

election by secret ballot to elect the members of the Interim Council from among the members nominated in such general council meeting. Absentee and write-in balloting shall be permitted.

(3) The Secretary shall approve the results of the Interim Council election conducted pursuant to this section if he is satisfied that the requirements of this section relating to the nomination and the election processes have been met. If he is not satisfied, he shall call for another general council meeting to be held within sixty days after such election to nominate candidates for election to the Interim Council and shall hold another election within forty-five days of such meeting.

(4) The Secretary shall take any action necessary to ensure that each member described in section 713e(d) of this title is given notice of the time, place, and purpose of each meeting and election held pursuant to this subsection at least ten days before such general meeting or election.

**(c) Authority and capacity; termination**

(1) The Interim Council shall have no powers other than those given it under this subchapter.

(2) With respect to any Federal service or benefit for which the tribe or any member is eligible, the Interim Council shall have full authority and capacity to receive grants and to enter into contracts.

(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Interim Council and such Council's authority and capacity under this section shall cease to exist on the date the tribal governing body first convenes.

(B) With respect to any contractual right established and any obligation entered into by the Interim Council, such Council shall have the authority and capacity to bind the tribal governing body, as the successor in interest to the Interim Council, for a period of not more than six months beginning on the date such tribal governing body first convenes.

**(d) Vacancy on Interim Council**

Within thirty days after a vacancy occurs on the Interim Council and subject to the approval of the Secretary, the Interim Council shall hold a general council meeting to nominate a candidate for election to fill such vacancy and shall hold such election. The Interim Council shall provide notice of the time, place, and purpose of such meeting and election to members described in section 713e(d) of this title at least ten days before each such general meeting or election.

(Pub. L. 98-165, § 5, Nov. 22, 1983, 97 Stat. 1065.)

**§ 713d. Tribal constitution and bylaws; tribal governing body**

**(a) Adoption of proposed constitution and bylaws; election: time and procedure**

(1) The Interim Council shall be responsible for preparing the tribal constitution and bylaws which shall provide for, at a minimum, the establishment of a tribal governing body and tribal membership qualifications. Such proposed constitution and bylaws shall be adopted by the Interim Council no later than six months after November 22, 1983.

(2) Upon the adoption of the proposed tribal constitution and bylaws by the Interim Council,

the Council shall request the Secretary, in writing, to schedule an election to approve or disapprove the adoption of such constitution and bylaws. The Secretary shall conduct an election by secret ballot in accordance with section 476 of this title.

**(b) Notice and consultation**

Not less than thirty days before any election scheduled pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, a copy of the proposed tribal constitution and bylaws, as adopted by the Interim Council, along with a brief and impartial description of the proposed constitution and bylaws shall be sent to each member eligible to participate in such election under section 713e(d) of this title. The members of the Interim Council may freely consult with members of the tribe concerning the text and description of the constitution and bylaws, except that such consultation may not be carried on within fifty feet of the polling places on the date of such election.

**(c) Majority vote for adoption; procedure in event of failure to adopt proposed constitution**

(1) In any election held pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, a vote of a majority of those actually voting shall be necessary and sufficient for the approval of the adoption of the tribal constitution and bylaws.

(2) If in any such election such majority does not approve the adoption of the proposed tribal constitution and bylaws, the Interim Council shall be responsible for preparing another tribal constitution and other bylaws in the same manner provided in this section for the first proposed constitution and bylaws. Such new proposed constitution and bylaws shall be adopted by the Interim Council no later than six months after the date of the election in which the first proposed constitution and bylaws failed of adoption. An election on the question of the adoption of the new proposal of the Interim Council shall be conducted in the same manner provided in subsection (a)(2) of this section for the election on the first proposed constitution and bylaws.

**(d) Election of tribal governing body**

Not later than one hundred and twenty days after the tribe approves the adoption of the tribal constitution and bylaws and subject to the approval of the Secretary, the Interim Council shall conduct an election, by secret ballot, to elect the tribal governing body established under such constitution and bylaws. Notwithstanding any provision of the tribal constitution and bylaws, absentee and write-in balloting shall be permitted in an election under this subsection.

(Pub. L. 98-165, § 6, Nov. 22, 1983, 97 Stat. 1066.)

**§ 713e. Membership rolls; voting rights of member**

**(a) Membership roll established and opened**

The membership roll of the tribe is established and open.

**(b) Criteria governing eligibility**

(1) Until the first election of the tribal governing body is held pursuant to section 713d(d) of