

**INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING HELD
Tuesday, July 14, 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, July 14, 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 July 10, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Stan Sallee, and a quorum was declared.

Members Present:

Anthony Archie – City of Tulsa
Cory Box – Jenks
Mike Burdge – Sand Springs
Ron Burrows – Rogers County
Joyce Calvert – Glenpool
Julie Casteen – Coweta
Sarah Davis – City of Tulsa
Karen Keith – Tulsa County
Chuck Ralls – Collinsville
Pete Regan – Tulsa County

Laurel Roberts – City of Tulsa
Stan Sallee – Tulsa County
Michael Spurgeon – Broken Arrow
Newt Stephens – Creek County
Shane Stone – City of Tulsa
Thomas Sweet – Catoosa
Candy Thomas – Osage Nation
Mark Whinnery – Creek County
Debra Wimpee – Broken Arrow
Kris Wyatt - Bristow

Staff Present:

LaDonna Brewer
Claudia Brierre
Rich Brierre
Kenneth Corn
JT Darling
Thomas Dow
Brad Gemeinhart

Jared Hurst
Clint Johnson
Michelle Merchant
Rachel Moore
Ty Simmons
Brenda Strahan
Henry Wilson

Guests:

Lisa Ralls

David Tillotson

2. Approval of Minutes of INCOG Board meeting June 9, 2026

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Ms. Keith the Board voted to approve the minutes of June 9, 2026. Motion carried.

Aye: Box, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Keith, Ralls, Roberts, Sallee, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee

Nay: None

Abstain: None

3. Staff Report [Mr. Archie, Mr. Regan, Ms. Wyatt arrived]

Rich Brierre presented this item to the Board.

Transportation Program

US Department of Transportation has issued a call for projects for a competitive grant program

called ATTAIn – Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation. INCOG is being asked to serve as the grant applicant and fiscal agent for a potential project by the Tulsa Innovation Labs and tribal health system representatives from this region. The project name is Tri-Nation Sky Corridor Network: Roadway Safety Innovation Through Drone-based Transportation Infrastructure for Emergency Response and Essential Medical Delivery. The application deadline is July 27. The Oklahoma Highway Safety Office rescinded the previously awarded \$211,700 grant for INCOG’s Travel With Care Program. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced FY2026 BUILD competitive grant awards; however, applications submitted for the Tulsa County (Hominy and Bird Creek bridges near Sperry) and the Wagoner County SH-51 connector road project were not selected for funding.

Community and Economic Development

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce recently approved two CDBG Water/wastewater projects. The City of Barnsdall is being awarded a \$600,000 grant for water treatment plant improvements and the Town of Porter is being awarded \$400,000 for wastewater treatment plant improvements. INCOG wrote both applications and will administer the projects.

The Oklahoma Water Resources Board has significantly more funding available for the OWRB/REAP program now that the legislature has increased the appropriation from \$1M to \$10M. Applicants that attend an application workshop will be given more points and we are encouraging OWRB to schedule a workshop in the INCOG region and NE Oklahoma. Cities and towns of 7,000 population will be eligible for grants (the closest location is McAlester). INCOG will host an in-person REAP workshop on August 6th at 2:00 PM at the Tulsa Tech campus on SH-51 and Memorial. A virtual training session will also be held on August 10th. Information is being sent to all REAP eligible jurisdictions.

The Tulsa County Board of Commissioners approved \$1M in HOME Consortium funding for energy efficiency improvements to Cardinal Heights in Collinsville. Similar improvements have been completed at Autum Park in Bixby and are underway at West Oak Village in Skiatook.

Work has been finalized on the City of Tulsa EDA Disaster Supplemental Grant request for funding to assist with the new Tulsa Public Safety Center. The application is expected to be submitted this week. We submitted a recommendation to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Governor’s Office for 26 INCOG area census tracts to be designated as Federal Opportunity Zones.

Energy and Sustainability

Staff will be working with the city of Catoosa on the development of an energy sustainability plan for the community with funding through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program.

4. Energy & Environmental Sustainability

A. Air Quality

Clint Johnson reported that there were zero ozone alert days in 2025 and, to date, in 2026, with only one ozone exceedance occurring outside the normal season on March 21, 2026. The region remains in compliance with the current three-year ozone standard, and ongoing EPA review of the standard provides additional time before any potential non-attainment designation. Air quality continues to improve and the rebranded TulsaAirQuality.com now provides information on both ozone and particulate matter including live monitoring data. Mr. Johnson reviewed the history and purpose of the Clean Air Act, emphasizing that air quality regulations are intended to protect human health. Transportation remains the primary source of ozone-forming emissions, particularly nitrogen oxides (NOx). Outreach efforts continue through social media campaigns, partnerships with Resolute and Mike Collier’s Weather X app,

and promotion of text and email air quality alerts, with a focus on increasing awareness among adults aged 25-35.

B. Clean Cities

Michelle Merchant, presented an overview of the program and its mission to improve transportation efficiency, reduce fleet operating costs, and improve air quality through the adoption of alternative fuels and energy-efficient transportation technologies. She explained that the coalition is one of more than 75 U.S. Department of Energy-designated Clean Cities coalitions and has served eastern Oklahoma since 1997. Ms. Merchant highlighted the coalition's services, including technical assistance, fleet analysis, funding support, stakeholder partnerships, and outreach and education. She also discussed current initiatives such as the Charging Smart program to expand EV charging infrastructure, alternative fuel training for fleets and first responders, and assistance for school districts seeking funding for alternative fuel school buses. She encouraged communities and stakeholders to engage with the coalition and utilize its available resources and training opportunities. Ms. Merchant answered questions.

[Mr. Box left the Meeting]

5. Approval of Continuing Membership in Professional Organizations

Rich Brierre reviewed the list of state and national professional organization memberships , which INCOG has. He requested approval to continue the memberships for the upcoming year.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Sweet, the Board voted to approve the continuing memberships in professional organization as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Archie, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Keith, Ralls, Regan, Roberts, Sallee, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

[Mr. Box returned]

6. Approval of Updated INCOG Position Classification and Salary Schedule

Rich Brierre explained that the proposed updated salary ranges reflect a 5.2% adjustment based on wage inflation to the Metropolitan area and recommended conducting a comprehensive study later in the year. The update applies only to the salary ranges and does not provide across-the-board salary increases, as employee salary adjustments are addressed separately through the budget process. The Executive Committee met earlier and recommended approval.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Keith and seconded by Mr. Stephens, the Board approved the update to the INCOG Position Classification and Salary Schedule as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Archie, Box, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Keith, Ralls, Regan, Roberts, Sallee, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

[Mr. Box and Ms. Davis left the meeting]

7. Check/Agreement Signing Authorization

Mr. Brierre presented this item to add Kenneth Corn as an authorized signatory on INCOG checks, as required by the bank.

Upon motion by Ms. Keith and seconded by Mr. Stone, the Board voted to approve adding Kenneth Corn as an authorized signatory on INCOG checks. Motion carried.

Aye: Archie, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Casteen, Keith, Ralls, Regan, Roberts, Sallee, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

8. Contracts

Mr. Brierre presented this item to the Board.

A. Receivables:

1. Oklahoma Department of Human Services – Title III Older Americans Act Programs (including state funds) - \$4,208,902 (last year \$4,188,555)
2. Oklahoma Department of Commerce – CENA Program - \$241,159 (last year \$238,012)
3. Tulsa County – Community Development Block Grant Urban County Program – Administration - \$248,877 (last year \$241,829)
4. Tulsa County Home Consortium FY2026 – Program Administration - \$113,710.48 (last year \$109,048)
5. Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General – Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program – Quality of Care (Provider Fee) - \$154,710 – (last year \$149,146)
6. Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General – OAA Title III/Title VII – Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program - \$82,245 – (last year \$95,318)
7. Town of Kiefer – Community Development Block Grant (19782 CDBG 25) Update Comprehensive Plan – Administrative Services \$36,000 (new)
8. Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC) – FY27 substate Planning District Program - \$27,272.73 (last year \$27,272.73)

B. Expenditures:

1. MySidewalk – User license for community data platform (Builder Pro) Subscription - \$17,682 (last year \$16,840)

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

Aye: Archie, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Casteen, Keith, Ralls, Regan, Roberts, Sallee, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Announcements

The Chair recognized the recent dedication of the interchange of the Gilcrease Expressway and US-412 which will now be the “Guy L. Berry III Memorial Interchange” highlighting his decades of advocacy for transportation infrastructure, commitment to public safety and dedication to the region. Members shared personal reflections on Mr. Berry’s tenacity, civic involvement, philanthropic efforts, and significant contribution to transportation projects throughout the area. The Chair also noted upcoming regional events, including the Porter Peach festival and Route 66 Centennial Celebration, and provided an update on Rich’s upcoming retirement and transition period with incoming Executive Director Kenneth Corn.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.