



TAKING ACTION IN SAN CARLOS
Community Listening Sessions

COMMENT REPORT

Executive Summary

Public trust, knowledge and efficacy in tribal politics have been low in recent years. While few would question that the San Carlos Apache Tribe is a democracy, it has been criticized for its lack of democratic vitality. Our citizens have been described as 'noisy spectators' rather than active participants, and our politicians and government accused of retreating into a 'bunker mentality'. These problems of political engagement are not unique to San Carlos, but are all the more significant given the tribe's large and progressive status.

The question remains, however, is it possible to improve people's understanding of issues and priorities while ensuring that the concerns of the people are heard and acted upon? Are there emerging methods and structures that can enhance the relationship between the people, elected representatives and the institutions efficiently, effectively and sustainably? The answer is yes. The oral traditions of the Apache people have prompted the Office of the Vice Chairman to conduct community meetings known as "Listening Sessions", designed to allow the people to share the stories of their lives as in the ways of our oral tradition. This method of data collection has long been in use by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in determining the needs of tribes across the Nation. The purpose of these listening sessions was intended to serve as a stepping stone to promote public awareness and civic engagement.

In the execution of each community meeting, the Office of the Vice Chairman developed a standardized format for these sessions. The standardization was designed to ensure consistency in the collection of data. Each session began with an overview of the Vice Chairman's projects and initiatives. The program was then turned over to the public to share their experiences as it relates to tribal affairs. The following is a list of the sessions that occurred throughout the month of February:

2/12/07
2/20/07
2/21/07
2/22/07

Bylas
Seven Mile Wash
Peridot
Gilson Wash

Overview of Key Comments

The comments received ranged from health care to transportation, however, the following items were issues presented by every district: *Council issues, Council Committees, Law Enforcement, and Health Care*. Although trash control and roads were not mentioned in all districts, these topics presented themselves as high on the priorities for certain communities.

Comments

The comments are organized chronologically and are separated by district.

Bylas Comments
February 12, 2007
Stanley Hall

TRIBAL COUNCIL ISSUES

- ❖ The Tribal Council must get involved with the county and work with departments such as (AZ. Dept of Transportation) ADOT.
- ❖ The Council must work with Gila and Graham Counties.
- ❖ The salary ranges of tribal positions should be made public so that young people can think about aspiring to become directors and other high paying positions.
- ❖ Are tribal businesses liable for accidents near their property? The tribe must release the business code to the public.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- ❖ Committee chairs are unresponsive to the public.
- ❖ What are the policies?
- ❖ The public must be made aware of the committee process.

TRANSPORTATION

- ❖ Bylas community members need rides between Bylas and San Carlos. A transportation system must be established.

BYLAS CLINIC

- ❖ The Bylas Clinic will only take 10 appointments per day which is against the Council's message of practicing healthy habits.
- ❖ When patients take the IHS provided transportation into other hospitals for treatment, some patients have to wait all day until the van leaves and that is uncomfortable.
- ❖ The patient service at the Bylas Clinic is poor.
- ❖ One doctor in particular at the Bylas Clinic is in serious need of sensitivity training (Hudson).
- ❖ Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Police Department employees should work full days meaning that the drive out to Bylas should not be included in their work day. They should be required to be at their station by 8:00 a.m.

HIGHWAY/SAFTEY TRUCKS

- ❖ Truckers drive too fast.
- ❖ The Tribe should put up slow signs for traffic to read as they enter the Bylas community.
- ❖ The tribe should create regulatory policies with the Highway Safety Department for truckers.
- ❖ The speed limit signs should begin to lower the speed on the outskirts of Bylas and not right before the community.
- ❖ The District Council needs to put more time into enforcing speed limits.

- ❖ There are no lights or signs to indicate school bus stops on the highway.

ROADS

- ❖ Roads need more lights and crosswalks.
- ❖ The bridge between Peridot and Bylas is old and is going to give way.
- ❖ The crossing in front of Noline's Country Store is dangerous. So many people have died in that area. The tribe must find a way to make that road safer.
- ❖ Bylas community road should not be a commercial road.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ❖ The presence of law enforcement is no longer in Bylas.
- ❖ The police officers should start work on time and respond to calls quicker. Back up plan for officers that don't show up for work should be established. Need a police dispatcher in Bylas.
- ❖ Police substation must be re-opened it has been closed for 4 years.
- ❖ The tribe should consider training Workforce Investment Act (WIA) or Dept. of Economic Security (DES) workers to dispatch.
- ❖ The San Carlos Police Department (SCPD) should apply for the Governor's grant for radars. There should also be an agreement in place to allow off duty officers from other forces to work in San Carlos.
- ❖ It seems that non-Indian cops train with the police force and then leave, why are we spending money to train them if they are going to leave quickly?
- ❖ The detention center should release the detainees to work at wakes like they have done in the past.
- ❖ We need Juvenile officers.
- ❖ The Tribe must investigate activity out on road #60, there are reports of illegal mining and even helicopter runs.
- ❖ Truancy enforcement must happen in the community. Everyone should be working together to make sure the kids are in schools. Parents should be jailed if underage minors are not in school.

EDUCATION

- ❖ Education department staff must be more efficient. They have misplaced my application more than once.
- ❖ The Education Department should fund only those who are succeeding in school.

TRAINS

- ❖ Trains carry hazardous materials right through Bylas.
- ❖ Trains come through Bylas between 8:00 p.m. and midnight. The noise is disruptive to the community.

- ❖ The tribe should update the public about the agreements between Pacific Trains and San Carlos, if any.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- ❖ Community activities are disappearing. In the old days there was a pool hall and now those types of places are gone.
- ❖ A comment telephone line for the community should be created.
- ❖ The store, clinic, and administration offices are not wheel chair accessible.
- ❖ Bylas store signs need to be more sensitive to the community, the manager needs an attitude adjustment.
- ❖ Stanley Hall needs to be remodeled.
- ❖ Bylas needs a Boys and Girls Club and more youth athletic leagues.
- ❖ The community would like to see historical documents regarding Coolidge Dam.
- ❖ We need and want a skateboard park.
- ❖ We need a community briefing on disaster relief.

TRIBAL PROGRAM ISSUES

- ❖ Cops and other tribal departments including BIA should not be allowed to use company vehicles for private use. Forestry is well known for using official vehicles on private errands.
- ❖ With the high unemployment rate in San Carlos, the tribe should look to secure jobs for tribal members with off reservation companies like the mines.
- ❖ Only certain homes in Bylas have meters from the Utility Authority and the homes with meters are still getting charged the meter rate while others pay only \$28.00.
- ❖ Fire season is starting again and members of the Bylas community never get picked. What is the forestry selection process? I was informed that we don't get picked due to transportation.
- ❖ The Forestry pack tests are stopped at a certain time of the year; they should be offered year round. The tribe must look into the Forestry Management.
- ❖ The program directors should come out to Bylas more often to see the programs.
- ❖ The reservation must be cleaned up.
- ❖ Community Health Representative (CHR) vehicles are not wheel chair equipped
- ❖ The water line pipes in the Bylas community have not been completely replaced. Those pipes once carried asbestos about 10 years ago. All must be replaced.
- ❖ Water storage tanks are not protected. Water safety tests must be conducted with the reports circulated to the public.
- ❖ Store area should be paved in Bylas.

- ❖ The tribe must get out public information about emergency preparedness and hazmat teams.
- ❖ Emergency Management Services (EMS) employees should make themselves fully aware of home routes.

GENERAL COMMENTS

- ❖ The Casino van does not make runs to Bylas and as a result some of the Bylas employees had to resign.
- ❖ I am in favor of half days off from work to support student athletes during games.
- ❖ The tribe should consider changing work schedules to reflect a four day work week with longer days, similar to that practiced by other tribes.



Seven Mile Wash Comments
February 20, 2007
Seven Mile Wash Head Start

TRIBAL COUNCIL ISSUES

- ❖ Why is the Council operating as separate tribes? That is what it appears like to us. Council members are elected to represent their districts only and then unite as one body to make overall decisions. Instead, it seems that they are all running separate tribes.
- ❖ Why does the Bylas community have so many lights? It does not make sense that one community could spend the funds that it may have cost to put in those lights. Does every district get the same amount of funding for these projects? I want to know how much goes to each district. Why don't the people of the community have a say in how the community funds are used?
- ❖ The Seneca store and café is still run down. Please fix it up so money can be made and tribal members can enjoy.
- ❖ We need land clearing operations. I would like to see a program that is devoted to land clearing for tribal members.

TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- ❖ Housing policies and laws must be enforced. The Tribal Council members should not be allowed to stop evictions. If they are council members they should not sit on the housing committee because politics can get involved.
- ❖ Why does the Council have committees if they are the only people that sit on them? Why not just discuss these issues in full Council meetings?

EDUCATION

- ❖ The Tribal Council should look into the policies of operations that serve tribal members such as Eastern Arizona College. I believe there is some discrimination occurring at that college.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

- ❖ We need to have a transportation system so that we can get to and from the hospital when we get sick. We know that the Community Health Representative (CHR) Program does provide transportation but you need an appointment to use their services. This program is not helpful to those who are already sick without a ride. How can we make appointments if we don't know when sickness will hit us?
- ❖ Elders need rides from the hospital.
- ❖ Concerned about the hospital. It seems that when you go into the hospital for routine check up, you have to update your records every single time. That should not be necessary if you must go to the hospital every other week.
- ❖ The record update process is too burdensome.

- ❖ It is hard to get non-Indians into IHS for services. What if a tribal member chooses a non-Indian for their spouse, they deserve health care too. Why can't we control the hospital services?
- ❖ Indian Health Services (IHS) complaints don't seem to have an impact.
- ❖ The doctors at IHS are cold and don't appear to be concerned. It seems that the hospital is constantly flying out patients. Are the people really that sick or is it about money?
- ❖ Helicopters fly over the Seven Mile Wash community on a daily basis and it is really disturbing especially in the middle of the night. Can't they fly out patients from the airport?
- ❖ Why does the hospital have very little beds? There are so many patients that need to be hospitalized.

TRASH

- ❖ Talkalai Lake is full of trash. I used to walk in the area and now the trash is so horrible, I can't enjoy my walks anymore. The tribe needs a landfill. Plus homes are just cluttered as well. The tribe must develop laws to govern home yard appearances.
- ❖ There is illegal dumping in Seven Mile. Those who are dumping can't afford dumpsters.

UTILITIES

- ❖ Electricity Issues-it seems that with every little wind, San Carlos is without electricity. How about generators? What happened to our generator? Does the Tribe have any agreements relating to the generators out at the lake? I think there may be a resolution that passed regarding this matter between the years of 1987-2000.

ROADS

- ❖ When is the road in Cutter going to be fixed? The road between San Carlos and the Casino is dangerous.
- ❖ Are people being arrested for walking on the side of the road? I heard that some individuals walking to the Casino were arrested for trespassing.

ELDERS

- ❖ It seems that the Tribal Council use elders in speeches but no consistent services or changes have been made to support the talk. Elders need help.
- ❖ Why can't the tribe utilize the expertise of the elders by allowing them to serve as advisors in areas such as the Cattle Association?

PERMITS/VENDORS

- ❖ White people and Chinese people have big vendor operations that keep business away from tribal people, why is this allowed?
- ❖ Door to door salesmen invade our privacy. Are door to door salesmen required to have a permit for sale? Who provides the enforcement of the permits?
- ❖ Are the vendors selling on the San Carlos side of Salt River Canyon legitimate? They claim to get their license to sell from the Globe Chamber of Commerce.

TRIBAL ENTERPRISES

- ❖ Casino—why can't the Casino profits be used to give funds to the community instead of having new car giveaways.
- ❖ Timber-Is the saw mill making money? Our people work in that operation, why can't it be improved? It looks like a very old and outdated business from the outside appearance.
- ❖ Utility Authority—the water bills are so high.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS ISSUES

- ❖ Who is the oversight for the BIA? The BIA Roads crew is always at Bashas.

TRIBAL PROGRAM ISSUES

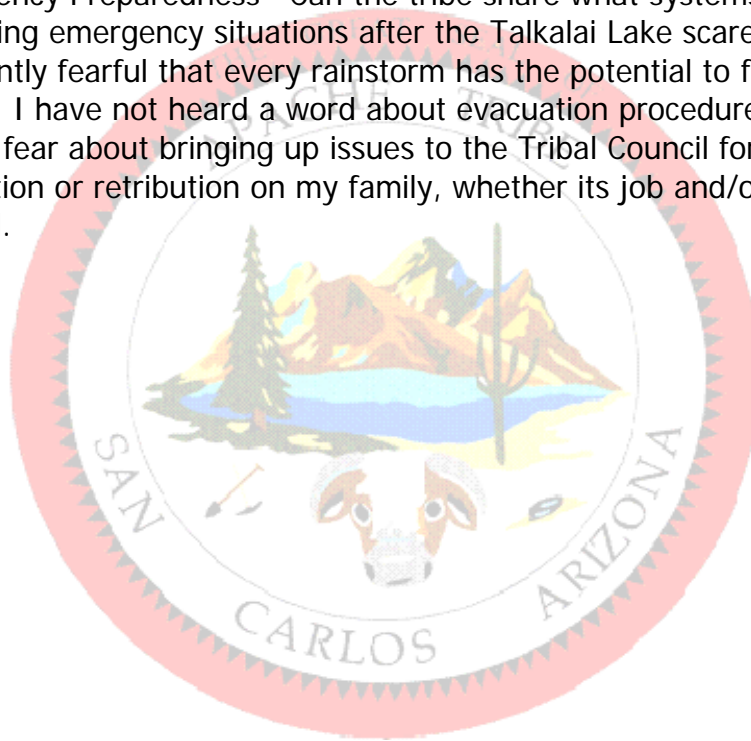
- ❖ Hunters are too close to the Seven Mile Wash Community. Signs to indicate that hunters should not be near residential communities are needed.
- ❖ Natural Resources/Agriculture—again, no public reports made regarding these topics. We want to know what is going on.
- ❖ Why does forestry claim the airport near their office buildings? They do not work 24/7.
- ❖ Drinking water needs to be checked. I am concerned about the water we are drinking. I have heard stories of dead animals in the water tanks. If the water is tested, why aren't the results reported to the public to put our minds at ease?
- ❖ There is no defined process for anything like water breaks, housing, committees, etc.

HOUSING

- ❖ Does Housing have tenants' rights? Why aren't they published?
- ❖ I am saddened because I feel that individuals living off the reservation that return get first priority for housing. What about those of us that have been here all of our lives?

GENERAL COMMENTS

- ❖ Reservation entry and checkout stations are necessary. That is the only way we can stop speeding trucks and drug dealers.
- ❖ Why aren't non-Indians in the community checked into to make sure they have a valid reason for being on tribal lands?
- ❖ No jobs.
- ❖ What is happening with the cattle? How about the Tribal Herd R-100? There are never any public reports about this topic.
- ❖ Can the tribe offer home insurance to tribal members that don't live in a housing complex?
- ❖ I would like the tribe to test and monitor Talkalai Lake and make public reports about the lake's status.
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness—Can the tribe share what systems are in place regarding emergency situations after the Talkalai Lake scare? I am constantly fearful that every rainstorm has the potential to flood my home. I have not heard a word about evacuation procedures and safety.
- ❖ I have fear about bringing up issues to the Tribal Council for fear of retaliation or retribution on my family, whether its job and/or opportunity related.



Peridot Comments
February 21, 2007
Peridot Head Start

TRIBAL COUNCIL ISSUES

- ❖ There are enough people in the administration to be able to start things. It is not good to be proud of some many negative issues. For example with drugs what is being done?
- ❖ This tribal government has no infrastructure. There is no planning at all for safety, emergency routes.
- ❖ There is no visible oversight of program directors. We just want to know that the directives are coming from the top down and that program directors are accountable to the Tribal Chairman.
- ❖ It is difficult to get a hold of a person over the phone.
- ❖ We need better customer service.
- ❖ I still don't see this professionalism with the administration office staff, what is the chain of command in the office. Who supervises who?

TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- ❖ Who are the members of the tribal committees? How were they selected? Are they qualified to serve in those roles? Why is there no public notice of committee meetings? I would like to see the authorizing policies and selection criteria of each committee.

CATTLE INDUSTRY

- ❖ Buyers from the east use to come and buy cattle. Now what do we have? A few board members would like to replace the manager and others don't want to replace him because they know how he works.
- ❖ People came with these permits and sold their beef for drinks. One example is a farmer who had cattle with the Indian brand.
- ❖ In earlier times, in order to become a member of the Cattle Association you had to work for them for 4 years doing various ranch chores such as fixing fence, branding, etc. A person had to work hard to become a member. Now this is not done and the membership is not strong. I would like to see membership to the Cattle Association include a work or experience requirement.
- ❖ I have about 140 head. But I cannot ship them to sell because I don't have a working corral. Now I have some 5 year olds that need to be sold. I have cattle but no way to sell them. The name of the ranch is Saddle Mountain Ranch. Need to change name to apply for credit to help with the day to day operations. I need two pens and a chute to help with operations. I would like to hire people but no one wants to stay and help. Would like the lease agreement name change it would help me a lot. I have tried to talk to the District Councilman but so far I have not found him. I don't know where he lives. I can't afford to keep chasing him. I have given the current Chairman my lease agreement to help me but I now understand it is in the hands of

- Harding Burdette. Bottom line is where can people go to address simple lease name changes? This action should not take months to resolve.
- ❖ Communication needs to be better. I know there are some good members of the association out there but I have no way of getting around to them.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

- ❖ There is a huge problem with alcohol and drug abuse. Every weekend there is a fight gun shots etc.
- ❖ The police need to enforce the laws especially concerning drug sellers and boot leggers. I don't know why the police don't take care of these abusers.
- ❖ People are not getting help they may need. A lot of abusers sometimes just want help. We talk to them and try not to turn them away. Listening to these people I have insights to problems of our people. Older men and women are engaging in sexual abuse. Kids are being abuse. Homosexual activity is happening. They want to go to the Wellness Center but they don't trust them. People feel that they will be laughed at and not really helped. These sellers and drug abusers want help, but they don't know where to go. Our children have names of these drug dealers and most of these people are employed by our government. How do you deal with these problems? People want help.

HEALTH

- ❖ Cancer is a major problem. People don't want to hear or find out more about it. I feel strongly about this cause but no one is interested. We need programs for the youth to keep the kids occupied.

JUVENILE LAW

- ❖ We need some ordinances for juveniles. I heard the Detention Center was for juveniles. It needs to be enforced.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ❖ I would also like to see a Laundromat in this area. It would help us greatly.
- ❖ The tribe should consider entering into an Employment Agreement with a company that is in need of laborers. I feel that some of the area's companies are discriminating against our people and an agreement of this type would allow for our people to at least be considered.

GENERAL COMMENTS

- ❖ I notice the rest area. I have to commend them with keeping it clean and well taken care of. Bylas seems to have less graffiti and they should be recognized. How can we get the children interested in other activities? Bylas is doing a good job.
- ❖ The rodeo grounds need to be brought back to Peridot. What is happening with that?
- ❖ I would like to see a skateboard park. They use to go to Bashas but they get chased out. I know I need to talk to my District Councilman.

UTILITIES

- ❖ San Carlos Irrigation Project (SCIP) continues to make errors on my bills. I have brought this matter to their attention several times and it has not been corrected. Is there any way that the Council can meet with the company to develop better standards of service?
- ❖ Can people in the Peridot District have natural gas instead of propane? When you buy propane and pay you have to wait. The company says we have to wait in line. The company kept telling us they would bring it a couple of days later. Finally I said I was going to call the Better Business Bureau.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ❖ I am tired of being a police officer at home and in the surrounding area. People get back at me by throwing rocks and stuff.
- ❖ We still have the same law enforcement problems that were voice by the community of Peridot at a district meeting with the Council.

TRIBAL PROGRAM ISSUES

- ❖ Realty is a major issue. They need help so that they can start using a GIS system. It will help in the long run with sewer, water, boundaries that affect families. These are issues from families I have contact with on a daily basis. Planning and Zoning needs must be met. One situation was with my grandma who had trouble getting clearance to build a home. But another couple got clearance to build a home and it was done bypassing people in line for years. IT IS NOT FAIR... Planning will help with electrical issues. New lines need to be put up. How is this to be done?
- ❖ Housing-I don't know were to begin. We have tried to address the issues of a scattered home. People who have trailers have issues. Can they get funding from other sources? Where do we get answers? I need housing to be more active. I feel now I need to tell the families the truth.

CULTURE

- ❖ Why isn't culture a priority for the Council? Families have begun to pawn their daughters/grand daughter's buckskins. How can the Tribal Council lead by example and show our people that we need to be more respectful with the ceremonies and the items used for the ceremony?

Gilson Wash Comments
February 22, 2007
Apache Gold Casino

TRIBAL COUNCIL ISSUES

- ❖ As a tribal employee I take leave and it is usually because of my children. Is there anyway the council meeting can be changed so people can attend. How can the community be involved if they cannot attend the tribal meeting?
- ❖ Why was an individual given money from the Council to travel to see her kid? She works. This money used could be given to the elderly, other families with bigger problems. What is the criterion by which the Council gives money? I am demanding that a policy and need be established to put some order to giving out general assistance. The Council gets to use General Assistance (GA) for political purposes.
- ❖ My concern is the council meetings. It would be good if it was at a different time to accommodate other people's schedule.

TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- ❖ I would like a copy of the committee policies. Can we be a part of them? How are the members selected?
- ❖ Why is the public not aware of these committees?
- ❖ Is the public invited to these meetings?
- ❖ Council members should not sit on a committee, which could be viewed as a conflict of interest.
- ❖ I believe committees should be reviewed and reevaluated. Other people should be appointed instead of using the same people over and over.
- ❖ Some members of the Council are not qualified to address some of the tough committee work such as the Law and Order committee.

MINING ISSUES

- ❖ One issue is a demoralization of our community. Drugs and alcohol and even in the spiritual realm. Land issues not part of the reservation our neglected. Not being protected. Oak Flats how many know what is going on with it? This area has been sacred to our community. Apaches have curing properties. This is about to be jeopardized by mining. Two companies BHB and Rio Tinto are interested in this area. They have never asked the indigenous people how you feel about us taking over the land. Our people have used this land by picking acorn. Lucky Boy Mine is going to be part of Gilson Wash. They will be using it to mine uranium which is cancer causing. It will produce runoff and move directly into Gilson Wash. Congress will take up the issue with the Land Bill.
- ❖ Mineral rights and land use have been stolen from people. Mines surrounding us have taken a lot. Subsurface and surface minerals have been taken. Research mineral right claims.

- ❖ I have an issue with the road and the mine using the road and the big trucks carrying the waste. It is dangerous. I work for tribal farms and the sewer pond is leaking. We will get sued if it breaks.

RELATIONS WITH GLOBE

- ❖ I am part of some committees in Globe and the only native. People do not understand what it means to be a sovereign nation. A division has been drawn between neighboring communities because of their misconception of sovereignty.

ROADS

- ❖ My concern is the roads. We need to have side walks and perhaps lights to avoid any accidents and for the safety of the people. The roads need to be redone. The roads are old and need to be repaired. Tarzan Valley needs speed bumps because the people speed through the road. Route 6 people go through the road and speed. The homes at the road need to be fixed and try to make their houses look decent. Pinal Street needs to be cleaned up. Back in the 60s by other administrations promises were made and never kept. I walk everyday about three miles and there is a lot of trash all over. These trails that I walk are ones called wino trail and they are very dirty.
- ❖ Talk about trash when you go riding at night we don't have lines to divide the highway. You can't see anything to divide the road and trails.
- ❖ The roads are in desperate need of repair. Can this be a priority? How can it be done? Does the tribe have to give up something to have the roads redone?
- ❖ There is one 638 roads employee who does not do anything. Where is the accountability?
- ❖ What is the role of BIA roads and Tribal Roads?
- ❖ Roads in Gilson Wash we do need speed bumps, lights and improvements because people walk around. Children need to have some cover from the weather for protection during summer and winter.
- ❖ I believe a light needs to be built in front of the Casino. A Truck was coming very fast and almost hit me.
- ❖ The Tribe must do something about visitor's speeding on the highway.

TRIBAL PROGRAMS

- ❖ My close relative who has lived off the reservation for a number of years wanted to come home after he lost his wife. He wanted to move on his leased land and tried to check on it, but thus far has not got any answers. The people who work in the office are always gone or have no answers. Who is their supervisor? Something needs to be done. Planning and

Zoning needs to look into this. I don't feel good because my close relative can't come home because they have no land.

ELDERS

- ❖ The elderly should be given first priority to have a house remodeled and or have a home built.

TRIBAL EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

- ❖ Tribal employees have never received a raise. Employees should be getting a step increase. You have dedicated employees but no raises. Food and other things are going up. Directors should be a director and not an interim director.
- ❖ Someone needs to look at the department directors and evaluate them. Directors need to be responsible for their program. There is nothing like this in place to make the directors accountable.
- ❖ Some tribal departments are in desperate need of service evaluations. Programs that have many staff members and don't produce should be forced to be scaled back and other departments that need help should be able to hire additional help. I would like a report on the management of the tribal programs.
- ❖ Political Appointees must be evaluated including the tribal lawyer, treasurer and the Chief of Police if they are not doing their job then lets move ahead.

TRASH

- ❖ My concern is the trash issue. We have EPA and what is their role? How are they earning their money? What are they suppose to do?
- ❖ Trash: it is a bad thing what are we going to do about it? I am complaining for district council and people have given ideas. One concern is bottles on the street.
- ❖ Casino liquors store should use plastic bottles and glass bottles, to minimize trash and broken glass.
- ❖ The repeated offenders in the jail system seem to be just going on vacation. A long time ago they use to come out and work. I believe the Law and Order Committee should make a resolution for the prisoners to be out and clean the roads, streets, and yard.
- ❖ There is a lot of trash and it used to bother me. My yard is full of trash and my son and grandson cleaned the yard. We went to Mt. Turnbull to pick up the trash and no one has yet to come and dispose of it. As an elder we went to the last administration and stated being an elder it is hard to have our trashed picked up. Maybe you can check into this situation. We have trash in our yard and pay for it but cannot take it out ourselves.

- ❖ Regarding trash pick up, some people in our district have no money and I believe the council should help the elders, handicap, poor, etc.
- ❖ We need to clean our back yards. Lean and clean does not include the appliances, mattresses and other things. Maybe the tribe can help with part of the expense of disposing of large items. Elders come first is what everyone says, but no one listens to us.
- ❖ We need a landfill.
- ❖ There is so much trash I live in Skill Center and there is a lot of trash. Perhaps starting a recycling center or large trash binds in the districts.
- ❖ We need stiffer penalties regarding home yard appearance and littering.

SMALL BUSINESS

- ❖ Recently I have been trying to start a business in road construction. The tribe has a tax with Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) 2.5 percent. You also get taxed by the state and county. Why does a tribal member have to pay state tax as a tribal member? Maybe a waiver or something similar could be given. It is a lot of money if you do the math. A lot of money is being lost
- ❖ It is hard to get a business started. There needs to be a protocol for the businesses. The Tribal Council is not allowing businesses to thrive or even start. I hope the new administration will have open eyes.

EDUCATION

- ❖ More programs need to be established to combat high school drop outs.
- ❖ What is the role of the Education Committee, shouldn't they be responsible for trying to raise additional funds for higher education? I would like to see a duty description.
- ❖ I believe we have a lot of drop outs because of ridicule and lack of clothing, shoes etc. What are we offering the people to help with school clothes and supplies?
- ❖ Head Start kids should be given lessons about our culture and language.

HOUSING

- ❖ Low income housing used to be available. Today it is not that way. I believe they pull away from HUD. Today the homes are not being built and only rentals. What happened? Perhaps they thought renting would make money. Our poor people who get welfare pay 100 dollars a month to live in a home. What will happen in the future? We see on our local channel to put in an application in with housing and 6 months later you are asked to do the same thing. What is going on?
- ❖ A major concern of mine is housing. There are homes out there given to community members and it is trashed later. Who makes these decisions? How are the selections made? Young couples should be given a chance.

Houses should be given to elderly, young couples, veterans. How do you get on the list?

CATTLE INDUSTRY

- ❖ We need to change for the better. Cattle Association people back from the 80s get big checks and people don't raise their own cattle. The association does all the work to get the cattle to sale. All the associations today are broken from mismanagement. People don't want to get together and talk about their current situation. Ask questions to the board and demand answers.
- ❖ San Carlos used to be prosperous and would give the tribe 2.5 percent to keep the police department afloat. A woman came to ask if I am a member of the cattle association board. She stated she was denied by the director of her association. A long time ago all you had to do was go to two directors for an ok and then to the stockman and you get your cow. If not they would substitute it with a tribal cow and it would be replaced by your association.
- ❖ Grazing lands should now be opened for residence. Why can't I live in the cool areas of the reservation? There are no cattle to be concerned about now. We can live in an area that is cool. This would help the elders.

NEW HOSPITAL

- ❖ New hospital location is not easily accessible to the community. This venture was a major decision for the tribe. Why weren't the people consulted on this matter? There should have been a referendum vote by the people.
- ❖ New Hospital is being built over a zone that Davis Month an Air Force Base uses as a fly over. I believe they need to be approached.
- ❖ Why is it being built far away? When we go out on a daily basis post office, lunch program how are we going to get to the hospital? It is too far. Why weren't asked? Do we count as people? It is going to be hard to have to get a ride. Today we have to pay to go to Bashas and this takes away from our food purchase. How are we going to make ends meet and be able to go to the hospital? We feel (elders) do not count. In the new elder facilities we do not have a place to congregate. All we have is hard chairs. We want a room for men and women were we can relax. A laundry facility to wash our clothes when we can't or shower when there is no water.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ❖ During events like veterans weekend all of them should be held in the community of San Carlos, not at the Casino. The casino is too far away and caters to non-Indians.

JUVENILE LAWS

- ❖ The curfew for underage minors is not enforced. I don't know what happen but I do know that children are at the casino late. No patrol, monitoring my home has been vandalized. As a parent I believe this would be a big help to me in the future.
- ❖ My problem is with the Law and Order Committee. We had a Truancy code but it was shot down by the law and order committee. We need a place for kids with problems such as showing violence. We have parents who come in late in the morning and bring their child to school late because the parent is out all night. Make this code a priority; it would help with controlling the children.
- ❖ Why do we have a juvenile center if it is not being used for the juveniles?

CULTURE

- ❖ Clans, history I have heard that some churches have records of our people. Can they be brought back to San Carlos? Today people don't know their clans. We need a central area to be able to research our people, clanship, etc. A better cultural center. We need to teach our children our history.
- ❖ Looting sacred sites by non members and having them sell on eBay. We need help in protecting these areas I know the Game Rangers need help because they have their limitations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- ❖ Gilson Wash Front line. I am concerned about the Juvenile Detention Center. Most of the jail birds get out early in the morning and asking for rides. We are being bothered by people who are released early. What happen to curfew, being released at 400p.m. or during the day.
- ❖ People are speeding in the Front Line area and it is dangerous what is being done? I will stand out with a sign saying slow down.
- ❖ My concern is the detention facilities.
- ❖ We need lights and these people are released too early in the morning and my concern is for the children.
- ❖ What are the police doing with drug trafficking? School is being infiltrated with weapons, drugs and other things. My concern is for the youth. My grandkids are my concern and when the home is in a good environment why is there not a facility to help the grand parents to get custody or help the parents.
- ❖ The police department appears to be falling apart. Is it lack of communication or what is exactly the problem?
- ❖ We have more police cars than officers. We never see the police chief or other higher ups.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- ❖ Our District Council should be present at this meeting.
- ❖ Families live near El Paso natural gas. I have had emergency calls because of exposed gas lines. People are constantly driving over these lines and it is dangerous.
- ❖ The new Moccasin that came out and there are now kids on the cover, I like that! I am tired of seeing the Chair on the cover. Now I enjoy the articles of the Chairman and Sandra Rambler about the old days. I enjoy the Vice Chairman's Vision article it does more reporting and less fluff.
- ❖ I am pleased to be and I heard there was going to be a lot of changes for the good. I have never seen this type of meeting happen. Because of these changes I am here to see change.

