

**INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING HELD
Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.**

Minutes

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Nations Council of Governments was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., 1 West 3rd Street, Williams Tower I, Plaza Level, Saint Francis Health System Conference Room, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, the agenda was posted with the Tulsa County Clerk on August 6, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Stan Sallee, and a quorum was declared.

Members Present:

Chris Benge – Tulsa County
Mike Burdge – Sand Springs
Ron Burrows – Rogers County
Joyce Calvert – Glenpool
Sarah Davis – City of Tulsa
Jamie Dunn – Owasso
Lisa Ford – Broken Arrow
Tony Heaberlin – Tulsa County
Karen Keith – Tulsa County
Jody King – Catoosa
Stan Sallee – Tulsa County

Bobby Schultz – Bixby
Larry Shafer – Collinsville
Lonnie Sims – Tulsa County
Michael Spurgeon – Broken Arrow
Newt Stephens – Creek County
Shane Stone – City of Tulsa
Candy Thomas – Osage Nation
Mark Whinnery – Creek County
Debra Wimpee – Broken Arrow
Kris Wyatt - Bristow

Staff Present:

LaDonna Brewer
Rich Brierre
Braden Cale
Kenneth Corn
Thomas Dow
Brad Gemeinhart
Jared Hurst
Clint Johnson

Andrew Kim
Michelle Merchant
Rachel Moore
Steve Pitts
Ty Simmons
Brenda Strahan
Henry Wilson

Guests:

Jon Brown
Covy Murray

Joshua Sharum
David Tillotson

2. Approval of Minutes of INCOG Board meeting July 14, 2026

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Ms. Keith the Board voted to approve the minutes of July 14, 2026. Motion carried.

Aye: Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Ford, Heaberlin, Keith, King, Sallee, Schultz, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

3. Staff Report [Ms. Davis and Ms. Dunn arrived]

Rich Brierre presented this item to the Board.

Transportation Program

Mr. Brierre updated the board on the Congestion Management Process Plan (CMPP), Regional GO Plan, and Regional Trails and Pedestrian plan are continuing and will return to the Board for consideration.

Community and Economic Development

An in-person INCOG REAP workshop was held on August 6 at the Tulsa Tech facility, followed by an Oklahoma Water Resources Board workshop on its REAP program. A virtual training session for both programs was also held, with approximately 61 participants. INCOG's REAP program has an annual allocation of \$3 million, while the OWRB has a separate REAP program with funding increased from \$1 million to \$10 million for cities and populations under 7,000. The application deadline for the OWRB program is September 1, and INCOG REAP application deadline is October 10.

The Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners recently approved \$1 million in HOME Consortium funding for energy efficiency improvements at Cardinal Heights in Collinsville. Similar improvements have been completed at Autumn Park in Bixby, with improvements underway at West Oak Village in Skiatook.

The EDA application for the City of Tulsa's storm shelter and generators for the new Public Safety Center has been submitted, and INCOG will continue to track it's progress. Work is also underway on a Community Energy Sustainability Plan for Catoosa.

INCOG staff are working with the Tulsa Regional Chamber and Oklahoma Department of Commerce on a major manufacturing prospect considering redevelopment of the former Macy's building.

Mr. Corn reported that the transition has been a positive experience, noting that he has been working through the organization's programs and opportunities and meeting with the various teams. He has also begun visiting communities to learn more about ongoing projects. He noted that Mr. Brierre's experience and knowledge of the organization have been an invaluable resource in preparing him for his new role, and he expects to continue relying on that experience as the transition progresses.

4. Transportation Program

FFY 2026-29 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Braden Cale presented several amendments to the INCOG FFY 2026-20 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for consideration by the Board of Directors. A summary of the projects was included in the meeting packet. The first table included four new ODOT projects proposed for addition to the TIP, along with an MTTA project involving the transfer of funds to the Federal Transit Administration. The second table included nine local Surface Transportation Block Grant projects previously selected by the INCOG Board of Directors, which are being advanced through the annual fourth quarter redistribution process. These federal funds are received by ODOT through redistribution and shared with INCOG for shovel-ready projects. To qualify, projects must be ready to let for construction by, or near the end of, the calendar year. The Board was asked to approve the TIP amendments as presented.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Mr. Stephens the Board voted to approve the TIP Amendments as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Keith, King, Sallee, Schultz, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt

Nay: None
Abstain: None

5. Approval of Community Expansion of Nutrition Assistance (CENA) Awards

Brenda Strahan reported as a part of the Area Agency on Aging, INCOG received funding through the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for the CENA Program, which provides funding to senior centers that are not part of the Title III nutrition program. Funds may be used for a variety of expenses, including utilities, facility improvements, ADA updates, food expenses, and under recently expanded guidelines, cooking services. Eligible senior centers must meet specific requirements to apply for funding. Of the 19 centers eligible to apply, 18 submitted applications. The Resource Allocation Committee met on August 5 and recommended funding 16 of the 18 applications. A list of the recommended projects was included in your agenda packet. The Board was asked to approve the recommended projects.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Burdge, the Board voted to approve the CENA awards as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Bengé, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Keith, King, Sallee, Schultz, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

6. Rural Fire Update

Steve Pitts provided an update on INCOG's Rural Fire Defense Program, which primarily serves volunteer fire departments serving communities with populations of 10,000 or fewer. The program currently serves 65 eligible departments in Creek, Osage, and Tulsa Counties. He explained the three types of rural fire departments – Title 11 municipal departments, Title 19 county (Fire Protection Districts) departments, and Title 18 (non-profit) rural fire departments – and reviewed eligibility requirements. State appropriations increased significantly over the years, with approximately \$8.4 million currently available for operational grants, providing eligible departments approximately \$10,098 each. The state's 80/20 matching grant program has also increased to approximately \$2 million statewide, with INCOG administering matching grants for eligible departments in its region. Nine departments received 80/20 matching grants this year. He also discussed the importance of surplus firefighting equipment, including military vehicles that are converted for firefighting use. The availability of this equipment has declined significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic. He also reviewed the program's ongoing services, including technical assistance to rural fire departments, assistance with ISO insurance ratings, maintaining inventories of loaned firefighting equipment, administration of operational and matching grant programs, pump testing, and assistance with emergency resource request. He noted the fire conditions are becoming increasingly dry and that recent spot fires between Hominy and Cleveland demonstrate the potential for increased wildfire activity. He emphasized the importance of maintaining funding and support for fire departments to help prevent wildfires from expanding into larger incidents that can threaten homes, ranches, livestock, and communities.

7. Approval of Open Records Request Fee Schedule

Rich Brierre stated that in response to an increasing number of open records request being received we are asking the Board to approve an Open Records fee schedule. The proposed fees are based on the Oklahoma Attorney General's fee schedule and are intended to help recover costs associated with processing requests, particularly large or commercial requests. The Board was asked to approve the Open Records fee schedule as presented.

Upon motion, duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Ms. Keith the Board voted to approve the Open Records Fee Schedule. Motion carried.

Aye: Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Keith, King, Sallee, Schultz, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

8. Contracts

Mr. Brierre presented this item to the Board.

A. Receivables:

1. Clean Cities – National Laboratory of the Rockies – Oklahoma Passenger Rail Outreach and Education - \$20,000 (new)
2. City of Barnsdall – Community Development Block Grant (19840 CDBG 25) Water Treatment Plant Improvements – Administrative Services - \$40,000 (new)
3. Town of Porter – Community Development Block Grant (19845 CDBG 25) Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements - \$28,000 (new)
4. Economic Development Administration – 3 Year EDA Partnership Planning Grant - \$210,000 (previous grant \$210,000)

B. Expenditures:

1. Halff – Community Energy Strategic Plan – Revise scope of services and increase fee by \$36,500 (original amount \$98,500)
2. Department of Human Services – SFY2027 Title III Older Americans Act Funding:
 - a. City of Collinsville Nutrition Transportation – Increase funding by \$4,000 (original contract \$19,475)
 - b. United Community Action Program, Inc. – Increase funding by \$4,596 (original contract \$106,995)
 - c. BA Nutritional Consulting Services LLC – Increase funding by \$500 (original contract \$92,893)

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Ms. Keith, the Board voted to approve the contract as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Keith, King, Sallee, Schultz, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Announcements

Mayor Shafer reported on the groundbreaking for an OSU medical clinic at Highway 75 and Highway 20 in Collinsville. The clinic is expected to provide more than 8,000 primary care visits and 2,700 specialist visits annually, with lab and diagnostic services. A temporary facility will serve patients during construction, and the site has potential for future expansion. Mayor Wimpee reported that the Rose District community silo had been painted with local logos. Mayor Wyatt announced Bristow Western Heritage days will be this upcoming weekend.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.