INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING HELD
Tuesday, March 10, 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, March 10, 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 March 5, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair, Chris Benge, and a quorum was declared.

Members Present:

Anthony Archie – City of Tulsa
Chris Benge – Tulsa County
Matt Bragg – Skiatook
Mike Burdge – Sand Springs
Joyce Calvert – Glenpool
Julie Casteen – Coweta
Sarah Davis – City of Tulsa
Lisa Ford – Broken Arrow
Robert Gardner – Tulsa County
Karen Keith – Tulsa County
Mike Miller – City of Tulsa
Don Newberry – Tulsa County
Johnnie Parks – Broken Arrow
Laurel Roberts – City of Tulsa
Bobby Schultz – Bixby
Larry Shafer – Collinsville
Newt Stephens – Creek County
Thomas Sweet – Catoosa
Candy Thomas – Osage Nation
Mark Whinnery – Drumright
Michael Willis – Tulsa County
Kris Wyatt - Bristow

Staff Present:

LaDonna Brewer
Rich Brierre
Braden Cale
Thomas Dow
Brad Gemeinhart
Barbara Gibson
Clint Johnson
Cathy Mayo
Rachel Moore
Ty Simmons
John Tankard
Kim Teis
Doug Wellman
Troy Wilborn
Henry Wilson

Guests:

Josh Brown
John Fothergill
Carolyn Green
Chuck Ralls
Joshua Sharum
Kirk Vanderslice

2. Approval of Minutes of INCOG Board meeting January 13, 2026

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge and seconded by Mr. Sweet, the Board voted to approve the minutes of January 13, 2026. Motion carried.

Aye: Benge, Bragg, Burdge, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Gardner, Keith, Miller, Parks, Roberts, Schultz, Shafer, Stephens, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

3. **Staff Report**

Rich Brierre presented this item to the Board.

Transportation Program

Mr. Brierre reported that staff worked on two BUILD grant applications: one for Tulsa County involving three bridge replacements, and one for Wagoner County in partnership with ODOT for a new turnpike interchange, roadway improvements, and a direct connection to the Muskogee Turnpike for Coweta. Both applications are highly competitive. Staff are also working on contract amendments for existing BUILD and Safe Streets and Roads for All grants.

Economic Development

We have several upcoming application deadlines for CDBG Urban County Program, applications are due April 10. Additionally, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce Small Cities CDBG Program- water and wastewater projects – has an application deadline of May 1.

Staff is coordinating with local jurisdictions and economic development partners on the next round of Opportunity Zone designations, noting that the state may nominate only 25% of eligible census tracts. Staff have been working collaboratively with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to identify strategic areas for designation.

An extension request is being prepared for the major EDA-funded levee pump station project. Additionally, the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation's GEM project has been recognized as Oklahoma's top project and will be honored at an upcoming Southwest Regional Economic Development conference.

Energy & Environmental Sustainability

The Energy Efficiency and Conservaation Block Grant agreement has been approved. Nine jurisdictions – Barnsdall, Oologah, Catoosa, Skiatook, Glenpool, Hominy, Wynona, Depew, and Osage Nation – submitted letters of interest to participate in community energy strategic planning.

[Mr. Anthony, Ms. Ford, Mr. Newberry, and Mr. Willis arrived]

4. **Legislative Report**

Mr. Brierre reported that the first major legislative deadline has passed, with approximately 3,700 bills failing to advance out of committee and therefore no longer active for the session. The next key deadline is March 26, when bills must pass out of their chamber of origin. With spring break approaching, legislative activity is expected to intensify. Candidate filing is scheduled for April 1-3.

Several bills of interest were highlighted. SB 1288, which would have clarified the state's participation in the non-federal match for federal disaster public assistance, did not advance out of committee. HB2209, which allows members of public bodies to participate virtually in meeting without publicly posting their location under certain circumstances, has passed the House and continues to move forward. HB4178, addressing public trust authorities, would clarify that purchases made by such entities are exempt from state stales tax. The bill remains active. Two pension-related bills SB715 and SB716 concerning firefighter and police retirement systems were also noted as active, with potential significant fiscal impacts to local governments. Mr. Brierre answered questions from the board.

5. **Regional 9-1-1 Program Update**

Mr. Brierre provided an update on behalf of Jared Hurst, the 9-1-1 Coordinator, who was unable to attend. INCOG staffs the Regional 9-1-1 Authority, which includes 13 jurisdictions across five counties, serving approximately 900,000 residents and handling roughly 1.7 million calls annually.

The Regional 9-1-1 Board has been working to upgrade its 9-1-1 system and previously engaged Mission Critical Partners to assess system readiness. A request for Proposals was issued, with 11 vendors responding, two finalists, who submitted best and final offers. At its December meeting the Regional 9-1-1 Board selected Carbyne as the preferred vendor.

The Board anticipates applying for state 9-1-1 grant funding, which operates on an 80/20 match, to support the purchase of next-generation call handling equipment. The upgraded system will transition from address-based dispatching to map-based dispatching and enhance overall emergency response capabilities.

Mr. Brierre noted that, if grant funding is secured, the project is not expected to have a significant budget impact on participating jurisdictions. A more detailed update will be provided at a future meeting.

6. **Transportation Program**

<u>FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments</u>

Mr. Cale presented eight projects requested by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for amendment into the FFY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program. Amendments are needed due to changes in project schedules, including advancements, delays, or significant funding adjustments. The table of TIP amendments were included in the agenda packet. All projects are included in ODOT's eight-year construction program and are consistent with the region's Long-Range Transportation Plan. Approval of the amendments was requested.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge, seconded by Ms. Ford, the Board voted to approve the TIP amendments as presented. Motion carried.

Aye:	Archie, Benge, Bragg, Burdge, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Ford, Gardner, Keith, Miller, Newberry, Parks, Roberts, Schultz, Shafer, Stephens, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Willis, Wyatt
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None

7. **Accept and File Audit Report**

Kirk Vanderslice reported that Hinkle & Company recently completed the external audit of INCOG's financial operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The audit resulted in unmodified 'clean' opinions on the financial statements, internal controls, and compliance with federal programs, with no deficiencies or findings reported. The Aging cluster was tested as a major program. Financial results reflected an increase in net position. No difficulties or disagreements with management were noted during the audit. Mr. Brierre reported that the audit was also provided to the City of Tulsa Auditor, who commended the clean audit.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Keith and seconded by Ms. Calvert, the board voted to accept and file the audit as presented. Motion carried.

Aye: Archie, Benge, Bragg, Burdge, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, ford, Gardner, Keith, Miller, Newberry, Parks, Roberts, Schultz, Shafer, Stephens, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Willis, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

8. Ratification INCOG Executive Committee Actions

The Board was asked to ratify contracts approved by the INCOG Executive Committee on February 10, 2026 .

A. Receivables:
1. DHS Aging Services Division – Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP) $209,939 – (Increase contract by $83,976 original contract $121,963)
2. Oklahoma Department of Transportation – Transportation Planning Services (JP11768(39))-Extend contract through June 30, 2026

B. Expenditure:
1. Resolute PR – Ozone Alert! Marketing – not to exceed $50,000 – (new)
2. Masonic Charity Foundations of Oklahoma – Aging Services Projects:
   a. Eastern Oklahoma Donated Dental, Inc. – not to exceed $45,300 ($41,387 in 2025)
   b. Morton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc. – Vision exams and eyewear – not to exceed $24,300 ($21,873.68 in 2025)
   c. Richard D. Kirkpatrick – minor home repair/safety improvements – not to exceed $13,000 – ($16,419.37 in 20205)
   d. Oklahoma ABLE Tech-Durable medical equipment – not to exceed $4,000 – ($13,454.32 in 2025)

Upon motion, duly made by Mr. Sweet and seconded by Mr. Willis, the Board voted to ratify the actions of the Executive Committee. Motion carried.

Aye: Archie, Benge, Bragg, Burdge, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Ford, Gardner, Keith, Miller, Newberry, Parks, Roberts, Schultz, Shafer, Stephens, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Willis, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

9. Contracts

Mr. Brierre presented this item to the Board.

A. Expenditures:
1. Tulsa Drillers – Ozone Alert! and Air Quality Program 2025 season launch event - $8,940 (last year $8,780)

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

Aye: Archie, Benge, Bragg, Burdge, Calvert, Casteen, Davis, Ford, Gardner, Keith, Miller, Newberry, Parks, Roberts, Schultz, Shafer, Stephens, Sweet, Thomas, Whinnery, Willis, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

10. New Business

No new business.

11. Announcements

Mr. Brierre mentioned the Ozone Alert! program launch at Drillers Stadium on April 29th and National Association of Regional Councils Policy Conference in Washington DC February 1-4 attended by Stan Sallee, Karen Keith and staff.

Mr. Benge mentioned the ribbon cutting for downtown Sapulpa Dewey Avenue Improvements and regional St. Patrick's day celebrations.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.