

IN THE FUTURE



(k^hapa atqi)

taxam-mun (June)

- Monday, June 19 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the June-tenth commemoration.
- Sunday, June 25 – Tribal Council nominations, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, June 28 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304

sinamakwst-mun (July)

- Tuesday, July 4 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Independence Day holiday.
- Friday-Sunday, July 7-9 – Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow. úyxat Powwow Grounds. 9600 S.W. Hebo Road. Grand entries start at 7 p.m. Friday, 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday.
- Wednesday, July 12 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, July 26 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.

To stay abreast of future Tribal events, visit www.smokesignals.org/calendar.

We want to hear from you!

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Comment Box is located at the entrance of the Health & Wellness Center, next to the drinking fountain. Share your experience, good or bad with us. ■

Find us on



OFFICIAL TRIBAL FACEBOOK PAGES

Smoke Signals:
facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:
facebook.com/CTGRgov

Grand Ronde Health & Wellness:
facebook.com/GRHWC

Grand Ronde Children & Family Services:
facebook.com/CTGRCFS

Grand Ronde Royalty:
facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty

Grand Ronde Education Programs:
facebook.com/CTGREducation

Grand Ronde Youth Council:
facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil

Grand Ronde Station:
facebook.com/GrandRondeStation

Grand Ronde Social Services Department:
facebook.com/CTGRSocialservices

Grand Ronde Food Bank:
facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank

Spirit Mountain Community Fund:
facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund

Grand Ronde Cultural Education:
facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education

Grand Ronde Community Garden:
facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden

Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:
facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department

Grand Ronde Employment Services
Facebook.com/EmploymentServices



Langley testifies before House subcommittee for Reservation Act fix

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Tribal Council Secretary Michael Langley testified before the House of Representatives’ Subcommittee on Insular and Indian Affairs on Wednesday, June 7, regarding an error made in a 1994 piece of legislation that adversely affected the Grand Ronde Reservation Act.

The legislation, introduced by new Oregon Rep. Andrea Salinas in March, would allow the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to address any future survey errors discovered on its original Reservation with the federal government.

The Bureau of Land Management discovered a survey error on the Grand Ronde Reservation that dates back to 1871. The error was discovered after passage of the Grand Ronde Reservation Act in 1988 that returned 9,811 acres to the Tribe.

Surveyor David Thompson had incorrectly surveyed the eastern boundary of the Reservation, missing 84 acres that should have been included. The land also was excluded from a 1904 sale of unallotted lands within the Reservation and Grand Ronde was not compensated for it.

Until the error was discovered, BLM treated the land as Oregon and California Railroad Grant Lands and permitted private companies to harvest timber on the acreage.

After being informed of the survey error, the Grand Ronde Tribe determined the parcel, called the Thompson Strip, was unmanageable because of narrow boundaries and divided ownership interests. The Tribe agreed to accept a 240-acre parcel of grant lands adjacent to the Grand Ronde Reservation in exchange and relinquish its claims to the Thompson Strip.

However, the Department of the Interior in 1994 developed broad language that relinquished any future claims of this type within the state of Oregon by the Grand Ronde Tribe, Langley said.

In agreeing to this land exchange in 1994, the intent was for Grand Ronde to relinquish its rights only to the Thompson Strip, Langley said. There was no intention by BLM or BIA officials to extinguish the Tribe’s land claim rights for the entire state of Oregon.

House Resolution 1722 is spon-



Contributed photo

Tribal Council Secretary Michael Langley testified before a congressional subcommittee on Wednesday, June 7, seeking a fix to the Grand Ronde Restoration Act caused by the Thompson Strip snafu.

sored by the entire Oregon delegation, Salinas said. It would replace the phrase “state of Oregon” with the phrase “84 acres known as the Thompson Strip” in the Grand Ronde Reservation Act. It also would prohibit any property obtained by the Grand Ronde Tribe as part of a land claim settlement from being used for gaming activities.

“The language in HR 1722 is quite simple,” Langley said. “... It is not Grand Ronde’s intention that this technical correction amendment would be used to facilitate Indian gaming or impact treaty rights of any other Indian Tribe.”

The U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs advanced similar legislation in July 2020 and it was approved by the entire Senate. However, it was not passed by the House of Representatives and the bill died at the end of the 117th Congress.

A companion bill also was introduced in the Senate in March by Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley.

Langley also said the Grand Ronde Tribe was supportive of House Resolution 2839, which seeks to amend the Siletz Reservation Act that would address hunting, fishing, trapping and animal gathering rights. However, he added, the Grand Ronde Tribe is disappointed its similar act was not being heard by the subcommittee because it addresses exactly the same issues imposed on both Tribes by the consent decrees. ■

Clothes Closet open

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon Friday on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances and pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■