



“Celebrating over 40 years of Advocacy”



NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Sept 4, 2015

North Carolina Association of Educators Building
700 South Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

WELCOME: Ruth Revels, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. with a quorum being present. She acknowledged and welcomed all Commission Members, Tribal Leaders, Chiefs, State Officials, and guests present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Commissioner Charles Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert. Motion carried.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Shirley Freeman, Vice Chairwoman recited the invocation prayer. Commission members and community members that are currently ill were remembered during the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Jeff Anstead led the membership and guests in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS

President Pro Tem Appointee	Daniel Locklear	Present
Speaker of the House Appointee	Wanda Burns-Ramsey	Absent
Coharie	Isabell Freeman-Elliott	Present
Coharie	Charlene Jacobs	Absent
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Roy Maynor	Present
Cumberland County Association for Indian People	Gladys Hunt	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Sam Lambert	Absent
Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation	Marvel Welch	Present
Guilford Native American Association	Ruth Revels	Present
Guilford Native American Association	G. DeVane Burnette, Sr.	Absent
Haliwa Saponi	Jeffrey Anstead	Present
Haliwa Saponi	Charles (Pete) Richardson	Present
Lumbee	Larece Hunt	Present
Lumbee	Daniel Jones	Present
Lumbee	Furnie Lambert	Present
Meherrin	Constance Mitchell	Present

ROLL CALL



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MEMBERS (Continued)

Metrolina Native American Association	Walter D. Baucom	Present
Metrolina Native American Association	Jessie Jacobs	Present
Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation	Sharn Jeffries	Present
Sappony	Dorothy Crowe	Present
Triangle Native American Society	Lana Dial	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Elton R. Jacobs	Present
Waccamaw Siouan	Shirley Freeman	Present

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

NCNAYO	Halona Benjamin	Present
NCNACOHE	Toni Hendeson	Absent

STATE OFFICIALS

Department of Administration, Bill Daughtridge, Jr., Secretary		Absent
Designee: Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary		Present
Employment Security Commission, John E. Skvaria, III		
Designee: Dale Folwell		Absent
Department of Cultural Resources, Steven Claggett		Present
Department of Environment & Natural Resources, Donald R. van der Vaart		Absent
Department of Health & Human Services, Dr. Aldona Vos, Secretary		
Designee: Sherry Bradsher		Present
Department of Labor, Cherie Berry, Commissioner		
Designee: Tina Morris Anderson		Absent

STAFF PRESENT

- Greg Richardson, Executive Director
- Kimberly Hammonds, Program Director, Economic Development
- Stephen Maynor, Community Development
- Elk Richardson, Program Director, Workforce Investment Act Program
- David Grigsby, Program Director, Section 8 Housing Program
- Celena McBryde, Program Assistant for Section 8 Housing Program
- Sonya McIver, Program Assistant for Section 8 Housing Program
- Nancy Richardson, Temporary Staff for Low Income Energy Assistance Program
- Daphne Pinto, Administrative Secretary

OTHER STATE OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mark Teague, Attorney, NC Department of Justice

OTHERS PRESENT: List on file with the Commission

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY: This item was moved to later.

INTRODUCTIONS: Chairwoman Revels requested that everyone present introduce themselves. Commission members and guests present introduced themselves to the attendees, followed by a staff introduction.



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Mr. Greg Richardson acknowledged Chief Leon Locklear from Tuscarora Nation Bear Clan. He acknowledged Ms. Qua Lynch, UNC Chapel Hill and noted that she was a former Gates Millennium student. He also acknowledged Ms. Halona Benjamin, NC Native American Youth Organization. He indicated that they were role models for other Native American students.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of the deceased UNC junior Faith Hedgpeth who was brutally murdered on September 7, 2012.

PRESENTATION OF STAFF SERVICE AWARDS: This item was moved forward.

Chairwomen Ruth Revels and Deputy Secretary Bill Bryan recognized the years of service and presented the awards to the following Commission of Indian Affairs staff members:

- Greg Richardson (35 years of service)
- Steve Maynor (2 years of service)
- Sonya McIver (10 years of service)

The following staff were unable to attend:

- Ms. Mickey Locklear (20 years of service)
- Latesha Middleton (10 years of service)
- Consuela Richardson (10 years of service)

READING OF ETHICS STATEMENT: Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, N. C. Commission of Indian Affairs, read the Ethics Statement, on behalf of Chairwoman Revels. He charged the Commission Members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest that may exist for agenda items being considered by the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

INFORMATION ITEM:

DIVISION UPDATE: Mr. Greg Richardson, Executive Director, NC Commission of Indian Affairs presented the division report as follows:

- **Budget Update:** The NC General Assembly has not adopted a state budget. However, it did adopt a continuing resolution to keep the state operating, until such time as a budget is adopted for 2016. The division is operating on the previous year's budget.
- **National Youth Unity Conference, July 2015:** The Talent Search Program sponsored 24 students from Columbus, Cumberland, Halifax and Robeson counties to attend the 2015 National Youth Unity Conference in Washington, DC. The students participated in the first White House Tribal Youth Gathering, which was held in conjunction with the National Unity Conference.

Mr. Richardson announced the arrival of Justice Robert Edmunds and noted that he will continue his report after the swearing-in ceremony.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY: Chairwoman Ruth Revels introduced Justice Robert Edmunds, Supreme Court Justice. The Honorable Justice Edmunds administered the swearing-in ceremony. The following new and returning Commission members were sworn-in under the “Oath of Honor” promising to serve the people of North Carolina:

- Elton Ray Jacobs, Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe



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- Daniel Jones, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
- Roy Maynor, Cumberland County Association of Indian People
- Charles P. Richardson, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe
- Walter David (WD) Baucom, Metrolina Native American Association
- Lana Dial, Triangle Native American Association.

The following Commission members were absent for the swearing-in ceremony:

- Charlene Jacobs, Coharie Indian Tribe
- Sam Lambert, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Photo session/ Recognition of new and returning members: Commission members took group pictures.

Chairwoman Revels and Mr. Greg Richardson thanked Justice Robert Edmunds. Chairwoman Revels congratulated the new and returning Commission members on their commitment to serve the people for another term.

It was noted that Commission members consists of Tribal representatives (recommended by their tribes) and Urban representatives (recommended by Urban communities). The Chair is appointed by the Governor and two other members are appointed by the General Assembly. The Commission was established in 1971.

INFORMATION ITEMS

DIVISION UPDATE (CONTINUED)

Mr. Greg Richardson reported on the following:

- **National Youth Unity Conference:** Ms. Halona Benjamin, NC Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO) was announced as a role model for the Native American youth both as a student and as a young professional at the University of NC at Chapel Hill.

Ms. Benjamin thanked the Commission for sponsoring their trip to attend the 2015 National Youth Unity Conference in Washington, DC on behalf of the NCNAYO. In July, she was accepted by Generation Indigenous and was able to attend the first White House Tribal Youth Gathering, Washington, DC, which was held in conjunction with the Unity Conference. Ms. Benjamin was selected as the South East Representative and Earth Ambassador. She made note that as a Representative she will travel, vote and discuss ideas on behalf of the youth. As the Earth Ambassador she will do her very best to protect the land and the environment. She expressed that it was important not loose sight of the traditions and natural resources. She indicated that she will be true to her title and responsibilities with every decision she makes. She concluded that she was honored to serve and was looking forward to more leadership roles to better represent her people in a positive way.

Mr. Richardson acknowledged former staff member Consuela Richardson, Counselor for the Education Talent Search Program. She was named “Advisor of the Year” during the conference.

Mr. Richardson indicated that there were 3000 students that attended the conference. He complimented their level of engagement.

It was recommended that the Tribes and Organizations need to establish youth council in each of the communities. He gave an example of the Coharie people organizing a garden project. The



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funding for the “Youth Council” project was discussed. Two youth counsels will be assigned to conduct leadership sessions and get the youth involved. He asked Commission members to select two youth members from their community that would fit into leadership roles. He expressed that they could represent their tribes in the 2016 National Youth Unity Conference.

- **Parish Place Housing Development, Red Springs, NC:** This is a project based Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Development in collaboration between NC Indian Housing Authority and DOA/NC Commission of Indian Affairs. A ribbon cutting ceremony is slated for later this month. Blue prints of the projects were displayed for Commission members to review. A site visit was conducted on August 19th to review progress on the development. Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary-DOA, John M. McNeil, Mayor of Red Springs, Murry Mckeithan, Town Commissioner, Thurman Lowery, Chairman of the NC Indian Housing Authority, James Bennet, Town Manager, David Grigsby, Program Director for Section 8 Housing Program and Greg Richardson were in attendance. It was noted that they were very impressed with the quality of the homes.

Mr. Grigsby indicated that the project is being completed and four of the Section 8 families will be moving into their homes in September and the remaining four will move in this fall. The newly built units are 1, 2, and 3 bedroom homes. The community is in need of new houses. The program is leveraging funds from the Indian Housing Authority and for HUD to increase the quality of housing. The program is trying to replicate the project in Warrington and Oxford. He concluded that these projects can enhance the life of the community. Mr. Grigsby indicated that the program is looking into developing a similar project in Clinton where areas need to be redeveloped. He referred to a Waccamaw land where housing is set aside for homeless members in the community, giving them support services to turn their lives around to transfer out of the government assistance.

Mr. Greg Richardson expressed that some of the existing housing units have deteriorated. It was noted that in Warren, Columbus and Sampson counties builders are not building in these areas, due to lack of investment returns. He added that developers are building in the cities. He pointed out that the rural communities have not been able to tap into the resources and concluded that a project like this will create new housing units.

- **2015 Indian Child Welfare Gathering and Conference:** The event will be held on November 5th at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.
- **Lumbee Homecoming Celebration:** The Commission participated in this event held in Pembroke on July 4th. The Commission had a vehicle in the parade. The event was very well attended.
- **NCVIP Work Plan:** The employees have completed the Phase I of the work plan.
- **Meherrin Indian Tribe Petition for Federal Recognition:** The division has received a letter dated August 3, 2015 from the US Department of Interior Office of Federal Acknowledgement indicating that the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs has extended the time period for a review of the Tribe’s petition for a period of 90 days, until October 27, 2015. The initial deadline was July 29, 2015.
- **Employee Injury Accident:** The employee was involved in an automobile accident on July 10, 2015 while on duty in Sampson County. The employee received minor injuries and was out of work for a week. The state vehicle operated by the employee received minor damage and is being repaired.



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- **Webpage Design Update:** The Department of Administration will be migrating to a new website. The Public Information Office is overseeing the design and layout for the new updated website through an outside firm. The rollout of the new webpage will be launched soon.
- **2020 US Census Collaboration:** The US Census Bureau has contacted the Commission and requested assistance regarding the input on race and ethnicity from state recognized and non-recognized tribes. A research project will be conducted in preparation for the 2020 US Census.
- **Personnel Update:** Mr. Greg Richardson announced the following:
 - DV/SA Grant, full time position
 - FVPSA Grant, part time position
 - Education Talent Search Program has two vacancies. (a) Counselor position to cover schools in Halifax, Sampson, and Warren Counties; (b) Counselor position to cover Hoke County Schools. This position has been filled. It was noted that the recruitment was done through Temporary Solutions.
- **Staff Quarterly Reports:** The handouts were enclosed in the meeting packets.
- **Legislation Tracking:** Highlights of the legislation tracking activities regarding “American Indians” are listed on the handout. The details include the bill number, description and dates.

The handout is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

OVERVIEW OF NEW COMMISSION GRANT: Ms. Carly Crim, Grant Writer, NC DOA reported on the following.

- **DV/SA Grant:** The Commission was awarded a Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Grant (DV/SA Grant) from the Governor’s Crime Commission. The Commission was awarded \$120,000 for a period of two years. The objective is to build community capacity among five tribes and to be able to support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The tribes highlighted were Coharie, Haliwa Saponi, Meherrin, Sappony and Waccamaw Siouan. Each tribe will have a volunteer or staff member that will receive training from the collation of DV/SA. They will also work with existing county agencies and law enforcement agencies to provide live support to victims in their communities. They will teach and educate them about the specific unique needs/ sensitive issues related to American Indian victims related to their circumstances. It was noted that the Commission of Indian Affairs will appoint a program coordinator to oversee and provide training and support to the communities. Funds will be allocated for travel and training to the tribes, in order to encourage training in the communities.
- **FVPSA Grant:** The Commission was awarded a Family Violence Prevention and Services Act program (FVPSA) from the NC Council for Women. The Commission was awarded \$20,000 for a period of one year, to be renewed annually. This funding will supplement the Governor’s Crime Commission. The money will be used to purchase iPads for each members of the tribes that have volunteered to be advocates. The iPads will be used to provide training and services while out in the field. The balance of the funding will be used to provide a stipend for the five part-time tribal staff advocates.
- **Future Grants:** The future grant funding was discussed such as Family Self Sufficiency Grant, Volunteer Income Tax Assistant Grant, AmeriCorps Grant, Fathers in Communities Grant (for financial training and job training skills), etc.
- **Eligibility Issues:** Ms. Crim concluded her presentation that she is exploring the eligibility issues that may increase the number of grants the Commission can apply.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

- Questions were asked about finding other resources or sustainability for the programs.
- Ms. Crim responded that she is constantly researching new grant opportunity besides writing grants. She indicated that the FVPSA grant is a sustainability fund.



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- Commission members requested Ms. Crim to provide her presentation electronically so they can share with the members of their tribes.
- Clarification on Family Self Sufficiency was asked. It was noted that this was a sub-section of the Section 8 Housing Program. The staff works with the selected families that sign a contract confirming to go to community colleges to obtain their degrees/certificates and increase their knowledge on budgeting skills on how to increase their credit scores. The graduates escrow out with the intention that they no longer need public assistance. Mr. Grigsby indicated that one of the issues of Section 8 Housing program is that the recipient has no knowledge of how to exit out of the program. He noted that the Family Self Sufficiency Grant will enable people to relegate out of the system.
- Mr. Grigsby explained what the word “escrow” means. He explained that when a recipient in Section 8 Housing program gets a job their food stamp allotment goes down, child care and Section 8 Housing assistance goes down as well. With Family Self Sufficiency the increase in the allotment goes into the escrow account, graduates might get approximately \$5,000 to \$10, 000 to set up their business. He gave examples: A graduate from culinary background can get funding to set up a bakery; welding certificate can get the funds to buy a welding tool, etc.
- A pilot program is being conducted in Sampson County. The funding is for the volunteer coordinator to implement the program. It was noted that the pilot program in the long term will help strengthen the application program in all of the counties when implemented. The grant application this year was due in June-July 2016. Next year the grant application will be eligible for all the Section 8 Program counties to get assistance in regards to transferring out of dependency.
- Clarification on why Sampson County was selected. Mr. Grigsby noted that it is the largest county and there is a Section 8 Housing Program office in Sampson County with the Workforce Investment Counselor located in the same office.
- Clarification on AmeriCorps Grant was asked. Ms. Crim responded that the grant would allocate funding to hire a person to volunteer as agent to work on projects specific to Section 8 Housing program and get a stipend. Example: Where a number of Native Indian seniors who are on Medicare and are eligible for Medicaid as supplemental insurance. Hiring someone to work with Native Indian Seniors to help them navigate the system to sign up for Medicaid as their supplement insurance.
- Commission members requested Ms. Crim to provide the information on Americorps Grant electronically so they can share with the members of their tribes. She noted that she will disseminate the information requested to Mr. Greg Richardson.
- Ms. Crim indicated that the only applicants’ eligible for the grant is the state and federal recognized Tribes.
- Mr. Grigsby also expressed that with the funding will provide for an “energy audit” on the existing housing where conditions seem to be deteriorating.
- Clarification on following policies and procedures was asked. Ms. Crim and Mr. Greg Richardson confirmed that the Commission of Indian Affairs through Section 8 Housing program ensures that the policies and procedures are adhered.
- Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that he will disseminate the information requested on how the program will be implemented, its purpose and kind of services that will be provided. Commission members can then share with the Tribes and Organizations.
- Mr. Greg Richardson thanked Secretary Bill Daughtridge and Deputy Secretary Bill Bryan for hiring a professional grant writer. He noted that it is helpful to have someone knowledgeable to be able to write grants to seek out additional funding.
- After lengthy discussion regarding the new grants, Chairwoman Revels recommended that Urban Indian Organizations need to be included in the training, services and information/resources



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process regardless of funding eligibility. She indicated that *all* the Tribes and Organizations need to be included.

- Chairwoman Revels thanked Ms. Crim for her presentation.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED NOT ON THE AGENDA

Education Talent Search Program: Commission members expressed concerns as follows.

- Commission members sought clarification on temporary employees for Education Talent Search Program. Mr. Greg Richardson responded that the decision was made based on economy purposes and funding availability. The current rule in DOA is that if a position remains vacant for more than one year then it can be abolished. He pointed out that this discussion was reviewed with Ms. Mickey Locklear, Program Director that she could lose the positions but not the funding. She is aware of the potential risk in hiring temporary employees.
- Commission members suggested hiring a full time employee and have them travel back and forth or sub-contract it locally in the particular county.
- Mr. Greg Richardson noted that the time was a factor. The counselor's need to be able to get to the schools in a timely manner during school hours. The counties are widespread, traffic time and commute played a factor in the decision to hire temporary staff. Hiring part time employees for this program has proven to be efficient. The state is also looking at efficiency.
- Mr. Greg Richardson indicated that the Education Talent Search Program is due for renewal in December 2015. All of the above concerns will be taken into consideration. He informed Ms. Mickey that hiring a full time employee in these positions will eliminate all the concerns.

GUEST SPEAKER:

American Indian Heritage Celebration: The event will be held on November 21, 2015 at the NC Museum of History, Raleigh, NC. Ms. Emily Grant, NC Museum of History shared information on the event. This will be the 20th Annual American Indian Heritage Celebration. She indicated that the event was very well attended over the years as many as 10,000 people. Musicians, dancers, artists, storytellers and authors from North Carolina's eight state-recognized tribes will gather for this popular family event. With something for all ages, the celebration is a firsthand opportunity to learn about the state's Indian culture, past and present. Activities will include craft demonstrations, hands-on activities, games, food and much more.

Ms. Grant informed that an "Education Program to Celebrate National American Indian Heritage Month!" is included for school groups (Grades K-12) on the Friday, November 20, 2015 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.). Space is limited; registration forms are due by November 1, 2015.

For more information, visit ncmuseumofhistory.org or call 919-807-7900. The website link is as follows:
<http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/News-Events/Festivals>

Posters and handouts for the event were made available. Chairwoman Revels informed members to take a few to distribute in their communities.

ACTION ITEMS:

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE MEETING MINUTES: The minutes from the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs meeting held on June 5, 2015, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Furnie Lambert and seconded by Commissioner Jeff Anstead. Motion carried.



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APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS: Chairwoman Revels announced that there were two officers due for appointment/re-election as follows:

Chairwoman indicated that currently Ms. Shirley Freeman is the Vice Chair and Wanda Burns-Ramsey is the Secretary Treasurer.

Nomination of the Vice Chair: Chairwoman opened the floor for the nomination process. Ms. Shirley Freeman’s nomination was accepted by acclamation with a motion from Commissioner Larece Hunt and seconded by Commissioner Roy Maynor. Motion carried.

Nomination of Secretary Treasurer: Chairwoman opened the floor for the nomination process. The motion to nominate Ms. Isabell Freeman-Elliott for Secretary Treasurer was made by Commissioner Jeffery Anstead. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marvel Welch. Motion carried.

The motion to nominate Ms. Wanda Burns-Ramsey for Secretary Treasurer was made by Commissioner Roy Maynor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert. Motion Carried.

With there being no further request for the nominations, Commissioner Shirley Freeman made a motion to close all the nominations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Larece Hunt. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairwoman Revels announced that Ms. Shirley Freeman was nominated for the Vice Chair position through acclamation and there were two nominees for the Secretary Treasurer position. She informed the Commission that in order to save time she would not have a secret ballot.

Commissioner Jeffrey Anstead asked a clarifying question if the person needed to be present during the nomination process. Chairwoman Revels indicated that the person is not needed to be present during the nomination process. She expressed that Ms. Wanda Burns-Ramsey informed her that she could not attend the meeting and clearly indicated that she would accept the decision of the Commission.

Chairwoman Revels requested Ms. Isabell Freeman-Elliott to step out of the room during the voting process.

Chairwoman Revels announced for a motion to raise hands if they were in favor of Ms. Wanda Burns-Ramsey for the Secretary Treasurer’s position. Total count 10.

Chairwoman Revels announced for a motion to raise hands if they were in favor of Ms. Isabell Freeman-Elliott for the Secretary Treasurer’s position. Total count 7 (the total count included Ms. Elliott voting for herself).

With the count being 7 to 10, Chairwoman Revels announced that Ms. Wanda Burns-Ramsey will be the reappointed as the new Secretary Treasurer for another term.

Chairwoman Ruth Revels congratulated the new nominees.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED NOT ON THE AGENDA

Recognition of Mr. Danny Bell: Chairwoman Revels recognized the years of service as follows: She indicated that Mr. Danny Bell worked with the Commission for 14 years and moved to work with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for 27 years. Chairwoman Revels indicated that Mr. Bell has retired with a total of 41 years of service. She thanked him for his dedication to the Commission, Indian students and all the Native Indian people.



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Mr. Bell thanked Commission members for the privilege to be part of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs. He expressed that he will stay involved in the “cultural resources” and with the “American Indian students in higher education”.

Chairwoman Revels requested Commissioner Roy Maynor to bless the food for the Commission.

Chairwoman Revels announced a short recess for lunch.

Lunch break, meeting reconvened at 1:05 p.m. (working lunch).

AGENDA ITEMS CONTINUED

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Access to Recovery Program Overview: Mr. Tony V. Locklear, Coordinator for the NC Access to Recovery Program (NCATR) presented the following:

- NC Access to Recovery (NC ATR): This is a voucher program that extends the services and availability of providers in the state of North Carolina. The program provides treatment and recovery support services through the use of grant funds so participants can choose their services and providers freely and independently. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA-CSAT) awarded the ATR three-year grant to the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DMHDDAS) in October 2014. The Division is contracting with Recovery Communities of North Carolina to implement this initiative.
- NC ATR Recovery Services: Staff and partners help in creating a personalized recovery plan. Individuals can choose the services and providers they want to support their recovery. NC ATR may pay for the services with a voucher. The voucher works much like a gift certificate. He noted that recovery is a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live self-directed lives, and strive to reach their full potential.
- Enrollment details were discussed. The program is for 18 years and older. Must be a resident of North Carolina. The NC ATR program is available in Wake, Durham, Johnston, and Robeson Counties and has the potential to expand.
- Mr. Locklear discussed the overview of the programs that were available.
- Handouts were provided.
- The Recovery Communities of North Carolina website link is <http://www.RCNC.org>
- Commission members asked clarifying questions as to how individuals get referred to the program.
- Mr. Locklear indicated that referrals were made through word of mouth, DHHS, Social Services, and churches.
- Suggestion was made to support the program with regards to the treatment of drugs/substance abuse.
- Mr. Greg Richardson asked the following: How can the Commission support the NC ATR program? Are there any partnership opportunities?
- Mr. Locklear responded working with DHHS and help with additional funds and community readiness. He noted that prescription drug abuse in the communities was a growing problem.
- Chairwoman Revels suggested that Mr. Locklear could meet with Commission members and discuss in depth information about the program and how the community can learn about this program and implement community training.



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- Suggestion was made for Mr. Locklear to attend the Indian Child Welfare Event in Pembroke, Unity Conference and other such events.
- Chairwoman Ruth Revels and Vice Chair Shirley Freeman thanked Mr. Tony Locklear for his presentation.
- Mr. Greg Richardson requested Mr. Steven Maynor, Program Director for Low Income Energy Assistance Program to coordinate a meeting with Mr. Locklear and himself to explore additional funding and how the Commission can support Mr. Locklear’s efforts. He noted that the Education Talent Search Program has over 250 Native Indian students Grade 12. Section 8 Program in Hoke, Columbus, and Warren Counties already in the NC ATR service area could make use of the services. He noted that the Commission could collaborate with NC ATR and provide services to the Native Indian Communities and with individuals that have been diagnosed with a Substance Abuse Disorder. He suggested contacting DHHS and to seek additional funding to reach out to all the Native Indian Communities across the state.
- Mr. Locklear noted that the program has been there for 20 years and this was the last cycle left.
- Ms. Sherry Bradsher, DHHS representative indicated that the program has three years left for this grant and is a complex one. She suggested that the DOA grant writer could help with the initial process in writing the grant. She noted that with the success stories the program could be extended to a larger scale.

OTHER ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA

Commission Members Resignation: Commissioner Devan Burnette is sick and suffering with leukemia. Chairwoman noted that the Commission received a letter dated August 28, 2015 from the Guilford Native American Association stating that Mr. Burnette could no longer serve on the Commission due to health reasons. Chairwoman Revels announced his resignation and asked the Commission to keep him in their thoughts and prayers.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: This item was moved to later.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adhoc Indian Health Committee: No report was noted.

Adhoc Land Trust: No report was noted. Commissioner Furnie Lambert made a motion to remove the Adhoc Land Trust Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Charles Richardson. Motion carried.

Adhoc Veterans Committee: Commissioner Furnie Lambert gave a brief report on Veterans claims. No handout was provided.

Culture Resources Committee: Commissioner Jeff Anstead gave a brief report on the following:
Statement: Commissioner Anstead read the statement. No handout was provided. A recommendation was made to present the statement for adoption at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Anstead discussed the preservation of the following sites:

Town Creek Indian Mound – It was noted that a County Representative would attend the December meeting to report on the status of the maintenance of the landscape. Chairwoman Revels asked Mr. Steve Claggett, NC Cultural Resources to look into to the upkeep of the historic site. Suggestions were made for the Cultural Resources Committee to take a field trip. It was noted that the Commission of Indian Affairs does not have the resources to fund the site visit.



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Fort Neoheroke: Fort Neoheroke received world-wide attention. *It was the largest massacre of Native Americans in the contiguous United States of America.* As part of the commemorative, Tuscarora from New York came together with numerous Tuscarora who had remained behind in their original homeland. The siege of Neoheroke, which occurred in March of 1713, was led by Colonel James Moore. The siege of Neoheroke marked the culmination of the Tuscarora War. Although many Tuscarora relocated to upstate New York, others moved into other areas of present day North Carolina.

This is the last site and the last foot hole. Concerns with regards to the burial remains as to how it can be preserved and protected were discussed. The remains are currently in mass graves at Fort Neoheroke. It was noted that Dr. Larry Tise, East Carolina University would present an update on the resolution of the Fort Neoheroke site at the next Commission meeting in December.

Commissioner Anstead suggested Commission members could make a motion to approve the location at the end of his report.

Nikwasi Indian Mound: This site is located in the Town of Franklin in Macon County (Eastern Band Cherokee Territory). Mr. Greg Richardson discussed how the burial site was neglected at first and now the town has maintained it and the landscape around the mound is beautiful. He noted that the Eastern Band Cherokee People brought awareness to this historic site and it is currently well maintained.

Markers/Committee Website: It was recommended that Commission members could inform the Cultural Resources Committee of any historic or cultural sites they would like include on the map. The map would later be posted on the statewide website.

Cultural Committee: A recommendation was made to add Mr. Steve Claggett and Mr. Danny Bell as a Adhoc members to the Cultural Resources Committee.

Unrecognized Tribes in Commission Programming (Statute 71A): The NC General Statute 71A was discussed. Commissioner Jeffery Anstead indicated that the Commission needs to create a policy on rules and regulations/guidelines for the events. A recommendation was made to bring back the statement (NC GS 71A) to the next Commission meeting. The handout is an official part of the minutes.

ACTION ITEM:

The location for the December 2015 Commission meeting was discussed as follows:

Mr. Greg Richardson made a recommendation that Dr. Larry Tise would like to host the December Commission meeting at East Carolina University.

A motion to approve the location of the December 4, 2015 Commission meeting at East Carolina University was made by Commissioner Daniel Locklear and seconded by Commissioner Charles Richardson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Agenda Items for the December 2015 meeting was discussed. Commissioner Anstead requested that Town Creek Indian Mound and Dr. Larry Tise's presentation be included in the December agenda.

Committee Reports Continued

Employment & Training Committee: No report was noted.

Environmental Justice Committee: Commissioner Daniel Locklear presented this item. He gave a brief overview on the following topics: Committee Structure and Adhoc members; Committee Purpose Statement; Environmental issues such as trash pick-up, drainage assessment, water testing, health related issues, Environmental Protection Act (NC EPA), waste management; air quality that relates to pollution



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from hog and poultry farms and develop a policy and procedures for the Environmental Justice Committee. A handout of the Environmental Justice Committee teleconference meeting minutes dated May 21, 2015 was provided in the Commission packet.

Chairwoman Revels suggested that the Commission coordinate a one day trash pick-up within each community.

The handout is an official part of the minutes.

Indian Child Welfare Committee: Commissioner Marvel Welch and Ms. Sherry Bradsher, Co-Chairs of the Committee presented this item. They informed the Commission that the Indian Child Welfare Gathering is on November 5, 2015 at the University of NC at Pembroke. It was noted that registration is required due to limited seating. The deadline for registration is October 31, 2015. The purpose of the event is to continue the Commission’s work associated with Indian Child Welfare, the implementation of a state-wide memorandum between the Commission, Indian Tribes and the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS). The MOA will layout the terms, conditions and procedures that will be followed with regards to the implementation of Indian Child Welfare legislation and policies.

Final draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) legal process between NC DHHS and NC DOA was discussed. The handouts of both MOA’s were distributed at the June 5th meeting.

Indian Education Committee: Commissioner Dorothy Crowe presented this item. She noted that the American Indian Education Summit will be held at the Education Building in downtown Raleigh on October 9, 2015. She noted that the event flyer and registration form was distributed to Commission members via email. The registration fee for materials and lunch is \$30 and is on a first come first served basis. The registration information was posted to the website beginning September 1, 2015: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/americanindianed/advisory/>

Commissioner Crowe indicated how to access the information on the 2014-2015 graduation rate data that was presented to the State Board of Education. The website where the local data is posted is as follows: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/reporting/cohortgradrate>

State Advisory Council on Indian Education (SACIE): Commissioner Crowe discussed the application process for SACIE membership. She noted that the SACIE membership application is comprised of five parts: personal information, a biographical sketch, resume, tribal/organizational endorsement, and (if applicable) educator endorsement. Applications should be completed and mailed to the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, 1317 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1317. Applications must be submitted by November 1, 2015 for appointment in July 2016 of next year.

Success story on how SACIE enriches the lives of young Native American students: Commissioner Crowe introduced Ms. Elizabeth Qua Lynch to the Commission and highlighted her successes as a student and a professional. Ms. Qua Lynch gave a brief presentation on her accomplishments. She also informed the Commission that her research on Alzheimer’s disease and Dementia in Native American Communities has been accepted. She noted that the Banner Alzheimer’s Institute Native American Program will host the first National Native American Conference on Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia in Native American communities on Thursday, October 15 and 16 at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort. Targeting urban and tribal health care and social service professionals, this two-day conference will provide eight plenary and more than 30 concurrent sessions from stellar Native American and dementia specialists from across the U.S.



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Commissioner Crowe concluded that these successful students act as role models and Ambassadors to other Native American students.

Indian Housing Committee: Section 8 Housing Program was discussed in the Executive Director’s report.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Roy Maynor informed the Commission that items for the 2016 General Assembly meeting agenda is due by November 1, 2015.

Recognition Committee: Commissioner Larece Hunt provided a brief report of the committee’s activities regarding work on the petition submitted by the group calling itself “Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina.” A committee workgroup has held several work sessions since May, and the workgroup is scheduled to meet again September 17, 2015. The workgroup is working towards presenting a draft of preliminary findings and deficiencies to the full committee. Commissioner Hunt noted that the Recognition Committee only works on one petition at a time, due to limited staffing resources. During the committee’s review process, preliminary findings and deficiencies are issued to the petitioner, after which the petitioner has 180 days to respond.

Report on Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina Petition for State Recognition: No report was submitted.

Tribal Reports/Updates: None were noted.

This item was moved and is now being discussed as follows:

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Chairwoman Ruth Revels discussed the Committee Appointments (Chairs and Committees). The handout was included in the Commission packet. The following was discussed:

- **Executive Committee:** No changes
- **Audit/Budget Committee:** Delete. It was noted that this is conducted by State Auditors
- **American Indian Cultural Resources Committee:** Delete DeVane Burnette, Sr.; Add Charles Richardson; Adhoc members to include Steve Claggett and Danny Bell
- **American Indian Housing Committee:** Chairwoman Revels asked if anyone not listed was interested in serving on this Committee. No changes.
- **American Indian Employment & Training and Economic Development Committee:** Change Wanda Burns Ramsey title from Vice Chair to Chair; Change WD Baucom title from Chair to Vice Chair. It was recommended to keep this Committee due to the WIOA Program and Employment training program. This Committee serves as the “Working Advisory Committee” to the Commission. It was also noted that WIA program is now changed to WIOA program. Discussion was to include the ex-officio members to this Committee. Mr. Elk Richardson, Director for the WIOA program indicated that he will look into including NC Works Commission (Designee from Department of Commerce) as well as representative from each of the Indian WIOA grantees from around the state.
- **American Indian Education Committee:** Add Wanda Burns-Ramsey and delete staff member Latesha Middleton and include new secretary’s name for ETS program.
- **Adhoc American Indian Health and Human Services Committee:** Add Connie Mitchelle as Chair; delete Marvel Welch; add Domestic Violence (new Governor’s Crime Commission grant staff) to this Committee.
- **American Indian Legislative Committee:** Add Lana Dial and Jeffery Anstead; Delete Furnie Lambert.
- **Adhoc American Indian Land Trust Committee:** Add Daniel Jones as Vice Chair
- **American Indian Veterans Committee:** Delete Sharn Jefferies as Vice Chair; Add Daniel Jones as Vice Chair.
- **State Recognition Committee:** Delete DeVane Burnette, Sr.



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- **American Indian Child Welfare Committee:** It was noted that this Committee will have two Co-Chair Marvel Welch and Sherry Bradsher; Add Robert Cochran and Tony Locklear as Adhoc members; Delete staff member Latesha Middleton and include new secretary’s name for ETS program. Both Co-Chair’s requested that Mickey Locklear be removed and be replaced with a new staff member.
It was recommended that Domestic Violence be included in the American Indian Health and Human Services Committee.
- **Environmental Justice Committee:** Delete Brad Ives; It was noted that Jeffery Anstead will be Vice Chair.

The handout with the changes is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS:

A motion to approve the recommended changes with regards to “Committee Appointments” was made by Commissioner Furnie Lambert and seconded by Commissioner Pete Richardson. Motion carried.

Flower Fund Report: Commissioner Isabell Freeman-Elliott informed the Commission that she collected \$18 (flower fund dues) from each Commission member. Total collected \$97. She noted that the annual fee for next year will be \$24 per person. A handout was distributed with details of the Flower Fund account from Commissioner Wanda Burns-Ramsey.

The handout is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

Public Comments: None were noted.


Future Meeting Dates and Events: Chairwoman Revels read the 2015-2016 Events and Meetings listed on the Agenda.

OTHER ITEM NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Furnie Lambert made a motion to approve that Mr. Greg Richardson attend the Governors’ Interstate Indian Council (GIIC) Conference dated October 18-23, 2015 in San Diego, CA if funding is available and seconded by Commissioner Charles Richardson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

With there being no further items to discuss, a motion to officially adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Daniel Jones. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furnie Lambert. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2015 at the East Carolina University, located at 1001 E. 5th St., Greenville, NC 27858.


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

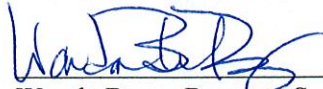
 12-4-2015
 Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary
 (Sign & Date)



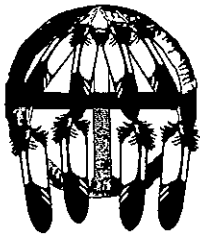
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These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs on December 4, 2015.

 12/14/2015

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



N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING
N. C. Association of Educators Building
 700 S. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC
 1-800-662-7924
 September 4, 2015
DRAFT AGENDA

Opening Session	10:00 am – 11:15 am
Welcome, Call to Order & Adopt Agenda	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Invocation	Shirley Freeman, Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Jeff Anstead, Commission Member
Roll Call	Daphne Pinto, Administrative Assistant
Swearing in Ceremony – New and Returning Members	
Introduction of New and Returning Members Tribal Representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Charlene Jacobs, Coharie Indian Tribe</i> • <i>Elton Ray Jacobs, Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe</i> • <i>Daniel Jones, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina</i> • <i>Sam Lambert, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians</i> • <i>Roy Maynor, Cumberland County Association of Indian People</i> • <i>Charles P. Richardson, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe</i> Urban Indian Organizations Representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Walter David (WD) Baucom, Metrolina Native American Association</i> • <i>Lana Dial, Triangle Native American Association</i> 	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman The Honorable Bob Edmunds, Supreme Court Justice
Nomination of Officers	
Election of Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vice-Chair</i> • <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> 	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Presentation of Staff Service Awards	Ruth Revels, Chairman Bill Bryan, Deputy Secretary, NC
<i>Greg Richardson – 35 years</i> <i>Mickey Locklear – 20 years</i> <i>Steve Maynor – 2 years</i> <i>Sonya McIver – 10 years</i>	
Reading of Ethics Statement	Gregory A. Richardson
Review and Approval of June 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes	Ruth Revels, Chairwoman
Division Update	11:30 – 12:00
Executive Director's Report Quarterly Program Reports (copies included in packet)	Greg Richardson, Executive Director Program Directors

Overview of new Commission grant	Carly Crim, Grant Writer, NCDOA
Luncheon	12:00 - 1:00 pm
Special Presentation	
Access to Recovery Program Overview	Tony V. Locklear, Access to Recovery Program Coordinator
Discussion of Committee Structure	Ruth Revels
Discussion of Committee Appointments (Chairs & Committee)	Ruth Revels, Chairman
Committee Reports	2:00 pm - 2:45 pm
Adhoc Indian Health	
Adhoc Land Trust & Veterans	Furnie Lambert, Chair
Culture Resources - Issue discussion – <i>Unrecognized Tribes in Commission Programming - (Present copy of Statute "71A")</i>	Jeffrey Anstead, Chair
Employment & Training	W.D. Baucom, Chair
Environmental Justice	Daniel Locklear, Chair
Indian Child Welfare	Marvel Welch & Sherry Bradsher, Co-Chairs
Indian Education	Dorothy Crowe, Chair
Indian Housing	Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair
Legislative	Roy Maynor, Chair
Recognition • <i>Report on Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina Petition for State Recognition</i>	Larece Hunt, Chair
Tribal Reports/Updates	Commission Members (2-3 Minutes)
Flower Fund Report	Wanda Burns-Ramsey
Public Comments (Must sign up by 11:00 a.m.)	2:45pm - 3:00pm (2-3 Minutes)
Adjournment	3:00pm
2015 – 2016 Future Meeting Dates & Events October 9, 2015 – Indian Education Summit October 18, 2015 – National Congress of American Indians October 14-17, 2015 – National Indian Education Association (NIEA) November 5, 2015 - Indian Child Welfare Gathering November 6, 2015 - NC Indian Senior Citizens Coalition Conference November 21, 2015 - 20 th Annual American Indian Heritage Celebration December 4, 2015 - Commission Meeting March 9-12, 2016 - 41 th Annual NC Indian Unity Conference	Location NCDPI, Raleigh San Diego, California Portland, Oregon University of North Carolina at Pembroke Holiday Inn I-95, Fayetteville, NC NC Museum of History, Raleigh, NC To Be Announced North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC