Minutes of Meeting
91st Annual Tribal Assembly
Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Elizabeth Peratrovich Hall
Juneau, Alaska

Theme: "Unbreakable Unity, Ancestral Strength"

Lingit: tlél aadé kaxduwawáal'i yé yá ch'a tléix' tí; Haa Léelk'u Hás latseení
Xaad Kil: Kunhlgijuwáay tláats'gaa jahlíis, Kuníisiisd Dagwiigáay

Day II: Thursday, September 24, 2026

CALL TO ORDER
2nd Vice President Clinton Cook, Sr., assumed the session Chair and called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. No objection, so ordered.

INVOCATION
Johanna Hotch, Minister from Juneau, provided the Invocation.

TRIBAL HOST
Mike Jackson, Tribal Host, addressed the Delegates expressing words of appreciation as Tribal Host.

DELEGATE/CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
The Chair ruled the motion made the previous day to cast a unanimous ballot to seat Jennifer Cordova-James, the only candidate running as the Delegate/Citizen of the Year when the Election Chair was still chairing the election proceedings was out of order.

M/S Kevin Allen, Juneau Delegate, moved to cast a unanimous ballot to seat Jennifer Cordova-James as the Delegate/Citizen of the Year. No objection, motion carried.

WORD OF THE DAY
Michelle Martin, Juneau Delegate, provided the Lingít word of the day.

Eric Hamar, Kasaan Delegate, provided the Xaad Kíl word of the day.

ADOPT MINUTES OF DAY 1, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026
M/S Paulette Moreno, Sitka Delegate, moved to adopt the meeting minutes of September 23, 2026. No objection, motion carried.

The Chair announced the family of Scotty Jackson of Kake, Alaska experienced a house fire the previous night. The Delegates passed the hat to collect monetary donations which totaled $2,243.00.

Eli Hanlon III, Yakutat Delegate, announced the passing of Ted Valle, Sr. of Yakutat, Alaska.

ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
Louise Kadinger, Enrollment and Credentials Committee Chair, provided a report.

The Chair called on Kathryn Lawrence, Juneau Delegate, to offer a prayer in support of the communities of Kake and Yakutat, Alaska, following their recent losses.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO) REPORT
Charlene Robertson, Chief Financial Officer, provided a report.

AUDIT REPORT
Karen Taug, Audit Committee Chair, provided a report.

The Chair declared a 10-minute break at 9:17 a.m. and called the meeting back to order at 9:31 a.m.

INTRODUCTION & ADOPTION OF BUDGETS
Helene Simpson, Finance Committee Chair, provided a report.

FY 2026 Proposed Budget Amendments and FY 2027 Proposed Budget
M/S Ken Southerland, Juneau Delegate, moved to adopt the FY 2026 Proposed Budget Amendments and the FY 2027 Proposed Budget. No objection, motion carried.

Audit Report
Karen Taug, Audit Committee Chair, provided a report.

M/S Louise Kadinger, Juneau Delegate, moved to adopt the audit report. No objection, motion carried.

WASHINGTON DC UPDATE
Phil Baker-Shenk, Attorney, Holland & Knight, provided a report.

President Emeritus Edward K. Thomas asked for privilege of the floor to address the Delegates to acknowledge Phil Baker-Shenk's work on behalf of the Tribe. No objection.

President Richard J. Peterson also requested privilege of the floor to present a token of appreciation to Phil Baker-Shenk in recognition of his work done on behalf of the Tribe. No objection.

NCAI REPORT
Garry Hook, NCAI Policy Associate, provided a report.

AFN REPORT
Ben Mallott, AFN President, provided a report.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA LANDLESS CORPORATION UPDATE
Harriett Brouillette, Richard Rinehart, and Karen Taug, representing the Southeast Alaska Landless Corporation, along with Jaeleen Kookesh, Van Ness Feldman, LLP, provided a report.

Catherine Edwards, Seattle Delegate, requested and asked for privilege of the floor to allow Natalie Anderson, Seattle Council Youth Ambassador to address the floor. No objection.

TLINGIT & HAIDA FOUNDATION REPORT
Jamie Gomez, Executive Director, provided a report.

RECESS
The Chair declared a recess at 12:00 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

CALL TO ORDER
President Richard J. Peterson, assumed the session Chair and called the meeting back to order at 1:02 p.m.

ELECTIONS
Selena Beierly, Elections Committee Chair, assumed the Chair to preside over the election proceedings. Elections were conducted for the following offices, with the results as follows.

A 10-minute caucus was requested at 1:27 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Elections Chair called the meeting back to order at 1:42 p.m.

President
Ballot 1
The Elections Chair declared the results show Richard J. Peterson elected as President.

M/S Tasha Hotch, Anchorage Delegate, moved to accept the election results for Office of President. No objection, motion carried.

The Delegates asked for a 15-minute caucus at 1:53 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Election Chair called the meeting back to order at 2:08 p.m.

1st Vice President
Ballot 2
The Elections Chair declared the results show Clinton Cook, Craig Delegate, elected as 1st Vice President.

M/S Jacqueline Pata, Juneau Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 2 for office of 1st Vice President. No objection, motion carried.

A 20-minute caucus was requested at 2:17 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Election Chair called the meeting back to order at 2:37 p.m.

Five (5) Vice Presidents
Ballot 3
The Elections Chair declared the results show no Vice President was elected from Ballot 3.

M/S Tasha Hotch, Anchorage Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 3. No objection, motion carried.

Ballot 4
The Elections Chair declared the results show Rob Sanderson, Jr., Ketchikan Delegate, and Frances Mills, Anchorage Delegate, elected as Vice Presidents.

M/S Jacqueline Pata, Juneau Delegate, moved to accept the election report from Ballot 4. No objection, motion carried.

Rob Sanderson, Jr., Ketchikan Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

Frances Mills, Anchorage Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

A 15-minute caucus was requested at 3:06 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Elections Chair called the meeting back to order at 3:22 p.m.

Woodrow Wilson, ANB Grand Camp President, Millie Schoonover, ANS Grand Camp Emeritus, and Sandra Churchill, ANS Grand Camp President asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

Sergeant-at-Arms Jason Wilson addressed the Delegates emphasizing the importance of supporting and lifting one another up.

Ballot 5
The Elections Chair declared the results show Will Micklin, San Francisco Delegate, elected as Vice President.

M/S Jacqueline Pata, Juneau Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 5. No objection, motion carried.

Will Micklin, San Francisco Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

Paulette Moreno, Sitka Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

A 15-minute caucus was requested at 3:40 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Elections Chair called the meeting back to order at 3:58 p.m.

A 10-minute caucus was requested at 4:02 p.m. No objection, so ordered.

The Elections Chair called the meeting back to order at 4:12 p.m.

Ballot 6
The Elections Chair declared the results show Michelle D. Martin elected as Vice President, and William Ware elected as Vice President.

M/S Tasha Hotch, Anchorage Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 6. No objection, motion carried.

Jacqueline Pata, Juneau Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

Michelle D. Martin, Juneau Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

William Ware, Petersburg Delegate, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
Ballot 7
The Elections Chair declared the results show Cheryl Demmert-Fairbanks elected as Associate Justice.

M/S Elizah Dominy, Seattle Delegate and Heather Gurko, Portland Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 7. No objection, motion carried.

EMERGING LEADER
Ballot 8
The Elections Chair declared the results show Shania Murphy elected as Emerging Leader.

M/S Tasha Hotch, Anchorage Delegate, moved to accept the election results from Ballot 8. No objection, motion carried.

Shania Murphy, newly elected Emerging Leader from Ketchikan, asked for Privilege of the Floor to address the Delegates. No objection, so ordered.

SESSION CHAIR
President Peterson assumed the session Chair at 4:42 p.m.

Frank Wright, Jr., Hoonah Delegate was excused.

OATH OF OFFICE
Magistrate Trinidad Contreras, administered the Oath of Office to the individuals elected to the offices of President, Richard J. Peterson, 1st Vice President, Clinton Cook, Sr.; Vice Presidents, Rob Sanderson, Jr., Frances Mills, William Micklin, Michelle D. Martin, and William Ware; Associate Justice, Cheryl Fairbanks-Demmert; and Emerging Leader, Shania Murphy.

RECESS
President Peterson announced the Memorial Service would be held at 5:00 p.m. and recessed the meeting for the day at 4:51 p.m.