

COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBAL CODE
Chapter 100
Government Purpose

100.010 General

1. Purpose

To set forth the expectations, goals and values of Tribal Government of the Coquille Indian Tribe upon which Tribal Government shall base all efforts and actions in carrying out the business of government on behalf of the Tribe.

2. Background and Intent

The Coquille Indian Tribe, a body of people bound by common culture and heritage, and vested with the inherent right of sovereign self-government, subject to and limited only by the laws of the United States of America, has declared and established itself as a government by adoption of the Constitution. Therefore all powers and authority of Tribal government are derived from and are explicitly for the purpose and benefit of the Tribe.

These inherent rights have been held in perpetuity by the Tribe, even through a period during which the Federal government, by statute, terminated recognition of the Tribe and the Federal trust relationship. Leaders of the Tribe continued to assert themselves and in 1989 the Congress of the United States restored the Tribe to its rightful status pursuant to the Coquille Restoration Act. (June 28, 1989, 103 Stat. 91. codified at 25 U.S.C. Section 715 et seq.

Subsequent to that Act, the members of the Coquille Tribe have reaffirmed their Tribal government status and set forth their powers, rights, goals and purposes within the Tribal Constitution.

To establish effective governmental functions to exercise the powers of self-government, the Coquille Indian Tribe has established a representative form of government, setting forth a governing body made up of elected members of the Tribe, to be known as the "Coquille Tribal Council". The Coquille Tribal Council has been delegated broad governing responsibilities and powers subject only to powers of initiative and referendum of the membership. Among these are the legislative, executive, and judicial responsibilities to enact, enforce, and interpret laws to manage the affairs of the Tribe. To accomplish these functions the Tribal Council is empowered to hire employees, appoint committees, charter subordinate organizations, establish a Tribal

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Court, employ legal counsel and other parties to assist in carrying out the responsibilities of government.

The Tribal Council shall retain ultimate responsibility for protecting the sovereign rights and promoting Tribal goals.

The Tribal Council hereby declares that, in all matters, the expectations set forth by this ordinance shall be considered guiding principles of Tribal Government and all who serve it.

3. Definitions (reserved)

100.020 Jurisdiction (reserved).

100.100 Tribal Government Principles

1. Tribal Government Mission

In all matters which come before the government of the Coquille Indian Tribe, the primary mission of Tribal government is to:

(a) Exercise, protect and enhance the sovereign powers, rights, and Constitution of the Coquille Indian Tribe;

(b) Promotes lasting cultural traditions and the community identity the Coquille Indian Tribe;

(c) Promote the social and economic welfare of the members of the Coquille Indian Tribe;

2. Tribal Government Roles

Shall be;

(a) To create and execute policies and laws that govern the Tribe and its members in the interest of self-determination, protection of rights and privileges, and the preservation of the Coquille identity.

(b) To complement and enhance the social well-being of all of its members by acknowledging the uniqueness of the cultural and historical heritage of its people, and by providing the means for its members individually and collectively to experience those traditions.

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(c) To foster a healthy and safe environment wherein each individual can understand and enjoy diverse opportunities and community support while achieving personal self-fulfillment.

(d) To generate independent sources of revenue to ensure self-determination in tribal priorities for the delivery of services to Tribal members in accordance with their needs and attainment of Tribal goals, and to afford each individual member opportunities to attain his/her highest level of economic well being.

(e) To obtain for the Tribe lands and capital to ensure for the present and future generations lands of cultural, historical and economic value on which to;

(1) gather openly and freely for sanctuary and celebrations;

(2) locate long-standing tribal government headquarters;

(3) develop enterprises and other economic development initiatives to enhance the lives and opportunities of the Coquille people;

(4) Promote and protect Tribal and individual hunting, fishing, and gathering rights.

3. Tribal Government Principles

In accordance with the mission and roles of the Tribe, the Coquille people are entitled to a government which is responsive to their needs and carries out its responsibility in a highly professional manner. In accordance with this expectation, the Tribal Council declares these principles to be followed in the conduct of Tribal government.

(a) Tribal Member Involvement

Tribal government has a responsibility to establish methods to facilitate Tribal member involvement. In accordance with this responsibility Tribal government shall;

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(1) Facilitate understanding on the part of Tribal members of the business of Tribal government, its structure and processes.

(2) Facilitate education of Tribal members on matters which affect Tribal government.

(3) Facilitate participation and input from Tribal members on Tribal government.

(4) Facilitate the development of Tribal leaders.

(b) Tribal Member Development

To enhance Tribal culture and identity, the Tribal government shall:

(1) Take actions which enhance the development of independent and self-reliant individuals,

(2) Take actions which foster healthy individual, family, tribal and community relationships.

(3) Take actions which foster Tribal community gatherings and a strong and healthy Tribal identity.

(4) Take actions to preserve and enhance the culture and heritage of the Coquille Indian Tribe.

(c) Tribal Government Effectiveness

The members of the Coquille Tribe have the right to expect that Tribal Government makes efficient use of resources, sets examples for Tribal members and carries out its mission in a highly professional and effective manner. Therefore, Tribal government shall;

(1) Uphold the highest standard of ethical conduct in matters related to Tribal business.

(2) Work cooperatively with other individuals, governments and institutions in the promotion of Tribal goals.

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(3) Coordinate available resources and services to the maximum extent possible to achieve the highest potential benefit for the Tribe and its members.

(4) Ensure that products and services delivered are of highest quality.

(5) Consider the cultural and spiritual values of the Coquille people in actions and decisions.

(6) Work to ensure that the U.S. Government effectively carries out its continuing trust and obligations to the Coquille Indian Tribe.

(7) Seek to put in place effective laws and policies.

100.150 Severability

If a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or illegal under applicable tribal or federal law, such provision shall be severed from this ordinance and the remainder of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.