

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Delores Pigsley, Tribal Chairman
Alfred "Bud" Lane III, Vice Chairman

For information, contact:
Tribal Public Information Office, 541-444-8291



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Siletz Tribe Elects Tribal Council Members Officers Also Elected for 2010

Lillie Butler, Alfred "Bud" Lane III and Delores Pigsley were re-elected to the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians in elections held Saturday.

Butler, from Siletz, Ore., was re-elected with 536 votes; Lane, also from Siletz, was re-elected with 474 votes; and Pigsley from Keizer, Ore., was re-elected with 433. Eight candidates ran for the three open positions and the three who received the most votes were elected.

These individuals will serve with Loraine Butler and Tina Retasket, both of Siletz, and Robert Kentta of Logsdon, Ore., whose terms expire in 2011; and Reggie Butler Sr. and Sharon Edenfield, both of Siletz, and Jessie Davis of Keizer, Ore., whose terms expire in 2012. Term of office is three years for each position on the nine-member council.

Nine hundred seventy ballots were returned and accepted out of the 3,191 ballots that were issued to eligible voters. Enrolled members of the Siletz Tribe who are age 18 or older are eligible to vote in Tribal elections. The Tribe has more than 4,700 enrolled members.

The swearing-in ceremony for the newly elected council members took place Sunday. Officers are elected on an annual basis and those selected for 2010 include:

Delores Pigsley, chairman

Alfred "Bud" Lane III, vice chairman

Tina Retasket, secretary

Jessie Davis, treasurer

Pigsley currently has served 24.5 years as Tribal chairman out of 31 years on the council, while Davis has served 21 years on the Tribal Council; Lillie Butler has served 18; Reggie Butler, 13; Lane, 12; Kentta and Loraine Butler, five each; Retasket, two; and Edenfield less than one year.

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The Siletz Tribe has spent the last 32 years rebuilding its government and economic structure. The signing of Public Law 95-195 in 1977, which restored government-to-government relations between the Siletz Tribe and the federal government, started this process. The Siletz Tribe was the second in the nation – and the first in Oregon – to achieve restoration.

The Siletz Tribe was among the first to become a self-governance Tribe, giving Tribal government more control over services provided to Tribal members. Under self-governance, the U.S. government provides general funding to the Tribe (rather than to specific programs), then Tribal employees and the Tribal Council decide how funds will be spent.

Significant Tribal accomplishments since 1977 include opening a health clinic in 1991; building more than 100 homes and multiple dwellings for Tribal members, including the newest units at Neachesna Village in Lincoln City; completing the Siletz Dance House in 1996; opening the Tenas Illahee Childcare Center and the Siletz Gas & Mini-Mart in 2003; opening the Logan Road RV Park in Lincoln City in 2004; and opening the Hee Hee Illahee RV Resort in Salem in 2006.

Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City opened in May 1995. In June 2004, the Siletz Tribe purchased the former Shilo Inn adjacent to the casino and opened Chinook Winds Casino Resort. Chinook Winds Golf Resort opened in April 2005 when the Tribe purchased the former Lakeside Golf and Fitness Center in Lincoln City. The combination of Tribal employees and those at Chinook Winds Casino Resort has allowed the Siletz Tribe to become the largest employer in Lincoln County.

The Siletz Tribe has honored its tradition of sharing within the community by distributing more than \$7.9 million through the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund and other Tribal resources. Chinook Winds has donated more than \$1.75 million in cash and fund-raising items since 1995. It also provides in-kind donations of convention space for various fund-raisers as well as technical support, advertising and manpower for events.

The Tribe purchased the Imprints printing business in Lincoln City in 2008. It also opened the Tillicum Fitness Center, a new gymnasium and a new USDA food distribution warehouse in Siletz in 2008.

Tribal offices in Portland, Salem and Eugene now are housed in Tribally owned buildings. The Eugene office moved to its current location in 2005, the Salem office did the same in 2006 and the Portland office moved to its current location in 2008.

The Tribe also played a lead role in opening Siletz Valley School in 2003 and the Siletz Valley Early College Academy in 2006.

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