



Signing for INFRA Grant completes funding for I-10 Expansion Project

GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

On Jan. 17, Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Governor Stephen Roe Lewis was joined by Jennifer Toth, Director for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and Karla Petty, Division Administrator of the Arizona Division - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), for the signing of the \$95 million Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant awarded to the state in 2024 by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The grant will be put towards the completion of the Interstate 10 Wild Horse Pass Corridor project: The 26-mile stretch of I-10, between Loop 202 (Santan/South Mountain Freeway) in south Phoenix and State Route 387, near Casa Grande. It remains a major commuter route and connects the Gila River Indian Community to surrounding cities and vital services.

For many years, this portion of the I-10 has been unreliable, unsafe, and has stretched the resources of the Community's first responders due to the high num-



L-R: Jennifer Toth, Director for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), GRIC Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, and Karla Petty, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Division Administrator of the Arizona Division sign the INFRA grant awarded to Arizona in 2024. Emma Hughes/GRIN

ber of accidents and fatalities in what is often described as the "fatal funnel." The consistent strain on the Community's families, students, elders and employees led to an aggressive advocacy push by the Community to ensure funding is received and this stretch can be widened to match the roadways off the Community.

The INFRA grant was awarded to improve travel safety and conditions and will be used to

widen the portion ten-mile portion of I-10 between Gas Line Road and State Route 387, improve the SR 387/SR 187/Pinal Avenue interchanges, and build a new interchange at Seed Farm Road. These new interchanges will be vital to ensure safe and adequate travel conditions.

"I am so proud of the Community's aggressive effort to ensure that this long-neglected stretch of the I-10 will be wid-

ened and improved to enhance the safety and reliability of this roadway for our members and all those who travel through the Community," said Gov. Lewis. "It not only will improve this vital stretch of highway in our State, it will improve the Community's access to it by building a new intersection at Seed Farm Road, connecting our government services directly to this vital transportation corridor."

This project will widen and improve ten-miles of I-10 by adding one additional 12-foot lane in each direction and 12-foot shoulders, adding fiber conduit, installing concrete barrier between the eastbound and westbound I-10 to prevent crossover crashes, and installing a wrong way driving detection system. It also includes the following improves at interchanges and crossroads:

1.) Gasline Road: eliminate low clearance at the bridge. Improve crossroad by adding sidewalks and wider shoulders.

2.) Seed Farm Road: convert from crossroad to interchange. Improve crossroad by adding sidewalks and wider shoulders.

3.) Dirk Lay: remove low clearance bridge.

4.) SR 387/SR 187: reconfigure interchange, including adding sidewalks and widening the shoulders and reconfiguring the crossroad.

For more information and timelines on the I-10 Wild Horse Pass Corridor construction projects, visit: i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com

Community, Gov. Lewis Reassure Members Amid Immigration Enforcement Concerns

GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

SACATON — Following unconfirmed reports of Arizona tribal members being questioned or detained by federal immigration officials, the Gila River Indian Community and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis have issued guidance to reassure and assist members.

In a statement issued on Jan. 24, Gov. Lewis emphasized that no known cases of Gila River tribal members being detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have been reported. Nonetheless, concerns sparked by recent rumors have prompted the Community to act.

Gov. Lewis advised members to take precautions while traveling by carrying valid identifica-

tion, such as a tribal enrollment card, a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB), a valid Arizona driver's license, or a government-issued ID.

"Please be careful, and if traveling, ensure you have valid forms of identification to avoid any potential issues," said Lewis.

The Community is taking proactive measures to protect its members and uphold tribal sovereignty. GRIC departments, including the Police Department, are monitoring the situation closely to identify any potential risks or incidents that could affect members. Gov. Lewis noted that the Community is working to establish a direct dialogue with ICE to ensure that tribal membership IDs are recognized as proof of U.S. citizenship and that federal authorities respect the

rights of GRIC members.

A flyer distributed alongside the Governor's statement provides detailed advice on what to do if mistakenly stopped by federal officials. The guidance encourages members to remain calm, carry identification at all times, and report any encounters to the Community's Office of General Counsel at 520-562-9760. If a member is arrested, they are advised to contact the Office of Defense Services at 520-562-5700 for assistance with legal representation.

The flyer also stresses the importance of documenting the details of any interaction, including the names and badge numbers of officers involved, and informing the Community promptly. Members are

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Gov. Lewis Highlights State-Tribal Collaboration at 30th Annual Legislative Day

GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

PHOENIX — Governor Stephen Roe Lewis of the Gila River Indian Community gave a keynote speech to hundreds of tribal members and Arizona legislators on Jan. 15 at the Arizona Capitol during the 30th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day. The event, themed "Embracing Our Past, Celebrating Our Future," marked three decades of collaboration between Arizona's tribal nations and state government.

In his remarks to a joint session of the Legislature, Gov. Lewis highlighted the importance of state-tribal partnerships and their role in addressing critical issues.

"Every tribe here has examples of how we have worked together with the state to craft solutions that



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis keynote speaker for the 30th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on Jan. 15. Apphia Shirley/CPAO

serve all the people of Arizona," Lewis said. He pointed to the 2021 tribal gaming compact as a prime example of successful collaboration, describing it as "a common approach to limited, exclusive tribal gaming that benefits the entire state."

Lewis also underscored the significance of

infrastructure improvements achieved through partnerships, including the widening of Interstate 10 through the Gila River Indian Community. "This critical project got off the ground because of close partnerships with state and federal officials," he said.

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Gila River Indian Community along with Communications & Public Affairs Office shall not be held responsible for bodily injury, theft, or damages incurred during the Mul-Chu-Tha Fair and Rodeo.



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Stephen Roe Lewis

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Regina Antone

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GRIC Voter Turnout Showed Mixed Progress in 2024

GRIN Staff
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) saw a voter turnout of 49% for the 2024 election, according to data provided by Arizona State University’s Indian Legal Clinic. The result from the Nov. 5th election was slightly lower than the Community’s 50% turnout in 2020, but better than the 47% turnout in 2016. While the numbers show steady participation during presidential elections, GRIC still trailed several other Arizona tribes, including the Navajo Nation, which had a 59.67% turnout, and the Ak-Chin Indian Community, which reached 62%.

GRIC voters are divided

between Pinal County and Maricopa County. The Pinal County precincts are: Blackwater 60, Sacaton 29, San Tan 61 and Casa Blanca 62. The Maricopa County locations are Komatke – 425 and Pee-Posh – 629.

Statewide, slightly below 80% of all registered voters went to the polls this year, about the same as in 2020.

A closer look at GRIC’s turnout in 2024 reveals differences among the community’s voting districts:

- Blackwater: 52% turnout (459 ballots cast out of 881 registered voters)
- Maricopa Colony: 52% turnout (230 ballots cast out of 444 registered voters)
- Sacaton: 50% turnout (537

ballots cast out of 1,133 registered voters)

- Santan: 49% turnout (487 ballots cast out of 1,000 registered voters)
- Casa Blanca: 47% turnout (504 ballots cast out of 1,071 registered voters)
- Komatke: 43% turnout (385 ballots cast out of 698 registered voters)

Blackwater and Maricopa Colony had the highest turnout, with 52% of registered voters participating. Meanwhile, Komatke recorded the lowest turnout at 43%. The Indian Legal Clinic analysis reports that 5,456 members who live within the Community’s borders have registered to vote with 2,648 ballots cast.

“In very close elections, tribal voter turnout can be a real difference maker,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. “Because the Community has many more younger voters than some of our Arizona sister tribes, it can be difficult to drive higher turnout. No matter the challenges, I’m proud of the thousands of Community members who took the time to vote in 2024.”

GRIC leaders and the Community Public Affairs Office (CPAO) worked together to engage voters ahead of the 2024 election. Efforts included voter registration drives, a voter education guide, and a “Get Out the Vote” rally featuring Arizona leaders like Gov. Katie Hobbs and Attorney General Kris Mayes. These initiatives aimed to ener-

gize registered voters and emphasize the importance of the Native vote in a critical swing state.

Ultimately, Donald Trump won the state of Arizona by a margin of about 187,000 votes.

Voter turnout varied significantly among different Arizona tribes. Both the Tohono O’odham Nation and Kaibab Paiute tribes also showed high participation rates, each with a 63% turnout. The Ak-Chin tribe followed closely with a 62% turnout. The Pascua Yaqui tribe had a turnout of 54%, while Fort McDowell, San Carlos, and White Mountain each had a turnout of 53%. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community had a 52% turnout, and the Gila River Indian Community had a 49% turnout. Lower turnout rates were observed in the Hualapai and Havasupai tribes, with 39% and 37% respectively.

Gov. Lewis, who has testified before Congress regarding the challenges faced by Native voters, cited multiple obstacles that can drive down voter turnout, including a lack of traditional street addresses, which complicates voter registration, and the inaccessibility of many polling places.

“Despite the barriers we face, voting is a powerful act of sovereignty and self-determination,” said Gov. Lewis. “Every vote cast by a tribal member strengthens our fight for equity, justice, and resources our Community and Indian Country deserves.”



GRIC rolled out Community Voter Education Guides for the 2024 U.S. General Election. GRIN Photo

From the Front Page


reminded of their legal rights, including the right to remain silent and to request an attorney if detained.

Gov. Lewis assured the Community that these measures are precautionary and that there is no evidence of any GRIC members being impacted so far.

“We are doing everything possible to gather accurate information and ensure that the rights of our members are respected,” he said. The Governor urged members to remain calm as the Community continues to monitor developments.

Other Arizona tribal nations have taken similar steps since mid-January. Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and SRPMIC President Martin Harvier both released statements on Jan. 24th calling on tribal members to carry state-issued identification, such as a driver’s license, other picture identification, or their Certificate of Indian blood at all times.

The Community is committed to keeping all members informed and safe during this uncertain time. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available. For now, members are encouraged to follow the recommended precautions and reach out to Community resources if they encounter any issues.



WHAT TO DO IF MISTAKENLY STOPPED FOR QUESTIONING BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES FOR IMMIGRATION STATUS

- Remain calm and polite.
- Have your Tribal ID or other ID on you if at all possible to confirm your U.S. citizenship.
- Provide accurate and truthful information in response to any questions posed.
- Remember the details of your encounter and report them to the Office of General Counsel as soon after the encounter as possible by calling the following number: 520-562-9760
- Ask for the identification of the immigration or other law enforcement personnel who have stopped you, and take note of the person’s name, agency, badge number, and contact information if possible, and include this information in any report you provide to OGC.
- While it is not likely that you will be arrested after being stopped, if you are, you have federal rights that must be respected, including the right to be silent in response to any questions after you are arrested, but you need to tell them that you are exercising that right.
- You also have the right to a lawyer. If you are arrested, you can contact the Office of Defense Services for assistance in finding representation to assist you at the following number: 520-562-5700
- We do not expect any federal officials to come onto the Reservation to enforce immigration laws at this point, and will be reaching out to them in the coming days to confirm that expectation and to establish procedures for cooperation with our tribal police to ensure our members and our sovereignty is respected. In the meantime, if you do observe any federal officials on Reservation seeking to enforce the federal immigration laws, please report this immediately to OGC at the number above.
- Finally, we urge all members to remain calm in this time of uncertainty. There are many inaccurate reports and rumors that are currently circulating and we are doing our best to ensure that we have accurate facts. We will keep members informed of all developments as we learn more.

★ VETERANS ★
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where Are Your Discharge Papers?



Submitted by
Veteran & Family Services
Office

Where is your DD214? The DD214 is a document that is presented to the Veteran upon discharge from the military. It gives insight into the active duty military time. It has the date the individual started basic training and the date of discharge. It contains a lot of other significant information!

The DD214 is needed to apply for benefits (including disability benefits) through the VA. Providing this document decreases the time it takes to process claims. It takes extra time for claims to process if the VA has to request and wait to receive the document. The VA will not award any benefits without this verification.

In order to receive Military Honors at burial, the DD214 has to be presented and reviewed in ad-

vance before Honors will be planned. Certain types of discharges can make a Veteran ineligible for military honors. We will gladly answer any questions you may have.

The VA has 2 possible benefits for Surviving spouses. It is possible to not be eligible for either one. In filing a claim, the surviving spouse has to present the discharge document when filing if the Veteran was not receiving a monthly payment from the VA.

Gila River Veteran and Family Services Office is accredited with the VA. We are able to assist with filing claims and explaining benefits. We can assist with ordering a DD214 if you don't have one. It takes approximately one month to receive from the time it is ordered. It must be ordered by the Next of Kin or our office can order it if the discharge was more than 62 years ago. Again, this process takes about a month. Being accredited with the VA does NOT give automatic access to random DD214s. We do not have authorization to access every discharge document held by the National Ar-

chive.

If the Veteran is deceased, the discharge document can be ordered by the Next of Kin. Next of Kin includes parents, spouse, siblings and children. If they are deceased, Next of Kin includes grandchildren.

If the DD214 is needed for an emergency like for burial, then the funeral home can order it quickly.

To avoid the long processing time for ordering the document, you may bring a copy of your discharge document to our office. We will keep the copy on file to assist you and/or your family at the time of need. Many civilians don't know what the DD214 looks like. You may know where it's kept, but does your family know where to find it when and if they need it?

Where is your DD214?

Peer Support Specialist - Wesley Rhodes 520-610-4383

Peer Support Specialist - Darrell Whitman 520-610-2037

Veteran Service Officer - Kim Skelton 520-610-7644


80th Anniversary

Iwo Jima Flag Raising

Military Parade and Flyover to begin at 8:30 AM. Ceremonies to follow at the Mathew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton, AZ.
All Public and Veterans Groups are Welcome

Feb.22 2025

Come Visit the Homeland of IRA H. HAYES



Luncheon hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 84 with St. Peters Church and School. Event sponsored by American Legion Ira H. Hayes Post No. 84 and Auxiliary Unit No. 84. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 186, Sacaton, AZ, 85147 / Phone: 520.562.8484 / Fax: 520.562.3297 / Email: ihpost84@gilanet.net Web: www.iraheyestpost84.org

Arizona Indian Gaming Association Elects New Chairman

Press Release

Arizona Indian Gaming Association

Phoenix, AZ — The Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA) is proud to announce that the AIGA member Tribes have elected White Mountain Apache Tribal Chairman Kasey Velasquez as the 2025 Chairman of AIGA. Chairman Velasquez brings decades of dedicated leadership and public service to this esteemed role, as he aims to further strengthen AIGA's mission of supporting Tribal sovereignty, self-reliance, and economic development.


AIGA represents member Tribes across Arizona, united in advocating for the benefits and growth of Tribal Gaming in Arizona. Since its founding in 1994, AIGA has served as a collective voice to protect the inherent sovereign rights of Tribes while promoting the economic, cultural, and social advancements derived from Indian gaming operations. With Tribal gaming contributing over \$100 billion to the U.S. economy, AIGA remains at the forefront of ensuring its success benefits Tribal nations and their surrounding communities.

"It is a tremendous honor to serve as the Chairman of the Arizona Indian Gaming Association," said Chairman Velasquez. "I am inspired by the resilience and vision of our Tribal leaders, and I look forward to working together to advance our shared priorities—protecting sovereignty, fostering economic opportunities, and ensuring our voices are heard at every level. By uniting our efforts, we can continue to create a prosperous future for all our people. For more than thirty years AIGA has served the interest of Tribes in Arizona, specifically advancing our Indian Gaming economies and initiatives. I am honored to inherit this strong legacy of leadership and organization from the many Tribal Leaders who served prior to myself and look forward to advancing their vision and legacy of AIGA."

Chairman Velasquez, a member of the Bear Clan (Nagodishgizh'n) and Roadrunner Clan (Bisza-ha), has dedicated his life to public service. He holds multiple degrees, including two graduate degrees in education from Northern Arizona University and Doane College. As Chairman of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, he has prioritized unifying the Tribal Council to address and invest in critical areas such as education, housing, and economic development.

His legacy of leadership stems from a lineage of influential Tribal leaders, including his grandmother, Mary Velasquez Riley, the first woman elected to the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council, who served for 20 years and was inducted into the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.

Chairman Velasquez's distinguished career includes serving as White Mountain Apache Tribe Vice-Chairman and District IV Tribal Councilman. Prior to serving in Tribal leadership, Chairman Velasquez dedicated his professional career to public education both in the classroom and executive administration. Under his leadership, AIGA is poised to continue its vital work, ensuring that Tribal Gaming remains a cornerstone of sovereignty, economic independence, and cultural preservation.



Ho'ok A'aga

Come and join us for an evening of storytelling, dinner and hot chocolate.

February 15, 2025 | 6PM-8PM

Master of Ceremony

Antonio "Gohk" Davis

Presenters

Robert Stone & Kelly Washington & William Allen

PLEASE NOTE: This is an outdoor event, so please wear warm clothing. No photographs or recordings will be permitted

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Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library Introduces Reading Challenge, Welcomes New Librarian



The Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library is located on the corner of Church Street and Pima Street in Sacaton. GRIN Photo

Joseph Morales
GRIN Intern

Introducing the new year, the Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library in collaboration with the Arizona State Library Archives and Public Records (ASLARP), begins a new online reading challenge for the month of January where readers need to log 600 minutes of reading, open to all members of Gila River Indian Community (GRIC). The ASLARP has partnered with libraries throughout the state, providing resources like library workshops, grant opportunities, and support for reading programs. One these standout initiatives is the Beanstack Program and App which allows library card holders to log their reading minutes online for free.

“I have experience offering reading challenges from the previous library I worked at,” said Melanie Toledo-Matteson, librarian for the Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library, located in Sacaton. “I contacted ASLARP to ask if we can climb on board to begin offering reading challenges to the Gila River Indian Community.” Beanstack makes it easy for users to log on and track minutes, while providing a fun engaging way to track their progress. The Ira Hayes Memorial Library is making changes to give members more chances to read. They’re also excited to introduce the Libby App, a free virtual library service that gives library cardholders access to thousands of eBooks, magazines, and audiobooks. You will be able

to browse and borrow titles anytime from anywhere, making it easier to expand your reading minutes. Looking ahead, the library is dedicated to supporting reading skills and learning in the Community. The new reading challenge is just one of many other expansions. Through the new partnerships and tools like the Libby app, the library is aiming to make reading easier and more accessible for all members. For anyone interested to learning more about the Ira H. Hays has to offer or to obtain a library card, please contact the Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library at (520) 562-3225 or email them at: irahayeslibrary@gmail.com. The staff will also help anyone set up and obtain a PIN to access the Libby app.

The Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library is pleased to announce Melanie Toledo-Matteson as its new librarian. With her background in library sciences, community service, and connection to her Navajo roots, Toledo-Matteson is excited to contribute to the library’s growth. Before joining the Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library, she has served as a library manager for the Ak-Chin Indian Community for over 15 years. Other areas of work include the Labriola American India data center at ASU Hayden library and teaching for two years at an elementary school on the Navajo Nation. She is a member of the Navajo Nation and hails from Low Mountain, Ariz. Toledo-Matteson belongs to the the Táchii’níí clan, born of the Tánéészahníí

clan. She has grown up on and off the Navajo reservation, sharing unique perspectives with her experiences in the public-school systems of New Mexican and Arizona. She then attended the University of Arizona (U of A)where Toledo-Matteson earned a Master’s degree in Information Resources and Library Science, following her Bachelor’s degree in History with a Minor in Ethnic Studies from Arizona State University (ASU). She has been part of the inaugural Knowledge River program at the U of A, designed to recruit Native American and Hispanic librarians. Outside of her professional life, Toledo-Matteson enjoys reading, traveling, watching movies, and attending concerts. She cherishes spending time



Melanie Toledo-Matteson, Librarian for the Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library. Photo Courtesy of Melanie Toledo-Matteson


with her grandsons, especially when they play board games together. The Ira H. Memorial Library is thrilled to welcome such an experienced and dedicated professional.

January 22, 2025

“I want to take the time to thank everyone that helped me and my family get through the process of our family burial. My one and only son, Boyce M. Osife was laid to rest January 18, 2025.




District 5, thank you for helping at the very start, with doing the paperwork and all that needed to be done. Thank you to the diggers that dug the hole and to all the others that came to help dig. Thank you to the church, the travelers for Jesus, where we heard the sermon that lifted us up to keep us going.

On behalf of my Granddaughter, my son’s only daughter Tristen Osife and myself Dana Osife Jr. and the entire Osife family, Thank you, Thank you!”
- Dana Osife Jr.



Meet Libby.

The one-tap reading app from your library



- Borrow eBooks, audiobooks or magazines!**
- How to Get Started:
1. Download the Libby app or scan QR code
 2. Search for **Ira Hayes Memorial Library**.
 3. Enter your library card number (No Letters) & PIN.
 4. If you don't have a library card or PIN, call us at **520-562-3225** OR
 5. Stop by the Library for a card.
 6. Borrow a title & start reading or listening!



COMMUNITY HEALTH NUTRITION PRESENTS

Sweethearts

NIGHT

February 6, 2025
at
5:30 p.m.



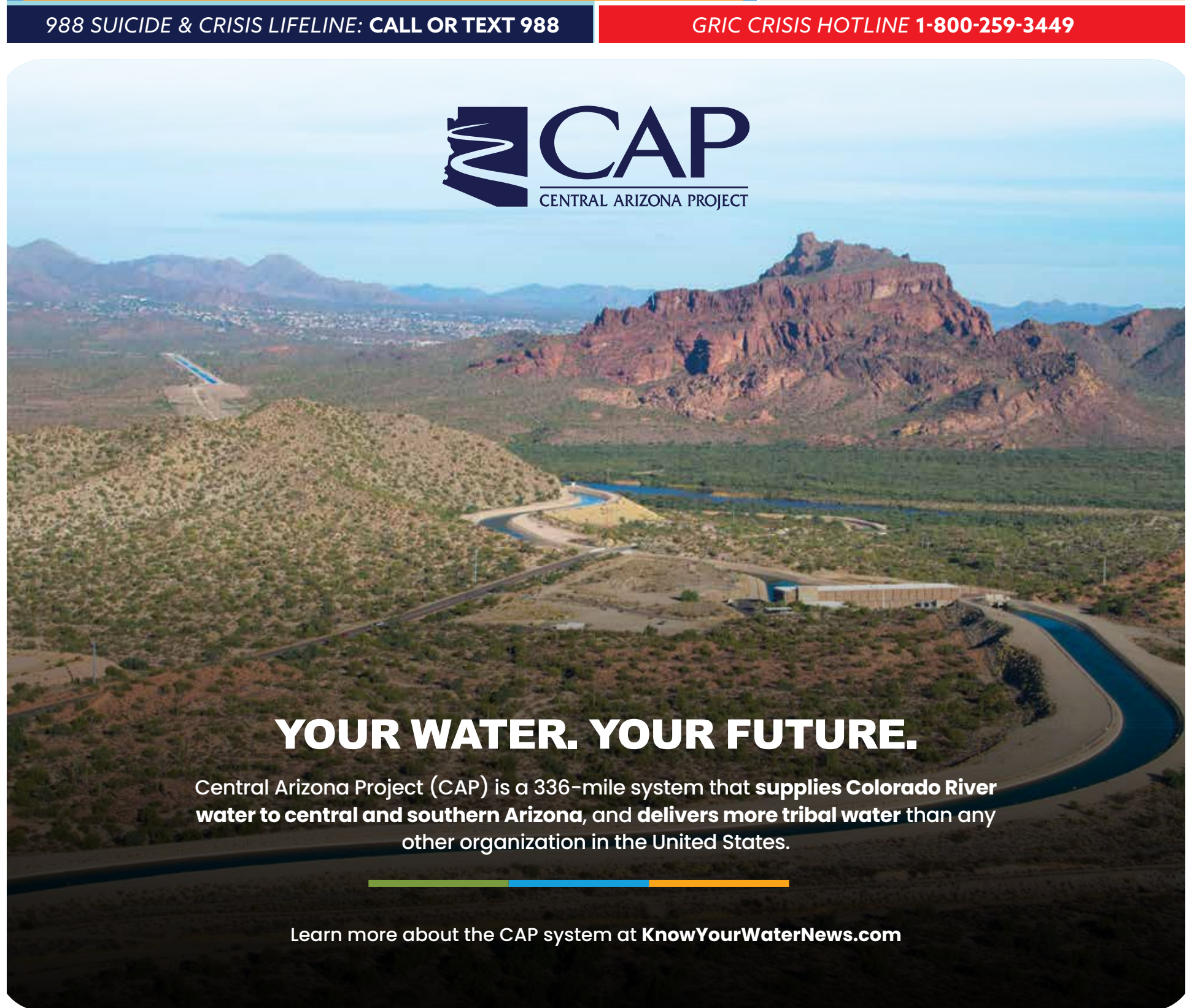
Help us in celebrating Heart Health Month. Join us as we present nutritious proteins, food demonstrations, and delicious food tastings. Class is open to GRIC enrolled members and residents. Space and incentives are limited to 20 participants.

Tribal Health Department, District 3
433 W. Farm Seed Rd. Sacaton, AZ 85147



For more information contact
Community Health Nutrition:
(520) 562-5134

Article 3, Section 2: Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson. The Chairperson can call a special meeting upon written request of five (5) District 7 Community members.



Education Forward Arizona and Freeport-McMoRan launch year two of groundbreaking pathway initiative

Press Release
Education Forward Arizona

Education Forward Arizona and Freeport-McMoRan are proud to announce the continuation of the successful Guarantee Your Future with Freeport program, now entering its second year. This initiative is designed to engage ambitious individuals through an innovative scholarship and job placement program.

Building on last year's success, the Guarantee Your Future with Freeport program will support at least 25 students by providing education, training, a paid summer internship and job placement in one of six critical technical areas. Students will earn a certificate or credential from a designated community college in Arizona, Colorado or New Mexico.

Participants in this innovative workforce development program will begin classes in August 2025 to earn a certification in one of six areas vital to the mining industry:

- Diesel technician
- Industrial electrical
- Process control/

instrumentation technology

- Fixed plant maintenance/advanced manufacturing
- Heavy equipment operations
- Welding

This scholarship covers education expenses (tuition, fees, books, etc.) and assists with other costs of attendance (food, housing, transportation, etc.). Students must commit to work for the company for three years and upon fulfilling program and employment requirements, participants will be offered a full-time position at one of Freeport-McMoRan's Arizona, Colorado or New Mexico operations.

Participants must be 18 years or older at the time of employment with Freeport-McMoRan. The priority deadline to apply is Friday, Jan. 31, and final deadline is Feb. 15, 2025. To apply, visit <https://educationforwardarizona.org/futurewithfreeport/>.

"After a successful first year, we're excited to continue the Guarantee Your Future with Freeport program and offer more Arizonans a path-

way into high-demand, high-paying jobs," said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation and Director of Social Responsibility at Freeport-McMoRan. "This program is creating a direct pipeline from education to employment, and we're proud to see the positive impact it's having on individuals, families and communities. By investing in local talent and providing access to training and education, we're helping to strengthen Arizona's workforce and drive economic growth."

To help ensure student success, each scholarship recipient will be paired with an Education Forward Arizona Success Coach, as well as a mentor from Freeport-McMoRan. Training will continue during a paid summer internship where participants will gain real-world experience in the industry.

"We're thrilled to build on the momentum of last year's success as we continue our partnership with Freeport-McMoRan on the Guarantee Your Future with Freeport program," said Rich Nickel, President and

CEO of Education Forward Arizona. "This program exemplifies Freeport-McMoRan's commitment to driving economic growth and expanding opportunity for Arizonans. By working together, we're opening doors for students to gain essential skills for high-demand careers, supporting workforce development, and building a more resilient future for Arizona's economy."

The continuation of this workforce development initiative builds upon the longstanding relationship between Education Forward Arizona and Freeport-McMoRan, which includes the successful administration of the Freeport-McMoRan Native American Scholarship Program. Guarantee Your Future with Freeport builds on their previous \$9 million investment aimed at increasing access to higher education for Native American students. Through this program, Education Forward Arizona has supported hundreds of Native American students on their journey to obtaining postsecondary certificates, associate, or bachelor's de-

grees.

About Education Forward Arizona

Education Forward Arizona is a statewide education advocacy organization dedicated to championing education as the key driver to improving Arizona's economy and quality of life. Education Forward Arizona serves as the leading voice for promoting the state's Achieve 60AZ education attainment goal and a shared action plan to move the goals of the Arizona Education Progress Meter forward. The organization's work also includes mobilizing people and communities to advocate for policies and funding to improve educational outcomes across the Pre-K to postsecondary continuum, as well as providing scholarships and programs that improve postsecondary attainment for Arizona's diverse student population. Learn more at EducationForwardArizona.org.

About Freeport-McMoRan

Freeport-McMoRan Inc. is a leading interna-

tional metals company with the objective of being foremost in copper. The company is headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona and operates large, long-lived, geographically diverse assets with significant proven and probable reserves of copper, gold and molybdenum. The company's portfolio of assets includes the Grasberg minerals district in Indonesia, one of the world's largest copper and gold deposits; and significant mining operations in North America and South America, including the large-scale Morenci minerals district in Arizona and the Cerro Verde operation in Peru. Freeport-McMoRan collaborates with communities, governments, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders to maximize the benefits of mining and contribute to community well-being and resilience, including Native American communities near the company's operations or those with historical cultural affiliation to lands on which the company operates. Learn more at: Freeport-McMoRan.

MISSING PERSONS

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

CLAYTON WAHPETA



Last seen: 06/03/2005
Age: 37
Sex: M
Hair: Black(shaved)
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'5"
Weight: 190

PETER THOMAS



Last seen: 08/03/2007
Age: 47
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'5"
Weight: 190

JOSEPH UGALDE



Last seen: 05/14/2009
Age: 43
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 200

ANTHONY PORTER



Last seen: 10/15/2011
Age: 48
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 210

KERMIT BREAD



Last seen: 04/11/2014
Age: 39
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 150

CYNTHIA ACEVEDO



Last seen: 08/31/2019
Age: 39
Sex: F
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'4"
Weight: 230

TONY GUTIERREZ



Last seen: 09/16/2022
Age: 37
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 350

LORENZO JOSE



Last seen: 08/29/2024
Age: 17
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 170

EMMANUEL BARRERA



Last seen: 09/01/2024
Age: 20
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'7"
Weight: 175

ELEIJAH BROWN



Last seen: 11/01/2024
Age: 14
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'4"
Weight: 145

VINCENT BAPTISTO



Last seen: 11/20/2024
Age: 44
Sex: M
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 250

RAYONNAH MIX



Last seen: 12/06/24
Age: 14
Sex: F
Hair: Black
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'5"
Weight: 125

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT: (520) 562-4511

Announcements & Notices

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

LUIS ROSAS SANDOVAL
Petitioner/Plaintiff

VS.

MONIQUE BARRERA
Respondent/Defendant

Case Number: FM-2024-0067-PT

SUMMONS
Civil Division

TO: Monique Barrera
PO Box 100, Laveen, AZ, 85339

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action

has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an Answer/Response Hearing regarding this matter on:

**Monday, January 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom VII,
Westend Judicial Center,
4751 West Pecos Road, Laveen, AZ.**

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

COURT NOTICE

Lewis, Robi Corey - Initial Guardianship Hearing and Permanency and Review Hearing
Mother Marissa Francisco (DOB: 03/13/1999)
Minor: C.M.L.F. (DOB: 0208/2020)
Case: J-23-0026

Court Date: January 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM
COURTROOM #3. 1stFLOOR

FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT ADDRESS: 10040 E. OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256
CONTACT: (480)362-6315

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated,
Andrew Johnson - Court Clerk
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Tribal Court
10,040 E. Osborn Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ
(480) 362-6315

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA

**MELISSA JENNIE HOWARD
VS.
CODY CHACON**

Case No. CV-2024-0110-MO

CIVIL BENCH WARRANT

IN THE NAME OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT: TO ANY TRIBAL POLICE OFFICER, TRIBAL RANGER OR ANY POLICE OFFICER OF THE STATE:

YOU, are hereby commanded to arrest the above named person, Cody Chacon, and bring HIM/HER before this Court to Answer to:

FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR:
**Review Hearing
on 02/06/2025 at 9:30 AM**

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA

**ORLANDO LEE ESCHIEF
Petitioner/Plaintiff**

VS.

**JANICE MAYFERN SOKE
Respondent/Defendant**

Case No. FM-2024-0053-PT

**SUMMONS
Civil Division**

**TO: Janice Mayfern Soke
39 W Chiadag St, Sacaton, AZ 85147**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an Answer/Response Hearing regarding this matter on:

Monday, February 10, 2025 at 10:30 AM in Courtroom VII, Westend Judicial Center, 4751 West Pecos Road, Sacaton, AZ

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of: **Christian Frankie Chiago**
Docket Number: **JC-2024-0250-CA**,

This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR a warrant

may be issued for your arrest or judgment entered in favor of the other party or if you fail to appear as an interested party you may be found in contempt of Court.

**Answer/Response Hearing:
February 11, 2025 at 2:00 PM**

**AKIMEL O’OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI
721 West Seed Farm Road
Sacaton, AZ 85147**

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA

**ALIZIA MONICA BUSTOS
Petitioner/Plaintiff**

VS.

**TRE JORDAN SIMS
Respondent/Defendant**

Case No. FM-2024-0059-PT

**SUMMONS
Civil Division**

**TO: Tre Jordan Sims
2022 N 28th Pl, Phoenix, AZ 85008**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action

has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an Answer/Response Hearing regarding this matter on:

**Tuesday, February 18 2025 at 1:00 PM in Courtroom I,
AKIMEL O’OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ**

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for air quality operating permits for the following facilities:

Facility Name	Facility Type	Permit Action	District	Significant Air Pollutants*
Sacaton Grocery & Gas	Gas Station	New Permit	3	VOCs
Santan Casino	Casino	New Permit	4	NOx, CO
Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino	Hotel/ Casino	Renewal	4	NOx, VOC, CO, PM, PM10, PM2.5
Lone Butte Casino	Casino	Renewal	4	NOx, CO
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass	Hotel	Renewal	4	NOx, CO
Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino	Hotel/ Casino	Renewal	6	NOx, CO

*“Significant” means the following air pollutants have the potential to be emitted at quantities greater than one ton per year: NOx = Nitrogen Oxides; VOC = Volatile Organic Compounds; CO = Carbon Monoxide (CO); PM = Particulate Matter; PM10 = PM <10 Microns; PM2.5 = PM <2.5 Microns

Public Notice Start Date: **January 10, 2025**
Public Notice End Date: **February 10, 2024**

Public comments will be accepted in writing until the public notice end date, after which staff will review and respond to all the comments received.

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the DEQ to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of receiving oral or written comments on the -proposed air quality operating permits. Such comments and requests shall be received by the DEQ within 30 days of the date of the first publication notice. A written comment shall state the name and mailing address of the person, shall be signed by the person, his agent or his attorney and shall clearly set forth reasons why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comment are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in the GRIC Code: Title 17, Chapter 9 of the Air Quality Management Plan. Only persons who submit written comments may appeal a permit decision.

Copies of the permit application, the proposed permit, and relevant background material will be available for review on the AQP website at:

<http://www.gricdeq.org/index.php/education--outreach/public-notices>.

Requests and written comments may be delivered or mailed to:

Gila River Indian Community
Department of Environmental Quality
Attn: Ryan Eberle
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2139, Sacaton, AZ 85147

For further information or to schedule an in-person review, please contact Ryan Eberle at (520) 796-3781 / air@gric.nsn.us.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analyzing the potential impacts of the Department’s Proposed Action to acquire, through procurement from commercial sources, high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) and to facilitate the establishment of commercial HALEU fuel production (90 FR 3195).

DOE has decided to implement this Proposed Action.

HALEU is a crucial material required by most U.S. advanced reactors to achieve smaller designs, longer operating cycles, and increased efficiencies over current nuclear energy technologies. HALEU is not currently available in sufficient amounts from domestic suppliers. The lack of an adequate domestic, commercial fuel supply could impede both reactor demonstrations and the development of future advanced reactor technologies.

The ROD follows the release of the final HALEU EIS, on October 8, 2024. The final HALEU EIS, prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), provided DOE decision-makers with important information regarding potential environmental impacts of alternatives and options for satisfying the purpose and need.

DOE’s decision to implement the Proposed Action is based on consideration of Congressional direction, the need for agency action, the potential environmental impacts (including beneficial impacts related to climate change), as well as other factors, including, public comments, strategic objectives, technology needs, safeguards and security, cost, and schedule.

The ROD and final EIS are available on the project website at <https://www.energy.gov/ne/haleu-environmental-impact-statement>.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • Dec. 18, 2024

ACTION SHEET

Community Council; P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, December 18, 2024, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:08 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Lt. Governor Regina Antone

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Regina Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Duane Jackson, Jr.; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Avery White; D4- Jennifer Allison, Leah Williams, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Charles Goldtooth(9:31), Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird(9:24)

Council Members Absent:

D3- Joseph Manuel, Jr. (Personal)

D5- James De La Rosa (Personal)

D5- Franklin Pablo, Sr. (Personal)

D5- Brian Davis, Sr. (Personal)

D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (Personal)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #16 AND RESOLUTION #4 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE REPORTS #1 THROUGH #15 AND #17, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #2, #3 AND #6, AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #1 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Christmas Caroling

Presenters: Early Education Child Care Center Children
CHRISTMAS SONGS PROVIDED BY THE EARLY CHILD CARE CENTER CHILDREN

REPORTS

*1. Gila River Telecommunications Inc. FY2024 Third Quarter Report

Presenters: Clarice Chiago-Jones, Craig Baumgartner, GRTI Board of Directors

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Gila River Health Care Tobacco Tax Grant FY24 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Deborah Tinsley, Judith Roth, Max Haake, Owen Ayers, Dr. Viji Murugavel, Susan Kelley, Carolyn Thompson, Kerry Van Volkinburgh, Dr. Anthony Santiago

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Update
Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Kerry Van Volkinburgh, Dr. Anthony Santiago

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. FY2024 Office of Emergency Management Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. Office of the Prosecutor FY2024 Annual Report

Presenter: Lynn Arouh

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Tribal Elections Program FY2024 Annual Report
Presenter: Zuzette Kisto

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. Enrollment/Census Department-FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenter: Sheila Flores

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>8. Four Rivers Indian Legal Services Quarterly Report for the Fourth Quarter of FY 2024

Presenter: Sarah A. Youngblood

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. Amazon Business Update

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Tecumseh Manuel

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. Culture & Language Program-FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna, Anthony Gray

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>11. Student Services – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna, Jennifer Hinton

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. Early Education/Child Care – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna, Areal Alderete

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>13. Head Start Program – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna, Michelle Tohtsoni

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>14. Ira Hayes Library – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna, Melanie Toledo-Mat-ton

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>15. Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning - FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

Presenter: Kimberly Cooper

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>16. Department of Environmental Quality FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

Presenter: Lisa Gover

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>17. Tribal Historic Preservation Office FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Reylynne Williams, Darius Enos, Larry Benallie, Jr.

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

18. Office of General Counsel Annual Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Michael S. Carter

ACCEPTED

19. FY25 Financial Activity Report ending November 30, 2024 (Executive Session) Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. Proposed Tower Construction At The Santan Road Site Under Business Lease B-GR-190 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC & EDSC concur)

Presenters: Clarice Chiago-Jones, Rachel Wierson, Alan Waters, Joan Burke, GRTI Board of Directors

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving And Ratifying The Construction Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Core Construction, Inc. To Construct The New District #4 Public Safety Facility (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and

placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Todd Araujo

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Community Comadres Foundation For Use At The Sonoran Lawn At The Rawhide Western Town & Event Center On February 1, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. A Resolution Authorizing The Signing And Execution Of A Public Law (P.L.) 93-638 Title V Self-Governance “Construction Project Agreement” With The Indian Health Service For The Installation Of Sewer And Water Services For 113 Houses Throughout The Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Leonard Ludi

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. A Resolution Increasing The Wild Horse Pass Enterprise Fund From Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) To Twenty-Four Million Six Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Ten Dollars (\$24,632,510.00) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Casaundra Wallace, Paul Vanderveen

APPROVED

>6. A Resolution Approving An Assignment And Assumption Of Sublease No. B-GR-130-A By Revolution Industrial, LLC To Lo-enbro Revolution Industrial, LLC, And Approving An Assignment And Assumption Of A Groundwater Use Agreement From Revolution Industrial, LLC To Loenbro Revolution Industrial, LLC (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: John M. Martin, Teresa L. Mandelin, Bartley Harris

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

>1. Housing Advisory Committee Appointment – District Two (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Derwin Cooper

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.
• GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.

• LITIGATION TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE LAW LIBRARY

• HOUSING OWNERS TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.

• SALT RIVER INAUGURATION SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024

• GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:47 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • Jan. 15, 2025

ACTION SHEET

Community Council; P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, January 15, 2025, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Lt. Governor Regina Antone at 9:04 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Franklin Pablo, Sr.

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Lt. Governor Regina Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Duane Jackson, Jr.; D2- Ann Lucas; D3-

Joseph Manuel, Jr.(9:10); D4- Jennifer Allison, Leah Williams, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- James De La Rosa, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird(9:56)

Executive Officers Absent:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Council Members Absent:

D3- Avery White (Illness)

D5- Brian Davis, Sr. (Personal)

D5- Gordon Santos, Jr. (Personal)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #13 AND #24 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL AND CHANGE

THE PRESENTER TO MR. DEWAYNE BADONIE FOR RESOLUTION #1 AND DISPENSE RESOLUTION #4, AND TABLE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 1, 2024

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE REPORTS #1 THROUGH #12, #14 THROUGH #23, #25, #27, AND #28; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #2, AND #4 THROUGH #7, ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

REPORTS

>1. Department of Environmental Quality FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

Presenter: Lisa Gover

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Office of the Community Manager FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)

Presenters: Suzanne Jones, Michael Preston

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Management Information Systems Department FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenter: Chris R. Cabanillas
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. FY24 Annual Report Facilities Maintenance Department Report
Presenter: Henry Quintana
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. Gila River Indian Community Department of Transportation FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenter: DeWayne J. Badonie
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Community Services Department – District One Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Maria Ramirez, Joni Notah, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. Community Services Department – District Two Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Ralph Grajiola, Alison Anderson, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>8. Community Services Department – District Three Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Erma Antone, Valerie Johnson-Antone, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. Community Services Department – District Four Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 –September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Sandra Thayer, Monique Boni, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. Community Services Department – District Five Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Erika Hernandez, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>11. Community Services Department – District Six Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Rebecca Carpio, Rhonda Whempner, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. Community Services Department – District Seven Service Center– FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Pamela Valdez, Valerie Rivera, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>13. FY 2024 Tribal Projects Development Annual Report
Presenter: Phillip Schreiner
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>14. Human Resources Department – FY2024 Annual Report
Presenter: TeriLynne Kisto
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>15. Department of Community Housing – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenter: Derwin Cooper
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>16. FY2024 Veteran & Family Services Office (VFSO) Annual Report
Presenter: Eric White
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>17. Tribal Health Department FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024)
Presenter: Candalerian Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>18. Communications & Public Affairs Office FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024)
Presenter: Roberto A. Jackson, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>19. Akimel O’Odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council Department FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenter: Joseph Davis
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>20. Community Services Department – Elderly Services Program – FY 2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Lindsay Antone, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>21. Community Services Department – Elderly Nutrition Program – FY 2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Mary Dixon, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>22. Community Services Department – Nutrition Assistance Program – FY 2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Mary Dixon, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>23. Community Services Department – Tribal Recreation & Wellness Program – FY 2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Sonja Luevano, Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>24. FY2024 TSS Annual Report
Presenter: Carol Colmenero, Christina Lopez, Julian Garza, Curtis Slatina
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>25. Victim Services FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Katherine Lewis, Krystal Bergen-Tsosie, Crystal Shebola
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>26. Further Discussion of Five Manuscripts for Publication
Presenters: Leslie Baier, Clifton Bogardus, Madhumita Sinha, Robert Hanson, Jonathan Krakoff, Anup Nair
REPORT HEARD

>27. FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024) Department of Housing Development
Presenter: Wayne Allison
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>28. Community Services Department – FY2024 Annual Report (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024)
Presenters: Laurie Thomas, Joanne Brewer, Michael Preston
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

29. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council November 2024 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Gaming Commission, M. Scott Sander-son, Lydia Acosta
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #29, #30, #31, AND #32

30. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report Novem-ber 2024 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Blake Katsnel-son, Tony DeMark, Joseph Young, IOPC
ACCEPTED AT REPORT# 29

31. Schedule of Investments ending November 30, 2024 (Exec-utive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix
ACCEPTED AT REPORT #29

32. FY25 Financial Activity Report ending December 31, 2024 (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix
ACCEPTED AT REPORT #29

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Authorizing The Signing And Execution Of A Public Law (P.L.) 93-638 Title V Self-Governance “Construction Project Agreement” With The Indian Health Service For The Installation Of Sewer And Water Services For 113 Houses Throughout The Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)
Presenter: Leonard Ludi DeWayne Badonie
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving The Use Of The Permanent Water Fund And The Arizona State Treasurer’s Office Water Fund For Certain Water Related Costs And Projects (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Jason Hauter, Javier G. Ramos, David DeJong
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. A Resolution Approving The Appointment Of Reylynne Williams As The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer For The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Historic Preservation Office (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with correction; CRSC concurs)
Presenter: Lorenzo Sierra IV
APPROVED
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ALLOW FOR THE OGC AND HR TO WORK WITH MS. REYLYNNE WILLIAMS ON ANY NEGOTIATION OF A CONTRACT SALARY

>4. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For A Senior Assistant General Counsel (Executive Session) (G&M-SC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Michael S. Carter
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For A Senior Assistant General Counsel (Executive Session) (G&M-SC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Michael S. Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For An Assistant General Counsel (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Michael S. Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Neomi Martinez
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Gila River Health Care Corporation Board of Directors Three (3) Appointments
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. VICTORIA ALLISON, MR. ARZIE HOGG, AND MR. ROBERT HORTON TO THE GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer One (1) Appointment
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. REYLYNNE WILLIAMS TO THE POSITION OF TRIBAL HISTORIC PRES-ERVATION OFFICER

3. Children’s Court Judge Two (2) Appointments
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. KAMI D. HART TO THE CHILDREN’S COURT JUDGE FULL TERM PO-SITION AND APPOINT MS. RACHEL HERNANDEZ TO THE CHILDREN’S COURT JUDGE UNEXPIRED TERM POSITION

NEW BUSINESS

1. Exclusion Application District 4 (LSC motioned to forward to Council with a recommendation that the Community Council set a Special Meeting under the Gila River Indian Community Code Section 8.102 to determine whether non-member Lorraine Wel-lington should be excluded and removed from the Community; and further recommend that the Community Council direct the Office of General Counsel to present the evidence in support of the application)
Presenters: Shannon White, Javier Ramos, Michael Carter, Norman Wellington Jr.
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SET A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. UNDER THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY CODE SECTION 8.102 TO DETERMINE WHETHER NON-MEMBER LORRAINE WELLINGTON SHOULD BE EXCLUDED AND REMOVED FROM THE COMMUNITY AND FURTHER RECOMMEND THAT THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL DIRECT THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL TO PRESENT THE EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION

2. Gila River Gaming Commission Declaration of One (1) Gaming Commission Vacancy (G&MSC forwards to Council to advertise for 60 days subject to a background clearance and able to obtain Tribal and State Gaming License)
Presenter: Shannon White
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS SUBJECT TO A BACK-GROUND CLEARANCE AND ABLE TO OBTAIN TRIBAL AND STATE GAMING LICENSE

3. Reservation Economic Summit March 10-13, 2025 in Las Vegas, Nevada (EDSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)
Presenter: Economic Development Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & DELE-GATIONS

MINUTES

1. June 1, 2024 (Special)
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. December 3, 2024 (Special)
APPROVED

3. December 4, 2024 (Regular)
APPROVED AT #2

4. December 18, 2024 (Regular)
APPROVED AT #2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- GRD BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025
- ERP SYSTEM IS CURRENTLY DOWN REPAIRS ARE IN PROGRESS
- CULTURAL RESOURCE WORKING GROUP MEETING ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025 IN AK-CHIN
- INFORMATION WILL BE FORWARDED REGARDING ORAL ARGUMENTS FOR UPCOMING HEARING ON FEBRUARY 5, 2025

ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:53 A.M.
* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM



JEFFERSON STARSHIP

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 | 8PM



JIMMY O. YANG

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 | 8PM



DJ SWIFTIE PRESENTS A TAYLOR SWIFT DANCE PARTY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 | 8PM



ONE OF THESE NIGHTS *AN EAGLES EXPERIENCE*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | 8PM



QUEEN NATION *A QUEEN EXPERIENCE*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 7PM

MORE UPCOMING SHOWS

FEB 28 | TOWER OF POWER *AT WILD HORSE PASS*
MARCH 7 | THE MAVERICKS *AT WILD HORSE PASS*
MARCH 15 | LISA LOEB *AT WILD HORSE PASS*



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