

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660 (231) 723-8288

## Resolution # 03-0618-176

Restrictions on Reimbursement of Mileage for Business Office to Business Office Travel

- WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhing Ziibi Daáwaa Anišhinaábek* (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 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 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.); 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 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 has been reviewed the Tribe's Travel Policy as set forth as Appendix C of the Government Operations Personnel Manual (*Travel Policy*); and

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, in its review of check requisitions and related documents, has identified that mileage reimbursement for travel between business offices of the Tribe has not been accurately or timely tracked by employees, supervisors or the Accounting Department; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has identified requests for mileage reimbursement for travel extending back multiple months, and across fiscal years, for mileage for which no odometer readings are noted, and for mileage for which the purpose is not accurately identified; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has identified that there are sufficient mail, e-mail, and phone services available that travel between business offices of the Tribe should be of limited necessity; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is aware that this area of business expense reimbursement may be subject to abuse;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby rescinds that portion of the Travel Policy as set forth in Appendix C of the Government Operations Personnel Manual that authorizes the reimbursement of mileage for travel between the business offices of the Tribe effective on June 23, 2003.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby directs the Ogema to notify all employees of this change by appropriate methods and to specifically notify Duane Hopkins, Interim Chief Financial Officer of this resolution.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby directs that mileage reimbursements for mileage occurring before June 23, 2003, which have not already been issued, shall be returned to the employee with the direction that odometer readings and accurate summaries of the purpose of the travel must be submitted before reimbursement can be authorized, and that the mileage reimbursement form must be signed and acknowledged as true and correct by the employee, and authorized by the supervisor and the Ogema.

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby defines 'business office' for the purposes of this resolution as travel on Tribal related business between the office of the employee and another office building or address in the course of an employee's job related duties, including, but not limited to - Little River Band Community Center; Little River Tribal Office; Little River Band Health Center; Little River Band Downtown Office Building; Little River Casino Resort; Pow Wow Grounds; Custer Property; Newland Building; Aki Maadziwin; Wastewater Treatment Facility; rental housing of the Tribe; East Lake Building; and Indian Village Property

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## **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with \_7 FOR, \_0 AGAINST, \_0 ABSTAINING, and \_2 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on June 18, 2003, at the Little River Band's Community Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Janine M. Sam, Council Recorder

Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Records

Tribal Ogema Tribal Court Legal Department