

**ON CONGRESS SEEKS COUNSEL**

I attended the Osage Nation Congressional Affairs Committee meeting held Thursday, July 16 at 10:00 a.m. On the agenda and the main purpose of my attendance, was *Consideration/Referral of Issues to Attorney*. The issues to be considered and referred were in regard to Jim Gray's defiance of the law and his failures' to act.

Congressman Supernaw initiated the discussion and provided various examples for consideration:

- Failure to negotiate a motor fuel compact
- Failure to adhere to deadlines
- Failure to appoint Election Board
- Failure to implement a Free Press
- Failure to cooperate with the OFPR<sup>1</sup>
- Failure to authorize land into trust
- Failure to meet budget timeline
- Failure to adhere to competitive bidding laws
- Manipulation of the Law
- Purchases without Congressional Consent

Agreement by each member of the committee was reached and Trey Gill, ON Congressional Attorney sent a letter to the Crowe & Dunlevy law firm, requesting assistance in the matter. A copy of the letter to Crowe & Dunlevy is attached and is compliments of Congressman Supernaw.

**WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?**

It's anybody's guess as to whether there will be anything at all come of this action insofar as repercussions to Jim Gray. When Crowe & Dunlevy will even take the task on is anyone's guess. It could be this coming Monday or it could be 6 months from now

and even then, all they will do is what was requested; state opinions.

On the upside, I expect we'll see fit throwing by the Chief which should be entertaining for a couple of months.

Another excellent result is leverage in our arsenal. To do all we can to ensure Gray is not re-elected, we can share this information with all Osages. Make everyone aware of what has happened. Remind them that we cannot allow ourselves to be fooled again. We must be extremely cautious when deciding on candidates in the next election. I have no doubt Gray has solicited people to run for office who will follow his agenda once they get in.

**ELECTION BOARD SAGA CONTINUES**

In an Executive Message dated July 10, 2009, the Chief sent Congress a list of interim Election Board appointments. The only problem with this is, we know of one person on the list who declined the appointment on two different occasions but was still included. Whether the other four on the list know they've been appointed or even been asked to serve is anyone's guess.

See letter from Mrs. Neff attached. This letter was provided by Congressman Supernaw.

It was pointed out at the meeting on Thursday that due to the Chief's failure to indicate designations of these people, as far as who will be actual board members and who will be alternates, the appointments are useless.

<sup>1</sup> Office of Fiscal & Performance Review

The task of an Election Board is monumental. To expect or to have the audacity to ask anyone to assume this responsibility and expect the work to be completed in a period of 8-9 months is truly disgraceful.

The fact is, if we have an election the first week in June 2010, I'll be surprised.

### **STRIKE WHILE THE IRON'S HOT!**

Now that Congress has finally taken the ultimate step, how can they refuse to get that referendum vote for or against a Constitutional Convention on the ballot?

I hardly see how passing legislation to make such a democratic process available to the Osage citizens would be more controversial than requesting legal counsel on procedure to remove the Chief!

I have attached a list of changes I would like to see in the Constitution. I ask that you review these for an idea of the good things we can do and must do to secure a strong foundation for the future of our tribe. There are many more changes and additions needed but what I provide here will give you an idea of the direction I believe we should consider.

The situation Congress experiences today in not having a procedure in place for removal is a good example why we need to have a Constitutional Convention. With the advice gleaned from Crowe and Dunlevy, policy and procedure for removal will be in place and can be implemented immediately if necessary.

### **WE HAVE A DUTY**

Now that we have been subjected to this new form of government, we have to set the tone, the example and the laws in a stable and responsible manner not unlike the Constitution of the United States. We owe it to our ancestors, ourselves and our children. To continue to accept this Constitution as it is would be to fail those here before us and those who come after us.

Please send an e-mail to Linda Lazelle, [llazelle@osagetribe.org](mailto:llazelle@osagetribe.org) and ask her to tell Congress you want legislation passed this fall to allow us a referendum vote for or against a Constitutional Convention on the 2010 ballot.

### **SHAREHOLDER MEETING**

I plan to attend the Shareholders meeting in Pawhuska tomorrow at 1:00 p.m.

My intention was to write this newsletter on Monday and get both meetings covered at the same time. I decided rather than wait; I'll send another one to you on the Shareholders meeting if there is in fact anything to report.

In the mean time, be safe, keep your chins up and write Linda Lazelle!

Jenny Miller  
[info@jenny2010.com](mailto:info@jenny2010.com)  
[www.jenny2010.com](http://www.jenny2010.com)



(I like this guy)

