CHAIRMAN REPORT

APRIL-AUGUST 2016

This past quarter I attended over 10 events as Board chair.

In April, I attended the Tribal Self-Governance conference in Orlando, Florida. At the Self-Governance conference I participated in the Indian Health Service 2016 to 2018 Budget update and was involved in the tribal consultation on the IHS Contracts Support Costs Policy.

The following week I was at the Tribal Emergency Preparedness Conference in Spokane. It’s always good to attend events near home!

In May, I attended the HHS Region X Tribal Consultation meeting in Suquamish. Our Northwest Tribal Leaders brought many issues to the attention of Susan Johnson, Region X Director for HHS as well as other HHS leadership. Another Contract Support Costs Policy consultation took place at the Region X conference which I participated in. CMS leadership was asked many questions about managed care and its impact on Northwest tribes.

In May, I also had the opportunity to travel to Anchorage and participate in the Kellogg Alaska DHAT program education tour. I was able to see how the Alaska DHAT Education Program operates and meet dentists and stakeholders from other states who are interested in the program.

I attended the ATNI mid-year conference at Spirit Mountain and we worked on several important issues there. At ATNI, tribal leaders supported several resolutions including a tribal exemption from the Affordable Care Act large employer mandate.

In June, I travelled to DC to provide testimony to HHS on IHS funding as part of my work with the IHS Budget Formulation Workgroup.

I also attended a Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board (FAAB) meeting in Anchorage. The FAAB is a standing committee of Tribal and IHS representatives. FAAB makes recommendations to leadership at IHS on matters involving all Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEHE) programs.

In June I also attended the NCAI mid-year conference in Spokane. It was great to see so many Northwest Tribal Leaders at the meeting. Several important resolutions were passed including the one ATNI moved forward requesting a tribal exemption from the large employer mandate.

In July, I attended the Portland Area Direct Service Tribes meeting in Portland and the IHS Budget Formulation meeting in Denver, Colorado.

At the end of this month, I’ll be attending the IHS Direct Service Meeting, Rapid City, South Dakota and in September I’ll be at the ATNI fall convention in Tulalip.