

## Responses to Proposed Findings and Charges of August 25, 1998

Article V, section (f) "to purchase in the name of the Tribe any land or property the Tribal Council may deem beneficial to the Tribe."

1. The purchase of the Quartz Mountain property, in the amount of \$36,582., was not approved by the Tribal Council. In addition, the draw down of HUD funds was not approved by the Chukchansi Indian Housing Authority (CIHA) Board of Commissioners until well after the funds had been drawn down. The draw down took place February 11, 1998; however, Gilbert did not request approval from the Board of Commissioners until March 9, 1998. The purchase of this property was declared an eligible expense by HUD officials on April 13, 1998. A Request for Release of Funds (RROF) was not performed on this parcel before funds were obligated to the project.

### Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero

The Picayune Rancheria decision to purchase the Quartz Mountain property for one of three potential housing clients that the tribe and housing consultant (Craig Dougall) were working with under the new program 184 HUD. This information was shared at several meetings that the Tribal Council and CIHA Housing Commissioner Chairman Herbert Punkin was informed. This information was shared at the following meetings.

#### Monthly and Special Meetings:

*Feb. 8, 1997 Section VI part C Special meeting (10:15 AM)*

*Meeting discussion was in relationship to Craig Dougall and 184 program and getting more homes for our clients.*

*April 12, 1997 Section VI Chairman's report*

*Meeting discussion involved information that Craig Dougall (housing consultant) would have a meeting with housing participants on April 12, 1997 at 1:30 PM at Yosemite Bank in Oakhurst, CA.*

*April 28, 1997 (6:00 PM) Section VII Chairman's written report given by Vice-Chair Emmaline Hammond*

*It is mentioned that the Tribe is still working with the HUD 184 program and housing participants.*

*July 28, 1997 Monthly Meeting (6:00 PM) Section IX CIHA update.*

*Meeting discussion shared about Craig Dougall will be here on (8-16-97) to discuss and help participants whom wish to use HUD 184 program in regard to loans to acquire homes and property.*

*Dec. 12, 1997 Special Meeting (5:00 PM) Section VI part B HUD information.*

*Meeting discussion shared was that Pat Taylor (Pine Tree Realty) will work with prices for property for housing clients.*

*Dec. 22, 1997 Monthly Meeting (6:00 PM) Section VIII CIHA*

*Meeting discussion was by CIHA Chairman Herbert Punkin that the Committee has been working with Pat Taylor (Pine Tree Realty). Ms. Taylor submitted a list of parcel of land for Section 184 program. 7-8 families working with Craig Dougall for home mortgage pre-qualification.*

*Jan. 10, 1998 (10:00 AM) Special Meeting Section VI part B.*

*Discussed under (B) Pat Taylor submitted listing of property for housing clients under HUD 184.*

*Feb. 14, 1998 (10:00 AM) Special Meeting Section VI Chairman's report part A Meeting information shared was that the Tribal Administrator, Tribal Chair and Housing consultant (C. Dougall) working with housing clients and Pat Taylor (Pine Tree Realty) and the 184 program mortgages and \$340 thousand dollars for modular building.*

#### PRCI Gaming Meetings

*Feb. 21, 1998 (Under Tribal Admin. report to Council) report date Feb. 10, 1998 Section H.*

*Meeting discussion #2 Three families are in the process of qualifying for Section 184 HUD housing. We are actively reviewing parcels of land in which to build these homes. #4 Craig Dougall (housing consultant) met with three families to discuss Section 184 home purchase (DLMB, CK and PE were the housing clients). #5 Pat Taylor (Pine Tree Realty) met with CIHA selection committee to discuss her roll in the purchase process. She is very helpful and has a good rapport with staff and members.*

#### Tribal Administrators Report

*May 4, 1998 report submitted for Feb 1998 Section G #3.*

*Report discusses that G. Davis in progress under HUD (Property on Quartz Mt.).*

#### Letter to HUD office

*The letter of January 22, 1998 to Mr. Raphael Meecham, Director of HUD request that Picayune Rancheria may begin drawing down funds. The Tribe has redesigned, reprogrammed funds to "fast track" the housing project.*

#### Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*As documented in the Meeting Minutes the Tribal Council and CIHA Chairman had knowledge of the purchase of Quartz Mountain property and the involvement of the Housing participants in the HUD 184 Program. To say they had no knowledge is totally incorrect. Information is shared at the meetings for Tribal Council and Tribal Members.*



*Once this information is shared it is the responsibility for Tribal Council and Members to ask questions. Also refer to the letter of Craig Dougall of September 14, 1998 (the letter discusses the 184 program, the family involved and who was at the meeting).*

2. The purchase of ten modular units from Mobile Modular to be used for an administrative building was made without the consent or knowledge of the Tribal Council or the CIHA Board of Commissioners. The draw down took place without the knowledge of the Council or Board of Commissioners. The contract with Mobile Modular was signed by Gilbert on March 5, 1998, again without the consent or knowledge of the Board of Commissioners or the Tribal Council. A check was sent in the amount of \$73,132.00 to Mobile Modular on March 10, 1998, again without the prior knowledge or consent of either governing body. The PROF/FONSI had not been completed prior to obligating HUD funds to purchase these modular units.

#### **Answers: Monthly and Special Meeting**

*February 14, 1998 Special Meeting (10:00AM) Section VI Chairman's report part A. Meeting discussion by Herbert Punkin CIHA Director comments that Administrator Chairman and Housing Consultant (Craig Dougall) are working with Pat Taylor (Pine Tree Realty) in regard to 184 program and working to to get \$340 thousand dollars for the modular building.*

#### **PRCI Gaming Meetings**

*February 21, 1998 (Tribal Administrator's report for Feb. 10, 1998) Section L. #22 Meeting with GE Modular representative Andrew Nibble and G. Cordero to learn what GE could offer the Tribe in office space accommodations. Assisted in the design stage of potential office space.*

#### **Tribal Administrators Report**

*May 4, 1998 report for February Section G #5. Tribal Administrator comments that GE Modular does not want to be involved in the modular process and that Mobile Modular will.*

#### **Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero**

*The Tribal Council and CIHA Chairman had knowledge of the modular purchase the minutes from meetings prove this and also the Tribal Council asked through the Tribal Chairman and CIHA Chairman Herbert Punkin to work with Tribal Administrator on this project. Herbert Punkin and I took GE representatives (Andrew Nibble) to the casino site and showed them our land and discussed our plans for a Casino and Administration building. Herb should remember this because this was the same day Mitch Fleck wanted wood and got discouraged because there was no free wood. Herbert, Jan and I had several meetings in regard to the modular building. GE Modular was requested and paid to develop a set of floor plans (blue prints) so that we could put the modular building out for bid. This cost was \$4,000. dollars. GE Modular, Mobile Modular and one other that decided not to participate in the bidding process. GE Modular dropped out because the*

*Tribe would not give up total sovereignty and the Tribe would not. Mr. Steve Crowles of Mobile Modular than got the bid. Tribal Chairman, CIHA Chairman and others knew all of this information.*

**Article V section (I) "to borrow money from any governmental agency, and to pledge or assign future Tribal income as security for such loans;"**

The Picayune Rancheria has been forced to borrow funds due to the contracts with Mobile Modular, Ray Ruell et al., Gilbert entered into without the Tribal Council's consent or knowledge. The Tribal Council has had to use future funds to secure the loan to make good the Picayune Rancheria's obligation to Mobile Modular. The amount of future funds already obligated is at approximately \$315,000.00.

### **Answers : Monthly and Special Meeting**

*February 14, 1998 (10AM) Special Meeting Section VI Chairman's report part A. Herbert Punkin CIHA Chairman states the tribe working to get \$340,000.00 for modular building.*

*June 17, 1998 Special Meeting Section IV (Resolutions). Resolutions 98-16, 98-17 and 98-21 passed and to authorized the Tribe to move forward with Tatonka for the loan of the modular building.*

### **PRCI Gaming Meetings**

*February 21, 1998 Tribal Administrators report for February 1998 Section L #22. Administrator reports that a meeting with GE Modular representative (Andrew Nibble) and Gilbert Cordero to learn what GE Modular could offer in the area for our Administration Office.*

### **CIHA Housing Meetings**

*CIHA Minutes March 9, 1998 (8:30AM) Section IV part A/B. Part A- CIHA Chairman Herbert Punkin was late to the so Vice-chair Harold Hammond chaired the meeting. Tribal Chairman Gilbert D. Cordero requested approval of expenditures of \$130,000. for G. Davis housing under Section 184 and this first \$36,582.00 for land purchase.*

*Part B- Tribal Chairman request approval of expenditures not to exceed \$350,000.00 for CIHA Administration Building with first payment of \$73,132.00 for site work, water and sewer.*

*The CIHA Board of Commissioners has passed both request of the Tribal Chair.*

### **Tribal Administrators Report**

*May 4, 1998 Administrator submitted monthly report for February 1998 Section G #5.*

*GE Modular will be involved but Mobile modular will be involved bidding.*



### Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*The minutes show that the Tribal Council, CIHA Chairman and Commissioners had knowledge that the Tribe was seeking a Administration Building, Housing and having Ray Ruell to do the site work. Ray Ruell continuously came to the tribal office to make sure that he was going to get paid. Secondly the Tribal Council wants to deny that they had knowledge of the modular building purchase and that I committed future funds. If the Tribe was going to have HUD purchase the modular building the Tribe was going to lease office space from CIHA and the funds were going to be percentage out of all programs that allowed for rent of lease. With this transaction going with CIHA the programs may have had to rent or lease from CIHA for however long. With the Tribe going with Tatonka (Las Vegas, NV) the Tribe would own the modular building in (I believe) ten years. The programs, including CIHA would all pay a percentage of rent or lease to Tatonka. This was the best proposal possible. Hebert Punkin, Roger Davis and other Tribal members had knowledge of this transaction. They knew from attending the meetings (see Special Meeting of June 17, 1998 Section IV Resolution 98-16, 98-17 and 98-21).*

#### Article V, section (j) "Manage Tribal funds in accordance with approved resolution;"

1. Payment was made of non-Tribal member's property taxes in Dunlap, County of Fresno, in the amount of \$2631.65 without the Tribal Council's knowledge or approval. Ray Ruell was paid \$15,000, with no resolution to expend these funds from the Tribal Council or CIHA Board of Commissioners. Funds that were paid February 27, 1998, did not go to the Board of Commissioners until March 9, 1998 for approval.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*The individual (Mr. Mike Alec Tribal Member and one of the twenty-eight housing participants) that the taxes were paid is from Dunlap, CA. and yes did not own the property himself but his wife has part interest in the land. This couple was working with the Tribe and Craig Dougall (housing consultant) in the HUD 184 program to get a house put on their property (see letter from Craig Dougall September 14, 1998). Mr. Alec and his wife were going to lose their property to Fresno County if these taxes were not paid and if they lost the land they would never be able to get a home. It was my understanding that the tax dollars could be reimbursed from the Section 184 program according to Craig Dougall. Mr. Ray Ruell has a contract in place this contract is in the Ray Ruell file in the gaming filing cabinet.*

2. Sale of the PRCI (Tribal Council) van to the Tribe in the amount of \$20,000 was made without the knowledge or consent of the Tribal Council. Likewise, there was no resolution passed to expend these funds from the Tribe's budget. This purchase also failed to follow procurement policy. (All expenditures over \$300.01 need Tribal Council approval under the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians procurement policy.)



### Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*The fiscal department has record of this transaction which took place on December 18, 1998. The Tribal Council knew that the dollars from the sale of the van (\$20,000.) went toward the start up of the clearing/grubbing of the casino land. Herbert Punkin and Roger Davis were there to oversee the project. Roger Davis, Herbert Punkin and Donna Hammond had their family members working on the project. Again this is the time when Frank Shunock left us high and dry with the employee roll due. Gayle Widner program assistant typed up agreement that is in the fiscal department and the check # is 5689.*

3. \$2,810.00 was paid to Mobil Modular, again over the procurement limit, without Tribal Council knowledge and resolution to expend these funds. Funds were transferred from the CIHA account to the Tribe's account on April, 22, 1998. Prior to the improper drawdown, could be used on this project. Nonetheless, \$2810. 00 was transferred and a check was written to Mobile Modular without the knowledge of the CIHA Board of Commissioners, CIHA's director, or the Tribal Council. Gilbert has stated that this transaction was corrected on May 12, 1998; however, the \$2,810.00 was never transferred back into the CIHA checking account.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*Herbert Punkin had knowledge of the modular transaction and it was his responsibility to share this information with the other Housing Commissioners. Roger Davis knew of this transaction also because he signs the checks too. If we did not pay the \$2,810.00 to Mobile Modular we in jeopardy of be penalized or even lose the purchase of the building and we all knew how important is for the Tribe to have it's own Administration building.*

4. \$4,000.00 was paid to GE Capital for administration building plans, although no resolution to expend these funds was approved by the Tribal Council. Again, procurement policy was not followed. According to representatives of Mobile Modular, Mobile Modular created the plans for the building, and the GE Capital plans were not used.

### Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero

*The plans that GE developed for the Tribe was so that we would be in compliance with the procurement by having a set of plans to put out for bid. The Tribe did not have anyone on staff that had the expertise to develop such plans (blue prints). GE developed the plans and Herbert Punkin and I instructed the Administrator to send them out to GE, Mobile Modular and one other company that I can not remember the name of. GE did not want to get involved because the Tribe would not give up total sovereignty (GE was going to be the first choice). The companies that I can not remember drop out because of not enough time (this company set a fax to the Tribal Office stating this). Mobile Modular was the company that submitted in a bid and got the job.*

**Article V section (k) "to collect and expend any tribal funds within the exclusive control of the Tribe, and to recommend the expenditure of any other tribal funds;"**

1. Payment of a non-Tribal member's property taxes. This was an inappropriate and unauthorized expenditure.

**Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero**

*The individual (Mr. Mike Alec Tribal Member and is one of the twenty-eight housing participants) that the taxes were paid is from Dunlap, CA. and yes he did not own the property himself but his wife has part interest in the land. This couple was working with the Tribe and Craig Dougall (housing consultant) in the Section 184 program to get a house put on their property. Please review the of Craig Dougall on September 14, 1998. This letter proves that there was four council members of the Tribal Council that was aware of this transaction. After that meeting the four of us discussed the payment of taxes so that Mr. Alec and his wife would not lose their land. Hebert Punkin and I took Mr. Alec and his wife up to a Western Home so that they could see what type of home they may receive. This home was on road 417 in the Indian Lakes area in Coarsegold, CA.. The bad thing about the whole thing is that we did not take minutes of the meeting but the letter tells who was there and who had knowledge.*

2. Countercheck written to Cash in the amount \$300.00, signed by Gilbert on March 12, 1998. No other signature was on the check and no justification for this amount has been found.

**Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero**

*After reviewing this check I could see that there was three different hand writing on it. The writing on the check is of Gilbert Cordero, Jan Fjellbo and Debbie Service or Linda Bye. The other point is that the check never went anywhere.*

**Article V, section (p) "to administer any funds within the control of the Tribe and to make expenditures of available funds for tribal purposes in accordance with a budget approved by the Tribal Council, provided that all expenditures of Tribal funds under the control of the Tribal Council shall be made only by resolution, duly approved at regular or special meetings of the Tribal Council, and that the amount so expended shall be a matter of record;"**

1. Resolution were not approved by the Tribal Council for any of the items listed above. In addition, resolutions were not passed by the CIHA Board of Commissioners for expenditures from the CIHA account.
2. Assuming that Gilbert viewed CIHA as a program and not a separate entity, he may have felt it unnecessary to obtain approval from CIHA Board of Commissioners. In this case, however, the Tribal Council would have had to pass resolutions for these expenditures. Again, resolutions were not created, or passed, by the Tribal Council.



Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero

*First of all I have always felt that the CIHA comes under the organization of the Tribe. This is another program that has its process and regulations that it must comply with under HUD. From the very first day that the housing director was hired (Chanin Selway) has gone along with HUD and has taken their word as gospel. I believe and will always believe that Governmental agencies will continue to dictate to the Tribes if they do not stand up for what they feel is right. The minutes and CIHA Chairman knowledge shows that there is just ignorance on the part of the rest of the Tribal Council to deny that they had no knowledge of what was taking place. The Tribal Council had gotten mad at me because they said that Jan and I was making decisions in regard to the purchase of the modular building without letting the council know. Herbert Punkin and I gave the administrator directives to pursue the bidding process and at a later date the Tribal Council gave her a directive to pursue the purchase of the modular building with a loan company (Tatonka) from Las Vegas, NV. The Tribal Council passed to resolutions that allowed the tribe to pursue this transaction. On June 17, 1998 Special Meeting Section IV resolution 98-16, 98-17 and 98-21 were passed to authorized the tribe to move forward with Tatonka. Also refer to the letter from Craig Dougall September 14, 1998 (letter discusses the 184 program, his involvement with the family that taxes were paid and who was at the meeting with the family).*

Article V, section (r) "to waive the Tribe's sovereign immunity from unconsented suit, provided, that any such waiver must be approved by a two-thirds majority of all members of the Tribal Council:"

Contracts were entered into with Mobile Modular, Ray Ruell, and First American Title to purchase Quartz Mountain property without Tribal Council Resolution or knowledge. Entering into these contracts has resulted in contractual waiver of sovereign immunity from unconsented suit. Gilbert sought language from the Tribe's attorneys to execute a limited waiver of sovereign immunity March 2, 1998. Gilbert did not advise the Tribal Council of this communication. The contracts were signed by Gilbert only, on March 5, 1998, without the knowledge or consent of the Tribal Council.

Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordero

*Information in the minutes verifies that the Tribal Council and CIHA Chairman had knowledge of all business transactions that took place. Mobile Modular and First American Title have all the appropriate documentation in the Housing Dept. at the Tribal Office. Ray Ruell Excavating has all appropriate documentation on file in the gaming file cabinet that Linda Sawlsville created.*

Article V, section (u) "to provide for the protection and preservation of the Tribal property, wildlife, and natural resources:"

The gaming property was clear cut and grubbed without the prior consent or knowledge of the Tribal Council. The following information will show that the Council had knowledge.



### Answers: Monthly and Special Meetings

*December 22, 1997 Monthly Meeting (6:00PM) Section V part A Chairman's report  
Gilbert reports that the clearing and grubbing will start on 12/18/97 and that  
Herbert Punkin will over see this work. Nine to ten Tribal members will work  
eighteen days.*

### PRCI Gaming Meeting

*November 22, 1997 (8:40AM) Section VI Chairman's report part B.  
Chairman reports that Ray Ruell Excavating were chosen to prepare the casino  
site.*

*December 9, 1997 (5:05PM) Section IV Chairman's report part B.  
Chairman reports that Ray Ruell Excavating will meet with Herbert Punkin and  
Roger Davis on 12/11/97 to determine cost for clearing and grubbing of casino  
property.*

*December 20, 1997 (10:20AM) Section VI Chairman's report part B.  
Chairman reports states that clearing and grubbing started on 12/18/97.*

### Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*The minutes verify that the Tribal Council had knowledge of this project (clearing and grubbing). Donna Hammond, Herbert Punkin and I had family members working on the project. The Tribal members all knew because we recruited from the membership to do the work. This is the most ridiculous charge in this whole document. If we all remember Frank Shunock came to meet with the Tribal Council and Tribal Members and shared on how the gaming project was going to proceed. This was the time that Frank Shunock left us high and dry with all of the payroll billing for Ray Ruell and the employees who worked on the project. Remember this is where we used the money from the sale of the gaming van funds to pay the project cost (The Tribal Gaming Corp. sold the gaming van to the Tribal programs for \$20,000. dollars to start the gaming project on December 17, 1998, check #5689).*

Article V, section (x) "to exercise such further powers, consistent with this Constitution, as needed to carry out the powers listed herein."

The Tribal Council has suspended Gilbert D. Cordero, within the provisions of this subsection of the Constitution, in order to preserve the dignity, integrity and morality of the Tribal Council and the General Council of the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians.

### Answers: Response of Gilbert D. Cordro

*The suspension of the Tribal Chairman position is not consistent (definition of consistent; agreement or harmony; in accord; compatible, holding always to the same principles or practice) with the Tribal Constitution. The Constitution does not state anything about suspension, it does address removal, recall and forfeiture under Article X, section I, 3. So I wonder if the rest of the Council can just start making up laws as they is fit. From the very beginning the BIA always told us to use your Constitution, read what is documented it is your law that governs your Tribe. If any Tribal Council can make up any law or regulation they want then Jane Wyatt and the rest of the disenrolled group would still be in office. Remember they had to comply with what was written in the Constitution. I probably will never get any justice from this action but I believe that I have always followed the Constitution to the best of my ability.*

### **Other Charges**

- ◆ Gilbert received stipends for Tribal Council meetings in 1997/98. He was not, however, approved for stipends by the Tribal Council until March, 1998.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*This charge is absolutely incorrect because the Tribal Council approved for the Tribal Chairman to receive stipends the same the others. This request was run by the CPA Chaidez. Mr. Chaidez stated that as long as the stipends money comes from any source of revue than the grant dollars and it did. The stipend money for the Tribal Chairman came from the unrestricted dollars which is the gaming fund. The fiscal department was instructed to take the stipend money out the gaming account only. Debbie Service and Linda Bye knows this. The following proof shows that this is another ridicules charge to make me out to be a theft.*

### Monthly and Special Meetings

*October 11, 1997 Special Meeting (10AM) Section VI part D #6.*

*Part D #6 It was determined by consensus that Gilbert D. Cordero is to be paid for his involvement in the Council meetings the same as the other Council Member.*

- ◆ Gilbert cashed check #0004533 in the amount of \$1,440.97 made payable to himself. The Tribal Council had no knowledge of the payment before payment was made.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*This check I believe was for my earned annual leave that I cashed in at 100% under the Personal Manual. The fiscal dept. should have record of this. They could match it with my annual leave request.*



Gilbert entered into a contract with Craig Dougall that the Tribal Council neither voted on nor approved. Further, Mr. Dougall was overpaid on the contract and this contract was not validly extended. While the contract is with the Tribe, Mr. Dougall was paid out of CIHA funds. Mr. Dougall suggested the contract be between CIHA and himself; however, it was not so revised. The Board of Commissioners did not sign or approve this contract. There is not a signed copy of the contract in Mr. Dougall's file.

**Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero**

*The following proof shows that the Tribal Council and Tribal Members had knowledge of Mr. Dougall involvement as the Tribes housing consultant.*

**Monthly and Special Meetings**

*March 7, 1997 (9:30AM) Section IV.*

*March 19, 1997 Special Meeting (3:25PM) Section III.*

*May 10, 1997 Special Meeting (10AM) Section IV part F.*

*July 28, 1997 Monthly Meeting (6PM) Section IX CIHA update*

*December 22, 1997 Monthly Meeting (6PM) Section VII CIHA-Chair Herbert Punkin*

*January 10, 1998 Special Meeting (10AM) Section VI part B, C, and D.*

*February 14, 1998 Special Meeting (10AM) Section VI Chair report part A.*

**PRCI Gaming Meeting**

*February 21, 1998 (Administrator's report for Feb.) Section H. #4,*

**Tribal Administrator's Report**

*March 4, 1998-February report Section G #6.*

- ◆ Gilbert did not pay property tax on the gaming property for three years. The Tribal Council was unaware and uninformed these taxes were past due. The Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians paid \$11,000 in taxes on this property in July 1998. While the Tribal Council is aware that this land is "Indian Country," the Tribal Council knows this land was not held in trust by the U.S. and is therefore not free from tax. These taxes should have been kept current, so as to lessen the financial burden of the Tribe.

**Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero**

*As stated that the Tribal Council did know that the gaming land was "Indian Country" we believed that the land was tax exempt until the County of Madera sent the Tribe a letter stating that the Tribe was delinquent on its taxes. Mr. Forman (attorney) and Mr. Ullibarri confirmed that the Tribe had to pay the taxes on the land, then and only then it became a urgent concern. I got our gaming partners to commit to pay the taxes. If other Council Members knew of the situation it sure would have been nice to get some assistance in this matter at the time. The following minutes show that the Tribe was making effort to get the taxes paid.*

### PRCI Gaming Meeting

*May 14, 1998 (5PM) Section VI Chairman report part C.*

*Stan Dru has told the Tribe that they would pay the taxes owed on gaming land the amount was \$11,000, Linda Bye was assisting with Mr. Dru and Madera County.*

- ◆ Due to the fact that the Tribe is in arrears with the CIHA HUD LOCCS account on the Quartz Mountain property and the administration building, the Tribe and CIHA are unable to apply for HUD funding including the ICDBG grant for FY99, maximum grant amount \$550,000.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*This grant could still be a possibility if the Tribe would continue with the appeal against the HUD audit of 1998. Mr. Bob Ullibarri sent the Tribe a court case that I forwarded to the Tribal attorney so that they could start an appeal for the Tribe. All of the expenditures have a good possibility of becoming eligible according to Mr. Ullibarri. Mr. Ullibarri has a great deal of knowledge because of his experience in dealing with HUD.*

- ◆ Questionable signature on check #0005973. This signature has been reviewed by Roger Davis and he has stated that this is not his signature. This check was made payable to CASH. Upon further investigation it was found that the CASH was used to purchase a Cashiers check made payable to the Fresno County Tax Assessor's office. The property taxes paid were for non-tribal member, whose property is located in Dunlap, CA.. As stated under Article V section (j),#1, the Tribal Council did not give consent to pay these taxes.

### Answers: Response Statement of Gilbert D. Cordero

*In my research of the information I found that there was two checks cut the same day of February 27, 1998. The first check was signed by Roger Davis early in the day and I was going to hand carrier this check to the Assessor's office that afternoon. Will I had called the Assessor's office to make sure that they would take the Tribes check. Will to find out they said that they would only take a cashiers check. So I went to Debbie or Linda Bye to cut another check because the first check dollar amount was incorrect too. The first check was for the amount of \$2,630.00 and the Assessors office said that the correct amount was \$2,631.35. Will I asked Linda Sawlsville to get a hold of Roger Davis to sign the check so that I could take it to Fresno. Roger had left for a land meeting in Sonora, CA. or Sacramento, CA.. All of this was taking place about three in the afternoon. I had the authority from the earlier meeting in the day (See letter of Craig Dougall in September 14, 1998) but no one to sign the check and if I didn't have the cashier's check there by 5: 00 PM the Alec family was going to lose they land. I went in to talk to Linda S. to see if she had gotten a hold of Roger and she said no. I then started to get upset and was asking her what in heck do we do. Linda stated that she would sign Roger's name and we could take the check to Fresno to beat the deadline. I told her that I would be*




responsible for the whole thing because I felt so strong against Fresno County taking the Alec family's land. I just could not sit there and be a part of that. I was involved in wrongful doing in having some else sign Roger's name on the check I know that this type of action is inappropriate. I am proud that I helped a Tribal Member and his family to save their land. I reviewed the check and Debbie Service was directed to take the dollars out of the gaming account and the check shows that she did not do this.

I also was assured that the dollars would be reimbursed out of the Section 184 program that the Alec family was working toward. This comment was made to me by our housing consultant earlier in the day when he and Herbert Punkin, Roger Davis, Daisy Liedkie and I had our meeting with the Alec family (February 24, 1998 10AM).

### Conclusion:

I submit this paper to the Tribal Council of Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians on September 25, 1998 in response of the Proposed Findings and Charges. First of all I want to thank you folks for given me a opportunity to address the findings and charges. This has been a very difficult task to research and find the documents but I believe that I did a pretty good job. As you have read there is a lot of information that is shared over the past year and a half. It is also a shame that some of the documentation did not get written down or taped. I believe that I will not get a fair just hearing because the same people that are charging me will be voting on the decision to remove me. This is why it would have been appropriate to have the Dispute/Conflict Resolution people to help with this situation. This is why the Tribal Council and other Tribal Members took the class was to work through our internal problems in a professional manner. You know and I know that I do not fit in the future plans of the Tribal Council because your negative actions from the start of this situation demonstrated how the Tribal Council was going to make their decision. So I do not submit this document in hopes to be considered of being allowed to sit on the Council. I submit this document to show how inappropriate and irresponsible the Tribal Council has been towards this ordeal. I again thank you for giving me the opportunity to address the findings and charges.

Thank you,



Gilbert D. Cordero