



Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Board of Trustees Meeting Recap: June 15, 2026

Board of Trustees (BOT) Chair N. Kathryn Brigham called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. A quorum of seven was verified with Trustees Lisa Ganuelas and Toby Patrick out on personal leave.

Old Business

Polled Letter: Letter to Sens. Wyden and Merkley (2026-17): The BOT ratified a polled letter of support to Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley to include protective language in the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act (CLARITY Act) against prediction markets.

New Business

Defaulted U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 184 Home Loans (26-033): The BOT passed a resolution establishing a pilot project in which the CTUIR may buy up to two defaulted HUD 184 Home Loan notes where the pledged land or leasehold is trust land within the Umatilla Indian Reservation (UIR). Other requirements to buy such loans include:

- The HUD 184 Home Loan program is an essential financing tool for tribal member housing development.
- The CTUIR's purchase of the defaulted loan prevent HUD foreclosure on the mortgage on the land or leasehold and the loss of UIR trust land.
- Effective management of the loan program being important for maintaining bank lending to tribal member homebuyers.
- The Nixyáawii Community Financial Services has the capacity to manage and service 184 loans the CTUIR buy from HUD.
- The terms under any amended loan agreement with the borrower shall not relieve the borrower of the obligation to make payment under the amended agreement, not reward borrowers who have defaulted on their 184 loan obligations or provide an incentive to tribal members who have 184 loans to fail to make timely payments and satisfy other borrower obligations under their loan and mortgage documents.

Tribal Early Learning Education Program (26-034): The BOT approved the Phase 1 Project Budget and Facility Operations Budget for the renovation of the former Seventh Day Adventist School at 46576 Mission Road to increase capacity for child care.

2026 General Welfare Benefits (26-305): The BOT approved a resolution stating that general welfare payments paid quarterly to tribal members are exempt from federal income tax. This resolution will be passed annually so that tribal members do not have to complete tax exempt forms.

Executive Director Information

The BOT approved Trustee Corinne Sams to virtually attend the state of Washington's listening session for Report on Best Practices to Address Traffic Stop Disparities on July 9.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting: 9 a.m., June 22, 2026

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

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Executive Director Information

The BOT approved Chair Brigham and contract attorney Brent Hall to engage in the consultation for the Climate Commitment Act funds for a Lower Snake River dams replacement study and potential effects of the use of funding on tribal resources.

The BOT approved the Office of Executive Director to schedule two meetings - one regarding the Cascade Renewal Transmission Project and one regarding the Cascade Advanced Energy Project - as well as a prep session prior to engaging in government-to-government consultation with the state of Washington on the projects.

The BOT approved any available BOT members to attend the 40th anniversary ribbon-cutting for Indian Lake on June 19 at Indian Lake Campground.

The BOT approved Treasurer Raymond Huesties to attend the fifth annual Celebration for First Responders Dinner on June 20 at the Ukiah Senior Center and donate \$500 from the Contingency Fund as well as informing CTUIR first responders of the dinner.

The BOT approved Cultural Resources Protection Program Manager Teara Farrow Ferman to attend the consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding a six-month license to BNSF Railway Co. at John Day Lock and Dam Project in Klickitat, Washington and report back to the BOT. The license is for removing train cars and containers due to derailment.

(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.)