

## **Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**

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

## **Resolution # 04-0407-151**

Approval of Special Counsel Contract with Ayer & Hughes

- WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng Ziíbi Daáwaa Aníšhinaábek* (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 Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is descended from, and is the political successor to, Grand River Ottawa Bands which were signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491), as reaffirmed under P.L. 103-324, enacted on September 21, 1994; and
- WHEREAS, in furtherance of the Band's needs and objectives related to developing the Band's exercise of jurisdiction, and recognition by other governmental entities of the Band's jurisdiction, within its treaty Reservations, the Band has retained Ayer & Hughes for a two (2) year term ending April 22, 2004; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, pursuant to Article IV, Section 7(b) of the Constitution of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (the Band's "Constitution"), has the power to authorize contracts negotiated on behalf of the Band; and

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WHEREAS, the Tribal Ogema, pursuant to Article VI, Section 5(a) of the Tribal Constitution, is authorized to negotiate and execute contracts on behalf of the Band, provided such contracts are approved and ratified by the Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Legal Department has presented a new Contract with Ayer & Hughes to continue that contract for a two (2) year period between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the funds necessary for these services have been included in the Legal Department's 2004 program budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Ogema, or in the absence of, the Tribal Council Speaker to execute the attached Special Counsel Contract with Ayer & Hughes. In authorizing execution of the Contract with Ayer & Hughes (the "Firm"), the Tribal Council acknowledges that it is the intention of Firm to become Of Counsel to the law firm of Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker.

## **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with <u>8</u> FOR, <u>0</u> AGAINST, <u>0</u> ABSTAINING, and <u>1</u> ABSENT, at a Regular Closed Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on April 7, 2004, at the Little River Band's Downtown Offices in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Tammy Kleeman, Acting Council Recorder

Attest:

Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Distribution: Council Records Tribal Ogema Tribal Court