WHEREAS, the Grand Ronde Tribal Council, pursuant to Article III, Section I of the Tribal Constitution approved November 30, 1984, by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Indian Affairs, is empowered to exercise all legislative and executive authority not specifically vested in the General Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Sunshine Week, March 13-19, 2016, is a week set aside to recognize the importance of transparency in government, and initiate steps to promote openness and access to governmental records; and

WHEREAS, every Tribal member should have access to Tribal government meetings and public records; and

WHEREAS, an open and accessible government is vital to establishing and maintaining the Tribal membership’s trust and confidence in their government and in the government’s ability to effectively serve its members; and

WHEREAS, the protection of every Tribal member’s access to public records and government meetings is a high priority of The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, in 2007 the Tribal Council adopted the Public Records Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the Public Records Ordinance the Tribal Council stated that “the Tribal Council believes that Tribal administration has a responsibility to inform Tribal members about matters of interest to the entire membership, and that making Tribal records available to Tribal members helps fulfill this responsibility; and...the Tribal Council believes that Tribal Government should be open and transparent, but recognizes that the protection of Tribal sovereignty and culture prevents disclosure of some Tribal records.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon hereby commits during this Sunshine Week, and throughout the coming year, to work diligently to enhance the membership’s access to Tribal records and information, to increase information provided electronically and online, and to ensure that meetings of the Tribal Council, Tribal Committees and Boards, are noticed to the Tribal membership.
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon commits to reviewing meeting practices and procedures throughout the Tribe and the Public Records Ordinance to identify ways where the Tribe might increase opportunities for public input and strengthening transparency in our government.

CERTIFICATION: The Tribal Council for the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon adopted this resolution at a regularly scheduled meeting, with a quorum present as required by the Grand Ronde Constitution, held on March 09, 2016, by a vote of 6 yes, 1 no, and 0 abstentions.

Reynold L. Leno
Tribal Council Chairman

Cheryle A. Kennedy
Tribal Council Secretary

Umpqua Molalla Rogue River Kalapuya Chasta