



Kiowa Tribe

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EXECUTIVE BRANCH

April 13, 2026

Kiowa Tribe Executive Branch Report

Office of the Chairman

Reporting Period: March 2, 2026 – Present

- ❖ Since assuming office on March 2, 2026, this administration has moved swiftly to restore organizational stability, strengthen governance, and establish a clear direction for the future of the Kiowa Tribe.
- ❖ Immediate steps were taken to address areas that had previously gone unattended, particularly in business planning and stakeholder buy-in.
- ❖ We initiated planning sessions with the legislative body that were and are designed to guide both short-term business opportunities and long-term economic expansion through quarterly projections and long-term progress planning.
- ❖ Leadership also conducted inventories and reviews of former tribal business ventures to identify lessons learned, improve oversight, and ensure stronger, more disciplined planning moving forward.

Advancing Tribal Self-Governance

- ❖ The Executive Branch has made continued progress in the tribe's self-governance negotiations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services.
- ❖ Advancing our compacts and funding agreements increases tribal control over programs and services while reinforcing our sovereignty and improving responsiveness to the needs of the Kiowa people.

Accountability and Responsible Leadership

- ❖ Strengthening accountability, efficiency, and effective services to our people remains a central priority – first driven through our internal operations.
- ❖ **Operations:** This administration is actively addressing improvements to our internal systems such as finance, enrollment, procurement, compliance, and law enforcement in alignment with our Executive Director of Operations – Dr. Marland Toyekoyah.
- ❖ Our approach emphasizes transparency, fairness, and accountability while safeguarding tribal resources for present and future generations.

Budget Completion and Legislative Collaboration

- ❖ Through renewed cooperation with tribal legislators, Executive Branch leadership successfully negotiated the budget process prior to the Kiowa Indian Council (KIC) meeting — the first time this milestone has been achieved in approximately two to three years. This accomplishment reflects improved coordination between branches of government and a firm commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Strengthening Leadership and Community Impact

- ❖ Key appointments have been made to reinforce effective governance and operational capacity, including the appointment of Vice Chairwoman Donna Ware Richey and the addition of two Election Commissioners, Johanna Tsatoke & Natalie Spottedhorse. We are currently working on more appointments to strengthen the Kiowa Housing Commission, Kiowa Casino Operations Authority and other tribal commissions.
- ❖ Vice Chairwoman Richey and I continue to work closely with the three service oriented Executive Directors — Dr. Randy Smith, Health & Human Services, Chenoa Barhydt, Housing & Community Development, and Dr. Toni Tsatoke Mule, Kiowa Education Agency — to ensure our efforts are aligned with the needs of our people.
- ❖ **Health & Human Services:** Together, we are advancing initiatives that support healthy families and children while building stronger Kiowa communities through social services, suicide prevention efforts, and new programs, such as the Kiowa 7th Generation initiative.
- ❖ **Housing & Community Development:** Our priorities include expanding housing opportunities through restructured homeownership programs, elder housing programs, addressing homelessness of our Kiowa Veterans, and the development of safe, stable Kiowa neighborhoods.
- ❖ **Education:** We are focused on creating and sustaining living-wage jobs through workforce development planning with state and local partners, aligning our workforce with emerging economic projects, strengthening youth employment programs to prepare the next generation, and supporting leadership development through the Kiowa Youth Council and Kiowa Boys and Girls Club.
- ❖ We are also addressing long-term economic viability by supporting community revitalization efforts and strengthening partnerships with local towns and cities across our Kiowa districts through MOUs and partnerships.
- ❖ This includes encouraging new and small business development, expanding microenterprise programs, and advancing rural economic development through the development of our Kiowa For Profit Enterprises.

Looking Ahead

In a short period of time, meaningful progress has been made toward restoring direction, accountability, and cooperation within our tribal government. While important work remains, this administration is committed to building a strong foundation that promotes economic opportunity, effective governance, and unity among the Kiowa people.

Sincerely,



David B. (Paddlety) Sullivan
Chairman
Kiowa Tribe