

A Cry for Help

We are getting down to the wire as far as contacting the Osage Nation Congress and expressing our desire to have a referendum vote for or against a Constitutional Convention on the 2010 ballot.

Congress convenes on Tuesday, September 8. If you haven't written or e-mailed Congress yet, please do so. (*See contact information at the end of this letter*)

As I have stated many times before, we should be afforded this right and it is Congress' duty to provide us with it. I received an e-mail from Congressman Raymond Red Corn some time ago indicating that such an option wasn't provided for in the Constitution.

I reminded Congressman Red Corn that it is Congress' job to make the laws. I'm not sure if he understands this concept yet. The point of this action of which I call on all of you to make is so that Congress can make and pass laws this fall and propose legislation for the referendum to be on the ballot.

I have received statements on the subject of a Constitutional Convention from several who seem to be concerned with the amount of work it would take to implement a Convention. I find such a concern to be selfish and disrespectful of the people, the heritage, the history and the future of the Osage.

I know myself, my family and my friends to be worthy of whatever effort it takes to save this nation. I know after having met so many of you as I pounded the pavement sharing information; that I love all Osages period. To sit and visit with those of you I had never met, was like visiting with a brother, sister, mother, father or grandparent. In so many ways, we are one.

To Reinforce my Reasoning

In just this past month we have witnessed actions that could be avoided in the future by implementing a Constitutional Convention:

- ✓ Defiance of the Law

- ✓ Purchase of Sugar Loaf Mound in St. Louis Missouri – Re-appropriation of funding from one account to another, excluding the will of the people and the Congress. Initial cost \$235,000.00. To implement. The “Big Plan,” Millions.
- ✓ Supreme Court hearing/obstruction with no defendant/defiance of law/failure to implement a Free and Independent Press.
- ✓ This month the Osage News online has been deleting the comments from Osage citizens. Freedom of Speech issue.
- ✓ Minerals Council Election will not be supervised by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Minerals Estate will continue to be under an administration that was elected by non-shareholders. A separate Chief and Assistant Chief will not be on the 2010 ballot for the Minerals Council.

(This fact is subject to change-Shareholders should write the Chairman of the Minerals Council and the Osage Nation Congress. See addresses at the end of this letter)

What a Constitutional Convention can Eliminate

- Failure to accept Federal Law with regard to boundary lines of the Osage Reservation
- Failure to appoint an Attorney General to enforce the laws
- Failure to set deadlines and expectations
- Failure to make clear the duties of the Congress
- Failure to make clear the duties of the Chief
- Failure to implement the Native American Civil Rights Act
- Failure to secure a Free and Independent Press
- Failure to implement law

- Failure to set rules, regulations and laws regarding disciplinary action for non-compliance.
- Failure to implement adequate financial oversight of all Osage Nation properties, businesses, offices and U.S. government funded projects.
- Failure to set restrictions and accountability rules on the Executive Branch
- Failure to implement the will of the Osage people

- G. To set term limits on the Executive Branch to eight (8) years.
- H. To establish an accounting and auditing system to ensure checks and balances, while providing continual oversight of all Osage Nation business; to include that of the Executive Branch.
- I. To include and make available to the citizens of the Osage tribe, a Citizens Initiative and Referendum policy and procedure.
- J. To return Mineral Trust matters back to the Shareholders to be governed according to the 1906 Act.
- K. To completely remove any and all Mineral Estate concerns from the Osage Nation Constitution.
- L. To remove all oppressive regulations from the Ethics Laws in order to encourage rather than oppress freedom of speech.
- M. To build and ensure a strong foundation for the future of the Osage.

What a Constitutional Convention can Fix

We have example after example of what must be addressed in a new Constitution. All of the above failures equal nothing but a failed Constitution therefore a failed government. The purpose of a Constitution is to set laws that govern a nation. There can be no doubt that this current constitution has failed and our government is failing.

Once again, I share with you my thoughts and wishes for a new Constitution:

- A. To return ALL Osages their birthright to membership in the Osage Tribe.
- B. To establish the true jurisdiction of the Osage Reservation.
- C. To remove the near absolute power of the Executive Branch and place it with the Congress, thereby the Osage citizens.
- D. To lower the number of Congressional votes to override the Chief's veto from 3/4 to 2/3 votes.
- E. To lower the number of Congressional votes to amend the Constitution from 3/4 to 2/3 votes.
- F. To lower the number of signatures needed for the Osage Citizens to amend the Constitution by petition and to make the process possible.

Here's Where I Come In

As you are aware, I have not committed to any particular office. I cannot in good conscience make that decision yet. My preference and first intent was to run for Congress.

The fact is; if we can't manage to get Congress to provide us with a Referendum vote for or against a Constitutional Convention, I will encourage them to do so and will NOT veto the legislation if I end up having to run for Chief and get elected.

Here's the hitch. My platform is solid: Forensic Audits immediately, a Constitutional Convention immediately, a truly Independent Minerals Trust, Estate and Council, immediately, a spending freeze on all spending with the exception of Health Services, Audits and Salaries until the audits are completed. An open records policy will be implemented.

Finding someone to honor these commitments is going to be difficult and questionable. A campaign promise is just that. The question is, once this person takes the helm, will they follow through?

Another fact is. Regardless of anything else, whoever is elected Chief, Assistant Chief and Congress, they will be working under the same Constitution we have now until we get it changed.

Will we elect another self centered Chief? Will we end up with another 6-6 split in Congress or worse? Will we elect a Chief who isn't supportive of the much needed changes I propose? We have no idea, no crystal ball.

Once they're in; they're in. Without changes in this Constitution we'll end up with the same problems we have now. There are no provisions for removal and the Chief has nearly complete power over this government.

We can't afford to do this again and I'm not willing to gamble with the future of this nation. The only thing I know for sure is what I will do.

I have no desire to "hot dog" across the country. My only desire is to get this government on track and within the boundaries of reality.

I will not make promises to do this or that. The only promise I can make is to do the best I can to find the money, secure it and go from there. Once that hurdle is crossed, we'll have to find out how much we owe, how much has already been committed and where expenditures are needed, and I mean needed. My idea of need is not trips to France or purchases of questionable land in St. Louis, Missouri.

My idea of need is in the home place. We live our lives daily taking care of our own.

Healthcare, Education, Housing, Villages and the like come first in my view. Grandiose fanfare and a "here I am" attitude isn't my style and has no place in Osage Government. This is real business folks. A multimillion dollar concern: A concern of the Osage people.

Be careful and think wisely. Often times we don't want to hear the truth. We want to hear promises. Promises make us feel good.

Well, remember. You heard plenty of promises in 2006, how good do you feel today?

If a candidate promises you purchases and money and all sorts of goodies, be very careful. Who among you or them know the real, accurate answers to these questions?

- How much actual cash money does the nation have?
- How much money does the nation owe including attorney fees and lawsuits? (Don't forget the million dollars Congress just appropriated in December for the Chief to defy Federal Law by suing the OKTC).
- ✚ Don't forget his plan to appeal this suit.
- ✚ Don't forget the 4.9 million he spent to buy the land in North Tulsa
- ✚ Don't forget Sugar Loaf Mound
- ✚ Don't forget he'll be going to France along with his entourage in October.
- ✚ Don't forget we have no idea what it costs to run this new government.

We know it costs 1 million a year for a 12 member Congress and close to \$200,000 a year for the Chief and Assistant Chief in salaries. Probably \$250,000 if the truth was known.

In salaries alone we pay \$1,250,000.00 for 14 people yearly. Where is the reality in that?

I believe we would all be shocked to find out how much of the gaming money goes to run this new government. We have directors over directors over directors who most likely draw \$40,000 to \$50,000 a year and have expense accounts. We have a Chief, Assistant Chief and Congress members who have never seen or thought they would ever see paychecks like they get today.

We need practical thinking, reality facing, honest, serious people to represent us in this government. We aren't going to get what we need and deserve unless we all work diligently to see to it that our friends and family members are informed of the issues and understand how important this process is.

Many times I have visualized a first grade class of students raising their hands saying "I want to be Chief!" or "I want to be a Congress member" or "I want to be Assistant Chief." It's a cute thought but seriously folks, we cannot allow it.

What do our candidates know? Are they up on the issues? Have they heard of the 1906 Act? What's their opinion of the 1906 Act? Why are they running for office? What have they done to prepare themselves for office?

Don't allow them to change the subject to what they don't like about this current government. That's not your question. Your question is about them.

I don't have to tell you that \$65,000.00 to \$90,000.00 a year is incentive enough to bring Osages out of the wood work for that purpose alone. This is one reason I'm for cutting these outrageous salaries. Another reason is that the only people benefiting from this new government are the people working for it.

That doesn't make much sense. All this amounts to is we have a government for the mere sake of having a government. It's like that Wendy's commercial, a lot of bun but no beef, *WHERE'S THE BEEF?*

Look. We can do this and we can be successful at it. We have a lot of very intelligent Osages who are capable and dedicated to the tribe. We can surround ourselves with these people and come up with a constitution that will be solid for generations to come; one that will stand many tests and hold up to the strongest battles.

We have no choice. It is a responsibility we have to our ancestors, ourselves and our children. We have to build our house on a rock, not sand and we have to do it for the future of the tribe.

Do we really want to leave our children with this unstable constitution? NO.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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If you have questions or concerns that I can provide assistance with, please feel free to call: 918-260-5712.

I can be reached by e-mail at: jenny2010@cox.net

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Until next time, be safe, be happy and get your friends and family to write letters or e-mails or make phone calls to the Office of Congressional Affairs and the Osage Minerals Council.



CAN DO THIS!

Jenny Miller 8/22/09