



Phone: 918-968-3526 • 920883 S Hwy 99 Bldg A • Stroud, OK 74079 • Vol.36 No. 4 • April 2015

Chief's Address To The Nation



Greetings,
Spring is officially here and inclement weather comes to the forefront of our concerns especially if you live in states that have tornado sightings! We at the tribal complex have a "safe room" located in the Cultural Center; designated areas to go to in the Learning Center, Juvenile Detention Center, and have tornado drills so our employees know what to do if they have to take shelter.

Our tribal police department monitors by internet, cell phones, and are in contact with the Lincoln County Emergency Management to notify staff if there is any potential danger developing resulting from severe weather. We also have a tornado warning siren located on the grounds. Plans are to build within any new structures constructed on site, safety rooms for the protection of employees, guests, and tribal members that may be visiting or conducting business at the tribal complex.

Emergency preparedness training has been discussed and being researched to be able to implement within our tribal government.

I encourage our Sac & Fox Nation Housing Authority to consider the implementation of safe rooms in all new homes to be constructed and to study the possibility of adding to existing properties internally and externally, safety rooms / cellars. Those of you who have had to take shelter during these tornado "warnings" know exactly what I'm referring to and probably have a plan of action to get your families to safety.

There may be a local community shelter such as a school, storm shelter, or similar type structure for you to drive to; but for those tribal members without transportation or unable to drive, something must be done. (1) I have instructed our grants writer / planner to research grant opportunities for monies to address this problem. (2) Revenue Allocation Plan (RAP) monies could possibly be used for the purpose of building cellars, and (3) HUD dollars may be available.

If you have any ideas or suggestions as to helping our tribal membership, please contact a member of the Business Committee or Chief of Staff Rick Quarry. I would appreciate any input from tribal members.

Local

Software Simplified MIP Fund Accounting

The conversion to Software Simplified MIP Fund Accounting, a total software and professional services will soon be undertaken. I reported on this necessary expenditure and change in my earlier article(s). I again emphasize that the vast majority of all Indian nations / tribes are currently using this system. Governing Council's request has not fallen on deaf ears, the request for current accounting of the Nation's funds has been continuously requested and with this conversion the answers will be readily available after the system is up and running with all of any glitches ironed out.

The work will be done in four phases, set to take just over 3 months, which will get us to our new goal of modernization. I am including details on those phases below –

Phase One: Database Set Up, Design/Deployment

This phase includes the initial project meeting and the development of a full business process study. Current financial statements and reports will be analyzed. The design/build of the database includes:

- Initial Project Meeting & Discovery Session
- Implementation Plan Review and Development
- Training & Go-Live Plan Scheduling Development
- Develop, Review & Approve Chart of Accounts
- Import General Ledger Beginning Balances (Note 1)
- Discuss and Create Distribution Codes
- Create and Setup Users for All Modules
- Setup Advanced Security Module
- Setup Bank Reconciliation Module, Develop Importing .def File
- Setup Budget Worksheets, Primary Budget Controls, Workflows, and Import Primary Budgets
- Setup Electronic Requisitions, Purchase Order and Workflow Modules
- Setup Accounts Payable Module and Import Vendors, Bal-

- ances, and Year to Date History
- Setup Encumbrances Process
- Setup AR Reporting & Billing Module and Import Customers and Balances
- Setup Allocation Module and Build up to 3 Allocations
- Setup Fixed Assets and Import Existing Fixed Assets
- Setup Payroll Module and Import Employees and Year to Date History (Note 2)
- Setup HR Module and Import Related Employee Data Beyond Fields in Payroll (Note 3)
- Setup Direct Deposit Module
- Define and Build Financial Statement Formats and Report Group Options
- Create Checks, Purchase Orders, Invoices, and Statements in Forms Designer

Phase Two: Conference Room Pilot

This phase includes a conference room pilot with all users. Users are walked through each transaction type to test/review all setups and validate that the database is setup to perform as desired.

Phase Three: Database Training for Users

Based on the training schedule developed in Phase I, this phase includes training for all users in their assigned applications. The training is comprehensive and designed to meet the needs for users at different levels. Training is performed with your data, not a sample database. It will ensure that all users are fully able to use every feature of the system whenever it is needed.

Phase Four: Ongoing Support

Starting at day one of purchasing the software, the Sac and Fox Nation will receive technical support from the manufacturer. Additionally, as per agreement, Software Simplified will provide post go-live personal support to the users for the first month, and until the first set of financials are prepared.

I want to thank Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Phil Ellis for the recommendation to utilize this software project.

Short Takes

- *Organizational Charts*

The Business Committee revised the Organizational Chart(s) during our Special meeting on March 20 that reflects the many positive changes within our tribal government which will result in better and improved services to our clients – tribal membership.

- *PACE Group*

PACE Group is currently in the last phase of locating potential candidates for the Economic Development Director position. The needs assessment and job description were reviewed by many tribal members, staff, community leaders, and professionals whom in return commented on behalf of our Nation. We are grateful to all the Tribal Members who participated and expressed their opinions on our need. Thank you all for your time.

(Continued on Page 3)



Spring is here: Spring has finally arrived, and although April showers bring May flowers, it also brings the threat of severe weather. Be weather aware these next few months, tornadoes have already hit parts of Moore and caused considerable damage in the Tulsa area the last week of March. (SFNews photo)

The Sac and Fox Nation Historic Preservation Office

by Historic Preservation Officer Sandra Massey

The Office of Historic Preservation began in 1996 as the Repatriation Committee office to implement the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), first staffed by committee members until September 1997 when the SFN created the full time position of NAGPRA Coordinator.

With no other department at the tribal complex handling history questions and with all federal and state agencies in and out of state mandated to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the NAGPRA office became the Historic Preservation Office.

The initial and ongoing goal of the Office of Historic Preservation is to protect our ancestors and their teachings through the implementation of federal laws that protect our graves and historic and sacred sites, which are:

- NAGPRA – The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act signed into law on November 15, 1990 provides for the repatriation and return of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony from museums and federal agencies to lineal descendants, culturally affiliated tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations. We have repatriated our people from museums

in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Massachusetts with reburials in or as close to the original burial site.

NHPA – The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 states that "the spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage" and "the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development". Through this law, particularly Section 106, tribes must be contacted for commentary prior to any undertaking on our historic properties.

ARPA - The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 protects archaeological resources on public and Indian lands in recognition that they are "an accessible and irreplaceable part of the Nation's heritage".

AIRFA – The American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 exists "to protect and preserve for American Indians their inherent right of freedom to believe, express, and exercise the traditional religions of the American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, and Native Hawaiians, including but not limited to access to sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and the freedom to worship through ceremonies and traditional rites."

(Continued on Page 3)

Upcoming Events

April 4

Sac and Fox Nation Eggapalooza
1:00 - 3:30 pm

April 8

Sac and Fox Elders Monthly Meeting
Shawnee

April 9

Sac and Fox Genealogy Workshop
Learning Center
2 pm - 6 pm

April 14

Sac and Fox Nation Veterans Meeting
Cultural Center

April 16

Sac and Fox Nation Womens Auxillary

May 9

Sac and Fox Elders Mothers Day Dance
Community Building

SAC AND FOX NATION 2015 ELECTION

NOTICE OF POSITIONS FOR ELECTION

The Sac and Fox Nation Election Board is declaring and officially posting the following positions that will be open for the 2015 election year.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE POSITIONS

PRINCIPAL CHIEF

SECOND CHIEF

COMMITTEE MEMBER

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE #3

Georgia Blanchard, Chairman
Sac and Fox Nation Election Board

Date