Resolution # 09-0422-103

Approving Compensation for Election Board Members

WHEREAS, the status of the Gaá Čhing Ziibi Daáwaa Aníshinaábek (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) as a sovereign and Treaty-making power is confirmed in numerous treaties, from agreements with the initial colonial powers on this land, to various treaties with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe) is descended from, and is the political successor to, the Grand River Ottawa Bands, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) with the United States, as reaffirmed by federal law in P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a new Constitution, pursuant to a vote of the membership on May 27, 1998, which Constitution became effective upon its approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on July 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on April 26, 2004, which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 13, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(a) to provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Little River Band and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council adopted the Election Ordinance, # 08-200-02, which provides, in part, guidance in the compensation of Election Board members; and

WHEREAS, Section 4.02 of the Election Ordinance provides that “Board members shall receive an honorarium for attendance at meetings and conducting an election” which shall be set forth in a Resolution adopted by Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, in resolution # 01-1107-07, directed that compensation for members of the Election Board should be set by resolution, and that the compensation levels cannot be affected during an election period, Election Ordinance, s. 4.02; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council Resolution # 07-0530-291, approved setting compensation for Election Board members paid monthly at $600.00 per month; and
WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds the compensation system used in Resolution # 05-0622-282, is also an appropriate compensation system for the Election Board; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council held a work session on April 6, 2009, to review the compensation levels of elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Election Board requested a meeting with Tribal Council to discuss additional concerns about the Board’s compensation, which was held on April 20, 2009.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby directs the following compensation of Election Board members shall be set as follows.

1. *Regular Meetings during non-election period.* Each member of the Election Board shall be compensated with a $125 honorarium for each meeting attended, up to four meetings per month, and that such honorarium shall be inclusive of mileage and other related expenses of traveling to and from meetings.

2. *Regular Meetings during election period.* Each member of the Election Board shall be compensated with a $150 honorarium for each meeting attended, up to four meetings per month, and that such honorarium shall be inclusive of mileage and other related expenses of traveling to and from meetings during an election period. An “election period” shall be deemed as November 1st through May 31st, or the conclusion of all election challenges, whichever is longer.

3. *Special Elections.* Each member of the Election Board shall be compensated with a $150 honorarium for each meeting attended, up to four meetings per month, and that such honorarium shall be inclusive of mileage and other related expenses of traveling to and from meetings during the Special Election period, as prescribed by the Constitution, Article X, Section 4(b), or the conclusion of all election challenges, whichever is longer.

4. *Election Board Office Staffing.* Each member of the Election Board shall be compensated at the rate of $15.00 per hour for each hour worked staffing the Election Board office during any regular or special election period as defined above. Under no circumstances shall the combined hours spent staffing the Election Board Office exceed 120 hours in any given election period unless approved by Tribal Council Resolution.
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IT IS RESOLVED THAT this resolution shall go in effect two months immediately following the 2009 election period including the conclusion of all election challenges.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby directs that the Election Board shall submit a memo to Tribal Council which identifies the beginning of an election and the projected end date, at a reasonable time period prior to the election period to the Tribal Council and the appropriate official in the Accounting Department which shall signify when regular meeting compensation is replaced by election period compensation.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 6 FOR, 2 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 1 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on April 22, 2009, at the Little River Band’s Dome Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Kimberly Alexander, Council Recorder

Don Koon, Council Speaker

Attest:
Distribution: Council Records
Tribal Ojema
Tribal Court
Accounting
Election Board