

CALIFORNIA VALLEY MIWOK TRIBE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

August 30, 2023

Held at:
Calaveras County Fairgrounds
Mark Twain Hall
2465 Gun Club Road
Angels Camp, California
and remotely via teleconference

Brooke Silvas, CSR 10988
1017488



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Reported by:
Brooke Silvas
CSR 10988
Job No. 1017488

1 CALAVERAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, CALIFORNIA

2 AUGUST 30, 2023

3
4 HARLEY LONG: Good afternoon, everyone.
5 Can we take our seats.

6 My name is Harley Long. I'm the
7 superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs,
8 Central California Agency.

9 I'm joined on stage today by Carol
10 Rogers-Davis, Tribal Operations Officer. Bibiana
11 Sparks of Acorn, who is facilitating the virtual
12 portion of this meeting. I would like to welcome
13 everyone to the California Valley Miwok Tribe's
14 organization meeting.

15 We are going to start off today by
16 inviting Anthony Wilson up to offer a prayer over
17 these proceedings.

18 ANTHONY WILSON: Thank you, Creator, for
19 letting us all join here today. Thank you for
20 giving us a safe trip. Pray for those that are at
21 home, that they are all healthy and well. Pray for
22 our elders that are here that have been watching
23 this go on for a long time. I pray for the young
24 that are here that we all take this journey together
25 and do the best for our people. I pray for the

1 four-legged and our plant relatives outside that
2 they keep us healthy and nourished so we can do
3 great things. Keep our minds well and our vision
4 straight.

5 HARLEY LONG: Thank you, Anthony.

6 We are here today for the Bureau of Indian
7 Affairs to provide an overview of the next step in
8 the organization of the California Valley Miwok
9 Tribe.

10 I want to apologize for not standing
11 today. I injured my leg, and it prevents me from
12 standing for long periods of time right now.

13 At the conclusion of my presentation,
14 members of the eligible groups, as defined by
15 Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs Washburn's 2015
16 decision, as amended by Assistant Secretary Indian
17 Affairs Newland's 2022 Decision, will have the
18 opportunity to make statements and ask questions.

19 Before I begin, I am going to go over -- I
20 am going to cover some housekeeping and ground rules
21 for today's meeting. First, please be advised the
22 audio of this meeting is being recorded and is being
23 transcribed for the record. If you need to use the
24 restroom, please use the restroom nearest today's
25 entrance to minimize distractions. In case of an

1 emergency, please proceed to the nearest exit. You
2 can see there are two up here and there's two in the
3 rear. We ask that everyone please silence cell
4 phones. Be respectful and courteous. Speak one
5 person at a time. Only those eligible to
6 participate may participate. And different opinions
7 are welcome. Disagreements may occur today;
8 however, we must -- they must be done respectfully,
9 without negative behavior. Give feedback openly and
10 address the process, not individuals. And limit
11 side conversations. It is important that we try to
12 limit those as much possible, as the microphones
13 will pick up and the transcriber who is attending
14 virtually will be able to hear what is being said
15 into the microphone.

16 I will be going over the process the
17 Bureau of Indian Affairs will be assisting the
18 Tribal Community navigate as it moves into the next
19 phase of the organization of the tribe. It is a
20 very similar process to the processes used when
21 assisting other tribes within the Pacific Region
22 organize, which includes identifying a committee to
23 develop a governing document of the California
24 Valley Miwok Tribe and suggestions on how to begin
25 this process. At the close of the meeting, you will

1 be asked to select which option you prefer from the
2 options listed on the options selection form you
3 received. And if interested, submit the interest
4 form to be considered being selected for the
5 constitution committee.

6 As many of you are very aware, the tribe
7 has been embroiled in disputes for nearly 25 years,
8 leading to multiple BIA decisions, decisions from
9 the Interior Board of Indian Appeals, and the
10 Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, and the
11 federal courts. All leading to the 2015 decision of
12 Assistant Secretary Washburn, as amended by
13 Assistant Secretary Newland in 2022. Amongst other
14 things, the 2015 decision directed the Bureau of
15 Indian Affairs Pacific Regional Director to sure --
16 to ensure any governing document developed and
17 accepted by the tribe was done so in a manner that
18 was inclusive of the entire tribal community.
19 Through that lens, the Bureau is now working with
20 you as you all have been determined eligible to
21 participate in the organization of the tribe as
22 outlined by the Assistant Secretary's decisions.
23 Coming together, while focusing on the future of the
24 California Valley Miwok Tribe, it is in everyone's
25 best interest for generations to come.

1 The Central California Agency will now
2 assist the tribe in developing a proposed governing
3 document. This process will begin by establishing a
4 constitutional committee. Each of you should have
5 received an interest form while signing in today.
6 If you are interested in participating as a member
7 of the constitutional committee, please complete the
8 form and place it in the box near the front
9 entrance. For those participating virtually, my
10 staff has emailed you the form and provided you
11 while registering -- well, to the email you provided
12 while registering for this meeting. Interest sheets
13 may be emailed to me for consideration. A committee
14 of eight individuals will be selected from the
15 interest sheets received. The individuals selected
16 will be notified by the Central California Agency,
17 and the names of those on the committee will be
18 posted on the agency's website.

19 To provide the committee with the tools to
20 be successful in developing a constitution, a
21 contracted moderator will be present to assist the
22 committee work through any possible disagreements.
23 And agency staff will be present to provide any
24 technical assistance requested by the committee.
25 This process will be committee-driven, with the

1 assistance of the agency as requested. Members of
2 the committee will be encouraged to engage with the
3 greater tribal community to obtain input on the
4 proposed governing document and bring it back to the
5 table.

6 The goal of the constitutional committee
7 is to ensure that the governing document drafted
8 clearly articulates these key points amongst others:
9 Provide -- that it provides a framework for the
10 exercise of a political authority by the tribe.
11 Identifies the governing body of the tribe.
12 Identifies and allocates powers and processes of the
13 tribe. For example, tribal court, separation of
14 duties and authorities. And identifies the
15 requirements for tribal membership.

16 The constitutional committee will be
17 selected by September 8, 2023. As such, anyone
18 interested in joining the committee must express
19 their interest no later than September 1, 2023,
20 either by emailing me at the address listed above or
21 by submitting the form today. To assist the
22 constitutional committee, it must be decided where
23 their starting point will be. This will be decided
24 today. Everyone attending today, whether it be
25 online or in person, has been provided a sheet

1 listing the starting options for organizing the
2 tribe. The committee can begin from scratch and
3 write an entirely new document or -- or the tribal
4 community can decide to use the 2019 constitution,
5 the last constitution to be voted on by the
6 community, as its starting point. Utilizing the
7 2019 constitution as a starting point does not mean
8 the tribe must use the document word for word. The
9 constitutional committee can adjust this document to
10 reflect the will of the community as they represent
11 their discussions with the community.

12 At the close of today's meeting, those
13 attending in person will be asked to drop the option
14 sheet of their choice in the box near the entrance.
15 And those online will have until midnight tonight to
16 submit their selection via e-mail to
17 CVMT-CDIB@bia.gov. My staff has emailed those
18 attending virtually the form, which they can
19 complete and submit. The form will not be counted
20 if the email is received after midnight Pacific
21 Time.

22 Unfortunately, I can only provide a
23 timeline for the establishment of the constitutional
24 committee which will be established by September 8,
25 2023. At which point, the Central California Agency

1 will work to set the first meeting of the committee.
2 During this time, the committee will be encouraged
3 to reach out to the greater tribal community to
4 identify the community's desire as it relates to the
5 proposed constitution consistent with the option
6 selected today. The committee must work together to
7 develop a constitution, identify a petition
8 spokesperson, and collect signatures on the
9 petition. It should be noted that the petition,
10 once it begins circulating, must have the required
11 signatures within one year of the first signature.
12 The Central California Agency can assist in this
13 process. Upon submitting the petition, it can take
14 up to 280 days for the approval of the document by
15 the Regional Director.

16 We will now take questions and comments on
17 this process. Please note, questions related to
18 ongoing litigation cannot be addressed at this time.
19 Should you raise any questions concerning the
20 ongoing litigation, you will be reminded that it
21 cannot be addressed, and it will count towards your
22 time. If you would like to speak, please approach
23 one of the two microphones in front of the room and
24 wait to be asked for your comment. If you are
25 attending virtually, please use the hand raise

1 feature. We will be rotating through the two
2 microphones and those attending virtually. Before
3 starting your comment, please state your first and
4 last name for the record, after which your time will
5 begin. You are allowed three minutes.

6 Finally, only those determined to be
7 eligible to participate may make comments or ask
8 questions. If it is determined you are not eligible
9 to participate, you will be asked to stop. If
10 someone refuses to stop, they will then be asked to
11 leave.

12 We now open the floor.

13 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Can you hear me?

14 HARLEY LONG: Yes.

15 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Perfect. So I have a
16 few questions. How will -- you say that you guys
17 will choose. Is there a determining factor for the
18 committee? Also, when they are on the committee,
19 are there specific duties and functions that they
20 will have besides creating it or to work off of? Do
21 you have any of those procedures in place already or
22 is that something that you're going to create?

23 HARLEY LONG: So we will be looking at the
24 application -- or the interest forms and reviewing
25 those. There is no specific criteria. We did not

1 want to limit that. Anybody who is interested
2 should be able to express their interest and have
3 the opportunity to participate.

4 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Perfect.

5 HARLEY LONG: With regard to how we're
6 going to -- policies and procedures, we will
7 probably sit down together and discuss how the
8 meeting should work. The main responsibility is to
9 work with the greater tribal community, bring those
10 ideas to the table, and be willing to attend
11 meetings. There would be -- I would imagine there
12 would be several meetings.

13 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Yes. Because part of
14 that is if there are any disputes within that, I
15 want to make sure whoever is sitting in on that
16 committee is protected and able to share and voice
17 those opinions. So having those in place for
18 everybody to feel open to do that would be
19 wonderful.

20 HARLEY LONG: Right. And we will have a
21 moderator there to assist in those types of
22 disagreements.

23 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Perfect.

24 HARLEY LONG: That way -- and it will be
25 an outside contracted company that specializes in

1 these types of situations, where they can work with
2 the group to ensure everybody can be open and honest
3 and share their opinions.

4 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Perfect. And will
5 you be giving everybody a copy of the 2019
6 constitution that you were referring or is that
7 something that -- can you email it to everybody or
8 mail it, so that way they have a better
9 understanding? Or is that when we voted on for the
10 secretarial election that was for the greater
11 community?

12 HARLEY LONG: It will be -- if that option
13 is chosen, we will post it on the web page so people
14 can take a look at it. But it was the same
15 constitution that was voted on in 2019.

16 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: But you are requiring
17 these to be submitted to you by midnight tonight.

18 HARLEY LONG: The option.

19 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: And it's not on the
20 website right now for them to view this
21 constitution?

22 HARLEY LONG: No, it's not.

23 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Is there a way that
24 it can be uploaded before midnight?

25 HARLEY LONG: We hadn't planned for that.

1 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Okay.

2 HARLEY LONG: And I don't know that we
3 will be back to the office in time to post it.

4 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Okay. Just -- just
5 out of curiosity.

6 HARLEY LONG: Right.

7 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Thank you for moving
8 forward with our tribe to do this step.

9 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

10 SPEAKER: Could you state your name.

11 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: My name is Antoinette
12 Del Rio. I am the acting chairperson for our tribe.

13 BRIANA SANCHEZ: My name is Briana
14 Sanchez. I'm the acting vice-chair for the tribe.
15 My question is, once you select your committee, the
16 meetings that you're going to be holding, will those
17 be held during business hours? Will they be evening
18 meetings? Weekends? Because I'm sure that will
19 help people determine whether or not they want to
20 even submit for -- for being on that committee.

21 HARLEY LONG: We will coordinate with
22 them. So there's not a set time yet for that
23 reason. As I want people to feel that they can
24 express their interest, and that we will be working
25 around -- it is easier to work around eight people's

1 schedules than 300.

2 BRIANA SANCHEZ: Thank you very much.

3 HARLEY LONG: Yes.

4 Kathryn Yates on Zoom.

5 KATHRYN YATES: Yes. Kathryn Yates here.

6 I am calling because I don't see in the e-mail any
7 attachment for the form that you stated is being
8 handed out in person. Is my first question. So
9 when will that form come to me and others that are
10 online? But also, would I be able to apply even
11 though I'm only -- only able to attend virtually for
12 that committee because I am out of state?

13 HARLEY LONG: The answer is yes, you can
14 express your interest to participate. And we can
15 see if we can accommodate a virtual option for that.

16 As far as the forms go, they should have
17 been sent within the last 20 minutes. If you
18 haven't received it, you might check your junk mail
19 to see if it came in that way. Otherwise, we
20 will -- we will double-check that at the conclusion
21 of this meeting to make sure that they get out.

22 KATHRYN YATES: Thank you. I'll check
23 right now. That's all I had.

24 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

25 JUAN SANDOVAL: Juan Sandoval. Look at

1 all these Miwoks. I'm happy to see all you guys
2 here, man. It makes me proud. Okay. I don't know
3 nothing about the 2019 constitution, but I know
4 Velma was involved in that. And Velma really helped
5 me when I was a kid, you know. I was going to go to
6 prison. And I was b- -- I got busted. The judge
7 locked me up. So I was trying to go to CAMC. And
8 my record wouldn't -- they didn't want to give me no
9 money. Velma pulled some strings and got me to be a
10 truck driver. Changed my life around. So I owe a
11 lot to Velma. And I know a lot of people disrespect
12 Velma when she wasn't here. But if it wasn't for
13 Velma, a lot of us wouldn't be here. So if the
14 2019 -- if that was Velma's work, I will vote for
15 that work right there. I have no idea what it says.
16 I want to see what it says first. But that's
17 Velma's legacy. We want to be here for Velma.
18 Unless it was for Velma. And I got loyalty. And
19 we're Miwoks. We got loyal. That's all we've got.
20 They took our land. They took our shit. Right?
21 But we got to be loyal. And we have to show some
22 respect to Velma. You know. Velma Whitebear. All
23 right. Thank you.

24 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

25 We will now turn it to Pete Ramirez on

1 Zoom.

2 PETE RAMIREZ: Hello. Good evening -- or
3 good afternoon. I looked in my e-mail. And I also
4 have not received the application that you're
5 speaking of and that you're saying is in person.
6 And so if they could please resend that to me, I
7 would appreciate it. And have you guys set a
8 criteria or some type of qualifications for this
9 committee that you're setting up? Is it just going
10 to be a random pick? What is -- how is the process
11 for picking the eight individuals?

12 HARLEY LONG: There are no qualification
13 requirements to be on the constitutional committee.
14 We will review the interest forms. And based on how
15 many we receive, it will probably be more of a
16 random selection.

17 For getting you the forms, we are working
18 on that. I would -- we are sending those to the
19 e-mail that you used to register for the meeting.
20 Check that and the junk folder to see if you have
21 got it. If you have not received it, we will be
22 double-checking that at the conclusion of the
23 meeting.

24 PETE RAMIREZ: Yes, I did check my junk
25 mail, as Kathryn was talking. I looked at my

1 in-box, and I have not received anything. So there
2 could be a glitch in your system. I did register on
3 Monday for the -- for this virtual meeting. So I'm
4 sure you guys have my e-mail address. Yes. I have
5 not received letters -- the letter that you guys --
6 the paperwork that you guys are having in person.

7 HARLEY LONG: Understood. And we will
8 have to -- we will have to research that at the
9 conclusion of the meeting.

10 PETE RAMIREZ: Thank you.

11 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

12 GILBERT RAMIREZ JR.: Hello. My name is
13 Gilbert Ramirez Jr. I was an existing tribal
14 council member at one point. Just so you guys know,
15 there is a lot of verbiage in there that Chadd put
16 into that 2019 constitution. A lot of it isn't
17 Velma's will. It was something that Chadd put in
18 there. So please be advised and be aware that that
19 constitution really needs to be looked at. And I
20 know I haven't had a chance to voice to everybody
21 here. But the ones that I have kept in contact
22 with, I've also let you guys know that this
23 constitution needs to be worked on. And it needs
24 some fresh eyes. So as you guys as the council,
25 this is a good time for this committee and for

1 everybody here to voice your opinion on that
2 verbiage on there. Because there's a lot of
3 verbiage in there that Chadd put in there
4 under-handing this council or that council, but when
5 I was on that council. So please, please, really,
6 whoever gets chosen, speak your mind. Read that
7 constitution. Read the verbiage word for word.
8 Because a lot of it in there is benefiting Chadd
9 Everone. So please. That's all I have to say.
10 Thank you.

11 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

12 Go ahead.

13 TAMMY MORA: Good afternoon. Tammy Mora,
14 acting secretary, California Valley Miwok Tribe. I
15 just want to say -- to reiterate what Gilbert Jr.
16 said, but also to confirm earlier you said that we
17 will be working off of that document and making --
18 that is part of the committee's responsibility,
19 right? That is not what is going to be voted on.
20 They will be working off of that if they choose
21 that. If that is chosen, that document will be
22 worked off of and amendments can be made at that
23 time before it is circulated around to get
24 signatures.

25 HARLEY LONG: It will be up to the

1 constitutional committee what to do with that. So
2 they could look at it and say, let's just vote on
3 this document. That would be up to them. There is
4 no reason that can't be. And that could circulate.
5 But that would be up to then the general community,
6 to look at it and make sure that is what they want
7 to vote on when they are signing the petition. But
8 you are correct. That is what I'm envisioning as a
9 starting point. Rather than re-create the wheel,
10 you can look at what is good in that document and
11 keep those things. And what -- what you choose to
12 change would be up to that committee and their
13 conversations with the greater tribal community.

14 TAMMY MORA: Okay. Thank you.

15 HARLEY LONG: Uh-huh.

16 MARGE GROW-EPPARD:

17 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Is this one on?

18 HARLEY LONG: Yes.

19 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Good afternoon. My
20 name is Marge Grow-Eppard. I'm kind of concerned
21 about the 2019 also that Buster was mentioned.
22 Because on 2019, Chadd Everone had eliminated the
23 whole Jeff family. So I want to reread this before
24 I sign anything that would annihilate. Because
25 there was some sabotage going on from Chadd. And it

1 better not affect my next seven generations of
2 Jeffs. Because that's one of the main families.
3 And so I'm here. I'm trying not to be aggressive.
4 But when we were at the tribal meetings, we really
5 were not respected as the Jeff family. They said,
6 you're not on this enrollment. And I want to make
7 darn sure -- I'm really -- I'm really watching how I
8 speak right now because it brings back bad memories
9 of how he treated us. And so I'm not up here for
10 me. I'm up here for my children, my grandchildren,
11 and the next seven generations. Because I'm not
12 going to be on this Turtle Island much longer. And
13 I want to make darn sure that my family is taken
14 care of as Jeffs. Thank you.

15 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

16 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: I just wanted to make
17 a comment on the 2019 constitution to everybody.
18 That that is something -- what Juan stated is
19 correct -- that Velma had worked on. That we all
20 had worked on. But we also currently, as a greater
21 community that attended the Buena Vista tribal
22 meetings, we went through that line for line and
23 edited. So we do have the corrections with your
24 guys' voices that attended those meetings. And
25 we're going to continue to meet every third Saturday

1 of every month at the Buena Vista location, unless
2 stated otherwise, at 11:00. We can bring this up
3 again and hear your guys' voices on anything that
4 needs to be changed. Because you're right, this
5 affects our next generations. But the document that
6 they are referring to, the 2019 constitution, that
7 is what we went forward with with the secretarial
8 election. That we -- everybody voted on. We were
9 right there. And at that time, we already let go of
10 Chadd working with us. So that is our voices. But
11 they're right. Gilbert Ramirez Jr. is correct.
12 There is a lot of verbiage on there that we needed
13 to change. And that is what we did. That is -- we
14 worked with you guys on line for line. And we don't
15 mind doing it again.

16 HARLEY LONG: Can you please state your
17 name.

18 ANTOINETTE DEL RIO: Antoinette Del Rio,
19 chair- -- acting chairperson.

20 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

21 AMORA STEVENOT: Hello. My name is Amora
22 Stevenot. I just had a question. We were going
23 back and forth about the two different choices. And
24 obviously we do not have the previous constitution
25 available for us to review at this moment. I don't

1 think that's fair to all of the people that are new
2 and don't have that information so that we can make
3 a just decision. But I also wanted to question
4 the -- if we were going to rewrite the constitution
5 from scratch, you talked about there would be a
6 process that you would help us go through. So what
7 does that process look like if we only have a year
8 to go from beginning to end?

9 HARLEY LONG: So it is not a year to go
10 from beginning to end.

11 AMORA STEVENOT: Okay.

12 HARLEY LONG: Once there is a document
13 created, a petition will be cycled through. And
14 correct me if I'm wrong, Carol. 51 percent of those
15 eligible to participate would need to sign that
16 petition for it to be submitted to the Bureau to
17 request a secretarial election. That -- those
18 51 percent of the signatures -- those signatures
19 have to be collected within one year of the first
20 signature. It can take as long as is necessary to
21 create the document. There is no time frame on
22 that. That's why I wasn't allowed -- I was not able
23 to provide a time frame on how long this whole
24 process will take. I understand your concern. And
25 that was not something that I had thought of about

1 the constitution. My thought was that a majority
2 of -- there was a large number of people who voted
3 on that 2019 constitution. And that was provided at
4 that time so people would be aware of it. We can do
5 what we can to get it online today. But I don't
6 know that that can happen, unfortunately. But
7 that -- again, that is a starting point. So if
8 there's multiple times throughout this process --
9 the secretarial election process where you don't
10 have to agree with the constitution. One, you don't
11 have to sign the petition. And, two, you don't have
12 to vote for it. You can vote to reject it. And --
13 so I mean, those are two times right there. I would
14 also encourage as many people as possible to -- to
15 submit the interest form to participate in that
16 process. My thought process about bringing up that
17 2019 constitution was it's a starting point. And
18 rather than starting from scratch and not looking at
19 that, it was a way to look at it and see what needs
20 to be changed or what -- what was agreed upon by the
21 greater community.

22 AMORA STEVENOT: So with the guidance
23 process, whichever is chosen, what does -- what
24 would the outline of that look like? Where --
25 speaking as someone who hasn't written a

1 constitution, where would you get that information
2 or guide us through the process of doing that? Is
3 there a formal outline that says, here is how you
4 make a mission statement or vision statement. Here
5 is what the expectations of the constitution that
6 other tribes have used or our recommendations. Like
7 how will that process work?

8 HARLEY LONG: Because this is a
9 committee-driven process, not bureau-driven, if the
10 committee chooses to request a training, we work
11 with them to find someone to do a training. Whether
12 it be us who have dealt with these before. And if
13 that wasn't sufficient, we can hire an outside
14 source to provide that type of information to them.
15 The process how we get through would be a broad
16 outline from us and then more detailed by the
17 committee on how they want to get through that
18 process.

19 AMORA STEVENOT: How frequent would the
20 check-backs be or would there be a recommendation
21 like once the committee meets for the first time, it
22 starts to establish the constitution itself? We
23 want to gain feedback from the tribal members
24 themselves. So what would the frequency of that be
25 when you're writing the constitution?

1 HARLEY LONG: That would be up to the
2 committee and the moderator. My staff will be
3 available to attend those meetings based on what can
4 be arranged between the committee and the moderator.
5 I would like to have a moderator there to get
6 through those more difficult issues where there may
7 be a disagreement between the committee. But -- and
8 working on their schedule -- I can't tell you what
9 their schedule looks like. I can tell you that I
10 will ask my staff to be available based upon those
11 eight people and the moderator.

12 AMORA STEVENOT: Okay. Thank you.

13 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

14 BRIANA SANCHEZ: Briana Sanchez. You
15 mentioned that we would need 51 percent of the
16 eligible participants to sign the petition in order
17 to move forward once the document has been created.
18 Do you have a hard count so far of how many people
19 are eligible to participate in this process?

20 HARLEY LONG: It is -- I believe 288 is
21 the exact number.

22 BRIANA SANCHEZ: 288 people?

23 HARLEY LONG: Yes. That were determined
24 to be eligible.

25 BRIANA SANCHEZ: Thank you. And will you

1 be providing a copy of that list at some point?

2 HARLEY LONG: That hasn't been discussed.

3 BRIANA SANCHEZ: Okay.

4 HARLEY LONG: There has been concerns
5 about publishing that type of list during the
6 secretarial election process. You -- the list will
7 be needed by the -- whoever is chosen to be the
8 spokesperson to know -- to make sure that you get
9 the correct signatures. Because then we have to go
10 back and look at that. Whether it will be made
11 completely public or not, I don't have an answer for
12 that. That is something that I would probably have
13 to discuss with our solicitor's office on what can
14 be released or not.

15 BRIANA SANCHEZ: Okay. Thank you.

16 HARLEY LONG: Uh-huh.

17 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Marge Grow-Eppard.
18 Since there is a concern with the new ones about
19 this September 1st, would you be willing to extend
20 that deadline to September 5th, since
21 September 4th is a holiday? Well, this whole
22 weekend is a holiday. Because we don't want them to
23 get overwhelmed with trying to get all of this
24 information. And it gives us time to be able to
25 help them, if you could please extend that for them.

1 HARLEY LONG: The interest sheets or the
2 options?

3 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: What my cousin said
4 that she didn't get the paperwork. Then it has to
5 be in by September 1st.

6 HARLEY LONG: We could go until Tuesday.
7 I could adjust that.

8 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Could you?

9 HARLEY LONG: For the interest forms?

10 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Yes. Is it the
11 interest forms? Yes.

12 HARLEY LONG: Yeah. I can do that.

13 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Thank you.

14 HARLEY LONG: It will be -- it will close
15 at 4:30 on Tuesday. And I'll make that adjustment.

16 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: Should we -- should we
17 try later? Is the -- okay. Thank you.

18 HARLEY LONG: It can't go later than that,
19 only because we need to make a decision in order to
20 get things moving.

21 MARGE GROW-EPPARD: It's just you complied
22 so quickly, I thought, dang it, I should have asked
23 for longer.

24 HARLEY LONG: It was a reasonable request.

25 We will turn to Pete Ramirez on Zoom

1 again.

2 PETE RAMIREZ: Oh, hello. I agree with
3 what Marge was saying. I thought that maybe we
4 should give the tribal community a little bit more
5 time to be able to read this document. Also,
6 because we fought really hard to get these 1929
7 census to be part of the -- of the constitution of
8 the tribal community that would be accepted to form
9 this tribe, that was always a big hardship for us
10 was because the -- it was so limited amount of
11 people. With that said, when you guys choose these
12 eight people, I would really, really hope that you
13 include people from each family. There's a lot of
14 families that really belong to this tribe and we're
15 not allowed to be part of it. So when picking this
16 committee, I really, really suggest that you look at
17 the family lines of the people who are applying and
18 try to get the greater community in this first eight
19 people, not just one family or two families. Give
20 an opportunity for each family to be -- have a say
21 in this. Because when they go back to the community
22 to let them know what we're doing, you will reach
23 the greater community by including more of the
24 families and not just a limited amount. Thank you.

25 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

1 Do we have any more comments either in the
2 room or online?

3 All right. Well, this will conclude
4 today's meeting.

5 Oh, we have one more person who raised
6 their hand. So I'm going to turn to Kathryn Yates
7 on Zoom.

8 KATHRYN YATES: I just wanted to say that
9 I looked through all of my e-mail, and I do not have
10 your form. Hopefully --

11 HARLEY LONG: We will be looking at that
12 here shortly.

13 KATHRYN YATES: Okay. Thank you.

14 HARLEY LONG: Thank you.

15 So this will conclude today's meeting.
16 And this is an important step towards the tribe's
17 organization. This is a big step. Together we can
18 move forward to create a strong governing document
19 that can guide the tribe today and for future
20 generations. I want to remind everybody to please
21 submit their interest forms. That will -- the date
22 on the screen is incorrect now. That will be
23 Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. Anything received after
24 4:30 p.m. will not be considered. And that will be
25 by the e-mail date stamp. And that can be to me

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DEPOSITION OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE)

I, BROOKE SILVAS, a certified shorthand reporter for the State of California, do hereby certify:

That the said meeting was taken down by me remotely in stenotype at the time and place therein stated and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction, and that the deposition transcript is a true and correct record of the proceedings here held.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties hereto or in any way interested in the event of this cause and that I am not related to any of the parties thereto.

Dated: September 6, 2023

BROOKE SILVAS
CSR No. 10988

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