

My name is Jermaine Fisher, aka Boyda. I am the Grandson of Gertrude B. Van Fleet and the late Fordner Van Fleet Sr. My mother is Rena Van Fleet and my father is Reuben Fisher.

Personal History-I have worked for the Tribes since I was 18 years old. I helped construct the Aha Mak Preserve when everyone thought it could not be done because the lands were covered with sugar sand. I worked with the CRIT Theaters, the Education Department, the CRIT Recreation Department, and the Bluewater Resort and Casino as a security guard, and now with the Word Processing Department scanning and archiving all the tribal documents. At the Recreation Department I helped plan tribal community events, youth camps, sports programs, and exercise programs to help fight and prevent diabetes for the youth, elderly, and for tribal members/elders on dialysis. I've attended every Regular Tribal Council Meetings held on Saturdays before the COVID-19 pandemic started and I hear the concerns of the membership.

Views-The lack of transparency and security plans for disasters and pandemic seems to be the biggest problem. During the COVID-19 pandemic the Tribal Council failed to let the membership know how they were going to handle the pandemic. The Tribal Council forgot that all of the tribal member households do not have access to the internet to look up CDC Regulations or to go on the Tribes Facebook to find out what's happening within the tribal government. It is the responsibility of the Tribal Council to make plans to address the problems facing the membership and to let them know how they will be addressed.

The Tribes need a disaster plan so, during the monsoon season when the electricity goes out because the electrical lines are down for weeks, the membership will know where to go and where to store their meats, and what to do to conserve the water when the water tanks go low.

Concerns-The Tribal Council needs to address the tribal members complaints presented during the Regular Tribal Council meetings. Most of the complaints raised are against the Tribes' Law and Order Department and the Human Resources Department. To find out the problem areas in these departments, internal audits need to be done.

Because we are a sovereign nation, when the second wave of coronavirus comes around the Tribes need to develop an ordinance that allows tribal members to be first to get supplies from the stores located on tribal lands.

My biggest concern is the protection of our water. If the President can waive environmental laws to build a fence running through a reservation, he can also give away our water allocation if the Tribes doesn't use it.

If elected, I will try hard to make the right decisions for our tribal members, protect our natural resources, work hard to address and improve health issues, and have compassion for our tribal members. I will support scheduling a General Meeting which is in the Tribal Constitution to let the people know what the Tribal Government is doing.