Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 375 River Street Manistee MI 49660 (231) 723-8288



## **Resolution # 02-0918-05**

Authorizing the Tribal Ogema, or in his absence, the Tribal Council Speaker to Execute a Contract with E&LA (the "Firm") Retaining the Firm to For Lobbying, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Advocacy in Lansing Michigan and Consenting to Have Disputes Resolved in the Tribal Court

- WHEREAS, the Tribe's status as a federally-recognized Indian tribe was reaffirmed and restored by Congress pursuant to Public Law 103-324, 108 Stat. 2156 (25 U.S.C. §1300k et seq.)(hereinafter "Little River Act"); and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a 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, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 (a)(4) and Article V, Section 5(a)(3) and (8) of the Tribal Constitution, the Tribal Ogema, or in his/her absence, the Tribal Council Speaker, is authorized to represent the Tribe in its relations with other organizations and manage the economic affairs/enterprises of the Tribe, in a manner consistent with the Tribal Constitution and resolutions of the Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, pursuant to Article IV, Section 7 (b) of the Constitution, has the power to authorize and ratify agreements and contracts negotiated by the Tribal Ogema; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe has a need for representation and advocacy assistance concerning legislative, administrative and governmental affairs in State government in Lansing; and
- WHEREAS, the lobbying firm of E&LA (the "Firm") has been formed to provide directed, specialized advocacy services for Tribal governments; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council Speaker and Tribal Ogema have presented a proposed form of Contractual Agreement retaining E&LA for the legislative and governmental affairs and advocacy, which provide that any disputes would be resolved in the Tribal Courts; and

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- WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 1 of the Constitution preserves the Tribe's immunity from suit except as authorized by resolution or in furtherance of tribal business enterprises; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined that execution of a contract with E&LA will advance important Tribal purposes.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Ogema, or in his absence, the Tribal Council Speaker, to execute a Contractual Agreement with E&LA to represent the Tribe before Legislative, Executive and Administrative offices of the State of Michigan and to provide legislative and grassroots lobbying services to the Tribe.

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council consents to the jurisdiction of the Tribal Courts to resolve disputes with E&LA, arising under the Agreement.

## **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with <u>7</u> FOR, <u>0</u> AGAINST, <u>2</u> ABSENT, and <u>0</u> ABSTAINING, at a Closed Meeting of the Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held at the Little River Band's Downtown Offices on September 18, 2002, in Manistee, Michigan. A quorum of the Tribal Council being present for such vote.

Janine M. Sam, Council Recorder

Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Record Tribal Ogema Legal Department Tribal Court E&LA