Election season opens with Council nominations

The three districts held their Tribal Council nomination meetings last week.

Tribal Council was scheduled to meet on Wednesday morning of this week (after print time for this publication) to finalize the candidate list.

The official list of nominees will be available after the Tribal Council confirmation. The preliminary and unofficial list, based on the district nomination meetings, was as follows:

**Agency District**
- There were 22 nominations, with one person declining; so there are 21 nominees. They are: (alphabetically)
  - Mike Clements, Mona Cochran, Eugene Austin Greene Jr., Susan Guerrero, Anita Jackson, John Kandie Sr., Cameron Smith Lacee, Tony Madi, Dan Martinez, Dennis Martinez, Carma Miller, Jeff Sanden Sr., Jason Smith, Jonathan W. Smith, Glendon Smith, Leona Ike Smith, Ryan Smith Sr., Wrinke Smith, Terry Squaplapin, Val Stedeick, and Gabinet Walker.

- Caroline Cruz was nominated and seconded, but declined the nomination.

**Seeksoequa District**

**Simnasho District**
- Frederick Duran Bobb, Charles Calvico, Orville Danzus, Priscilla Frank, Raymond Moody, Ervadene Pat, Orsista Pat, Sylvester Sahrme Sr., Emerson Squapaquin, Ron Supph, and Raymond Triump Sr.
- Ardis Bleson was nominated and seconded, but she declined. Both Ardis and Caroline Cruz said their jobs—Ardis is a language teacher, and Caroline is director of Health and Human Services—would not allow them the time to dedicate to Tribal Council business.

The date of Monday, April 4, is the target date for the Tribal Council election.

**Candidates forum**
- In the meantime, the Warm Springs Youth Council will host a candidates forum and community dinner on Monday, March 7.
- The event is in partnership with the Let’s Talk Diversity Coalition, and will be at the Agency Longhouse. Community members and all Tribal Council candidates are invited to attend the event. Dinner will start at 5:30 p.m., followed by the forums at 6:30.

**Constitution vote**
- The remaining this spring will also vote on a number of proposed changes—15 proposed changes in all—to the tribal Constitution.
- This will be a secretarial election conducted by the BIA. Members 18 and over will be eligible to vote.

- The Tribal Council election, on the other hand, will be a tribal election with the minimum age being 21. Youth who are younger than 21, but who are tribal members, will not be able to vote in the Council election.

- The BIA election board has been meeting regularly in recent weeks on this election. The BIA is planning on having about 30 days between constitutional amendments on Monday, April 11.

Report on tribal health

Once every year Health and Human Services provides a comprehensive report on the state of tribal health and the health care system.

The report includes the most recent data collected on tribal member health and health care services.

**Health and Human Services Director**

The tribal health report was developed during the year 2014.

The report is read in report, in regard to the overall health of the tribal membership. The three districts held their Tribal Council election, on the other hand, will be a tribal election with the minimum age being 21. Youth who are younger than 21, but who are tribal members, will not be able to vote in the Council election.

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**YPLL** number for the last three-year period was nearly half of the number recorded in the previous three-year period. Compared statistically over the last few years, the report says.

The report, for instance, looks at tribal members “year of productive life lost,” a way to measure premature deaths. Years of productive life lost (YPLL) among tribal members is the lowest ever recorded in Warm Springs, the report says.

Youth who are younger than 21, but who are tribal members, will not be able to vote in the Council election.

This is some great news in the report, in regard to the overall health of the tribal membership. The vital statistics of the tribal members have improved dramatically over the last few years, the report says.

On another topic: For many years, teen pregnancies were a concern for these three-year period, the report says. Decreased to an average of eight, a positive change, the report says.

And, for the first in a series on the Annual Health System Report for the Warm Springs Health Indicators.

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