



Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California

April 30, 2014

Dear Paskenta Tribal Family:

We recognize that there are many of you who are just hearing of the near violent-incident at our last annual meeting, and others of you are asking questions about what happened. So we the Tribal Council have prepared the following answers to "Frequently Asked Questions" to ensure the entire tribe is informed and continues to be part of the decision-making process.

1. Who is the legitimate Paskenta Tribal Council?

The last formal election of the Tribal Membership was held September 2012, when Andy Freeman, Chairman, and Leslie Lohse, Treasurer, were both re-elected to continue to serve on the Tribal Council. They joined the previously re-elected David Swearingner, Vice Chairman, Geraldine Freeman, Secretary, and Allen Swearingner, Member-at-Large. Our five-person Tribal Council was confirmed by the BIA in a letter on April 15, 2014, and by the National Indian Gaming Commission in a letter on April 21, 2014.

As such, the current, legal Paskenta Tribal Council, which is recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) is the following:

- Andy Freeman, Chairman
- David Swearingner, Vice Chairman
- Leslie Lohse, Treasurer
- Geraldine Freeman, Secretary
- Allen Swearingner, Member-at-Large

No one of these people is the Tribal Council. All five people, and only those five, are the Tribal Council.

The BIA and NIGC letters were both sent to local law enforcement and banking entities to clear up any confusion about the legitimate representatives of the Tribe.

2. Why are there so many armed guards at Paskenta tribal facilities?

Tribal members have reported armed guards at the Tribal Offices and the Rolling Hills Health Clinics, and extensive number of armed guards inside and outside of the Rolling Hills Casino and at the Sevillano Links Golf Course. These armed guards were hired by people who have illegally taken possession of those facilities and are preventing the Tribal Council from entering those premises or from providing the required oversight and management of those entities. Unfortunately, the presence of heavily armed guards throughout the Paskenta Rancheria has caused a loss of casino customers,

which we worry will translate into lower per capita payments. This momentary illegal takeover has also resulted in tribal members being fired from their jobs and being denied health care from the Rolling Hills Health Clinics.

3. What is this about Paskenta tribal members being removed from membership rolls?

Without any knowledge or support from the other members of the Tribal Council, Chairman Freeman took it upon himself to announce the removal of a significant number of members from one family from the Paskenta membership rolls at the annual meeting on April 12, 2014. The disenrollment action was not approved by the Tribal Council and is not a legal action of the tribe. There was no formal notice or any due process, and the action is not consistent with the Tribal Constitution or the Membership Act.

From the Tribal Constitution:

Section 1.

The membership of the Band shall consist of the following:

(a) All persons of Nomlaki Indian blood who resided on the Paskenta Rancheria at any time prior to the distribution of the assets of the Rancheria pursuant to the California Rancheria Act;

(b) All persons who were identified as Indians from Paskenta in any of the official or unofficial rolls of Indians prepared by the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

(c) All other persons who are direct lineal descendants of persons qualifying as members under subsections (a) or (b) and who have maintained Tribal relations with the Band, together with such other persons who apply for and are accepted into membership pursuant to the adoption provisions of an ordinance enacted under Section (3) of this Article.

From the Paskenta Tribal Membership Act:

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 3-201. Present membership of the Tribe shall consist of all natural persons possessing all of the following qualifications:

(a) Currently enrolled as Members of the Tribe as of June 1, 2002;

(b) Who are not enrolled members of another federally or state recognized Indian tribe; and

(c) Who have maintained relations with the Tribe.

The Tribal Membership Act was put into place by the patriarchs of the Tribe, Everett Freeman and Carlino Swearinger, while they were still with us to keep our Tribe unified and to prevent membership divisions from tearing our tribe apart. Our Elders Everett and Carlino, "Uncle Bud," were ahead of their time. They foresaw what is happening now throughout California Indian country and did not want Paskenta to be torn in half like so many tribes over disenrollment and per capita disputes. We cannot allow that to now happen to our Tribe. There is enough opportunity to be shared with everyone in our Tribe.

4. What about the criticism by a group of tribal members that there are so many of the Pata family leading the tribal enterprises?

It is well recognized that Everett and Carlino utilized key members of the Pata/Henthorn descendants to assist them with their technical skills and resources to achieve their vision and dream of a strong Paskenta Tribal government, the development of the Rolling Hills Casino, and the diversification of additional economic enterprises. Pata/Henthorn family members have remained committed in those roles even after the passage of our esteemed leaders. They have helped provide continuity to our Tribe, which has helped Paskenta remain stable and grow economically. In fact, the key three members of the family were directly hired by the Everett and Carlino and formally signed up to develop the plan for the casino and tribal enterprises. They saw the value of having our own members be the management team as they have a lifetime commitment to the success of the tribal operations.

5. What's going to happen? How do we fix this and get back to business?

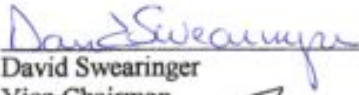
Your Tribal Council is working hard to find solutions to unite your Paskenta government leadership and to urge Chairman Freeman to stop this division within the Tribe and to restore the oversight of the casino and tribal enterprises back to the Council—before the Tribe is financially harmed to the point it will be hard to recover. It is critically important that Tribal Council governance and oversight is restored. Otherwise, the Tribe is in jeopardy of having the casino shut down for not having enough tribal gaming commissioners, for having its bank accounts depleted by non-tribal managers, and by having unauthorized persons in possession of firearms at the casino and throughout the Paskenta lands.

Your support is needed to let Chairman Freeman know that it is time to restore and unite our Tribal government. Only then can the Tribe take actions to rightfully address the issues the Tribe faces and to restore the confidence of the Paskenta membership and our customers.

Please feel free to contact your Tribal Council should you have any additional questions or concerns. We would be glad to visit with you and assure you of our commitment to move forward for a strong Paskenta government and thriving economic enterprises.

Let us join together under the wisdom of our Patriarch Everett Freeman and Carlino Swearinger, take our relatively young government and shore it up, strengthen it, and develop policies and procedures to maintain the fairness and transparency we all seek.

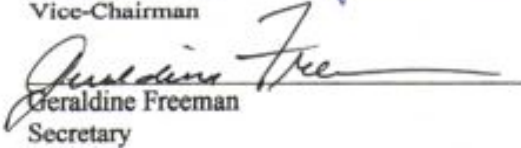
Our collective futures and economic stability depends on a strong, sound government. We your Tribal Council are up to that challenge and stand ready to lead a united government.



David Swearinger
Vice-Chairman



Leslie Lohse
Treasurer



Geraldine Freeman
Secretary



Allen Swearinger
Member-at-Large