

**Uchucklesaht Peoples Assembly**  
**ZOOM**  
**August 22, 2020**

**Attendance:**

Charlie Cootes Sr.	Micha Ginger	Michael Smith
Wilfred Cootes Jr.	Jayleen Sam	Carla Halvorsen
Thomas Rush	Marie Samuel	Lorraine Cootes
Angela Jeffrey	William Jeffrey	Ellen Gonzales
Scott Coulson	Sara Cootes	James Robinson
Sabrina Crowley	Randall Ginger	Tina Robinson
Matthew Titian	Bill Cox	Moriah Cootes

Chant – Thomas Rush  
Prayer – Marie Samuel

**Agenda:**

**(Main Motion)**

**Motion #01:** Uchucklesaht Peoples Assembly accepts agenda of the day.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley                      Seconder: Thomas Rush

(All in Favor – 19)

Motion Carried

Audit Review – Bill Cox

Accumulated Surplus is comprised of: accumulated operating surplus and accumulated remeasurement gains (losses)

You are up a lot compared to the year before.

Net Financial Assets – note your financial health as well

The other numbers on the page look fairly strong and there are no real issues with the numbers.

**Question:** Wages and Benefits Payable: Increased – what is the reason for that?

**Answer:** It is based on the fiscal year. Sometime your pay period ends perfectly at the end of the year or sometimes your pay period is overlapping the fiscal year more and creates a bigger accounts payable. At that second we owed that much to staff because our pay period overlapped the actual year end. This just represents the amount payable at the end of the year.

Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets – doesn't have a lot of useful information. Net financial assets. You ended up 1.3 million dollars ahead and so good results there.

**Statement of Operations** – results for that year. Again it is a requirement that a budget is presented.

We see large increases because we didn't know that the newly negotiated fiscal financial agreement would be approved by the government. We got approved for the treaty loan forgiveness after a large increase was negotiated. All nations were to get the gaming revenues and that all happened at once so we ended up with a large increase in revenues in our budget.

Executive then had to come up with new spending regime to implement the fiscal finance requirements. There is some explanation for the additional funding received.

**Question:** What happens with the bad debts?

**Answer: CAO/DOF:** Those are for accounting purposes those are taken out of your asset position because it is unlikely that will be paid back. They are not given up on but it is a lot higher than last year but not sure why it is a lot higher than last year.

**CAO/DOF:** All the older forestry companies from previous years that have been shut down. So we finally took them off the books and they become an expense at that point. Number changes because this is what happened in the accounting policy. All the old forestry companies we have not used in a decade had negative values to them and we carried that forward but we decided to take them off the books.

- Its money lost from a previous company years back pre-treaty: All of those companies lost money.

**Question:** Have you gone through all departments to clear out bad debts and have details that reflect the decision to clear those out?

**Answer:** No other bad debts in other departments. This is just the old forestry companies that were dissolved because we don't ever plan to use them.

**Comment:** Bad Debts from decades ago, I thought we had bad debts in education years ago. Have those been cleared out as well?

**Reply:** No, anything pre treaty I have no knowledge of. This is a summary of all the departments.

**Comment:** What about the details and disposal of assets – details would be helpful. A summary report with details.

**Disposal of Capital Assets** – from time to time those are no longer used and disposed of. It is not unusual.

**Question:** What is proper terminology to get a more detailed review of the audit each year?

**Answer:** These are your finances and you can ask for as much detail as you want. I can tell you, auditors work with materiality. We determine an important amount and might require disclosure. We consider a material amount of around 3% but that doesn't mean you have to use that percentage as a threshold.

CAO/DOF: If people want more details then yes, he can gather additional details for them.

**Question:** I would like a summary/consolidated report?

**Answer:** It is not possible to give you all a detailed report as it would be a thousand page detailed report but I can answer specific questions related to the audit.

**Question:** Can we make a request for each department? We have gone without a detailed report for years.

**Motion #02:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly requests a more detailed summary/consolidated audit report for future  
(All in Favor – 15)

Moved: Tina Robinson

Secunder: Ellen Gonzales

*Motion Carried*

**Question:** Increase in honorarium?

**Answer:** Yes, it was increased and so now we have a full time executive. So, when the fiscal finance agreement was negotiated – we had an increase in funding for time and services to better

provide the services. Federal government said that in five years, when FFA is negotiated again and we didn't use that funding, they would claw back that funding. So, we increased our duties and are using the funding. We used to be paid a daily amount for council, but now that is increased by the number of days. We have people working more days, executive members working more days. So, we created some full time positions.

**Reply:** I see some problems there but I'll hold that question for later.

**Question:** Do we keep track of UTG assets fuel and use of trucks/boats owned by UTG?

**Answer:** Yes, we have a log for assets and only have a few people allowed to purchase fuel on UTG's behalf and there is a log to track that. There is a truck being used on village site for contractors to use.

**Comment:** Yes, contractors are using UTG vehicles.

**Reply:** Yes, they are liable for any issues that arise when they use that vehicle. They are authorized to use it to go from site to site. All of their employees are covered by liability insurance.

**Investment in Other Entities:** Shows net of your investments. Most have increased except for forestry.

**CAO/DOF:** Yes, we had list of around 5 or 6 old forestry companies. This is where they used to be listed. You can see the Uchucklesaht Forestry Ventures loss of \$68,000

**Question:** Covid Funding – did UTG get anything for Covid-19 response?

**Answer:** Yes, as it occurred after last year end - it will be included in next years audit. We got some funding but not a lot. Money and food was distributed to our members in need. We are trying to get more funding. We probably received about \$200,000 but spent closer to a million. We needed food security and got a larger freezer to store food. We have a community garden now as well. Our nation did not get a lot of funding but we will fight for more funding. Apparently there might be more funding coming again.

**Question:** Amortization – it was the third highest expense. How did that number come to be?

**Answer:** It is a non cash expense. We expense over the life of assets and sometimes that is a very long time. A large chunk get amortized each year. How much of that we estimate has worn down. It doesn't take any cash but it shows the assets are being used up. You are spending as much as is needed to keep your assets going and in good condition.

**Question:** I have a lot of questions, we are lacking many details. What is the name of the consulting company that has been assisting Uchucklesaht?

**Answer:** We have numerous, we have a large list and around 5 or 6 other companies I can think of. I would have to double check our list.

**Motion #03:** Uchucklesaht Tribe government utilize/maximize the full legislative government by creating more executive positions for them to work.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconder: Michael Smith

(All in Favor – 15)

*Motion Carried*

**Question:** Didn't see anything in the audit regarding our water business? It's a big gap.

**Reply:** Water expenses are wrapped up in here. When you do an organizational financial statement, its all wrapped into one.

**Comment:** Years ago our Peoples Assembly put in place and discussed a 5 year Economic Development plan. We need an overview of all these business.

**Motion #04:** Uchucklesaht Tribe hold a Community Economic Development Meeting to discuss Economic Development and an updated 5 year Economic Development Plan.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley                      Seconded: Michael Smith

(All in Favor – 19)

*Motion Carried*

Citizen invited meeting and not a peoples assembly. It would be an economic Development meeting over view of all the businesses.

Its hard to review documents and it takes time

**Motion #05:** Uchucklesaht Tribe implement more transparent and less restricted process to share documents with membership.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley                      Seconded: Jayleen Sam

(All in Favor – 19)

*Motion Carried*

Habitat in Henderson – I’m worried about our resources and our sockeye. We lost spawning beds.

**Motion #06:** Uchucklesaht Tribe initiate habitat rehabilitation in the Houchutlis Lake areas, Clemens Creek and Hatchery Spring Creek and beach spawning locations.

(All in Favor – 19)

Moved: Sabrina Crowley                      Seconded: Michael Smith

Motion Carried

**Motion #07:** Uchucklesaht Tribe investigate enhancement options for Henderson Sockeye.

Moved: Sabrina Crowley

Seconded: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

(All in Favor – 19)

Motion Carried

Residential Interests – first and second reading went through

**Question:** What has been done to try recoop the forestry funds from past mismanagement?

**Answer:** We did go to court with the person and their amount is still on our file. I only wrote off some and could not get all amounts. We are keeping it on the books forever.

**Question:** What about future benefits? Are they still eligible?

**Answer:** Yes, they are still eligible. Certain benefits they don't get like health and wellness cheques and other organizations that take funding for children. We are also providing food for those in need.

**Motion #08:** Uchucklesaht Tribe involve membership more in the decision-making process regarding large development by creating a committee in each major department such as Lands, Resources, Housing, Water and meet quarterly.

Moved: Tina Robinson

Seconded: Ellen Gonzales

(All in Favor – 19)

Motion Carried

**Question:** Why was Peoples Assembly not approached to purchase the Redford Building?

**Answer:** We had to move fast due to negotiation and Peoples Assemblies take a lot of time to organize. Purchase of The Redford was approved by the full Legislative Council. It is a huge benefit for the Uchucklesaht Tribe. We are trying to provide more services and have a building that is updated and creating revenue.

**Question:** Is there a limit to what we can spend?

**Answer:** Could recommend an amendment to the financial admin act.

**Motion #09:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly accepts the 2020 Audit as presented.

Moved: Carla Halvorsen

Seconded: Michael Ginger

(All in Favor – 19)

Motion Carried

**Question:** Uses of the Redford building – it would be good to know what uses are there and put on the website?

**Answer:** Yes, just finalizing some of the areas and so that is a great idea to get video tour together as well.

**Motion #10:** Uchucklesaht Tribe complete a revamp of the UTG website to improve it so we can access detailed information regarding audit and other areas that could be password protected.

Moved: Moriah Cootes                      Seconded: Jayleen Sam

(All in Favor – 19)

*Motion Carried*

Create a private and secure UTG website.

Nucii is something that our ancestors used for many years and is connected with ocean, land and air. It is really a good feeling for me to know you chose Nucii as the name for The Redford Building.

**Adjourn:**

**Motion #11:** Uchucklesaht Tribe Peoples Assembly agrees to adjourn for the day.

Moved: Thomas Rush

Seconded: Wilfred Cootes Jr.

(All in Favor – 19)

*Motion Carried*