



Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Board of Trustees Meeting Recap: January 26, 2026

Board of Trustees (BOT) Chair N. Kathryn Brigham called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum of nine was verified before recessing until 10 a.m. due to technical issues. The meeting reconvened at 10:01 a.m.

New Business

Polled Motion re: written testimony on Senate Bill 6004 and House Bill 2103 (26-001): The BOT approved written testimony on the Washington State companion bills relating to authorizing certain public entities to contract for the capability of renewable or non-emitting electric generation projects.

Polled Motion re: talking points for REACH Museum event on Jan. 23 (26-002): The BOT approved talking points for Trustee Toby Patrick for the Jan. 23 Manhattan Project National Historical Park's 10th anniversary event.

Polled Motion re: letter to Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley to amend the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 (26-003): The BOT approved a letter to the Oregon senators requesting the removal of restrictive covenants and revisionary clauses as well as the acquisition of land around Plymouth Island in Washington through legislation amending the WRDA.

Reimbursement Policy for Passport or State Identification Card Fees (26-004): The BOT approved a resolution allowing the Enrollment Office to reimburse fees to tribal citizens when they pay to obtain or renew U.S. passport books or cards as well as state-issued REAL ID identification cards or driver's licenses.

Mitigation Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) - Hood River Bridge Replacement (26-005): The BOT approved a resolution revising a MOA among the CTUIR, Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Authority and the Federal Highway Administration to minimize the impacts of building a new bridge on the CTUIR's treaty right to fish, hunt and gather at usual and accustomed locations along the Columbia River.

Admissions & Occupancy Policies Amendments: (26-006): The BOT amended the Housing Department's Admissions & Occupancy Policies to implement a criminal background screening policy that is compliant with federal standards. The policy goes into effect March 1 following a public notice period.

Other Board Actions

The BOT approved the 2025-2027 appointments to outside organizations for its members and CTUIR staff representatives.

Executive Director Information

The BOT approved Trustee Sierra Quaempts to participate in the Tribal Consultation on Indian Education Partnership on Feb. 10 in person or virtually at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting: 9 a.m., February 9, 2026

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

Board of Trustees Meeting Recap: January 26, 2026

Executive Director Information

The BOT approved Treasurer Raymond Huesties to attend the Northern Blues Restoration 2026 annual meeting at the Wildhorse Event Center on Feb. 25-26.

The BOT approved CTUIR Range & Ag Technician Matt Farrow Jr. to serve as a formal consultant on the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Rulemaking Advisory Committee for Livestock Identification and Inspection (Brands) Program.

The BOT approved CTUIR Tax Administrator Bruce Zimmerman to attend a Jan. 28 meeting regarding the implementation of the Oregon Energy Strategy and a related executive order by Gov. Tina Kotek.

The BOT declined an invitation to attend Energy Northwest's Small Modular Reactor Simulator ribbon-cutting and open house on Feb. 26 in Richland, Washington.

The BOT approved all available BOT members and CTUIR Farm Committee members to attend the Pendleton Growers meeting and informational session for wheat growers for Cairnsprings Mill at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino on Feb. 10.

The BOT approved Trustee Corinne Sams to serve as a consultant and Chair Brigham as an alternate to the State of Washington Department of Revenue.

The BOT approved General Council Chairman Lindsey X. Watchman and Trustee Quaempts to attend the Whitman College commencement on May 24 at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington.

The BOT approved Trustee Quaempts and Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center staff to participate in the formal Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Developmental Disabilities Services Intake Applications process for the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon and confer with Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest, the Urban Health Program.

The BOT approved Trustee Quaempts to participate in the formal ODHS Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment & Training for the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon and confer with the Urban Health Program via a Zoom meeting to be announced.

The BOT approved all available BOT members to attend the Two Cultures-One Community Powwow from Feb. 27 to March 1 at the Pendleton Convention Center and agreed to a \$10,000 sponsorship.

(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.)