

# Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino & Hotel

Project Update

December 10, 2013

# Organization Overview

- Owner: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
  - Fiduciary/Oversight: TCGE Board of Advisors
    - Ray Rose, Chair – Richard Sneed, Vice-Chair – Ed Huskey – Brenda Oocumma – Paula Wojtkowski
  - Regulatory: Tribal Gaming Commission
    - Don Rose, Chair – Bob Blankenship – Sheila Davis
  - Daily Management: Caesars Entertainment
    - Brooks Robinson, Senior VP & General Manager

# Project Leaders

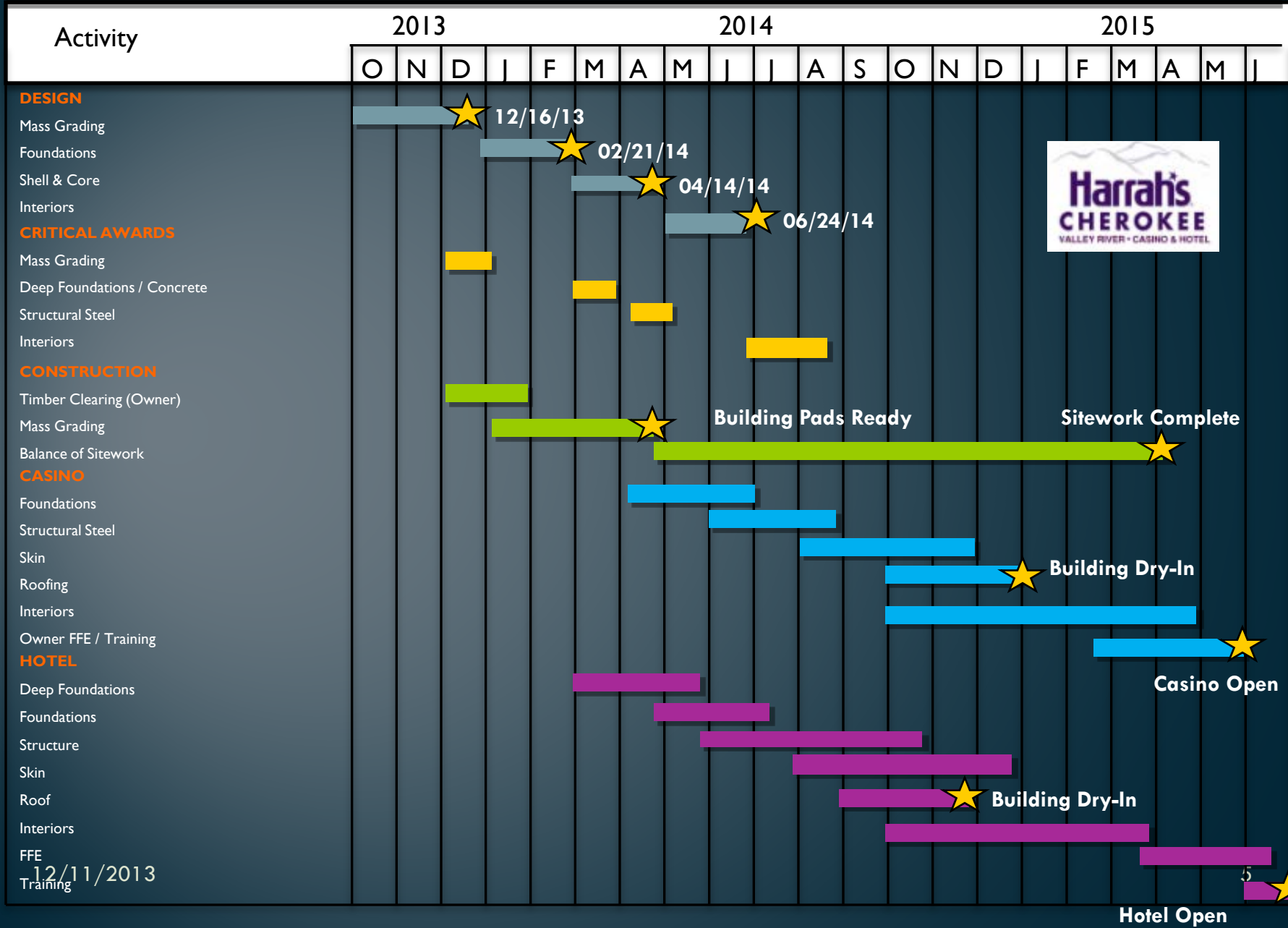
- Design & Construction Team
  - Sneed Robertson & Associates
    - Erik Sneed & Scott Robertson
- General Contractor
  - Whiting Turner/Owle Construction, LLC
    - Bob Minutoli, Project Executive, WT
    - Chris Dolan, on-site Project Leader, WT
    - Carroll Cook, Owle Construction, LLC
- Architect
  - Cuningham Group Architects



# Project Update

- Latest architectural renderings/design boards
- Site Plan(s)
- Game counts/specs
  - 1000+ slots
  - 75 tables
- Boutique Hotel room counts/specs
  - 303 standard rooms, 24 suites
- Restaurants
  - 24 hour café' with room service capabilities & expanded food court (5 venues)
- Support Services
  - on site: surveillance, security, cashiering, F&B, Total Rewards, facilities/EVS, valet, finance, IT
  - off site: human resources/training, warehouse, laundry (Cherokee), marketing (Cherokee), planning & analysis (Cherokee), revenue management (Cherokee), service connection center (Cherokee)
- Mundy site
  - Warehousing & Human Resources (employment & training)

# Project Schedule



**DESIGN**

- Mass Grading
- Foundations
- Shell & Core
- Interiors

**CRITICAL AWARDS**

- Mass Grading
- Deep Foundations / Concrete
- Structural Steel
- Interiors

**CONSTRUCTION**

- Timber Clearing (Owner)
- Mass Grading
- Balance of Sitework

**CASINO**

- Foundations
- Structural Steel
- Skin
- Roofing
- Interiors
- Owner FFE / Training

**HOTEL**

- Deep Foundations
- Foundations
- Structure
- Skin
- Roof
- Interiors

- FFE
- Training

★ 12/16/13

★ 02/21/14

★ 04/14/14

★ 06/24/14

Building Pads Ready

Sitework Complete

★ Building Dry-In

Casino Open

★ Building Dry-In

Hotel Open

12/11/2013

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# Subcontractor/Vendor Opportunities – Construction

- TERO – Tribal Law
- Local & Small Businesses

Potential 800-1200 Construction Related Positions

## Project Objectives:

- ❑ Outreach & Mentoring Programs
- ❑ Partnering
- ❑ Bid Process & Package Sizing
- ❑ Workforce Hiring & Training



Goal to Maximize Participation

# Tri-County & HCCR pre-qualification training

- The purpose of the training is to address the county-wide concern of reducing turnover and improving retention by creating a group of "pre-qualified" candidates.
- Classes will be offered at no cost to the individuals at the Center for Applied Technology in Marble. Curriculum to include: employment skills, customer service, teamwork, math skills for dealers, computer skills and overall expectations of a professional service provider (professionalism, attendance, etc.), taught by Tri-county or instructors they hire from the casino.
- Once "certified", individuals can apply for existing positions at the resort & transfer or wait for the new facility.

# Tri-County & HCCR Table Games Training

- Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort currently has over 100 open PT positions in table games
- The majority of these positions will work Friday-Sunday
- HCCR & Tri-County will partner to offer Tables training in Cherokee County (location TBA, must be on Trust land)
- Tables training (first phase) requires 4 weeks of training
- Partnership to seek 24 hour shuttle from Andrews to Resort (F-S)
- Potential to have at least 100 fully trained dealers ready when HCVR opens



# Employment Opportunities Currently Available at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort

- Over 100 open positions
- Internal candidates will be given preference in hiring @ HCVR
  - PT Table Games Dealers
  - Restaurants
  - Security
  - Facilities
  - Cashiering
  - Hotel
- Call (828) 497-7777 or visit website @ [www.harrahs.com](http://www.harrahs.com)

# Employment Opportunities Future @ HCVR

- Approximately 900 FT & PT positions in the following categories:
- First Phase of hiring 30-60 days prior to soft opening
  - Manager & above = 30\*
  - Supervisory = 150 +
  - Front of House (FOH) = 640
  - Back of House (BOH) = 75
    - \* Most managerial positions require previous casino experience

# Critical Path Items

- Water & Sewer
- NCDOT Project Elements (Bridge and Parkway)

# NC DOT Bridge/Parkway

- Bridge Project
  - Design Complete
  - NCDOT Approvals in process
  - Project to be publicly let January, 2014
  - Project commencement, March, 2014
- Casino Parkway Project
  - Final Design processes to be complete January, 2014
  - Project to be publicly let March, 2014
  - Project Commencement May, 2015
- Schedule
  - Both projects are expected to be complete by the Spring of 2015

# Questions?

# Appendix

# Sneed, Robertson & Associates, Inc.

- Sneed, Robertson and Associates Inc. is an innovative new professional services company providing program and project management services for the Harrah's Cherokee Valley River project. SRA is owned by Erik Sneed, an Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Tribal Member, and Scott Robertson. SRA also operates the construction bidding and communications website Construction Bid Post, which provides an easy and direct means to view bids and opportunities related to the project.
- [www.s-r-a.net](http://www.s-r-a.net) and [www.constructionbidpost.com](http://www.constructionbidpost.com)

# Whiting Turner Contracting Company

- Whiting-Turner Contracting Company (WT) is a century old, employee-owned construction firm with extensive design-build experience and an excellent history of successfully completing hospitality, gaming and entertainment projects. WT has entered into a teaming agreement with Owle Construction LLC to assist with the construction of the project and with maximizing Tribal and local participation. [www.whiting-turner.com](http://www.whiting-turner.com)



# Owle Construction, LLC

- Owle Construction is owned by Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians tribal member Jodie Owle Cook (51%), her husband Carroll Cook and Dean Weber. Founded in 2002, Owle Construction LLC has seen steady growth in its 11 years of business. Owle Construction LLC participated heavily in the construction of the \$650 million Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort and is currently under contract to renovate hotel tower II, both phase I and phase II, along with the interior and exterior of the resort pool. [www.owleconstruction.com](http://www.owleconstruction.com)

# Cunningham Group Architecture, Inc.

- Founded in 1968, the firm's design approach emphasizes unique solutions for each client and is based on the concept that "Every Building Tells A Story". Cunningham Group was also the architecture firm that designed Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort in Cherokee, NC. [www.cunningham.com](http://www.cunningham.com)

# Erik Sneed

- Erik is the co-owner and President of Sneed, Robertson & Associates Inc. His career has given him a complete understanding of all aspects of casino, hotel, retail, and operations. He has a unique insight into the symbiotic relationship between operations, regulatory processes, design, and construction; as well as how to quickly transition the project into an operating facility focusing on maximizing revenue opportunities.

Erik's comprehensive knowledge of complex MEP and low voltage systems, and the ability to communicate with every level of technical ability, comes from his 15 years of experience that includes serving as the Director of Facilities at the Harrah's Casino and Hotel, and jointly as the manager of Development, Design and Construction for the property. His projects included the development of two hotel towers, numerous renovations and expansions to the gaming floor, MEP and low voltage systems, retail, food and beverage, and back-of-house operations; all while ensuring that the impact to the overall operations of the casino were mitigated.

Over the past 6 years he was a key project principal and owner's agent in the recently completed and award winning \$633 million Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort Master Plan.

Erik recently completed his Bachelor Degree at BBA from Montreat College. In addition, Erik completed his MBA from the prestigious Kenan-Flagler School of Business at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

# Scott Robertson

- Scott is the co-owner and Chief Operating Officer of Sneed, Robertson & Associates Inc.

Over the past 25 years, Scott has served as an Owner's Agent and Project Executive for such signature projects as the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games Sports Venues and the \$800 million Ben Gurion 2000 airport project in Tel Aviv Israel. He has also served in the capacity of Director of Business Development for two of the largest construction managers in the U.S.

Scott served as a key principal and owner's agent for the recently completed and award winning \$633 million Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort Master Plan.

He is known as a resolute advocate for SRA's clients and believes an in-depth understanding and alignment of goals and expectations, combined with the right project specific organization and processes, is key to providing value-driven service that results in a successful development, program, or project for all stakeholders.

Scott received a B.S. in Construction Management from Louisiana State University.

# Bob Minutoli

- Bob is Whiting-Turner's Project Executive responsible for directing and supporting the on-site project team throughout the project's lifecycle. He has spent 18 years working for Whiting-Turner including the last 9 responsible for managing an operational group focused on entertainment, hospitality, gaming and retail projects. His diverse career has provided the opportunity to work on a variety of complicated, fast-track, large-scale projects across the United States. Bob pushes collaboration, leveraging technology and implementing modular / offsite prefabrication for the efficiency, lower costs, and speed. He works closely with the on-site Project Manager in creating a successful project execution strategy addressing key concerns such as budget, quality, schedule and maximizing participation goals.
- A partial listing of Bob's repeat clients include Walt Disney Imagineering, Bass Pro Shops, American Fish and Wildlife Museum, Walt Disney Corporate Real Estate, Landry's Restaurants and many leading National Retail Developers. He is a graduate of Roanoke College in Southwestern Virginia and has attained multiple construction and development certifications including the International Council of Shopping Center's SCDP designation (Certified Design and Construction Profession). He is active member of ICSC's Centerbuild Program Committee.

# Chris Dolan

- Chris is Whiting-Turner's on-site lead Project Manager for the Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino Project. Throughout his 15 year Engineering and Construction career he has worked a diverse portfolio of projects with extensive entertainment and hospitality experience. Chris maintains on-site project oversight through all phases including design, preconstruction, procurement, construction and project closeout.
- Chris' project history has provided him exposure to all divisions of construction including site work, unique foundation systems, a variety of building shells, interior fit outs and mechanical / electrical / control systems. Many of his projects have contained unique complex construction components such as aquarium life support systems, specialty laboratory systems, award winning structural/architectural features, and various eco-friendly building elements. His methodical and technical approach provides him detailed insight into any project opportunity. Chris leverages technologies such as Building Information Modeling (BIM), 4D Scheduling and Facility Management for collaboration and to build process and efficiencies into the project's execution.
- Considerable past projects include Walt Disney's Grand Floridian Villas in Orlando, FL, the Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, MO and Penn State University's Millennium Science Complex in State College, PA. Chris holds a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Dayton, Ohio.

# Carroll Cook

- **Carroll Cook is one of three owners for Owle Construction LLC. Since the inception of Owle in 2002, Carroll has served as the general superintendent for all Owle projects. Through Owle's broad work history, Carroll has been exposed to all components of commercial building construction, along with furthering his knowledge of concrete construction- both in site work concrete and heavy highway bridge construction. Supplementing Carroll's knowledge is his 19 years of bridge building background where he served as a project foreman and superintendent.**
- **Carroll will serve as Owle's General Superintendent for the Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino. He will coordinate with Whiting-Turner's Lead Superintendent, Jack Bowlds, and be responsible for leading all of Owle's on-site supervision, manpower and resources. Carroll has extensive knowledge with Harrah's Cherokee through Owle's involvement in the award winning \$650 million renovation of the Cherokee campus. Additionally, Carroll will serve as one of the team liaisons for TERO procurement. Carroll, being a part of a TERO certified firm, has vast knowledge of the TERO requirements and will work proficiently to procure and meet all potential TERO opportunities.**