Resolution #14-0312-065

Approving the Submission of a Grant Application to the Consumer’s Energy Foundation by LRBOI’s Family Services Department to Support and Array of Activities related to the Implementation of the Tribe’s Emerging “Transitions to Success” Initiative

WHEREAS, the status of the Gaá Čhíng Ziibi Daáwaa Aniishinaabek (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, there is no shortage of evidence that Native Americans lag behind the general population in virtually all measures of health and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal data further indicates that LRBOI tribal members (and their families) health status and socioeconomic conditions are similar to those of other Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is currently in the process of organizing and implementing a comprehensive approach (Transitions to Success Model) to address multiple issues related to poverty and unemployment among tribal members; and
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WHEREAS, the Consumer's Energy Foundation is committed to helping create sustainable communities and also has a prioritized interest in focusing on Social Welfare initiatives and programs that help individuals and families struggling to meet the challenges of everyday living; and

WHEREAS, the overall goals of the Consumer's Energy Foundation are shared by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and its Family Services Department; and

WHEREAS, in the course of implementation planning, the Family Services Department has identified a number of diverse needs that, if addressed, would facilitate LRBOI's transition to the "Transitions to Success" model.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT upon the recommendation of the Family Services Department, the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby approves of the grant application to the Consumers Energy Foundation (in an amount not to exceed $40,000.00) to facilitate the implementation of a Tribal "Transitions to Success" program and further authorizes the Tribal Ogema to execute any and all related documentation.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 8 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 1 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on March 12, 2014 at the Little River Band’s Government Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Sandy Mezeske, Tribal Council Recorder

Virgil Johnson, Tribal Council Speaker

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