Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians

Trust Document

Approved at General Council

June 6, 2026

Trust Document

Article		Page
I	Purpose	3
II	Authority	3
III	Eligible Program Recipients	7
IV	Program Plans	7
V	Code of Ethics	10
VI	Election of Trust Board	11
VII	Removal from Office	13
VIII	Initiative, Referendum, Amendment	13
IX	Ratification	15

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Article I - Purpose

The Kansas Delaware Tribe has maintained a governing Council since 1974.

The Kansas Delaware Tribal members approved the Trust Documents of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians to establish an entity to which the BIA would release Kansas Delaware judgement funds for management and indirectly support the Kansas Delaware Tribal Government.

The Kansas Delaware Tribal Council is the governing body of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians.

Any future judgement funds that may be received by the Kansas Delaware Tribe and placed with the Kansas Delaware Trust Board for governing by consent of the Kansas Delaware Tribal Council and/or the Kansas Delaware people by referendum vote shall be administered by the Kansas Delaware Trust Board. Also, any funds donated, received by grants, or fundraisers that are specifically received for Trust programs shall be administered by the Kansas Delaware Trust Board.

Article II – Authority

The Supreme Authority of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians is vested in the tribal members.

A. The Members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians are the descendants of the Delaware Indians who elected, pursuant to the Treaty with the Delaware of July 4, 1866, to remain in Kansas rather than to be removed to the Cherokee Nation, pursuant to said treaty, as shown by the registry prepared pursuant to such treaty.

B. Any future judgement funds, donations, grants, etc., that are assigned or delegated to the Trust Board by the Tribal Members and/or the Kansas Delaware Tribal Council shall be administered by the Board.

C. The members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians delegate to the Kansas Delaware Tribal Council the authority to govern the Tribe and take care of all other business of the Kansas Delaware Tribe.

D. **Business**: The sole and only methods of conducting business under this document shall be limited to:
   1. The elected Trust Board as delegated authority by the Kansas Delaware people by approving this document, as provided herein.
   2. The members voting by referendum; or the members meeting in General Council.

E. **General Council:** as herein used shall mean a meeting or gathering of all members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians who assemble in one physical location, or participate virtually, with provisions for electronic voting as determined by the Trust Board.
   1. The Chair of the Trust Board shall make an annual "Trust Status" address at General Council.
   2. Any action passed by General Council, regarding the Trust Board, may be confirmed by a referendum vote of the people.

F. Trust Board
   1. There was created, by this document, a representative body, which is Known as the Kansas Delaware Trust Board, hereinafter referred to as "Trust Board".
   2. Trust Board consists of one (1) Chair and six (6) members, all of whom must be registered voters within the Kansas Delaware Tribe. Of the six (6) members the following officers shall be designated: Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
   3. Trust Board managerial functions, including the employment of workers, as needed, and the execution of routine Trust Board business functions, shall be delegated to the Trust Board.

4. Trust Board shall meet at least once per quarter at a time and place designated by the majority of said Board at the previous meeting. All meetings of the Trust Board shall be held in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order Revised, unless in conflict with this document, the Kansas Delaware Bylaws, and the Constitution of the United States of America.
5. All meetings of the Trust Board shall be public, except:
    a. When matters of personnel and their employment are discussed;
    b. When the question of moral turpitude of any Trust Board member is discussed; or
    c. When the decorum of the audience shall prejudice orderly administration of business.

    Such exceptions above will allow the Trust Board to go into executive session. In the event, that consideration of a subject shall take place in executive session, the vote shall take place in an open meeting.
6. No action shall be taken at any Trust Board meeting unless there is present a quorum, which shall be four (4) members of the Trust Board.
7. The Chair of the Trust Board shall call and conduct all regular and special meetings of the said Trust Board.
8. The vice-chair, in the absence of the chair, shall perform the duties of the chair, assuming all the duties, privileges, and responsibilities of the chair.
9. The secretary of the Trust Board shall correctly record and maintain all proceedings of the meetings of the said Trust Board and shall upon request, make records available to members of the said Trust Board and tribal members for inspection during regular business hours. In the absence of the chair, and vice-chair, the secretary may conduct the meeting, if a quorum is present.

10. The Treasurer shall have direct supervision over the accounting in regard to any monies administered by the Trust Board. All monies entrusted in his/her care are in a special account and all disbursements are made by a check. All checks so issued shall be signed and properly countersigned by the properly designated trust officials before distribution.
    a. The treasurer, working with the Tribal accounting system, maintains the formal accounting system for trust funds, which includes the accurate accounting of receipts and disbursements of said funds and shall present monthly reports to the Trust Board. The treasurer shall make an annual report at General Council. The treasurer shall make all Trust accounts and records available to the Trust Board at all times for inspection and/or audit.
    b. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.
    c. Each program will submit an annual budget to the treasurer. The treasurer shall then, prepare an annual budget and supplements, thereto administering the judgement funds and consistent with the Plan set forth in Article IV of this Document. The Trust Board will approve the annual budget and present it to Tribal members in the Kansas Delaware Connections Newsletter.
11. A member of the Trust Board consist of those persons elected to the Office of Chair or member of the Trust Board in a duly called election in accordance with Article V – Election of Trust Board.

G. **Tribal Records:** All expenditures of funds shall be a matter of public record, open to all tribal members at all reasonable times. Official minutes and reports of the Trust Board and any of their programs shall also be available to all tribal members at all reasonable times.

1. Any reports, minutes or other information pertaining to matters of personnel shall remain confidential to the extent necessary to protect the individual rights of the person or persons involved. However, the personnel decision of the Tribal entity shall be a public record available to review by all tribal members at all reasonable times.

2. Tribal members shall be allowed reasonable arrangements to copy open Tribal records, subject to appropriate federal law. The cost of such reproduction shall be borne by the tribal member requesting reproduction, unless waived. Such cost shall not exceed that changed by local photocopying companies.

Article III - Eligible Program Recipients

All members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians, are eligible to receive program benefits. All program applicants must meet the individual program guidelines.

Article IV – Program Plans

The Kansas Delaware Trust Board sets forth this plan to administer the Kansas Delaware Judgement Fund Distribution funds, any additional funds from future judgement settlements, donations, grants etc. as determined by the Kansas Delaware people. This plan establishes funding for the operation of programs and services as provided in this plan:

A. Purpose of the plan is:
    1. To safeguard the assets of the Kansas Delaware people administered by this plan.
    2. To establish rules and regulations for administration of programs.
    3. To ensure that every eligible Kansas Delaware Tribal member has an opportunity to benefit from the use of the tribal assets, as described in this document, and investments. The plan will identify general guidelines to ensure effective delivery of services to the Kansas Delaware people.
B. Definitions
    1. Board shall mean Kansas Delaware Trust Board
    2. BIA will be used to mean Bureau of Indian Affairs
    3. Funds shall mean any funds supervised by the Trust Board
    4. Tribe shall mean Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians

C. Methodology:

1. All money under the supervision of the Trust Board shall be placed in secure interest-bearing accounts.
2. The annual earned interest is used to fund the programs and services as presented in this document.
3. All money under the supervision of the Trust Board shall be subject to audit at the conclusion of the fiscal year.
4. Only registered members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians, are eligible to receive services and programs presented in this plan.
5. All funds allocated to a program within this plan that are not expended at the conclusion of the fiscal year, shall be carried over to be used by that program in the next fiscal year in addition to the new year's budget.

D. Program Plan Distribution:

	Program	**Percentage**
1.	Education	30%
2.	Community Service	25%
3.	Cultural Preservation	15%
4.	Veterans	5%
5.	Elders	5%
6.	Tribal Operations	10%
7.	Reinvestment	10%
		100%

E. Program Parameters

The Trust Board shall determine the duration, eligibility requirements, commencement date, budget amounts and rules and regulations for each of the selected distribution areas. Each program will develop an annual budget to be approved by the Trust Board and presented to Tribal members in the Kansas Delaware Connections Newsletter.

1. Education Program – 30%
   The Education Program shall provide financial and technical support to Tribal members of all ages to promote education endeavors, including but not limited to higher education scholarships. This program will be national in scope. The Trust Board will establish a committee to develop and oversee the program. The Trust Board assigns one of the Trust Board members to be chair, or co-chair.
2. Community Service Program – 25%
   The Community Service Program will promote the general welfare and well-being of the members of the Tribe through support services and technical assistance to the community and community organizations.
3. Cultural Preservation – 15%
   The Cultural Preservation Program will provide a centralized system to maintain the language, ceremonies and traditions of the Lenape. This program may include the establishment of a museum, a library, ceremonial grounds, cemeteries and learning resource center for the Kansas Delaware people. The Trust Board may establish a committee to develop and oversee the program. The Trust Board assigns one of the Trust Board members to be chair or co-chair. The committee is composed of tribal elders, historians, and volunteers to implement the program.
4. Veteran Committee – 5%
   The Board will establish a committee headed by a veteran to address veteran services, recognition, issues and needs. The Trust Board assigns one of the Trust Board members to be chair or co-chair who shall be a veteran.

5. Elder Committee – 5%
   The Board will establish a committee headed by an elder to address elder services, recognition, issues and needs. The Trust Board may establish a committee to develop and oversee the program. The Trust Board assigns one of the Trust Board members to be chair or co-chair who shall be an elder.
6. Tribal Operations – 10%
   The purpose of this program is to provide an administrative structure of operations that will implement and maintain the various services called for in the Plan. These funds will be transferred to Tribal accounting to provide administrative, and support to all Trust programs
7. Reinvestment – 10%
   The Reinvestment Program will provide a continuous growth of the financial reserve and enhance the concept of perpetual funding sources for Kansas Delaware people. The Trust Board, on an annual basis, will reinvest ten (10) percent of the annual accumulated interest on the principal amount invested back into the principal.

Article V – Code of Ethics

The Trust Board shall:

1. Act honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all transactions and dealings.
2. Avoid conflicts of interest and appropriately handle actual or apparent conflicts of interest in all relationships.
3. Treat all Tribal members fairly.
4. Treat every individual with dignity and respect.
5. Be a good corporate citizen and comply with both the spirit and letter of the law.
6. Act responsibly toward the communities in which we work and for the benefit of the communities that we serve.

7. Be responsible, transparent and accountable for all of our actions.

Article VI– Election of Trust Board

A. Officers and Terms of Office
   1. Each elected chair or Trust Board member shall serve staggered terms of four (4) years.
   2. Elections shall be held every even year the first Saturday of June to coincide with the Tribal Council elections.
   3. Election of Trust Board members, the first year, in 2026 shall be by referendum vote (ballots sent to all eligible Kansas Delaware voters for electronic voting)
   4. In order to bring Trust Board members in line with the Tribal Council, Trust Board members elected in 2026 shall serve 3-year terms. Their terms will end in 2029. All future terms of office will be for four years.
   5. In concurrence with the Bylaws of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians, all members, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who are registered member of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians, may vote in all elections.
   6. Public notice of the date of elections shall be given at least thirty (30) days and not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of elections. Notice shall be given through the Kansas Delaware Connections Newsletter to all member of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians eligible to vote.
   7. Declaration of Trust Board candidacy shall be for either of the following positions: (a) Chair of Trust Board or (b) member of the Trust Board.
   8. Members elected to the Trust Board shall take office at the next regular meeting of the Trust Board after the election at which time they shall take an oath administered by the Chair. In absence of the

chair, the Vice-Chair, or Chair Pro-Tem elected by a majority of the Trust Board shall administer the oath of office.

9. Trust Board, after being installed in office, shall elect by majority vote of its members, a vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
10. Vacancies on the Trust Board shall be announced at a Trust Board meeting and posted on the Tribal website for at least 21 days. Tribal members interested in the position shall submit their interest and qualifications in writing to the Trust Board and be present at the next regular meeting. If candidates from the previous Trust Board election apply, the candidate with the most votes from that election will fill the vacancy. If no previous candidates apply, the Trust Board shall appoint a Tribal member who has submitted an application, by majority vote. The appointed member shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

B. Election Board

The Election Board, chosen jointly by Tribal Council and Trust Board, shall consist of five (5) tribal members who shall not be members of the Trust Board, nor candidates for or hold any elected positions within the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians. The Election Board shall have the responsibility for overseeing elections and shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until successors are duly chosen and installed.

C. Election Regulations.

The Election Board, first selected in accordance with this Trust Document, shall present, for approval to the Tribal Council and the Trust Board, proposed election regulations which shall provide for, among other things, walk-in balloting, mail-out secrete balloting, electronic balloting, voter registration and procedures for settling election disputes. Upon adoption by the Tribal Council and Trust Board, the election regulations shall remain in effect until amened by the Tribal Council and Trust Board.

Article VII – Removal from Office

A. Any member of the Trust Board shall be subject to removal from office for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, habitual substance abuse, incompetency, prior or current conviction of a felony or convictions involving moral turpitude, providing such offenses occurred while the member is in office.
B. Any member of the Trust Board not in attendance two consecutive times with unexcused absences, or a total of four regularly scheduled Board meetings, shall be subject to removal from office.
C. The Trust Board shall make rules as are necessary for carrying into effect the provisions of this article, insuring therein that due process is afforded to all persons.

Article VIII - Initiative, Referendum and Amendment

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article II of this document, the members of the Kansas Delaware Trible of Indians reserve the power to propose resolutions, regulations or Trust Document amendments, and to enact or reject the same while voting. They also reserve power, at their own option, to amend or reject any act of the Trust Board. The power of initiative, referendum and amendment shall be exercised by petition. The Trust Board shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provisions of this Article.

A. **Petitions**
   A valid petition signed by one hundred (100) voting members of the Kansas Delaware Tribe shall be required to propose resolutions, regulations, or amendments. The petition shall, at the beginning, contain a statement of purpose in clear and concise language. Petitions shall be typed and clearly set forth the proposal. A copy of the petition shall be filled with the Trust Board Secretary and addressed to the Trust Board Chair, prior to obtaining signatures. Petitions not filed will be invalid. Persons signing the petition must print their full

legal name, address, and affix their signature. In determining whether the signatures are valid (those of registered voters), only those names, which appear on the same page as the "Statement of Purpose" with the text of the proposal, shall be counted. The Trust Board Secretary shall verify the voting status of all persons signing any petition.

B. **Referendums**

From time to time, certain issues may require a mandate of the registered Tribal members 18 years or older. A referendum petition meeting the requirements of Article VII, Section B, and signed by at least one hundred (100) voting members shall require the Trust Board Chair to institute a special election within forty-five (45) days provided:

1. Referendum election shall be by secret balloting prepared by the Election Committee.
2. The issue or question is clearly and concisely stated.
3. Notice and mailing of such ballots be accomplished not less than thirty (30) days and no more than forty-five (45) days before the deadline for submission of such ballots.

C. **Amendments**

This Trust Document of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians may be amended by 2/3-majority vote of the registered votes participating in a duly conducted referendum election. If two or more amendments are proposed, they shall be submitted in such a manner that electors may vote for or against them separately. No proposal for the amendment of this document, which is submitted to the voters, shall embrace more than one general subject and the voters shall vote separately for or against each proposal submitted; provided, however, that in the submission of proposals for the amendment of this document by articles, which embrace a general subject, each proposed article shall be deemed a single proposal or proposition.

Article IX– Ratification

This Trust Document shall become effective upon date of ratification, when ratified by:

Those eligible to vote in Kansas Delaware Tribal elections as defined by the Bylaws of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians.

1. Those persons whose lineal ancestor's name appears on Delaware Indians who elected, pursuant to the Treaty with the Delaware of July 4, 1866, to remain in Kansas rather than to be removed to the Cherokee Nation, and
2. Who are eighteen (18) years of age or older and are registered Tribal members.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the T Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians to be affixed. This Trust Document of the Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians was passed and certified in accordance with this document this 6th day of June, 2026.

Chief Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians _____

Secretary Kansas Delaware Tribe of Indians _____