

Intertribal Transportation Association (ITA)

2020 Annual Report December 8, 2020

By: Mary Beth Frank Clark, President

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www.tribaltransportation.org

Overview

ITA has had a busy year fulfilling the identified direction per last year's Annual Meeting that was held in Las Vegas, NV. The membership voiced concerns of ITA accountability, transparency and integrity. The membership also voiced their support and need of an organization such as Intertribal Transportation Association. The new Executive Board listened, heard, and moved forward utilizing the direction of ITA's membership.

The Vision and Mission is the cornerstone of ITA. ITA recognizes the strength of many tribal voices moving in the same direction; how this strength can gain support and entice possible change for the future. Yes, it is true that there are areas that tribes may not agree on, however, ITA recognizes that likelihood and ensures to tribes ITA will concede and not move forward advancing controversial position. ITA enforces the need to work together and stand together. The Mission supports the need of ensuring tribes receive tools and resources so they are able to implement and/or suggest change to new policies regarding tribal transportation programs.

As President of ITA, I am very fortunate to report that ITA has made strides in each task that was set for 2020. The pandemic that hit the nation early in 2020 made many challenges for ITA to overcome to gain momentum. But the Executive Board and membership worked hard to make this year a success. There have been unlimited efforts made regarding reauthorizations, testimony, outreach and more.

I respectfully present "ITA 2020 Annual Report" to its membership and *future* members that ITA looks forward to having participate. This report only provided pertinent tasks that ITA gleamed on. However, there were other specific items that basically fell under each heading that was not include.

Mary Beth Frank Clark, ITA President

Vision & Mission

<u>Vision:</u> ITA's vision is to bring together Tribes to discuss and bring a "collective voice"...regarding tribal transportation concerns and issues forward to Congress and/or federal partners. It is known that some concerns may be controversial between tribes; so early on when ITA was developed, it was agreed that ITA recognizes each tribal position and to agree to disagree at particular issues. If area of discussion cannot be filtered down into an agreed upon recommendation to forward to Congress, then ITA will concede to not move forward.

<u>Mission:</u> To foster excellence, effectiveness, and unity in Tribal Transportation by providing Tribal Leadership the tools and resources necessary to address the concerns, issues, and needs of its members so that new programs and policies may be developed and implemented which allow them to continue to evolve their transportation systems and programs.

2020 Direction

During the last day of the 2019 ITA Annual Meeting on December 12, 2019, a questions was asked to the membership "What is your expectations of ITA?" This discussion provided membership time to voice their concerns, challenges, and ideas. During this discussion common

themes were identified. These themes included reestablishing the trust, accountability, integrity, and transparency of ITA. The membership was adamant on the importance of ITA's mission, vision and purpose; membership desired ITA to pick itself up, brush dust off, and start focusing on tribal transportation needs, issues, and concerns.

ITA's 2020 main tasks for this past year was: Fiscal Accountability, Reestablishing Membership, Communication, Legislative Updates/Actions, Revise Strategic Plan, Outreach, and Responsiveness. All membership confirmed they would support ITA and Executive Board to move ITA forward.

Fiscal Accountability

Attached is the Treasurer's Financial Report for 2020. Within this past year, ITA financial health increased \$12,982.28 with an ending balance of \$23,320.74. Expenditures were minimal due to the COVID outbreak that happened in early March 2020. The planned Mid-Year (Albuquerque) and Annual (DC) meeting was postponed due to COVID. We are fortunate to hold a "virtual" Annual meeting this 2020.

During 2019 Annual Meeting a resolution was passed regarding necessary changes to be made regarding signatory of new elected officers. The transfer of financial books and such took time as well. During the year, the Treasurer recommended the purchase of QuickBooks to assist in financial reporting, this also was passed with a resolution. This will assist in solid fiscal accountability now and into ITA's future.

Accomplishments

Even during the downturn of COVID, ITA has made numerous accomplishments this past year. The highlights are identified in the following bullets:

- <u>Fiscal Accountability.</u> The Treasurer has upgraded the control for ITA's financials. ITA is able to provide Annual Financial Report that details past and current activities. This 'fiscal accountability' is an asset to ITA's organization.
- Reestablishing Membership. ITA's President was geared to attend and provide ITA updates to various Tribal Transportation organizations throughout Indian Country. The first five months it was planned to visit Alaska, Oklahoma, Northwest, and Billings area. Then, these meetings were cancelled due to COVID. The pandemic made it tougher to gain membership momentum. However, ITA pursued other avenues to inform and encourage Tribes reinvestment to ITA. The website was updated, Facebook is being used, frequent conference calls, updates at various Virtual meeting platforms, and participating with NCAI Transportation Sub-Committee and NCAI/ITA Task Force. In addition, it was wonderful to have "Friends of ITA" which are non-voting members but play a huge role in assisting tribes in tribal transportation through their consulting firms and such, to support and provide ITA updates in their platforms as well. When COVID settles down to where meetings physically resume, ITA looks forward to participating to encourage membership. It is the membership that keeps tribal transportation concerns and issues at the forefront!
- <u>Legislative Update/Actions</u>. In April during a ITA conference call, it was identified that
 two committees were needed to be formed. The two committees are: Governance
 Committee, Gerry Hope is Chair; and Operations Committee, Kim Stube is Chair. The

Governance Committee met various times this past year due to the current focus of reauthorization. There has been action taken during these meetings and the Chair forwards to the ITA conference call to request action through resolutions and/or letters. The Governance Chair presents ITA Resolution to NCAI to ensure it is recognized.

ITA continues to watch activity and currently the two main proposed draft bills have been S2302 Americas Transportation Infrastructure Act (ATIA) that came from the Senate-Environment & Public Works in July 2019 and the HR2 Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America (INVEST in America) Act from House Transportation & Infrastructure on June 2020. Both draft acts have favorable provisions with increases in funding. INVEST includes the exemption of Obligation Limitation.

<u>Testimony to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on February 6, 2020.</u> Joe Garcia and Mary Beth Clark provided testimony to the T&I Committee regarding Tribal Transportation concerns and needs. The assistance of Matt and Tyler made the testimony go smooth. Garcia discussed the big picture in Indian Country while Clark provided more detailed information. A follow-up was requested with questions the Committee had; they were submitted.

<u>NCAI/ITA Task Force.</u> Councilman Garcia and Mary Beth Clark, President of ITA are Co-Chairs of this Task Force. An on-site meeting was held on February 10, 2020 in DC. During this meeting updates and discussion was regarding Self Governance Rulemaking, Reauthorization, Formula, and ITA Update. The fall Virtual meeting was held on November 8, 2020. Discussion focused on Self Governance and implementation, Congressional Outlook, Key Legislation 116th Congress, Key provisions of HR2 and S2302, Transportation Priorities for the 117th Congress, and draft Resolutions that may be presented during NCAI Transportation Sub Committee.

NCAI Transportation & Infrastructure Sub-Committee. The NCAI January 2020 session had discussion on Self Governance, update on TTPCC, Reauthorization (S72 Senate Transportation Committee, S2302 ATIA), Road Maintenance, and Formula. During this session, ITA President mentioned sponsoring a future meeting regarding formula discussion but has to be membership driven. November 10 & 11th NCAI Sub-Committee session discussed reauthorization, tribal priorities, draft resolutions, and NCAI transition plan draft regarding Transportation. At the completion of NCAI, ITA President provided Committee report on actions taken.

Other Regional Tribal Organizations. Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) have also forwarded to NCAI Transportation & Infrastructure Sub Committee northwest priorities to ensure it is included in the national plan of NCAI. It is recommended that other regional tribal organizations forward their priorities to ITA and NCAI to ensure their voice is being recognized.

Revise Strategic Plan. ITA has an outdated Strategic Plan. This year it was to be worked on and revised. Throughout this past year during conference calls, this plan was discussed. A survey monkey was provided to grasp ideas and thoughts. A draft was completed in November and is ready to be further discussed at this year's Virtual Annual ITA Meeting. It is anticipated to have a final revision done by end of January 2020 so it can be ready for adoption early in the year. You can grasp a draft copy on the website under the Meeting tab at: www.tribaltransportation.org

Communication. ITA has increased communication in multi-forms; through website, Facebook, conference calls, virtual meetings, zoom meetings, letters, etc. ITA has attempted to keep Tribes and ITA members appraised of its activity. It was planned at the last 2019 Annual Meeting to hold the Mid-Year Conference in Albuquerque the week of June 22, 2020. However, any on-site meetings were cancelled due to COVID. This pandemic caused challenges for ITA regarding reaching out and communicating with tribes. ITA also attempted hold the Annual ITA Meeting in October 2020 at the National Museum of American Indians, however, that was cancelled too.

<u>ITA Meetings.</u> This past year ITA has held 11 membership conference/zoom calls, four governance committee calls, three Executive Board calls, and handful of planning meetings for the virtual meeting.

<u>ITA Reports.</u> The ITA President has provided reports on current activity of ITA business and any action taken. This is shared with ITA membership, tribal contacts, and any other outlets from organizations, businesses, and/or good-ole-fashion moccasin telegraph style. The intent is to provide that transparency that was requested by membership.

Outreach & Responsiveness. This past year ITA has responded to pertinent request and have taken action per direction of membership. The outreach has been tremendous this past year also. ITA believes it has done its 'due diligence' in strengthening and refocusing ITA efforts of transparency and accountability to Tribal Transportation issues and to its membership. When the pandemic has settled down and life can become somewhat normal again, then ITA will be able to be available to attend meetings and/or conferences in all the regions to provide updates from ITA.

Moving Forward in 2021

ITA looks forward to 2021! ITA will discuss objectives for 2021 on the last day of the Annual Meeting, December 10, 2020. ITA will ensure the objectives and task will be moved forward. This past year ITA has worked on its accountability, transparency, and integrity; ITA plans to continue that effort and strengthen it more this coming year.

Please visit ITA website at: www.tribaltransportation.org This website will provide updates and information on upcoming ITA zoom/conference calls. Please remember...... ITA is changing and has faith Tribes will recognize the change to become active members of ITA.



Intertribal Transportation Association

Treasurer's Report

Completed by Sara Yockey December 8, 2020

ITA Executive Team

President

Mary Beth Frank Clark

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O: 208-621-3682

Vice-President

Vacant

Treasurer

Sara K. Yockey

sara@kasaan.org

C: 907-617-9970

Secretary

Jonah Begay

jbegay@navajodot.org

Executive Director Barak N. Meyers

baraknmeyers@gmail.com

Regional Representatives

Region I: Great Plains

Vacant Alt: Vacant

Region II: Southwest

Vacant Alt: Vacant

Region III: Southern Plains

Vacant

Alt: Vacant

Region IV: Rocky Mountain

Howard Brown

howard.brown@sa-dot.com

Alt: Curry Kim

Region V: Eastern

Barak Meyers

barakomeyers@gmail.com Region VI: Alaska

William (Bill) Willard

wwillard@wca-t-.com

Alt: Sara K. Yockey

sara@kasaan.org Region VII: Midwest

Jerr Denelle

Alt: Kate Fariss

Region VIII: Eastern Oklahoma

Richard Dunn

Dunn2138@gmail.com

Alt: Vacant

Region IX: Navajo

Garret Silversmith

gsilversmith@navajodot.org Alt: Jonah Begay

jbegay@navajodot.org

Region X: Western

Vacant

Alt: Vacant

Region XI: Northwest

Kim Stube

kstube@cowlitz.org

Alt: Patricia DePoe Tricia.depoe@Makah.com

Region XII: Pacific Lance Simmons Alt: Tony Jack **SUMMARY:**

ENDING BALANCE 12/31/2019:

\$10,338.46

ENDING BALANCE 12/08/2020:

\$23,320.74

CASH:

Wells Fargo Bank

\$23,320.74

INCOME:

2019/2020 Membership Dues & Registration:

\$6,675

2020/2021 Membership Dues:

\$700

Reimbursed Funds:

\$10,450.70

TOTAL INCOME:

\$17,825.70

EXPENSE:

Office Supplies & Software:

Annual Zoom Subscription:

\$149.90

Annual Quickbooks Online Subscription:

\$717.42

TOTAL EXPENSE:

\$867.32

NOTES:

Above is the statement of movement of funds in the ITA bank account for 12/31/19 through 12/8/20; 2019/2020 Membership Dues and Meeting Registrations fees are lumped together, deposits were made without detail recorded, also no accounting documentation to differentiate the two. 2020/2021 Membership Dues and Meeting Registrations will be accounted for separately.

Our only expenses are Quickbooks Online accounting software & Zoom for meetings. The Executive Committee and attending Membership all agreed Quickbooks Online would be the most beneficial for our organization due to the changing of officers and being able to access the software and files from anywhere you can get online.

My goal, as well as the entire Executive Committee, Membership & other working committees was and is to create transparency and accountability throughout the ITA. I believe we all have done very well in moving ITA in the right direction.

Sara Yockey, ITA Treasurer