

## Tigua Inc.'s new CEO: Tribe seeks Fort Bliss expansion contracts

By Aileen B. Flores \ El Paso Times

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John Baily is the new CEO for the Tigua Inc., a new economic development corporation to manage growth in the Pueblo's businesses. (Vanessa Monsisvais / El Paso Times)

A new leader in the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo hopes to empower the economic development of the tribe.

John Baily, 45, was recently hired as the chief executive officer of Tigua Inc., the pueblo's economic development corporation.

Tigua Inc. was established in 2008. It manages the pueblo's business enterprises and creates new economic development opportunities for the tribe.

"The goal is to bring more revenue into the pueblo," Baily said.

He said he is working on getting contracts with the government. One of the group's main goals is to take part in the ongoing Fort Bliss expansion and development, he said.

"We want to establish a continuity in business, grow the revenue streams outside the gaming," he said. "Everything we grow

goes back to the Tigua for empowerment, to help the Tigua members to be business entrepreneurs."

Baily said the tribe soon will begin building the Tigua Business Center. The tribe's Economic Development Department was awarded more than \$1 million to rehabilitate a property at 9180 Socorro Road for the center.

The new center will house Tigua Inc., the Economic Development Department and tribal citizen-owned businesses.

Baily said the purpose of the center is to promote and help tribal members become business owners.

Frank Paiz, governor of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, said the tribe is confident Baily will lead the

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tribal corporation in the right direction.

In a model that is different from many other tribes, the Ysleta community

separates political issues from the tribe's business area. In many tribes, businesses fall under tribal councils.

"Baily brings with him the energy and experience needed to make Tigua Inc. a top company in the region," Paiz said.

Baily is a Colorado Springs, Colo., native, and he attended Regis University. He and his family moved to El Paso this summer. He is former president and CEO for Aleut Management Servers LLC, an Alaskan native-owned government contracting company and former CEO of Global Underground Corp.

He is also a former member of the board of directors for the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce as well as the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo.

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