 2104. The Commission currently has four (4) groups who have submitted letters of intent; we do not have their petitions, waiting in line to have their petitions reviewed. The Legislators believes that we can process these petitions in less than 1 year. Greg explained with the time limitations set within this bill, July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015, we cannot receive and review all outstanding petitions in one year, with the limited staff and financial resources. He also indicated that a volunteer Recognition Committee cannot devote their time and energy to reviewing the outstanding petitions. He also suggested that the American Indian caucus can educate the Legislators, about the state recognition process. When submitting a petition for Federal recognition, a 10-year waiting period is not unreasonable. He indicated that the Lumbee Tribe has been working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs since the 1800's for federal recognition; the Pamunkey Indian Tribe of Virginia has worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs since 1982 and was not recommended for federal recognition until January of this year!

Representative Graham stated the legislation is very controversial, there are a couple of key leaders and he is not sure this bill will not surface again this session. The Legislators need to hear from Commission members and tribes regarding this bill. Rep. Graham also strongly suggested members of the communities attend the caucus meetings. Rep. Graham is hoping to have further meetings regarding this piece of legislation.

Commissioner Charles Richardson, member of the Recognition Committee, expressed the need for additional finances for the Commission to conduct these meetings.

Representative Graham addressed the additional funding issue for 1 additional staff person, who would devote their time to this issue – he indicated that Representative Paul Stam voted no for the funding and

Seniority overruled the freshman Representative Bob Steinburg voted yes. This bill is being pushed on behalf of the Chowanoke Indian Tribe. Representative Graham explained the legislators who are pushing these bills don't understand and need to be educated. Again, Rep. Graham stressed everyone must reach out to their representatives regarding this issue.

It was noted that the Executive Director of the Commission cannot go to the Legislature, unless requested, because he is a state employee. However, the Commission is represented by Ms. Rhonda Todd, the Department of Administration's, Legislative Liaison. All tribes need to lobby and send letters to their Legislators. According to the Executive Director "There has only been one Indian group, Tuscarora Nation, who sent a letter to Representatives Cleveland and Steinburg expressing their support for the bill. Representative Graham indicated that the power is around this table, what we have here is a non-recognized tribe speaking to the Legislators and all other tribes are not speaking to our Legislators, we need to fix this problem without delay. At the next council meeting your tribes need to agree to write a letter on tribal stationery they are not in favor of this bill and send to the Legislators. The Commission has already done their part in communicating the lack of support. "

Representative Graham said the Indian communities can be very powerful and he encourages everyone to lobby your representative. With this support, Rep. Graham has the power to say "no" when reaching out to the leadership; we should not underestimate this power.

Other topics – *fracking* which affects mother earth, ground water, etc. – Rep. Graham had not heard from anyone in the Indian community; he voted against the bill. *Indian Cultural Center* has been sold, part of the property will be refurbished (south side) into a park, with proceeds going back to parks and recreation. Discussions are being held with Duke Energy, the Governor and the Legislature as to what can be done with the 2-3 ponds on the property. The Robeson County 21 claims they still maintain the title to land. The Attorney General's office is handling the law suit that has been filed, regarding that matter.

INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGE - TRIBAL REPORTS/UPDATES

Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe – Commissioner Shirley Freeman reported the community has a Native American Healing Circle to reach out to young and single mothers. They are having a mini Pow-wow for young people.

Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina – Commissioner Furnie Lambert announced Lumbee homecoming festivities start that will start June 28 – July 6. Events include a Veterans Military Ball, pageants and many more events. Commission will place an entry in the parade. The Pow-Wow was the first weekend in May and was very successful.

Cumberland County Association for Indian People – Commissioner Gladys Hunt reported that the association is serving 30 meals for seniors in the center and 98 home deliveries. The Pow-wow is the second week of October.

Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe – Commissioner Charles Richardson reported that there are Two (2) WW II Veterans among the tribe. Announced that the tribal election for Chief and 3 council members will be coming up and that the Tribal School held its graduation last week.

Triangle Native American Association – Commissioner Brett Locklear announced that the Association will hold its annual community picnic in June.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Greg Richardson, Executive Director presented his report, a copy was included in the meeting packet and is on file with the commission.

Greg extended our thank you to Dr. Bryant and staff for allowing the Commission to use its facility, providing coffee and luncheon, for the June Commission meeting.

Dr. Alfred Bryant, UNCP, and Greg are developing a working relationship between the commission and UNCP that will lead to:

- Indian Youth Conference to being held at UNCP
- Development of an Indian leadership program at UNCP, through the Southeaster Studies program headed by Dr. Bryant.
- Promote UNCP's new athletic department – provide an opportunity to get tribes more engaged in sports program at UNCP and encourage more American Indian Students to attend UNCP

Mr. Richardson announced that Ms. Elizabeth “Qua” Lynch has returned to work with the commission for a second summer, as an intern, while studying at UNC Greensboro for her Master’s Degree. He recognized Mr. Dale Deese, Director of Legal Aid of North Carolina, Pembroke, Office and his summer ****intern, Mr. Christopher Chavis, a Law student from Michigan State University.

Mr. Richardson also announced that the Legal Aid of North Carolina Office Building, in Raleigh has been named in honor of the Julian T. Pierce, Lumbee Attorney and civil right advocate, the first American Indian to have a building named in his honor in the city of Raleigh.

Meeting with Dr. Aldona Wos, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services – Dr. Robin Cummings, Medical Director, has been pointing out disparities within the American Indian communities. Ms. Sherry Bradsher, DHHS designee to the Commission has been helping to identify these disparities. Dr. Wos is committed to make sure that American Indian data and other information is reported correctly to state agencies and to the center for disease control.

Greg reported that Mr. Arnold Richardson received the NC Heritage Award on May 20, 2014. Kim Hammonds, Director of the SUNS and Economic Development Programs was appointed by the Governor’s office to the Minority Health Advisory Council. Elk Richardson was elected vice chair of the Advisory Council of the Workforce Development Council.

Greg reported on the Pocahontas Issue that flared up at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte this quarter. The Office of Greek Life sponsored an event at UNC Charlotte “Disney Dancing with the Princesses,” with a group of non-American Indian girls, in scantily clad outfits, as part of the campus' Greek Week activities. The presentation included a Pocahontas dance in which sorority members dressed in Indian costumes and were painted with "tribal" markings. This issue made the news media and Mr. Richardson travel to UNC Charlotte to meeting with university officials to address this issue. Dr. Arthur Jackson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs offered his apologizes on behalf of the University. In his dialogue with Vice Chancellor Jackson, he agreed to have more exchanges with the American Indian community and consider sponsoring the Youth Conference.

The office has had a new voice mail system installed. We are asking all Commission members to call us within the next 30 days and give us feedback on the system.

After the death of Dr. Maya Angelou, Greg received an e-mail with a picture of Dr. Maya Angelou and Greg together at the head table from the 2003 National Indian Education Conference, held in Greensboro and expressed how much he cherished that photo.

Chairman Revels asked for volunteers to serve on the Environmental Justice Committee. We have had several inquiries about serving as ad hoc members:

- Commissioner Jeff Anstead agreed to serve on the Committee
- Commissioner Jeff Anstead's recommended his daughter, Brittany, a graduate of NC State who studied Environmental Technology and currently is a graduate student with the Office of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan, serve on the committee.
- Missy Brayboy, former Commission employee, volunteered from the audience
- Commissioner Brett Locklear recommended that Dr. Ryan Emmanuel, employee of NC State, serve on the Committee. Commissioner Locklear agreed to speak with Dr. Emmanuel to see if he is willing to serve on the committee
- Commissioner Marvel Welch (who was not in attendance) sent word that she would like to serve on this committee.
- Commissioner Charles Richardson indicated that he would like to serve on the committee.

Advised the commission that a federal court case was filed on April 28, 2014, against the Commission, The plaintiffs' claims that the Robeson 20 still owned the Indian Cultural Center land and the sale of the property to the Lumbee tribe is not legal. Attorney G. Mark Teague filed a motion to dismiss.

Commissioner Marvel Welch is traveling as a support person with this year's "Remember the Removal" riders. There are 19 Cherokee riders ranging in age from 16-53. As we all remember, Commissioner Welch was a rider last year. We are asking for everyone to keep all the participants on the 950 mile ride to Oklahoma in their thoughts and prayers.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS' QUARTERLY REPORTS

Quarterly reports from our program directors were included in the packet.

WELCOMING REMARKS FROM UNC-PEMBROKE

Dr. Zoe Locklear, Dean of the School of Education, spoke on behalf of the University. Dr. Locklear's message - what a pleasure and how honored everyone in the UNCP family feels with your visit and hopes we will make this an annual event.

A brief overview of Dr. Locklear's career:

- Joins the UNCP faculty in 1988
- 1999 was named the first Dean of the School of Education
- 2002 Dr. Locklear left UNCP to pursue other career opportunities
- 2004 Dr. Locklear returns to UNCP to teach and direct the Master of School Administration
- 2005 Dr. Locklear is named for the second time Dean of the School of Education, leading the successful reaccreditation with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

Dr. Locklear introduced Dr. Alfred Bryant, Associate Dean School of Education and Director of the Southeastern American Indian Studies Program. In 2012, Dr. Bryant was the founding director of the Southeastern American Indian Studies (SAIS) program at UNCP. Dr. Bryant splits his time 50-50 between the School of Education and Southeastern American Indian Studies.

Dr. Bryant continued with introductions:

Dr. Mary Ann Jacobs, Chair, American Indian Studies – the program seeks to educate students about the rich diversity of American Indian histories, cultures. Scholars come to Old Main to learn, research who they are, and knowing the value of studying their own people. The AIS program attract nationally and worldwide scholars as speakers and researchers.

Dr. Stanley Knick, Director, Native American Resource Center – Currently Dr. Knick is involved with video ethnographic project of North American Indians. Although Dr. Knick is not an American Indian his

teachings and interests are all about Native American health, art, culture in North Carolina and globally. Dr. Knick extended an invitation to the Commission to visit Old Main, while in Pembroke. Commissioner Brett Locklear asked if the 2 video interviews with the Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe have been completed. Commissioner Elton Ray Jacobs has communicated with the tribe several times, trying to impress upon the tribe to move forward with the interviews and to bring the project to completion. Dr. Zoe Locklear commented the public schools are clamoring for this information; therefore, the project should be completed as soon as possible.

Mr. Ben Miller, UNCP Head Basketball Coach – The athletic department has a special, unique interest in students when study here. Dick Christy, who has a nationally known reputation in men’s and women’s basketball has lead the athletic department since 2013. Mr. Miller extended an invitation to return to the campus and encourage upcoming college students to take advantage of UNCP’s education and athletic programs.

Chancellor Kyle Carter dropped in following his Board of Trustee meeting, to welcome the Commission to UNCP. Chancellor Carter said they were assessing budgetary and the political environment and what direction UNCP will be heading in the future. He further invited the Commission membership to the Chancellors dining room for lunch and apologized for not being able to stay for the entire meeting and having to return to the Trustees meeting.

Commissioner Maynor was asked to offer the blessing of the lunch. The membership retired to the Chancellor’s dining room for lunch.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2014 Legislative Agenda – Roy Maynor, Chairman

The Chairman announce that the did not meet this quarter, however, he announced that the Commission members will need to submit items for the 2015 Legislative Agenda, by the December Commission meeting.

Enhance State Recognition Process Legislation

Commissioner Brett Locklear stated we need to act to on the Enhance State Recognition Process Legislation; he indicated that a resolution was adopted during the March meeting in opposition to that legislation. Mr. Locklear questioned whether that information had been forwarded to the General Assembly. Greg Richardson indicated that no information regarding that matter was sent to the General Assembly, because the Department’s legislative liaison was handling that matter. The Liaison has been working with Judiciary Committee regarding this legislation and advised that the bill was placed on hold. Commissioner Larece Hunt made a motion to oppose this legislation, recommended letters be sent to legislators in opposition, seconded by Charlene Jacobs. Motion carried.

Chowanoke Nation Recognition-Legislation

The above legislation has replaced the Chowanoke Nation Recognition legislation and no further action has been taken by the General Assembly to grant recognition to the Chowanoke Nation.

AdHoc Land Trust & Veterans –Furnie Lambert, Chairman

The chairman reminded everyone of the significance of June 6, 2014. He indicated that today is the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. There were 23,000 American killed and buried, 14,000 bodies were exhumed and brought home. Eighteen veterans traveled to Washington, D.C. to the Vietnam Veteran’s and World War II memorials. They group visited the U.S. Marine Corp War Memorial - Iwo Jima monument; and toured the museum in Quantico, VA.

The Lumbee Warrior's Ball will be held June 28, all proceeds will benefit children of veterans. Eric Oxendine will be the speaker.

Commissioner Lambert would like to have any names, tribes or members who would like to participate in the Color Guard procession for the Unity Conference.

Services provided through the Veteran's Administration – Commissioner Larece Hunt was aware of delays in the services. Commissioner Lambert uses the Fayetteville VA and has only experienced problems with the eye doctor. Jarrod Lowery, Office of the Governor, indicated that the state has set up a tip hotline for veterans 1-844-NC 4 VETS. Elk Richardson said through the WIA program veterans have priority services,

Land Trust – A meeting was held in April, the committee voted to adopt the Land Trust Agreement.

Commissioner W D Baucom asked what the purpose and benefit of the Land Trust Agreement.

Commissioner Lambert explained:

- The Land-In-Trust agreement started in 2009 with the Commission
- No ownership change
- Property can be taken out at anytime
- Historical for the tribe and Commission, this is the first Land In Trust Agreement to be completed
- Tribe can go to County tax office, may get tax relief
- Does not apply to federally recognized tribes

Commissioner Anstead asked what does the Land in Trust do. Greg Richardson responded it is another level of protection for tribal property and can buffer against major claim, certain grants require land-in-trust agreements.

The Land Trust Agreement will go to thru the proper government to government committees/commissions for final approval. Commissioner Freeman asked for a motion. Commissioner Baucom made a motion to approve the Land-In-Trust agreement, motion second Commissioner Charles Richardson. Motion carried.

Commissioner Locklear would have liked to have documentation earlier to review since our attorney wrote the document.

Celeste Hunt, Vocational Rehabilitation Program Director, Lumbee Tribe, briefed the commission on her program and explained a vocational rehabilitation grant for state tribes helps maintain employment/education for people who cannot go to college because of learning disabilities. With this program their quality/quantity of life will improve.

Indian Education – In the absence of Dorothy Crowe, Mickey Locklear, NCCIA staff member, gave an update on the work of the Education Committee. She gave an update on proposed SACIE legislation – the education committee did not want changes to the draft. The committee had two (2) teleconferences and never had a quorum to say they did not support this bill. Representative Graham's opinion was this legislation would not pass. Commissioners Gladys Hunt and Charles Richardson were not informed of these meetings.

NCNAYO Conference, being held June 17-20, 2014, will have workshops regarding domestic violence prevention, Pow-wow etiquette among many topics. Mickey Locklear thought some students are unable to attend the conference due to lack of funding. For next year, Mickey would like to have some sponsors nabling these students to participate.

Commissioner Brett Locklear stated he has asked in the past to be placed on the Indian Education Committee and never has had a response.

Indian Housing – the Red Springs development is underway.

Indian Child Welfare – Sherry Bradsher, co-chairman, had two items, create a video to promote foster parenting for Indian families and the gathering of the Lumbee Tribe in Robeson County area.

Recognition – Larece Hunt Chairman reported that an all-day workshop led by Anita Finger-Smith, Genealogist, was held at the Commission on May 22. The next meeting will be held July 29 at the same location and the committee hopes to start framing their recommendations to the Commission with regards to the recognition of the Tuscarora Nation’s petition for state recognition.

Greg Richardson asked if every tribe had sent in a letter of support for the Meherrin Federal Recognition. Commission members indicated that their tribe have already sent letters or is in the process of doing so.

Cultural Resources – No report

Employment & Training – No report

Adhoc Indian Health – See the Executive Director’s report regarding the meeting with Dr. Aldona Wos.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Burnette, Guildford Native American Association has a community garden project that is continuing this year. All proceeds from the garden will be distributed in the community. Their Pow-wow will be Sep 21, 2014 and an Arts & Crafts display at the Art Gallery in Greensboro.

Commissioner Brett Locklear, Triangle Native American Association reported the American Indian college students are working/mentoring high school students. The plans for another American Indian Summit are being discussed.

The Indian Heritage Month Celebration will be November 22, 2014 in Raleigh.

FLOWER FUND

Previous balance: \$629.39

Deposit: \$96.00

Expenditures: \$75.00 (award for Paul Brooks)

Maintenance Fees: \$20.00

Current balance: \$630.39

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Sep 5, 2014 – Annual Meeting, NCAE Building, Raleigh

Dec 5, 2014 – Location TBA

Respectfully submitted

Faline Locklear-Dial, Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the June 19th Conference Call

**NC Commission of Indian Affairs
Special meeting by Teleconference
Minutes
June 19, 2014
10:00 am**

This special meeting was called for the purpose of considering a federal recognition matter from the Meherrin Indian tribe. Specifically, the tribe requested a letter of support from the Meherrin Indian Tribe regarding the tribe's efforts to gain federal recognition. Additionally, this business item was a carryover item from the June 6 Commission meeting.

Charles Richardson requested additional information and asked who the letter was coming from. Greg Richardson indicated that the letter was from Chief Wayne Brown of the Meherrin Indian tribe. Commissioner Richardson indicated that he supports the Letter of Support as a Commission member. The Executive Director indicated that the Commission should support the tribe and its request. g Chairperson Revels agreed with Greg stating we need to support all tribes/organizations. Commissioner Charlene Jacobs asked if this item was discussed at the Jun 6 Commission meeting. The response was yes, but that some tribes needed additional time to address the request. Due to illness in the family Charlene was not able to attend the Jun 6 meeting and has not taken this item to the Coharie Tribe for a decision.

Commissioner Larece Hunt stated the Lumbee Tribal meeting was tonight, (June 19th); therefore no official decision had been made; although he knew there was some apprehension on their part. Commissioner Hunt supports the Commission issuing a Letter of Support. During the discussion Commission members agreed that the commission represents all tribes/organizations, a Commission member is not going against their tribe with their vote, but feels it is the right thing for the Commission to do as far a supporting a tribes bid for federal recognition. Commissioner Shirley Freeman thought there had been enough discussion on the matter and stated we need to support the Meherrin tribe request for a letter of support.

Commissioner Brett Locklear made a motion for the Commission of Indian Affairs to support the Meherrin tribe's effort to gain federal recognition and do so by way of a letter of support. Commissioner Shirley Freeman seconded and motion carried.

The Executive Director indicated that he would mail the letter immediately following the conference call as the deadline for the Letter of Support is June 30, 2014.

Respectfully submitted

Faline Locklear-Dial, Secretary-Treasurer