

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

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

## Resolution # 04-0616-254

Authorizing Execution of an Engagement Letters with Drummond, Woodsum & MacMahon and Kanji & Katzen, PLLC for Representation in Compact Dispute with the State of Michigan

- WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng 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, 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 specialized litigation assistance in the event of arbitration and/or litigation involving the pending dispute with the State of Michigan relating to the Tribe's continuing obligation to make 8% payments to the State under the terms of the Tribal-State Compact; and

- WHEREAS, the Tribe's Legal Department has identified the firms of Drummond, Woodsum & MacMahon (DWM) and Kanji & Katzen, PLLC (which has an of counsel relationship with DWM), as having particularized expertise and experience analyzing the unique issues with which the Tribe requires assistance; and
- WHEREAS, the Legal Department has presented proposed Engagement Letters jointly retaining those firms for the litigation/dispute resolution services requested by the Tribe's legal department.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby authorizes the execution of Engagement Letters with Drummond, Woodsum & MacMahon and Kanji & Katzen for joint representation in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for fees and expenses.

## **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 June 16, 2004, at the Little River Band's Downtown Offices in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Janine M. Sam, Council Recorder

Attest:

Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Distribution: Council Records Tribal Ogema

Tribal Court

Drummond, Woodsum & MacMahon

Kanii & Katzen, PLLC