



# Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

## Board of Trustees Meeting Recap: March 16, 2026

Board of Trustees (BOT) Vice Chair Aaron Ashley called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum of eight was verified with Chair N. Kathryn Brigham on personal leave.

### **New Business**

Shoreline Reconveyance Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (26-012): The BOT passed a resolution authorizing an MOA among the CTUIR, the Washington counties of Benton and Franklin; the Washington municipalities of Kennewick, Pasco and Richland; and the Port of Pasco to have federal legislation introduced to convey Columbia River shoreline lands to them from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. With Congressional approval, the CTUIR would receive a parcel of land at the confluence of the Columbia and Yakima rivers in the Tri-Cities area along with land along the Columbia River in Umatilla. It also establishes a cultural resources clearance process for lands conveyed, formalizes CTUIR's government-to-government relationships with the municipalities that is supportive of the protection of CTUIR reserved treaty rights, ensures protection and appropriate management of cultural and natural resources, tribal history and interpretation, and economic development.

### **Executive Director Information**

The BOT approved two swag donations for the Reimagine the River event on March 18 in Portland.

The BOT approved Treasurer Raymond Huesties to attend the 2026 Tribal Summit at Northern Quest Resort & Casino on Aug. 17-18 in Air Way Heights, Washington, and to complete the summit's topic survey by March 20.

The BOT approved Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff as observers for the Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf Revisions to the 2023 Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Rule and to report back to the BOT.

The BOT approved Trustee Corinne Sams to engage in the nation-to-nation consultation for proposed activity and its potential effects to federally recognized tribal rights and resources including treaty rights at Willamette Falls. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering renewing a 50-year easement with Belgravia Development at Willamette Falls Locks in Clackamas County for a walkway.

The BOT approved any available BOT member to attend the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians (ATNI) Mid-Year Conference on May 17-21 at the Silver Reef Casino Resort in Ferndale, Washington.

The BOT approved Trustee Sams and any available BOT member to attend the "Tribal, State & Federal Summit - Beyond Policy: Shaping Behavior and Culture" hosted by CTUIR's Family Violence Services on July 7-9 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino (WRC).

The BOT approved Secretary Monica Paradise to attend the Industrial Symbiosis Conference on June 28-30 in Vancouver, Washington.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting: 9 a.m., March 23, 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 any available BOT member to attend the Topping-Off Celebration on March 25 at WRC.

The BOT approved a \$1,200 sponsorship from the Contingency Fund for the sixth annual Yellowhawk Scholarship Golf Scramble on July 10 at The Golf Course at Birch Creek near Pendleton. The motion included General Council Chairman Lindsey X. Watchman and Trustees Toby Patrick and Sierra Quaempts to be part of a four-person team. The fourth team member is to be determined.

The BOT approved Communications send CTUIR items and a letter to Vincent T. Collins Jr. of Aberdeen, Scotland, for his venture to enter into the Guinness Book of Records with the largest represented Indigenous-related collection.

The BOT approved a motion to defer the CTUIR participating in the Child and Family Services Review Performance Improvement Plan pilot program offered by the Oregon Department of Human Services.

The BOT approved Treasurer Huesties to virtually attend Oregon's Centennial Accord Innovation Workgroup meeting on March 25 via Zoom.

*(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.)*