



Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Board of Trustees Meeting Recap: November 10, 2025

Board of Trustees (BOT) Chairman Gary I. Burke called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Quorum of eight was verified with Member at Large Steven Hart on personal leave. Agenda was approved 6-0-0.

New Business

Columbia Development Authority (CDA) Litigation Mutual Release and Settlement Agreement (25-079): The BOT authorizes the executive director as the CTUIR representative on the CDA Board to approve the agreement when it comes to the CDA Board for a vote. The release and settlement resolves the issue of a CDA land allocation in a manner acceptable to the CTUIR. The resolution also calls for the CTUIR chair to execute the settlement and for the chair and executive director to take actions and execute any necessary documents. The vote was 6-0-1.

Public Law-92-544 Ordinance for Contractor Background Checks (25-080): The BOT authorizes the Department of Children and Family Services to continue issuing child care licenses in accordance with federal grant requirements and subject to FBI approval. The ordinance lets the CTUIR to run background checks of employees, contractors and volunteers whose work involves interactions with children, as well as child care provider license applicants. The vote was 6-0-1.

Civil Public Law 83-280 Retrocession (25-081): The BOT formally requests retrocession from the State of Oregon for civil jurisdiction under PL-83-280 over the CTUIR's Indian Country. The BOT chair is also allowed to engage in consultations, negotiations and actions to facilitate retrocession, which will empower the CTUIR to more effectively govern its territory and members. The vote was 6-0-1.

Appointment of Annette Hamilton to Cayuse Holdings Board of Directors (25-082): The BOT appointed Annette Hamilton to the Cayuse Holdings Board of Directors for a four-year term beginning Sept. 30, 2025 to Sept. 29, 2029. The vote was 6-0-1.

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Sixmile Canyon Substation (25-083): The BOT approved a MOA between the BPA and the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the Sixmile Substation Project in Morrow County. BPA plans to construct the substation on ceded lands of the CTUIR, requiring compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act in consultation with the SHPO in that the project would adversely affect historic CTUIR property. The vote was 6-0-1.

2026 Annual Budget and Work Plans (25-084): The BOT approved the CTUIR's 2026 operating budget and departments' annual work plans. It also authorizes the withdrawal of revenues held by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the period of Jan. 1, 2026 to Dec. 31, 2026. The vote was 6-0-1.

Other Board Actions

Nixyáawii Community School (NCS) budget motion: The BOT unanimously appropriated \$50,000 from the Contingency Fund to supplement the contribution the CTUIR makes to the NCS for the 2025-26 school year. It also requests that NCS Board and staff include a report on the use of funds during its annual report in June and encourages NCS to continue seeking alternative funding sources and evaluating operations to improve NCS recruitment.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting: 9 a.m., November 24, 2025

To view the calendar, visit <https://ctuir.org/our-government/board-of-trustees/bot-calendar/>

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Executive Director Information

The BOT voted 6-0-0 on a motion to accept art from artist Darin Yates that honors Cayuse, Walla Walla and Umatilla historical figures during the Nov. 24 BOT meeting.

The BOT voted 6-0-0 on a motion to have any available BOT member attend the dedication of the CTUIR courtroom as the Wish Lau Tulatin Raymond T. "Popcorn" Burke Courtroom on Nov. 24 at 3:30 p.m.

The BOT voted 6-0-0 approved a motion that any BOT member attend the Nicht-yow-way Elders Luncheon on Dec. 17 at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino Rivers Events Center.

(This meeting recap is an effort to get BOT news to the public in a timelier manner. It is not intended to be a replacement for the official minutes of BOT meetings or any Confederated Umatilla Journal coverage.)