

IN THE FUTURE



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stuxtkin-mun (August)

- Friday-Sunday, Aug. 18-20 – Grand Ronde Contest Powwow, úyxat Powwow Grounds. 9600 S.W. Hebo Road. Grand entries at 7 p.m. Friday, 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.
- Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 17-19 – Annual Fish Distribution, 9 a.m., Natural Resources Department Fish Lab, 47010 S.W. Hebo Road. 503-879-2424.
- Wednesday, Aug. 23 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Aug. 23 – Annual Fish Distribution, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Portland Area Office, 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland. 503-879-1881.
- Friday, Aug. 25 – Grand Ronde Education Summit, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Spirit Mountain Casino, 26820 S.W. Salmon River Highway.
- Tuesday, Aug. 29 – Canoe Family Welcome Home/Tribal-State MOA Celebration. Time and location to be determined. 503-879-2304.
- Thursday, Aug. 31 – Family Night Out, 4:30 to 8 p.m., old powwow grounds, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. To volunteer, contact destiny.osborn@grandronde.org.

k'wayts-mun (September)

- Monday, Sept. 4 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
- Wednesday, Sept. 6 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 – Tribal Election Day. Ballots due by 6 p.m. 503-879-2271.
- Sunday, Sept. 10 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Sept. 13 – Tribal Council swearing in-ceremony, 11 a.m., Tribal Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Friday, Sept. 22 – Tribal offices closed in observance of National Native American Day.

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



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

The Grand Ronde Road repaving project was completed weeks ahead of schedule. The road’s striping was scheduled to be done Sunday and Monday, Aug. 13-14.

Grand Ronde Road repaving completed early

By Dean Rhodes
Publications coordinator

Community cooperation and a well-organized contractor are being cited as reasons why the repaving of Grand Ronde Road concluded weeks earlier than anticipated.

Grand Ronde Tribal Public Works Coordinator John Mercier said the original goal was for the project to be completed before the last week in August.

However, Mercier sent out an e-mail on Friday, Aug. 4, alerting Tribal employees that they could take any route to work starting on Monday, Aug. 7.

“Delays should be minimal,” he added.

During the height of repaving work in July, delays could be long and many Tribal employees used Hebo Road to avoid the work.

“Support from the community by adjusting and taking detours helped keep the trucks going,” Mercier said. “In addition, the contractor brought in the correct equipment to take out the old road material and bring in the new material.”

Polk County Public Works Director Todd Whitaker said that the new roadway should have a life span of 20 years with required

maintenance, such as a chip seal, occurring in eight to 10 years.

“It went very smoothly,” Whitaker said. “I credit having a well-organized contractor.”

A&E Excavating of Salem was the contractor on the \$2.2 million project.

The last bit of work – striping – was scheduled to be done Sunday and Monday, Aug. 13-14.

The project started on June 5, 10 days ahead of schedule.

Whitaker said the project was a “full depth” reconstruction that cleared away the entire old roadway surface and laid down six inches of new asphalt, two more inches than was laid down during the last repaving that occurred in 2009-10.

The Grand Ronde Tribe is paying for about 50 percent of the project with Yamhill County paying for about 7 percent and Polk County funding the other 43 percent. The northern end of Grand Ronde Road is in Yamhill County.

On April 19, Tribal Council approved a memorandum of understanding between Polk County and the Tribe to fund the engineering design and an intergovernmental agreement authorizing spending up to \$1.5 million for the Tribe’s portion of the project. ■

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