



LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION SELF GOVERNANCE BOARD

August 19, 2025 Approved Meeting Minutes

The August 19, 2025 Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission Self Governance Board (LANAIC SGB) meeting was at the County of Los Angeles Hall of Administration, Sybil Brand Room 372, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, California, 90012.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dawn Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

INVOCATION

Commissioner John Only A Chief provided an invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present:

Chairperson Dawn Jackson
Vice Chairperson John Only A Chief
Secretary Denise Escoto
Treasurer Dr. Andrea Garcia
Denise Escoto
Mona Morales Recalde
Rene' Williams

The following Commissioners were absent:

Shawn Imitates Dog

Quorum was met.

The following staff were present:

Alexandra Valdes, LANAIC Executive Director
Megan Moret, Department of Arts & Culture Board Liaison & Special Assistant
Julien Tan, LANAIC Administrative Manager

COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioners provided brief introductions, including their names, the office for which they were appointed, and their tribal affiliation.



**LOS ANGELES CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION
SELF GOVERNANCE BOARD**

**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ADOPTING UNAPPROVED JULY 20, 2025 LOS ANGELES
CITY/COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION SELF GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Mona Morales Recalde and seconded by Secretary Denise Escoto to approve the unapproved July 20, 2025, LANAIC SGB Meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed.

YES	Jackson, Morales Recalde, Garcia, Escoto, Only A Chief, Williams
NO	
ABSTAIN	
ABSENT	Imitates Dog

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Alexandra connected with people from Legislative Affairs about the CSBG program. The Department of Social Services (DPSS), which also runs CSBG, shared a fact sheet to help. Congresswoman Norma Torres asked for success stories, and Alexandra said they could ask service providers for examples if needed—but it looks like that might not be necessary. There is a plan to cut CSBG funding completely in 2026, so the House will give updates then. Everyone’s watching what happens in September, when the Senate makes funding decisions. Hopefully, they will approve the rescission packet around September 15 or 16, and more updates will follow.

Commissioner Rene’ Williams asked whether a new Request for Proposals (RFP) would be necessary if funding for 2026 is secured, and Alexandra confirmed it wouldn’t be. Alex also shared that they’ve received three invoices covering April, May, and June. When Commissioner Williams inquired about the status of client services, Alexandra said everything was up to date and promised to include service numbers in the next meeting. Commissioner Williams expressed interest in seeing both demographic details and service counts moving forward.

COMMISSIONER GENERAL COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Vice Chairperson John Only A Chief shared that he attended a meaningful ceremony on Saturday, August 2, 2025, celebrating the return of land to the Gabrielino Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians. He share that the event featured a thoughtful presentation and was attended by notable guests, including the Mayor of San Gabriel and California House Representative Judy Chu. Vice Chairperson Only A Chief congratulated Commissioner Mona Morales Recalde, who played a significant role on behalf of her tribe in making this momentous occasion possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

A member of the public named William Bailey shared that he is currently exploring different directions—whether to pursue a tribal, federal, or state path. He expressed a personal belief that anyone with a Social



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Security Number is, in a sense, Native American. Mr. Bailey also mentioned that he's formed a small political party and is working to get more people engaged. He noted that there's an upcoming initiative related to California potentially seeking to become its own country.

Board Adjournment

Chairperson Dawn Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.