



The Governor's Office of
INDIAN AFFAIRS

NATIVE AMERICAN COMMISSION MEETING

September 26, 2025

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Chief Thomas Rivers

Devon Parfait

Debbie Garrett

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary

1. Call to Order

Chief Rivers

A. This meeting was called to order at 2:34 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Debbie Garrett

A. The following members of the Commission are present:

I. Billy Burkette, Devon Parfait, Geneva LeBeouf, Holly Talley, Katie Dehart, Kelsi Lancon, Debbie Garrett, Randy Verdun, Thomas Rivers, Audrey Clifton.

B. The following members of the Commission are absent: David Sickey, Chip McGimsey, Elizabeth Rogers, Fred Simon, Len Wiggins, Lora Chaisson, Marshall Pierite, Melissa Darden.

C. The members who are present each made a formal introduction stating their name, tribe name, and location of the tribe.

3. Public Comments

A. Public comment from Randy Verdun made a request that he be informed of future meeting dates in a timely manner, so he can inform other tribe members.

- B. Public Comment from Attorney Les Theriot about the law for how to correctly add a state recognized tribe. Theriot explains the correct process to add new Commission members to the Native American Commission Board.

4. New Business

- A. Presentation from Betty from DCFS– This presentation followed the explanation of SNAP benefits and SNAP Outreach program to different communities. On October 1st, the SNAP program will change agencies from DCFS to the Department of Health. The program informs communities on eligibility and affordability for application. It will also inform those on the misconceptions on receiving SNAP benefits.
- B. A second presentation by DCFS on SNAP Employment and Training Program. DCFS lists case by case management for those who can receive services that are free of charge offered by providers.

5. Meeting/Speaker ideas for next meeting

- A. Ideas for how to schedule and vote on future Commission meetings moving forward.

6. Announcement of future commission meeting dates Kelsi Lancon

- A. The next meeting date will be on December 3, 2025.
 - I. Followed by meeting dates March 4th and June 10th both from 1-2 p.m.

7. Adjournment Debbie Garrett

- A. This meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m. Motion was said unanimously. All in favor. None opposed.