

**INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING HELD
Tuesday, September 8, 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, September 8, 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 September 4, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Stan Sallee, and a quorum was declared.

Members Present:

Mickey Baldwin – Okmulgee
Chris Benge – Tulsa County
Mike Burdge – Sand Springs
Ron Burrows – Rogers County
Joyce Calvert – Glenpool
Sarah Davis - Tulsa
Jamie Dunn – Owasso
Lisa Ford – Broken Arrow
Tony Heaberlin – Tulsa County
Craig Henderson – Sapulpa
Karen Keith – Tulsa County

Mike Miller - Tulsa
Stan Sallee – Tulsa County
Larry Shafer – Collinsville
Lonnie Sims – Tulsa County
Michael Spurgeon – Broken Arrow
Newt Stephens – Creek County
Shane Stone – Tulsa
Thomas Sweet – Catoosa
Michael Willis – Tulsa County
Debra Wimpee – Broken Arrow
Kris Wyatt - Bristow

Staff Present:

Kathryn Bartee
LaDonna Brewer
Kenneth Corn
JT Darling
Thomas Dow
Brad Gemeinhart
Barbara Gibson

Jared Hurst
Clint Johnson
Andrew Kim
Ty Simmons
Brenda Strahan
Henry Wilson

Guests:

Jon Brown
Carolyn Green

Joshua Sharum
David Tillotson

2. Approval of Minutes of INCOG Board meeting August 11, 2026

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Willis and seconded by Mr. Stephens the Board voted to approve the minutes of August 11, 2026. Motion carried.

Aye: Baldwin, Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Henderson, Keith, Miller, Sallee, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Willis, Wimpee, Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None

[Mr. Heaberlin arrived]

3. Oklahoma Broadband Office

Nicholas Camper appeared remotely and provided an update on statewide broadband expansion, reporting that coverage has increased to just under 95%, with the state expected to reach the 95% legislative goal within the next six to twelve months. He also discussed the upcoming BEAD program, which is expected to further increase broadband availability statewide.

Mr. Camper reviewed ARPA-funded broadband projects throughout the region. Coverage increased in Creek County from 81% to 91%, Okmulgee County from 86% to 95%, Osage County from 62% to 77%, Pawnee County from 60% to 67%, Rogers County from 71% to 94%, Tulsa from County 96% to 98%, and Wagoner County from 92% to 95%. More than \$130 million in ARPA funding across these counties is supporting thousands of residential and business locations, primarily through fiber technology. He also highlighted the Middle Mile program, which is helping reduce the cost of extending broadband service to rural communities.

Mr. Camper reported that most ARPA projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2026, with approximately 24 of 181 projects receiving extensions into May 2027 from the U.S. Treasury. The office is currently finalizing BEAD grant agreements and will provide additional information once contracts are complete. Nick offered to provide the Board with comprehensive county reports showing broadband providers and service availability. Board members discussed the importance of public outreach regarding newly available broadband service.

4. Staff Report

Kenneth Corn reported that following the Board's action last month, CENA contracts have been distributed to the participating programs, and executed copies are now being returned.

INCOG staff continue to coordinate with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to host a grants' workshop on September 22 at OSU-Tulsa. Participating agencies will include INCOG, ODEQ, USDA-RD, OWRA, SWODA, and OML, with State Auditor Cindy Byrd serving as the keynote presenter.

Community Development staff participated in a FACT meeting hosted by the Oklahoma Rural Water Association. The meeting provided funding partners with an opportunity to discuss agency priorities, identify opportunities for coordination and program alignment, and hear directly from jurisdictions regarding local needs and potential funding options.

The OML Conference will be held September 15-17 at the Arvest Convention Center in Tulsa. INCOG staff will manage the OARC booth on September 15. I will also participate in two grant opportunity sessions on Wednesday, September 16.

CTAG has started identifying priorities for the upcoming legislative session. With new statewide elected officials and a substantial number of freshman members in both the House and Senate, this year may call for a more defensive strategy. The deadline for bill requests is December 4, followed by the bill filing deadline on January 14.

Coordination is ongoing regarding the transition of planning services from INCOG to Tulsa County for unincorporated areas.

The Water Resources Board REAP program closed its application period on September 1. The INCOG REAP program application deadline remains October 9.

INCOG, in collaboration with the Tulsa Regional Chamber contributed to the recent announcement of Greenheck's expansion in the former Macy's building. The project represents

a \$300 million investment and is expected to create 700 high-paying jobs in the region. I also want to acknowledge the important role of our Chair, whose efforts helped secure additional state incentives and finalize an agreement that will provide long-term regional benefits.

INCOG staff will also be participating with the Girl Scouts to provide an opportunity to introduce young women to possible careers in community planning and development, engineering, and administrative services. We are tentatively scheduled in October.

The Oklahoma department of Commerce (ODOC) provided this award modification notification for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program award originally issued to the Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG) on November 3, 2025. This modification approves a ten-month no-cost extension to the award and extends the period of performance through November 30, 2027.

Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program

NOFO issued on August 27, Applications due on October 9. The purpose of this NOFO is to provide grants on a competitive basis for projects that seek to strengthen surface transportation to be more resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, heat waves, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters through support of planning activities, resilience improvements, community resilience and evacuation routes, and at-risk coastal infrastructure. Eligible Applicants: State DOT's Counties, Cities & Towns, Tribal Nations, Public Transit Agencies, Port Authorities, and MPO's can all apply for funds. There is no minimum or maximum award amount for PROTECT Competitive Grant awards. Cost share is generally 80% federal/20% non-federal. \$300 million available nationally.

Stopping Threats on Pedestrian Competitive Grant Program (Bollards)

NOFO issued on August 10, applications due September 9. Eligible applicants: State governments, City & County Governments. The purpose of the Bollards Competitive Grant Program is to program is to provide funding for bollard installation projects designed to prevent pedestrian injuries and acts of terrorism in areas used by large numbers of pedestrians. There is no minimum or maximum award amount for the Bollards Competitive Grant Program awards. Cost share may be 100% federal. \$5 million available nationally.

5. Air Quality

Clint Johnson provided updates on upcoming CNG and EV outreach events and reported five ozone exceedances in August, including three consecutive days. Although no ozone alerts were issued, he began providing text advisories when air quality reached unhealthy levels. The 2026 scorecard shows the region remains in compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard but is approaching the limit. Website improvements, including automated air-quality data, allergy and UV information, were also highlighted. Staff plans to discuss revising ozone notification terminology with DEQ and ACOG.

6. Transportation Program

Congestion Management Process (CMP) Update

Henry Wilson provided an update on the Regional Congestion Management Process Plan, a federally required product for Transportation Management Areas. The planning process included technical analysis and extensive public and stakeholder engagement, resulting in more than 1,000 comments. Staff identified 25 top congested corridors and is conducting a second round of engagement to validate the finding and develop practical strategies. Common causes of congestion include roadway capacity, signal and intersection bottlenecks, turning movements, access points, crashes, and construction. Staff will continue reviewing data and developing

strategies, with completion anticipated by the end of October and presentation to the Board for consideration and adoption in November or December.

7. A resolution Relating to the Retention of Public Records of INCOG Related Entities

Kenneth Corn presented a resolution and Records Retention Manual for INCOG as a follow-up to the previously approved Open Records Fee Schedule. The policy establishes consistent records retention procedures and incorporates applicable state and federal requirements, including those related to grants. Managers from each program area reviewed the manual to ensure required provisions were included. The Board was asked to approve the INCOG Records Retention Manual as presented.

Upon motion, duly made by Mr. Benge and seconded by Mr. Sweet the Board voted to approve the resolution and INCOG Records Retention Manual. Motion carried.

Aye: Baldwin, Benge, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Henderson, Keith, Miller, Sallee, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Willis, Wimpee, Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

8. Contracts

Mr. Corn presented this item to the Board.

A. Receivables:

1. Tulsa County – Traffic count (StreetLight Data, Inc.) software - \$25,000 (last year \$25,000)
2. City of Tulsa – Traffic count (StreetLight Data, Inc.) software - \$25,000 (last year \$25,000)
3. Tulsa Ports – Traffic county (StreetLight Data, Inc.) software - \$25,000 (new)

B. Expenditures:

1. National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) – 2026 NARC Annual Conference sponsorship - \$25,000 (one time)
2. Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) Program contract extensions through September 30, 2027:
 - a. Town of Depew – Engineering Services to Address Sewer System CO – 230136
 - b. Town of Fairfax – Engineering and Construction for Water Line Replacement – 230140
 - c. Town of Chelsea – Construction of ADA Sidewalk and ADA Trails – 240223
 - d. City of Drumright – Waterline Replacement – 240124
 - e. Town of Fairfax – Repairs to Fairfax Lake Spillway – 240127
 - f. City of Hominy – Water Treatment Plant Improvements – 240320
 - g. Town of Mounds – Purchase of Police Uniforms and Equipment – 240122
 - h. City of Oilton – Engineering/Construction of new well – 240120
 - i. Osage County – Rebuilding/Resurface 9-Mile Road – 240228
 - j. City of Pawhuska – Resurfacing of 2600 2600 LF of 12th St. – 240227
3. Eastern Oklahoma Donated Dental Services (Dental services) – Reduce funding by \$15,300 (per their request original contract \$45,300) extend contract from September 30, 2026 to December 15, 2026
4. Morton Comprehensive Health Services (Vision services) – Increase funding \$10,000 (original contract \$24,300) – extend contract from September 30, 2026 to December 15, 2026
5. Richard D. Kirkpatrick (Home maintenance and safety services) – extend contract from September 30, 2026 to December 15, 2026

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

Aye: Baldwin, Bengel, Burdge, Burrows, Calvert, Davis, Dunn, Ford, Heaberlin, Henderson, Keith, Miller, Sallee, Shafer, Sims, Spurgeon, Stephens, Stone, Sweet, Willis, Wimpee, Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Announcements

Chairman Sallee welcomed Jamie Dunn, the City of Owasso's new appointee, and thanked her for her service. Upcoming events and deadlines were announced, including the INCOG grant seminar on September 22; the Tulsa Greek Festival at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, September 17-19; the Rogers County Fair, September 17-20; the 918 Day Festival at Guthrie Green on September 18; the Rose Festival in Broken Arrow, September 11-13; the Creek County Fair, September 24-27; the Route 66 Balloon Festival at the Creek County Fairgrounds; Monarchs on the Mountain at Chandler Park; and the Tulsa State Fair. The REAP Action Plan grant application deadline was noted on Friday, October 9. The Chair also recognized Kenneth Corn and regional partners for their efforts to bring new employment opportunities to Owasso. Mr. Baldwin shared updates on a new airport terminal in Okmulgee.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.