



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Endorse a Resolution for the Admission of the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation to the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency and Direct Staff to Assist as Needed (Regional 911 System)

Report in Brief

At the February 3, 2010 meeting of the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency, agenda item number 11 addressed the potential admission of the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation as a full member of the communications JPA. The Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation submitted a resolution that stated its interest in becoming a full member of the JPA. In the resolution it asked that all current JPA members garner their parent governing body's endorsement of the proposal.

Staff recommends that the City Council endorse the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation resolution to become a full member of the JPA membership to recognize the tribe as a full partner in regional emergency services.

Background Information

For more than eighteen months the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency Board has been collecting information on how the needs of the agency could be expanded to include other agencies that are currently contract members. Contract members are agencies that partner with the JPA for communications and dispatch needs but are either out of county (Arbuckle, Colusa) or sovereign (the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation). The JPA also contacted the City of Davis and the University of California Davis for their potential membership. Some contract entities were not appropriate for a full membership and the City of Davis and the University of California Davis did not wish to become members.

The Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation has been a contract member since 2004. They are vital partners in providing emergency services in the western part of the county. They have the only emergency medical team and full time fire crews that respond to dispatched calls at any time. While they provide services to their casino business most of the dispatched services are to provide mutual aid or first responder services to accidents on Highway 16, county back roads and Interstate 505. Last year the tribe's emergency personnel responded to approximately 600 calls for service of which 225

(40%) were not connected to their casino business. They also responded to nearly 100 that were classified as automatic or mutual aid dispatches.

Because of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation's sovereign status, state legislation is required for full membership. The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation has adopted a resolution, which among other items, authorizes Fire Chief Mike Chandler to retain appropriate legal counsel to undertake the necessary legislative steps to allow the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation's admission to the JPA. Membership by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation may also necessitate amendments to the YECA JPA Memorandum of Agreement.

Fiscal Impact

None, but may affect the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency budget in an unspecified amount.

Public Contact

Posting of the City Council agenda.

Alternative Courses of Action

1. The City Council may endorse the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation resolution to become a full member of the JPA membership to recognize the tribe as a full partner in regional emergency services.
2. The City Council may not endorse the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation resolution to become a full member of the JPA membership to recognize the tribe as a full partner in regional emergency services.

Recommendation for Action:

Staff recommends that the City Council endorse the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation resolution to become full member of the JPA membership and to recognize the tribe as a full partner in regional emergency services.

Prepared by: Carey F. Sullivan
Chief of Police

Carey F. Sullivan
Acting City Manager



TRIBAL COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. TC-01-19-10-08

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE YDFD FIRE CHIEF TO PURSUE MEMBERSHIP IN
THE YOLO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY,
A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation is a sovereign tribe federally recognized and registered as Rumsey Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians of California (the "Tribe");

WHEREAS, the Tribe's governing body is the Tribal Council, empowered by the Tribe's Constitution to plan and manage the Tribe's economic affairs, to negotiate and approve contracts, to establish subordinate tribal bodies, and to enact and implement resolutions and ordinances;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has established a fire department, the Yocha DeHe Fire Department ("YDFD"), so as to provide fire protection and emergency services for patrons and employees of the Cache Creek Casino Resort, employees of the Tribe, as well as members of the Tribal and surrounding non-Tribal community;

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2009, the Tribe received a letter from the Governing Board of the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency (YECA) extending a membership invitation to the Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation, a copy of which is attached hereto;

WHERE AS, YECA provides dispatch services to all Yolo County law enforcement agencies and fire districts.

WHEREAS, the YDFD is a working partner of the Yolo County fire service through mutual and automatic aid agreements entered into by the Tribe;

WHEREAS, the YDFD is dispatched and maintains emergency radio communications using YECA dispatchers and communication system infrastructure;

WHEREAS, federal, state, local and tribal partnerships are being encouraged by all levels of government, and governmental partnerships involving the Tribe are in the best interest of the Tribe, as such partnerships strengthen the Tribe's sovereignty, heighten its profile, and help the Tribe achieve its goals;

WHEREAS, YECA is committed to providing the highest quality emergency communication and dispatch services to the community and member agencies;

Yocha DeHe Wintun Nation

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WHEREAS, the Tribe seeks to better not only its own operations, but its relationships and operations within the greater Yolo County community as well, and collaboration between YECA and the Tribe will help achieve that goal;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Fire Chief to work with the Tribe's legal counsel to take the steps needed to secure membership of the Tribe in the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency, Joint Powers Authority, including, but not limited to, taking the steps needed to pursue special legislation allowing the Tribe's membership in the JPA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

The Fire Chief will regularly report to the Tribal Council the status of this initiative and take no formal action with respect to the submission of formal legislation without further authorization from the Tribal Council.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 for and 0 against and 0 abstentions, at a specially called meeting of the Tribal Council, at which a quorum was present, on the 19th day of January 2010.



Marshall McKay
Tribal Chairman