



Indian Nations Council of Governments Board of Directors

**INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
INCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
HELD JANUARY 13, 2026, AT 12:00 PM
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian Nations Council of Governments was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 12:00 PM, at 2 West Second Street, Tulsa, OK, in the INCOG Executive Conference Room. The agenda was posted with the Tulsa County Clerk on January 8, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Stan Sallee, and a quorum was declared. Chairman Sallee requested a roll call and introductions of all present.

Members Present in person

Chris Benge
Mike Burdge
Ron Burrows
Joyce Calvert
Karen Keith
Monroe Nichols
Stan Sallee
Newt Stephens
Debra Wimpee

Others Present in person

LaDonna Brewer
Rich Brierre
David Weatherford

Present Remotely

Randi Frank
Tom Gates
Bob Slavin

[Ms. Calvert left the meeting]

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of December 8, 2025

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Burdge, seconded by Ms. Keith, the Executive Committee, voted to approve the minutes of the meeting held on December 8, 2025. The motion carried.

Aye: Burdge, Keith, Sallee, Stephens, Wimpee

Nay: None

Abstain: None

[Ms. Calvert returned to the meeting]

3. Executive Directors Report

Mr. Brierre mentioned with respect to the Board meeting that follows, there will be an Executive Director's Report at that time. As many of you are aware, a longtime community leader passed away very suddenly, and the memorial is scheduled for 2:30 pm this afternoon. Because of that, we will have a shorter-than-usual board meeting.

We are involved in several initiatives beyond our normal operations. A possible BUILD grant application for Tulsa County for the replacement of two structurally deficient bridges – one dating to 1912 and the other to 1920. We are also pursuing an EDA grant for an economic development project in Bristow, as well as following up with the state on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

[Mr. Benge and Mr. Nichols arrived]

4. Robert J. LaFortune Award

Mr. Brierre stated that Robert J. LaFortune was one of the founding fathers of INCOG. He served as Mayor of the City of Tulsa and, along with Tulsa County Commissioner Robert Newhouse, was

instrumental in the formation of INCOG, which was organized in 1967. The Robert J. LaFortune Award is not given annually, but rather from time to time, at the discretion of the organization. As the Chair mentioned, last year we recognized Speaker Kyle Hilbert, and also Senator Roger Thompson. The Board has delegated authority to select the award recipient to the Executive Committee, so this does not require action by the full Board. The recommendation before the Executive Committee is that Senator John Haste be recognized as the Robert J. LaFortune Award recipient.

Upon motion, duly made by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Bengé, the Executive Committee voted to recognize Senator John Haste as the Robert J. LaFortune Award recipient. Motion carried.

Aye: Bengé, Burdge, Calvert, Keith, Nichols, Sallee, Stephens, Wimpee

Nay: None

Abstain: None

[Mr. Burrows arrived]

5. Report from Slavin Management Consultants on Executive Director Search Process

Tom Gates, Randi Frank and Bob Slavin appeared remotely. Mr. Gates provided an overview of the executive director recruitment process. The Committee reviewed the updated position profile and recruitment announcement, noting two changes. The application deadline set for February 13, 2026 and the proposed salary range of \$180,000-\$190,000.

The Committee discussed salary clarity and expectations regarding outside employment. It was agreed that outside employment would require Board disclosure and approval and would be addressed in any employment contract.

Slavin Management outlined the planned advertising strategy, including placement with national and regional professional organization.

Discussion was held regarding applicants from the prior recruitment. The committee reached consensus that all previous qualified applicants would be notified by Slavin Management that the position has reopened and invited to reapply if interested, with updated materials required.

Slavin Management reviewed the proposed recruitment timeline, with advertising to begin the week of January 19, applications due February 13, and a goal of identifying a finalist by late April or early May. The Executive Committee confirmed that it would oversee the process to expedite decision making.

6. Consider and vote to enter into Executive Session of the INCOG Executive Committee for the purpose of discussing individual candidates for the Executive Director position and as authorized by 25 O. S. § 307 of the Open Meetings Act.

No action.

7. Consideration and possible action, regarding matters discussed in Executive Session related to the Executive Director position.

No action

8. Set Date, Time and Place for Next Executive Committee Meeting

The next regular Executive Committee meeting was confirmed for February 10, 2026, prior to the Board of Directors meeting.

Adjourn

There being no further items to be brought before the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned.