

Next Tipsu-ili'i phase includes 32 homes

MEETING continued from front page

they have to do it piece by piece... We shall see as we move forward.”

In other action, Tribal Council approved a \$2.9 million contract with Scholten Construction Inc. of Wilamina for phase two construction of the Tipsu-ili'i Tribal homeownership development. Specifically, the work will involve building roads and underground utilities to serve the next phase of 32 homes.

“We're excited to get this project underway so we can get phase two completed,” Tribal Engineering & Community Development Department Manager Ryan Webb said during a Tuesday, Sept. 23, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

Webb said he expects utilities and roads to be complete in approximately 15 months.

There is not a set date for when actual home construction will begin, but Webb said it could potentially be late 2026 or early 2027.

Phase one, which includes 20 homes, is fully occupied.

Additionally, Tribal Council:

- Approved renewing its annual Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians membership dues for \$7,500 and appointed Jon A. George as ATNI delegate and all remaining Tribal Council members as alternates.
- Approved a \$120,000 grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victims Services for its Services to Domestic and Sexual Violence Survivors grant;
- Approved a \$596,000 grant application to Indian Health Service for Addressing Dementia in Tribal and Urban Indian Communities: Enhancing Sustainable Models of Care grant;
- Approved a \$45,000 grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victims Services for its Violence on Crime Act grant;
- Approved a \$242,000 grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victims Services for its Tribal Victims Services set-aside grant for domestic violence services;
- Approved reappointing Tribal Council member Kathleen George and appointing Tribal Council members Lisa Leno and Matthew Haller to the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees with terms ending Sept. 30, 2027;
- Approved appointing Tribal Council members Toby McClary and Pete Wakeland as authorized signers on the Tribe's bank, sweep and investment accounts; and authorizing the use of a Tribal credit card for both of them. Additionally, Tribal Council approved removing past council members Brenda Tuomi and Denise Harvey from the accounts and Tribal credit card;
- Approved granting Controller Trish Squires signing authority on the Tribe's line of credit with Tri-State Capital Bank and removing Executive Assistant Christine O'Day as an authorized signer;
- Approved reappointing Matthew Kirkland and appointing Harris Reibach, McClary and Wakeland to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors with terms ending Sept. 30, 2028;
- And approved enrolling seven infants into the Tribe because they meet the requirements under the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance.

Tribal Council also set the agenda for the next General Council meeting. It will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 5, in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom, and will include a report about the Tribe's investment accounts in executive session.

To watch the entire meeting, visit www.grandronde.org and click on the Videos tab. ■

New fellow



Photo by Kamiah Koch

The recently selected 2025-26 Hatfield Fellow Chrissa Wilkie, 24, left, an enrolled member of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Spirit Mountain Community Fund Director Angela Sears, right, met with Grand Ronde Tribal Council for the first time Wednesday, Sept. 24. The Grand Ronde Tribe established the Mark O. Hatfield Fellowship in 1998 and each year the Spirit Mountain Community Fund sponsors a highly motivated Native American to serve as the Hatfield Fellow and intern in an Oregon congressional office. Wilkie will be interning for Oregon Rep. Andrea Salinas.

Yamhill Community Care awards funding to Grand Ronde

Yamhill Community Care recently awarded more than \$600,000 to 15 local community-based organizations for community health initiatives, including the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

YCCO invests in social determinants of health and equity.

“Strong communities don’t happen by accident — they’re built when people come together to care for one another,” President and CEO Seamus McCarthy said. “These projects reflect the creativity and commitment of our neighbors, and we’re proud to play a role in helping them thrive.”

The Tribe received \$13,404 for its traditional health worker education and training project, which will be used to send employees to culturally specific training. ■

2025 SALEM OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

This event unites our communities and provides an opportunity to acknowledge the way in which suicide and mental health conditions have affected our lives and the lives of those we love and care about.

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 11TH - 10AM
RIVERFRONT PARK, SALEM OR

We are opening up 12 spots for youth (ages 12-24) to attend the walk.

If you would like your youth to attend with YEP, please fill out the attached google form or email YEP at yep@grandronde.org

PROVIDING A SAFE SPACE FOR OUR TRIBAL YOUTH ISN'T ALWAYS AN EASY CHOICE, BUT IT'S ALWAYS THE RIGHT CHOICE. BECOME A RESPITE OR FOSTER CARE PROVIDER TODAY!

SCAN, CALL OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFO

PHONE: 503-879-2039

EMAIL: AUDRA.SHERWOOD@GRANDRONDE.ORG