

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

**CHAIRMAN**  
WILLIAM SAND

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
DAKOTA MCGINNIS

**SECRETARY**  
AILEEN MEYER

**TREASURER**  
BRENDA BOWIE

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**  
EDWIN SMITH

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**  
BARRY BRENARD

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**  
JOHN MCGINNIS

January/February 2014. All rights reserved. Guest editorials, letters to the editors or columns do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Tribal Council of Bear River Rancheria or their staff. The Tribal Council of the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria reserves the right to use their discretion in the information published.

Phone: 707-733-1900  
Fax: 707-733-1723  
E-mail:  
teresamcginnis@brb-  
nsn.gov



[www.brb-nsn.gov](http://www.brb-nsn.gov)

# Bear River Bulletin

January/February 2014

## **FIRST NOTICE OF REGULAR TRIBAL ELECTION ON MARCH 29, 2014 AS SPECIFIED IN THE ELECTION ORDINANCE OF THE BEAR RIVER BAND OF THE ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA**

**TO ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS:** The regular Tribal Council Election will be held on March 29, 2014. The First Notice mailing will be sent to all eligible voters early in February. It will include the First Notice of the Election, an Intent to Run Form, a Request for an Absentee (Mail-In) Ballot, and a stamped envelope addressed to the League of Women Voters of Humboldt County Election Service Post Office Box 3806. It will also include notification of your status as a Permanent Absentee Voter if you have completed that paperwork, instead of a Request for an Absentee (Mail-In) Ballot. You may request an absentee (mail-in) ballot if you will not be able to vote in person on **Saturday, March 29, 2014 from 8 AM to 4 PM.**

**If you wish to run for a position you must submit an Intent to Run Form that will be in the packet you receive. Just writing a letter or an email will not be sufficient.**

### **THE POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION ARE:**

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON:** 4 year term to March 2018

**SECRETARY:** 4 year term to March 2018

**TWO (2) MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:** 4 year term to March 2018

**FOUR POSITIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY BASED  
DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (CBDO) - 2 year term to March 2016.**

Election conducted by:  
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY ELECTION SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 3806, EUREKA, CA 95502 (707)444-9252



## Tribal Chairman's Corner

As a citizen of Bear River we have certain rights and privileges. We also have certain responsibilities to be active to protect those rights and privileges. To vote is to give a voice in a positive way. We all have a responsibility to participate by voting. Policies, programs and benefits are made by the elected officials we vote into office. We can and should be aware of policies and officials. When we vote we are not just voting for ourselves, but for the children's lives and futures we are responsible for. We need to be a voice for ourselves and our children. Only by participating and voting can we really steer the direction we want to go. John F. Kennedy once said "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." Bear River is our country, if we want the Tribe to do for us we must do for the Tribe and voice our opinion through votes. I'll leave you with a humorous quote. "If you don't vote you can't complain when things don't go the way you want them." Please Vote

*William Sand, Chairman*

---

## Election

The Election will be held at the Tish Non Community Center on March 29th, 2014 starting at 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. If you will not be able to make it to the Tish Non Community Center register with the LWV for an absentee ballot (mail-in). Make sure we have your current address on file with the Enrollment department. If you have you questions feel free to contact the Tribal Office.

---

## Tribal Council

### **General Council Meeting**

Tribal Council will be holding the annual General Council Meeting January 25th, 2014 at 10 am to noon at the Tish Non Community Center. If you have an agenda item or questions please contact Cindi Petrusha prior to the meeting at [cindipetrusha@brb-nsn.gov](mailto:cindipetrusha@brb-nsn.gov) or mail to the Tribal Office.

### **Business/Enterprise Tribal Council Meeting 11/25/13**

#### **Motion 11**

Approved Resolution 13-99 approving immediate tribal rights and benefits for newly enrolled members.

## Economic Development Department

The Economic Development Department has now introduced the Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process at the General Council meeting in November and at a public Economic Development meeting in December. At both meetings we requested information from the tribal membership about what direction you would like to see the tribe take in developing your economy over the next 10-20 years. We received good information from both meetings with questionnaires trickling in throughout November and 14 participants during the December meeting. We have compiled the data to date and it will be incorporated into the economic development strategy but the more participation we have the better the document will represent the vision of the membership. To this end we are holding two more public economic development meetings on February 3rd and February 24th. Both meetings are on Monday at 5:30 in the Tish-Non Community Center. Please come and help develop your economic vision for the coming decades.

*Dakota McGinnis, Vice-Chairman*

---

## WUSA

The WUSA Meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. January's meeting is the 15th at 6:00 pm at the Tish Non Community Center.

*Michael Flockhart*

---

## Homeowners Association

The HOA Meetings will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. January's meeting is the 7th at 6:00 pm at the Tish Non Community Center. If you have any questions feel free to contact the Tribal Office.

*Brenda Bowie*

---

## Family Self Sufficiency

In coordination with Wells Fargo the Bear River Family Self Sufficiency Program is proud to present **Financial Literacy Classes** January 13th, 2014 & February 10th, 2014 at 4 pm to 6 pm at the Tish Non Community Center. Brian Gonzalez, Fortuna Branch Manager will be here to discuss real life banking, credit, budgeting and loans. Food will be provided and don't forget raffle prizes.

*Pelaste Fillmore*

---

## Social Services

### Raising a child with Love and Respect

January 21st, 2014 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Topics of discussion are dealing with tantrums using love and logic, different parenting styles and the basics of love and logic. For more information please Social Services

*Elizabeth Varelas*

## Family Self Sufficiency

Greetings all! Happy New Year to everyone! The FSS Program has hit the ground running for 2014. There are so many activities in the works right now. For January 2014 we have Brian Gonzalez from Wells Fargo Bank coming to the Tish Non Community Center on the 13<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm, he will present Financial Literacy Classes, topics include real-life banking, setting up a family budget (and sticking to it), information on HUD Section 184 Loans too. He will also be back in February on the 13<sup>th</sup> for anyone that missed it in January as well as additional financial literacy information that will help you feel savvy and confident when it comes to money!

There is also the continuation of the Bear River Healthy Homes Program. The Social Services Department has coordinated a series of educational classes that are geared towards helping interested families in creating a healthy living environment for their families. We have regular classes each month with topics such as housekeeping , (successful participants that have enrolled in the program receive cleaning supplies on a monthly basis for letting the Social Services department conduct a follow up inspection to see if they are using them), and baking. We had a huge success with the Baking class held in December with over 30 people that came and learned how to elaborately decorate a two layer cake with Lorraine Keisner. Everyone looked like they had so much fun, can't wait to bring another one to you all!

Also, we will be having a Health and Nutrition workshop with topics that include Food and Kitchen safety, eat a rainbow of food, reading nutrition labels, balancing food and activity and recipe sharing. We will have a charismatic presenter from the county of Humboldt. on site to present this workshop and prepare a tasty, healthy meal of Crockpot Chili, Cornbread, Vegetable Chicken Enchiladas and Fruit Cobbler.

In the very near future, we are planning to bring a series of Wellness Days for Tribal Members. These are great opportunities to meet with Traditional Healers, medicine people that want to come and share cultural, traditional practices to help Native people spiritually. We will have Martin Martinez and Maggie Steele return, so keep an eye on the Bear River website and Facebook pages as these develop!

Thank you all, and I wish a happy, healthy, prosperous 2014 to you all!

Respectfully Submitted  
*Celste Fillmore, FSSS Coordinator*

## Social Services

### Healthy Homes Workshop Family Meals-Nutrition Series

January 31st, 2014 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Class topics include food and kitchen safety, eat a rainbow of foods, how to read a nutrition label, balancing food and activity and finding recipes that work for you.

Menu- Crockpot Chili, cornbread, vegetable chicken enchiladas and fruit cobbler.

Workshop collaboration between Bear River and County of Humboldt Dept. of Health and Human Services Healthy Communities Division. For more information contact Social Services Department.

## Enrollment

From January 1st 2013 to October 31st 2013 there have been 51 Tribal members enrolled, 40 of them being children under the age of 18 and 11 being adults over the age of 18. The current enrollment cycle is October 1st thru December 31st applicants will be reviewed in January for enrollment. January 1st thru March 31st will be reviewed in April for enrollment. April 1st thru June 30th will be reviewed in July for enrollment. July 1st thru September 30th will be reviewed in October for enrollment.

The Tribal Council has as of November 2013 lifted the moratorium (hold) on enrollment.

*Jim McGinnis*

## Our Drum

It is said that the most important Native American instrument is the drum. It is also said that drums were used as a call to gather the people and was used as an integral part of ceremonies. These could be meditation or healing ceremonies and celebrations. The drum represented fun times but also times of grief, sorrow and burdens. The drum is a symbol of endurance. The drums of our families rumble in our bones when it is played. When playing a drum there are spiritual, emotional and health related benefits. It is said that when an unborn child is developing, the first thing they hear is the heartbeat of their mother -- so when babies hear the drum it is just natural. The drum beat symbolizes the heartbeat of Mother Earth. The drum gives both rhythm and meaning to life. The drum provides the beat for dancers to proudly offer their thanks and praise to the Creator and Mother Earth. The drum is a way of bringing the people together. It is also said that the drum stick is not meant to strike the drum with aggression. The purpose is to make contact with the drum so that its powers may be released and audible to the world, along with reverence and respect for all things. The drum is not only heard by humans but also by the rocks, grasses, trees, animals, birds and all life. All of life becomes aware of its sacred powers. It is my hope that soon we begin to play the drum again here in Wiyot Indian Country.

*Brenda Bowie*

*Words taken from excerpts from different sights on the internet.*

## Housing Report

January 2014

**Phase V Infrastructure:** is complete. Potential move for new homeowners is February 2014. Residential development was funded by ICDBG12 grant building five homeownership housing units. Cost is approximately \$1M with \$300,000 funded by HUD RHED and \$120K FHWA.

**New Housing Construction:** development of four new housing units funded with ICDBG 2013 schedule to begin in May 2014. These units are funded with ICDBG 2013 and are expected complete around the end of the year. **Beneficiary selection will occur in October so be sure to have a current Tish Non homeownership application submitted before the end of September. Applications were recently mailed to adult Tribal members. The only sure way to not get a home awarded is by not submitting an application.**

**Tish Non Multi-Family Element:** Infrastructure construction is has been delayed. Construction of the apartments hasn't yet been authorized. The infrastructure development is funded principally by HUD Rural Innovation Fund grant of \$300,000

**Basayo:** vacant units are available and Tribal members are encouraged to apply. Over income families can now apply and be admitted on the north side. There is also a new Priority 2 allowing non-Tribal parents of Tribal children to submit applications but these will only be served after all Tribal head of household applications are placed in units.

*Pharmin Bailey, Housing Director*

---

## Reminder Per Capita Changes

All per capita distribution checks will be mailed two days in advance of the scheduled per capita distribution dates of February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. *Payments will NOT be available for pick up in the Tish non community center unless you are homeless.* Homeless members must make advance arrangements with the tribal finance department directly before the scheduled distribution date.

Since the checks will only be mailed, they are being mailed early so that they get to members as close as possible to the scheduled distribution date.

This is an advance notice for members to plan and update addresses on file with the tribal enrollment department and the tribal finance department so that payments are sent to the correct address.

Change of address form on last page of newsletter

*Allen Rode, Finance Director*

266 Keisner Road  
Lolita, CA 95503

**BEAR RIVER BAND OF  
ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name as it appears on the Tribal Roll

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roll Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

I request that my address be changed to the following:

C/O \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

I request that my minor child's address be changed to the following:

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Roll # \_\_\_\_\_

C/O \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_