

Rupnick re-elected PBP tribal chair

(KNZA)--Joseph Rupnick was sworn-in Tuesday as Chairman of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council after being re-elected to a second four-year term.

According to a release from the tribe, Rupnick garnered 71 percent of the vote during the recent tribal election over two other candidates.

Also sworn-in Tuesday were the other newly elected tribal officials.

William “ Bill” Evans was re-elected to the Tribal Council member #1 position for a second consecutive term.

Rey Kitchkumme, who ran unopposed, was re-elected to the Gaming Commissioner #3 position.

Incumbents Shawna Wabaunsee and Allison Pahmahmie, who both ran unopposed, were re-elected to the Ethics Commission.

Lianna Onnen was elected to fill the remaining term of the vacant Ethics Commission Chairperson position.

A run-off election will be held for the tribal council secretary position on August 20 between Lorrie Melchior and Charissa Wahwasuck-Jessepe since no candidate received a majority vote. Melchior received about 35 percent of the ballots cast for the position, while Wahwasuck-Jessepe received 28 percent. Other candidates receiving votes were Coleen Thomas and Paul Vega.

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