



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

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

Resolution # 04-0602-237

Approval of Attorney Contract for Election Board Legal Services

WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng 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 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 is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(e) to employ legal counsel on behalf of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Election Board is a constitutionally created entity that oversees special and general elections of the Tribe, as well as recalls, referendums and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has determined that providing legal counsel for the Election Board will maintain the independent nature of that entity uninfluenced by the Ogema or Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, constitutional amendments have been recently adopted which will require the election of a complete Election Board during the next General Elections requiring the currently seated Election Board to have appropriate legal counsel available to assist in completing regulation and process development; and

WHEREAS, the Election Board has cases pending before the Tribal Court, final decisions in hearings before the Election Board among other actions which require legal assistance that cannot be provided by the Tribe's Legal Department; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has reviewed the proposed legal counsel contract, and the Election Board has approved the selected legal counsel;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby approves the independent contractor contract with Helen Ann Yunis to provide legal services to the Election Board.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 9 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at a Regular Closed Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on June 2, 2004, at the Little River Band's Conference Room 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