



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS
Washington, DC 20240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 15, 2015

CONTACT: Genevieve V. Billia
PHONE NUMBER: (202) 208-4289
EMAIL: Genevieve_Billia@ost.doi.gov

Special Trustee Advisory Board Meets in Albuquerque

The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians meets with Indian Country Advisory Board experts for the first time; moves forward with trust reform.

WASHINGTON, D.C – The Office of The Special Trustee for American Indians announces the first meeting of the Special Trustee Advisory Board, August 3-4, 2015 in Albuquerque, NM.

The Special Trustee Advisory Board consists of nine members, appointed by the Special Trustee and vetted by the White House, and advises on all matters within the jurisdiction of the Special Trustee. Legislated by the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994, the Advisory Board consists of five members that represent trust fund account holders, both Tribal and Individual Indian Money Accounts. Additional members of the Advisory Board include two members that have hands-on experience in trust fund and financial management, one member versed in fiduciary investment management, and a final member, from academia, with extensive knowledge of the general management of large organizations.

“I’m very eager to start the dialog with the Advisory Board; we have a lot of work to do,” said Vince Logan, Special Trustee. “They have a wealth of experience and knowledge that will shape policy and actions moving forward with the Office of the Special Trustee.”

The members of the board draw from a deep well of talent in Indian Country, and are as follows:

- **Patricia D. Gerard** brings four decades of professional experience working in the Native American field, including over twenty years of experience on Indian financial trust management. Ms. Gerard’s trust management experience comes from the number of senior level roles she has held in the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians including working as a tribal account manager as well as a branch chief in OST Division of Quality Assurance. She retired from federal service in May 2014.
- **Len Greenhalgh**, is a professor of management, director of the Native American Business Programs at the Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College. His areas of expertise include strategy and strategy implementation, entrepreneurial business, negotiation and strategic alliance formation, economic impact of globalization and changing demographics, and Native American-owned business. He has worked with Native American businesses in Oklahoma, North and South Dakota, Alaska, New Mexico, California, Florida, Arizona, Louisiana, Maine, Washington, Mississippi, New York, Minnesota, Alabama, and Montana.
- **David Kimelberg** is the founding Chief Executive Officer of Seneca Holdings, the private equity investment and operating firm owned by the Seneca Nation of Indians. His is charged with diversifying the Seneca Nation’s business holdings. He serves as chairman of seven boards related to telecommunications, technology, and real estate. He is an enrolled member (Bear clan) of the Seneca Nation.

- **Henrietta Mann** has recently retired as President of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College located at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Dr. Mann has an extensive and distinguished career in intergovernmental affairs and Native American Studies and is *Professor Emerita* in Native American Studies, Montana State University. She has over twenty publications and has served on numerous advisory boards and councils related to American Indian affairs.
- **Terry Mason Moore** is an attorney and tribal judge with expertise in Class III and II gaming, taxation, internal controls, and compliance as well as commercial transactions, economic development, financing and contracts. She has nearly thirty years of professional experience in legal, financial and management issues. Most recently she served as Assistant Principal Chief of the Osage Nation in 2014. Terry Mason Moore is an enrolled member of the Osage Nation of Oklahoma.
- **Tyler B. Pearson** is with the Realty Management Division of Goldman Sachs, in Dallas, TX. A recent law school graduate, Mr. Pearson has expertise in equity research and analysis. Tyler B. Pearson is a member of the Cherokee Nation.
- **Eldon Shiffman** currently serves as the Treasurer and Chief Investment Officer (CIO) of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. He has over thirty years of experience as a fiduciary investment manager and real estate agent.
- **Starlyn R. Tourtillott** works as Senior Counsel for the Stockbridge-Munsee Community. She has special expertise in fee-to-trust processing, Tribal code development, as well as taxation and economic issues. She is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar Association, Indian Law Section, and has served as a past Board member of the National Tribal Land Association Board. Starlyn Tourtillott is an enrolled member of the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe of Montana and a direct descendant of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and Stockbridge-Munsee, Band of Mohican Indians.
- **Leilani Wilson Walkush** is a senior consultant at Breakwater Investment Group in Everett, Washington where she provides independent investment consulting to Native American communities. She is a fiduciary advisor to four west coast tribal communities on five separate retirement plans. Ms. Walkush is an enrolled member of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska and is a member of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (Canada).

The first meeting serves as a background briefing to familiarize the Board with the issues that the office faces currently as well as the way ahead. The Advisory Board convenes two to three times a year, with more meetings scheduled at the discretion of the Special Trustee.

“The Advisory Board serves a vital role to the Office of the Special Trustee and we’re looking forward to collaborating with them for the betterment of all beneficiaries,” said Logan.

Media Availability

The Special Trustee is available for interviews before and after the meeting sessions each day. Special arrangements can be made prior to August 1 if a media availability cannot be accommodated on the current schedule. For more information and to schedule a time with the Special Trustee, please email Genevieve Billia at Genevieve_Billia@ost.doi.gov, or call at 202-208-4289.