



# Joyce White for Bishop Paiute Tribal Council

The experience, leadership, and determination the tribe needs now. Learn more at [joyce4council.com](http://joyce4council.com).

June 1, 2020

To: Bishop Paiute Tribal Members

Manahuu. I hope this message finds you well during these unprecedented times. While we navigate this period of uncertainty it is critical that we put a qualified, caring Tribal Council in place to help guide our tribal community through this pandemic to ensure we come out on the other end better than we found ourselves when this crisis began. It is essential that we have a strong Tribal Council to effectively lead us towards greater success as our lives begin to return to normal.

Born and raised on the Bishop Paiute Reservation and daughter of Bertha Willis and the late Edward Willis, I am both honored and humbled to announce my candidacy for the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council in the upcoming primary election that will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Your vote would be greatly appreciated, and it would be a privilege to serve you and our fellow tribal members on the Tribal Council.

Below is a brief summary of my qualifications. I strongly believe my education and experience will be conducive to the responsibilities and decisions that must be made as a member of the Tribal Council. I have honed my analytical and listening skills over my long legal career and am able to effectively communicate. I also have a deep understanding of contracts and negotiations, having experience in reviewing multi-million-dollar contracts on both the domestic and international level – skills which will be critical to effectively moving forward with the current casino expansion and new service station projects as well as future projects I will encourage the Tribe to engage in.

## **Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Master's Degree in Indigenous People's Law**

- I have a B.A. in Economics from the University of California, Irvine.
- I completed one year of law school at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law.
- Last year, I earned my M.A. in Indigenous People's Law from the University of Oklahoma, School of Law.

## **30+ Years of Professional Experience Working at a Global Fortune 500 Company**

- I began my career in Contracts Administration in the aerospace industry.
- I then worked as a paralegal in the law department of a Fortune 500 company for over 30 years, where I specialized in Intellectual Property and Contracts.

## **Tribal Leadership and Knowledge of Critical Large-Scale Economic Initiatives**

- I currently serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Directors for the Bishop Paiute Development Corporation (BPDC).
- As a member of the BPDC Board of Directors, I assisted in sourcing and contracting with the vendors and contractors who are working on the casino expansion and new service station projects and participated in the design review of both projects, which have a combined budget of over \$20 million.
- Current responsibilities also include overseeing the construction and fiscal management of the service station project. This has entailed multiple meetings per month with the BPDC regarding operations and the Tribal Council regarding the projects.
- If elected, I will work to secure the necessary resources and staffing to allow BPDC to further explore and secure economic projects on and off the reservation to bring further economic benefit to the Tribe.

I would also like to share with you several key areas that I will make a top priority during my term in an effort to increase the success and overall well-being of our tribal community.



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## Provide Greater Transparency and Accountability

- I will press to keep you and the tribal community more fully informed so that you will better understand what the Tribal Council is doing and how its decisions will affect you and your family.
- The Tribal Council is put in place by the General Council and must act in the best interests of the Tribe at large. Greater transparency will enable you and the General Council to hold the Tribal Council accountable and ensure it is acting in your favor.

## Ensure a Clear Separation Between the Tribal Council and the Tribal Court

- It is imperative to maintain a clear separation of powers between the Tribal Council and the Tribal Court. The Tribal Court must be free to deliberate issues and arrive at decisions without any undue influence.

## Recognize Tribal Employees and Protect Their Rights

- The Tribe can ill afford the large turnover of tribal employees that have recently occurred. I strongly believe it is time to see all employees for what they are—valuable assets who contribute to the success and well-being of our community—and treat them accordingly.
- I will not tolerate bullying. I will do my part to ensure that the Tribal Council acts in an ethical manner in its dealings with employees of the Tribe. All employees must be able to work in a harassment-free environment and feel free to voice their concerns without fear of intimidation or retaliation.

## Bring Back Trust and Respect to the Tribal Council and Explore Other Areas of Opportunity

- I will strive to bring back trust and respect for the Tribal Council so it can more effectively move forward and allow the Tribe to realize its full potential.
- Our elders are the key to our past and our young people are the key to our future. As such, I would work to secure more funding for programs for the elders and educational opportunities for the young.
- I would also advocate for the building of a Recovery Treatment Center on the Bishop Paiute Reservation, which incorporates traditional wellness programs. If we hope to see our loved ones successfully recover from their addictions, we must give them the tools and resources to do so at home.
- I will also work to improve relations between the tribal community and the greater Bishop community by increasing our visibility and fostering an appreciation for the cultural diversity of our native people in this beautiful valley we call home.

There are, of course, many other challenges that the Tribal Council must deal with. I believe that I have the integrity and capability of providing the fresh leadership that the Bishop Paiute Tribe needs now. I assure you and the voting members that I am not running for any monetary gain or power that comes from being on the Tribal Council. I feel a duty to apply my experience and education for the betterment of the Tribe as I truly want to see us thrive and survive. I have had the privilege of working many years in the business world and have been acknowledged for my work ethics – I would now like to work for you.

Thank you for your consideration. Please stay safe, stay healthy, and **remember to vote for Joyce White on Tuesday, June 9, 2020.**

Sincerely,

Joyce White