

Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC)  
The Skagit: Bow, Washington  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2006

Welcoming and Introductions – Liz Mueller

Invocation – Jim Sijohn

Roll Call – will be taken later

**Monika Vasil, Central Contract Services:**

Review of the general terms and conditions (GTC) contract for final review. Lawrence Hall of Quinault raised objections to the following: section 17, ownership of materials by the state and the 6-year retention of records, the federal requirement is three years, this needs to be reviewed for clarity. He also felt that tribes should not have a blanket contract but should have individual contracts that reflect the sovereignty of each tribe.

The purpose of the GTC is to lay out the basic concepts and ideas for an agreed starting point. The performance agreements are tailored to the tribes specifically. The intent of GTC is to streamline the basic language and maintain that within the laws and regulations that are required.

A suggestion was made to have another comment period but to have the comments in writing and sent to Colleen Cawston who in turn will send to Central Contracts for changes.

Colleen described the initial timeline for GTC, the comment periods and meetings that were held and that the final would go to IPAC for review and then individually to the Tribes for a final review. We will hold this until May for comments and shoot for mid-May for finalization and approval of documents.

A workgroup will be formed ASAP to move forward on changes and comments: Helen Fenrich, John Stephens, Tallis King-George, and Lawrence Hall.

Chuck from Suquamish Tribe shared that it only makes sense that all DSHS entities utilize the GTC since it has been negotiated previously and is a working document.

Blake will bring back this suggestion to management and have the discussion.

**Roll call taken – quorum established.**

**Election of IPAC Secretary:**

Motion made by Lawrence Hall of Quinault, to nominate Kathirine Horn of Shoalwater Bay, seconded by Jim Sijohn American Indian Community Center.

Motion made by Rosi Francis of Lower Elwha to nominate Jennifer LaPointe of Puyallup Tribe, seconded by Marilyn Scott of Upper Skagit.

Motion to close nominations by John Stephens of Swinomish, seconded by Chuck Wagner of Suquamish, all in favor, no opposed, nominations closed.

Words from both Kathirine and Jennifer on why they feel they would be best for this position prior to voting of the committee.

Voting done by ballot, Kathirine received 5 votes and Jennifer received 11 votes. Jennifer is the new IPAC Secretary.

**Blake Chard, Deputy Secretary, Budget Process Overview:**

Blake gave an overview of the state budget process and the timelines for budget building. A handout was given that outlined these timelines.

How can tribes be involved in budget planning so that their needs are made clear? Many changes are happening and the Governor's decisions will affect tribes. We need to look at priorities that have been given to the department and should be involved from the beginning.

Don Milligan of the Small Tribes of Western Washington brought up the following issues:

- Very small amount of resources put in for tribes
- Rarely receive status on revenue appropriated or spent on tribes
- Up to Indian Child Welfare (ICW) on money that comes to tribes & Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIO)
- What is the revenue that goes directly to the tribes

Blake suggested forming a workgroup that advises the Secretary on budget decisions. There is a willingness to shift funding in support of the Governor's new Department of Infants and Children, with caution, that other programs are not cut. It is agreed that tribes do need to be part of the budgetary process and this will be discussed with the budget director, Stan Marshburn.

Blake also explained that Workfirst has been difficult and the department has overspent, so we are looking at ways to change the process and make it better.

Colleen pointed out that the budget timeline coincides with the Centennial Accord and that may be a good place to bring up budget and process issues to the Governor.

Rhonda Metcalf of Sauk Suiattle brought up accountability is an important and wondered where that falls because data issues are a concern. It will become a larger concern if tribal data is used to get budget funds and then have no support from the state. ICW will discuss this later.

Liz Mueller requested Indian Policy and Support Services (IPSS) & the IPAC Executive Committee have a conference call to discuss budget needs. She also requested setting a date for the chairs of the committee to meet in Olympia with Blake and Colleen. Blake explained he would need to check with others who should be at the meeting and see about their availability first. He said he would have some dates later that afternoon.

**Sekou Shabaka, Assistant Secretary, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA)**

Sekou gave an overview of JRA and some background on the history of his tenure. He shared stories on the importance of children's safety, mentoring programs and tutoring programs.

Sekou expressed his mission to create a plan that would reduce the admission to JRA and to work with those out in the communities that can help accomplish this. Prevention is the key to successfully keeping kids out of the system. He would like the starting point the new project to be within Spokane and Tacoma.

Sekou explained he is still reaching out for resources. Please let him know if you have any ideas or contacts he can use. He is looking for good people to work with JRA. This recruitment is important; panel members should look like the children JRA serves, cultural diversity is very important. He would like tribes to help in viewing the way they do business.

Jennifer LaPointe brought up concerns about violence in Tacoma and Puyallup. The crime rate is very high and this is a big concern to the Puyallup tribe. The Evidence Based Programs (EBP) show expensive models that do not fit with the tribe's needs. Jennifer Paddock raised concern that the EBP models are not fair to all tribes.

Sekou stated he feels the model does work and they will stay in place. There will be a symposium in September or October. They will not be sending out a Request for Proposals (RFP) until all discussions have taken place.

Sekou feels the Integrated Treatment Model (ITM) can wrap around cultural perspective but he will need more input from tribes as to the things that do work. Tribes will need to bring their tools to JRA and they will work with the tribe.

Liz stated there is a need for conversations to take place at the Secretary level about these concerns.

**Kathy Leitch, Assistant Secretary, Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA)**

Kathy presented a PowerPoint presentation on Cowlitz Tribe Project on Housing. ADSA are looking at other options and grants for tribal partnerships. Copies of the presentation can be obtained from Maureen Wilson, by email at [wilsomal@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:wilsomal@dshs.wa.gov), or by phone at (360) 902-7706.

Kathy also went over the Elder Justice Act, which is the federal level of elder abuse and neglect, which was introduced this year and we may see action on this. ADSA is trying to explore funding for Adult Protective Services (APS) and staff with Budget. Currently ADSA has a working agreement with the Lummi tribe and four (4) others are pending per continuing dialog.

Kathy informed everyone that the King County Prosecutor's Office will hold a conference on Elder and Vulnerable Adults and they are seeking a presenter on Elder Abuse in Indian Country.

Liz expressed concern about ADSA scheduling meeting for 7.01 planning. The tribes feel that management needs to be involved from the Assistant Secretary level and should include the directors as well. She also expressed that tribes are not receiving access to services and this not acceptable. She requested a meeting with Kathy and her staff to resolve these issues.

Marilyn Scott explained that tribes across the state are interested in the project Cowlitz has done and wanted to know how tribes should access ADSA to receive assistance. Kathy informed everyone that George Zimmerman is the contact and is very interested in working with the tribes.

Dannette Ives explained that the Port Gamble S'Klallam tribe is in need of help with contracting with county AAAs. Kathy assured her there is a meeting set up to go over this issue.

**Sam Senn, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Economic Services Administration (ESA)**

Sam updated everyone on the latest ESA issues then introduced Duane French, Director of Policy.

Duane explained that congress reauthorized TANF and all family participation rates are 50%. There is a directive to Administration on Children and Families (ACF) to come up with regulations by the end of June. Feds will tell states how they can count participation and what documentation to use for verification. Penalties will be increased to states that do not meet measurements.

Duane also went over the Workfirst redesign. There is a hope that a better job can be done with comprehensive evaluations to get current partnerships working and move into new ones. Positive prevention to see if participants are eligible with other services; remove barriers to education and work.

Sanction Policy; September 1, 2006 will start the clock for those in sanction. Those who fail to participate six (6) months in a row will become ineligible beginning March 1, 2007.

Duane also gave an update on a meeting with unions to make it possible for tribes to do eligibility for food stamps and medical. A demonstration project is being planned for a food stamp project. Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) has strict requirements for this. One (1) tribe will be selected to participate in the project. A solicitation of interest identifying their intent, strength and needs are to be rolled into the process.

Ricard Tuppling of Colville inquired what the timeframe for the pilot and request for proposals (RFP) would be. Duane explained it would be within the next twelve (12) to eighteen (18) months to get this up and running. FNS has determined to limit this to a TANF tribe. The timeline, once started, would be:

- Pilot for 1 year
- Evaluate the success
- Expand beyond that
- 3 years for statewide effort

There was a reminder to consider accessibility to Workfirst offices; some clients go into sanction because they do not have access to the Community Service Office (CSO) and the Workfirst participation training.

**Colleen Cawston, Director, Indian Policy and Support Services (IPSS)**

Colleen went over the handout on the Communication Protocol. She explained the intent is to lay out an understanding on how to communicate with the tribes and explained the protocol's process.

Don Milligan expressed how this could be a forum for the Local Indian Child Welfare Advisory Council (LICWAC).

Contract Consultation was also mentioned and that a section review is needed. Jennifer LaPointe asked whether this will apply to sub-contractors and Blake explained it would not.

Liz put on table for motion to have protocol as a living document to use right away, with the ability to amend at any point. Motion made by Don Milligan, seconded by Helen Fenrich. All in favor, no opposed, motion carries.

Blake will process the protocol to Executive Leadership Team (ELT) for approval and then sent to Department staff as protocol to be used by all staff. The protocol will also be made a component of the Centennial Accord this year.

**Richard Kellogg, Director, Mental Health Division (MHD)**

Richard, who has been with the Department for three (3) months, gave everyone an overview of his experience with MHD so far.

Concerns were raised regarding the Regional Support Network's (RSN) involvement with tribes and the language in the new contract to have RSN's work with the tribes. Jennifer LaPointe brought up how multiple RSNs are providing service for only one tribe. Richard explained these items would be addressed at the next RSN meeting due to take place the week of April 17<sup>th</sup>. Richard also encouraged others to voice their comments and open up the lines of communication.

A question about EBP was raised and Richard stated these could be accommodated.

Richard is encouraged with the strong investment from the Governor's office about the Mental Health Transformation Grant. It is important to know and understand Government to Government.

Ken Stark, director of the MHD Transformation Grant then presented an overview of the grant. It will be a five-year grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for \$2.7 million. The grant will implement six goals – consumer (community and families) driven and outcome focused.

Ken explained there is a need for committee members to address

- Aging
- Transition
- Homelessness

Members will weigh in on what is working/what is not working, how we will reach our goals and what are the outcomes.

Dannette is on the transformation workgroup and expressed concern that there is not enough tribal involvement. There is need for tribes to be able to weigh in on sub-committees and to set up some forums in the Indian communities.

Jennifer is serving on the sub-committee process with four sites. She feels the input has been good but that there is a great need for specific tribal forums and more involvement with the tribes. She also noted that input through websites are important for those individuals that are unable to attend the forums.

Ken explained that Evidence Based Programs (EBP) give the opportunity to provide feedback and/or input. There is a need to evaluate the outcome of tribal practices. There will be a Mental Health conference taking place on May 4.

Lisa Thomas of the University of Washington (UW) stated UW is hoping to collaborate with IPAC and the America Indian Health Committee (AIHC) to bring all sides together to discuss EBP that is already happening in Indian Country.

Liz thanked all tribal members for attending these workgroups and sub-committee meetings. “We thank you for looking out for our interests.”

**Nancy Dufraigne, Program Manager, Children’s Administration (CA)**

Nancy introduced herself and thanked all tribal representatives and members for their support. She also informed the group that comments for Indian Child Welfare (ICW) case review criteria are due to her by May 13. Liz requested that Nancy bring the comments with her to present at the July IPAC meeting.

Rhonda Metcalf with the Sauk Suiattle Tribe requested mediation between the tribe and the Region 3 ICW office. Rhonda expressed the need to build communication between the tribe and DSHS. Nancy offered her assistance with finding a resolution to this situation.

Nancy went on to explain she, herself, is finding many inconsistencies with children’s issues and she welcomes communications about issues the tribes are having; with the goal of working together to find solutions.

Nancy then went over the CA reorganization; these are the six major areas of focus:

1. Clinical framework.
2. State Automated Child Welfare Information Services (SACWIS).
3. Contracts review (will be done by groups – not individual).
4. Neglect legislation.
5. Child Protective Services (CPS) / Child Welfare Services (CWS) redesign.
6. Evidence Based Practices (EBP)

Nancy is requesting input and feedback for re-establishing monthly meetings. CA management is looking to perform consistent work with tribes on redevelopment and redesign on all of the current projects that are underway.

Contract Review – Nancy went on to explain that CA is currently working on a well-established contracts list. The process is creating more information and knowledge that was not previously there. A mechanism will need to be in place to capture all data specific to all children, particularly Indian children. There is a need for accurate data.

Children, Youth and Families (CYF) – Nancy explained this is an advisory committee that will give input directly to the Assistant Secretary. The committee is looking for tribal involvement; they are hoping IPAC will recommend a person to sit on these meetings.

Liz inquired about the importance of the committee and stated she had heard this was a difficult committee. Nancy acknowledged problems occurred in the past but they are hoping to change that and bring back Indian input as a valuable tool.

Don Milligan asked the tribes could have three positions so that tribal and off-reservation Indians are heard as well; 7.01 policy should help this process as well. Nancy assured Don that she would bring all concerns back to Cheryl Stephani, Assistant Secretary, for discussion.

Jim Sherrill of the Cowlitz tribe expressed concern that there should not be anything going to the committee that the Department cannot bring to IPAC.

Helen made the suggestions of a tribal youth and family services workgroup to deal with all of these issues. The group will need to be more Indian friendly and not CA specific.

Liz stated that all information should all go to the CA subcommittee. Don and Jim will volunteer to be on this committee.

Please contact Nancy Dufraine for further information regarding the Children's Administration by phone at (360) 902-7578 or by email at [nadu300@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:nadu300@dshs.wa.gov).

There was mention that Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program is looking for a tribal representative.

Toni Lodge went over the handout on "Impact of Urban Indian Health Programs Elimination on Washington State".

### **IPAC Business**

Liz requested a budget meeting take place on May 10 at 8:00 am. The following people from DSHS should attend:

- Stan Marshburn
- Deborah Marley
- Nancy Dufraine
- Blake Chard
- Colleen Cawston

We will try to have as much input at our meeting prior to sending to the Governor's office. If possible, try to have strategic items for the Governor.

Meeting adjourned