

1 IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2 FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

3 In the Matter of Adopting a Land) RESOLUTION AND ORDER
4 Acknowledgement to Recognize)
5 Indigenous Peoples as the Original) No. 21-5
6 Stewards of the Land Now Known as
7 Washington County

8 This matter having come before the Washington County Board of County Commissioners
9 at its regular meeting on December 14, 2021; and

10 It appearing to the Board that Land acknowledgment is a traditional custom that dates
11 back centuries in many Native nations and communities.; and

12 It appearing to the Board that the land acknowledgments are used by Native Peoples and
13 non-Natives to recognize Indigenous Peoples who are the original stewards of the lands on which
14 we now live; and

15 It appearing to the Board that the teaching of U.S. history, in schools, museums, and the
16 media, has left out many voices and difficult truths; and

17 It appearing to the Board that the displacement of Indigenous peoples and the
18 devastating effect that forced relocation has had on these communities has been largely ignored
19 hidden within our historical narratives; and

20 It appearing to the Board that public acknowledgement of the original stewards of the
21 land now known as Washington County is a first step in recognizing historic wrongs; and

It appearing that various boards, committees and employees have expressed a desire to
acknowledge the historic stewardship of lands; and

1 It appearing to the Board that it is important any land acknowledgement respect the
2 manner in which tribes indigenous to Washington County prefer to be acknowledged; and

3 It appearing to the Board that the County staff collaborated with representatives of
4 Confederate Tribes of Grand Ronde, Nez Perce, Siletz, and Yavapai to prepare a statement that
5 reflects those tribes' views on how they would prefer to be acknowledged; and

6 It appearing to the Board that a land acknowledgement is a first step in recognizing and
7 addressing historic wrongs; now, therefore, it is hereby

8 RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board hereby adopts the Land Acknowledgement
9 attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and delegates to the County Administrator, or designee, the
10 authority to determine appropriate implementation of the Land Acknowledgement.

11 DATED this 14th day of December 2021.

12
13 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

14
15 

CHAIR

16
17 

RECORDING SECRETARY

1 **Attachment A**

2 Washington County Land Acknowledgment
3 (as prepared by representatives of Confederate Tribes of Grand Ronde, Nez Perce, Siletz, and
4 Yavapai)

5 We want to acknowledge the people on whose land we live—the Atfalati-Kalapuyans also known
6 as the Tualatin Band of Kalapuyans—the first inhabitants of Washington County. We are grateful
7 for the land we are on, Kalapuyan land.

8 Signers of the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 were removed from their homelands to the
9 Grand Ronde Indian Reservation. Today their descendants are tribal members of Grand Ronde
10 and Siletz tribes, carrying on the traditions and cultures of their ancestors.

11 We acknowledge and express gratitude for the ancestors of this place and recognize that we are
12 here because of the sacrifices forced upon them. In remembering these communities, we honor
13 their legacy, their lives, and their continuation in our community. Please reflect on the role
14 government has played in the painful, colonial history and reflect as well on the resilience and
15 healing of the Indigenous land and communities.

16 We would like to invite everyone to collaborate and work together with the tribes to take care of
17 the land and water and the people who inhabit these spaces.
18
19
20
21