

# TULE RIVER INDIAN HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

## TULE INDIAN RESERVATION

P.O. BOX 768

PHONE 784-2316

PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 93258

MINUTES OF:  
NOVEMBER 16, 2005

TC/UB 6-0-0  
w/corrections

The meeting was Called To Order by Barbara Baga, Vice Chairperson at 9:10 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Tule River Indian Health Center. Roll was called, present:

Barbara Baga, Vice Chairperson  
Patsy Vega, Secretary  
Veronica McDarment, Treasurer  
Lucille Apalatea, Member  
Vincent Burrough, Member  
Richard McDarment, Member  
Teri Carothers, Alternate Member (9:18 seated)  
Joseph Garfield, Alternate Member (10:20 seated)  
Absent: Neil Peyron, Chairman (bereavement)

### III. Approval of Agenda

MOTION #1 - Patsy Vega/Lucille Apalatea motioned to approve the Agenda Of November 16, 2005 with the deletion of past minutes being Tabled. The vote was 5-0-0, motion carried.

### IV. Old Business

- Update of drainage improvements and retaining wall installation:  
Teri seated 9:18 a.m.

Farrell explained I.H.S. may pay the full \$40,000.00 for the retaining wall behind the Clinic because of deferred maintenance from I.H.S. for Tule River, this improvement may give another three to five years life to the Building. The Board was in approval that I. H. S. pay the full amount.

- Update on telehealth program:

November 17, 2005 will be our first patient session.

- Longs Drug 340B Plan:

This program will begin December 1, 2005, until then prescriptions and medications can be purchased from Warnacks Pharmacy.

- TRTC/TRAP

The TRAP program is still pending Council action whether this Program will come under the umbrella of the Health Facility.

- Tulare County Mental Health Service Act (MHSA):

Mr. Neeley forwarded a letter nominating Evelyn Hunter to this committee to which she was appointed. MHSA comes under Proposition 63, where 1% taxes generate monies in the State to be disbursed at County



levels for Health funding. Tribes throughout the State are lobbying to make it possible for Tribes to receive their own monies. CRIHB has become active in this roll.

- Health Fair, October 29, 2005:

This has been the best attendance received with 105 participants. The next Health Fair will be held April 29, 2006 which we plan to have more outside Agencies participate.

V. New Business

1. CHS Committee Report:

A meeting had been scheduled but not all committee members were aware of the meeting of November 4, 2005. No action.

2. Department Director Report:

Fiscal Department – no comment

Community Health Outreach Department – per regulations, this program is supposed to deliver meals every day.

Dental Department – there was good response of our Dentists working on patients. Appointments are scheduled as lab work is available for the patient. We are using a Lab in Terra Bella and Lancaster.

Medical Department – Dr. Edins is continuing to review charts from the past two years, several cases have become serious for patients waiting to hear results. Notes are having to be transcribed for patient files. Providers are doing good work.

Mental Health Department – no comment

Contract Health Services Department – no comment

MOTION #2 - Teri Carothers/Veronica McDarment motioned to approve the Department Directors report. The vote was 6-0-0, motion carried.

2. Program Director Report

- Holiday Schedule for 2006.

MOTION #3 - Richard McDarment/Teri Carothers motioned to approve the 2006 Holiday Schedule for the Tule River Indian Health Center. The Vote was 6-0-0, motion carried.

- Indian Health Programs in California:

Many programs are having difficulty with funding and are going broke, regulations have become very stringent in the amount of patients that are being served and patients receiving free services. The Board is to review the binder of information provided by Farrell for further information that will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

- I. H. S. facilities survey:

Patient count has become a major issue as to whether small Clinics can afford to remain open. This survey will help determine if our Visalia



Clinic should enlarge services or close down. If it remains open we may have to accept all Medi-Care patients.

- Dr. David Sprenger is our new I.H.S. Project Officer replacing LaMerle Fridley.
- Linda Aranaydo, MD and Steve Champion, RN will be onsite January 11 and 12, 2006 to survey and provide training to staff in hopes of reinforcing our patient count.
- Health and Tribal Elections are January 14, 2006.
- Christmas party will be held at the Porterville Elks Lodge, December 3, 2005. All those attending are to contact Christina Salinas, RSVP.
- Car Seat Mini-Grant:  
We are buying car seats one last time for \$1,000.00. These seats cost approximately \$69.00 each, at this time 20 more are needed. Patients will be able to receive seats from the County Program after this last set of seats are distributed.
- Asthma Mini-Grant:  
Tule River is the only Tribe in California to have received this grant in the amount of \$20,000.00. There are 153 children that qualify for assistance with 96 having critical to severe asthma in the County.
- Personnel Committee will be reviewing Job Descriptions December 16, 2005 for the Annual review then make recommendations to the Board on January 11, 2006.

Joseph Garfield (arrived 10:20, seated)

Upcoming Meetings: Personnel Committee – December 16, 2005

CHS – Wednesday, November 23, 2005

#### VIII. Adjournment

MOTION #4 - Vincent Burrough/Teri Carothers motioned to adjourn at 10:40 a.m., the vote was 7-0-0, motion carried.

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Barbara Baga, Vice Chairperson

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Patsy J. Vega, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_