

Tribal Council renews Marion-Polk Food Share contract

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council renewed a two-year contract with Marion-Polk Food Share for operation of the Grand Ronde Food Bank (iskam mək^hmək-haws) at its Wednesday, Feb. 19, meeting.

The \$375,399 contract includes distribution of approximately 350,000 pounds of emergency food in more than 5,000 boxes to the greater Grand Ronde community.

There are no changes from the previous agreement.

“The amount is the same,” General Manager Angie Blackwell said at a Tuesday, Feb. 11, Legislative Action Committee meeting. “Marion-Polk asked for an increase this year but we told them our departments are holding the line and we’re asking them to do the same. The amount is spread out over two years.”

In addition to food box distribution, the agreement includes training food bank volunteers, working with a grant writer for facility upgrade needs, developing a long-term plan, providing community outreach and education, and managing the Farm Share RX program.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a per capita period of December through February,

- with a payment date of Friday, March 14;
 - Approved an application to the Oregon Department of Human Services Tribal Navigator grant for up to \$228,674;
 - Accepted a \$69,599 Oregon Tribal Early Learning Alliance grant;
 - Approved an amendment to the memorandum of agreement between the Tribe and the Scappoose School District to extend the agreement for an additional six months with a term ending on Saturday, Aug. 23;
 - Approved a limited wavier of the Tribe’s sovereign immunity for the Canva software program;
 - Approved a purchase and sale agreement for the acquisition of the 48.2-acre Noble Sisters Timberland property for \$120,000. The property is located on Highway 22 in Tillamook County, three miles west of the Tribe’s reservation forestlands;
 - And approved the enrollment of two infants into the Tribe because they meet the requirements under the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance.
- To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and click on the Videos tab. ■

Minors!

TRUST FUND

Do you want to know more?

What are my accounts?
What are my options?
How do I access my account?
What about taxes?
Where can I go for financial advice?

The answers to all of these questions and more can be found on the Tribal website / member services.
<https://www.grandronde.org/services/member-services/>

STORY IDEAS?

Do you have Tribal story ideas you would like to see in Smoke Signals?

Please share your suggestions at news@grandronde.org or by calling Editor Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663.

WWW.SMOKESIGNALS.ORG

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE
OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council adopted amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance on an emergency basis at a special meeting held Jan. 30, 2025. The amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance will (1) update the membership criteria; (2) update the genetic testing section; (3) update the application process; (4) make other changes to be consistent with the Tribal Constitution, and (5) other minor technical changes. Tribal Council invites comments on the amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the ordinance, contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. Send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 or by email to legal@grandronde.org. Comments must be received by Monday, March 31, 2025. ■

Grand Ronde Tribal
Housing Department

Opportunity for comment on Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Department 2024 annual performance reports

Under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, (NAHASDA), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will provide grants to eligible Indian Tribes/Indian housing authorities for the development and operation of low-income housing in Indian areas. To be eligible for the grants, respondents must submit an annual performance report to HUD and maintain records for HUD monitoring. The Tribe, through the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Department, received multiple grants under three programs which were active during 2024: ARPA, GEM and the Cares Act. These annual performance reports will be available for comment and can be obtained at the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Department Office, 28450 Tye Road, or by calling 503-879-2401 between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, March 3 through Monday, March 10. All comments must be submitted in writing and will be incorporated into the final report submitted to HUD. ■

Tipsu-ili’l Tribal home ownership opportunity

For sale: Three-bedroom, two-bathroom, single story 1,587 square foot home on 10,000 square foot lot. Features include: open floor plan, asphalt shingle roof, cement siding, one car garage, gas water heater, gas-fired furnace with A/C, gas fireplace in living room, carpet in bedrooms, covered back patio, fenced back yard (homeowner responsible for completing front portion of fence if they choose), LVT flooring and quartz counters. Price: \$298,660.70 Available to tour: 1-3 p.m. Thursday, March 6 or 1-3 p.m. Thursday, March 27. Sale will be preceded by a lottery system. To be included in the lottery, the Tipsu-ili’l homeownership leasing application and lender pre-approval letter must be received by 5 p.m. Monday, March 31. The leasing application is located at the Housing Department webpage, grandronde.org/services/housing/home-ownership/, by emailing Downpayment@grandronde.org or picking it up at the Tribal Housing Department office at 28450 Tye Road between 8 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. ■

TRIBAL VETERANS
SERVICE OFFICE

Scheduled Appointments Only

Monday
Tuesday

Walk-In Day

Thursday

To schedule an appointment:

Call (503) 879-1424 or

CTGR Tribal VSO@GrandRonde.Org