

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

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

### **Resolution # 05-0126-33**

#### *Support for Joseph Sowmick for Appointment to the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees*

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 Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on April 26, 2004, which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 13, 2004; 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 made aware of a vacancy on the Board of Trustees for the Central Michigan University; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has also been informed that Joseph Sowmick, a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan is interested in being appointed to the Board of Trustees by the Governor of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Central Michigan University's Board of Trustees consists of eight members appointed by Michigan's governor with the consent of the State Senate and with authority granted through the state constitution. The board governs the business and affairs of the university; and

WHEREAS, the board retains ultimate responsibility for academic matters and reserves authority over such areas as the mission and goals of the institution; admissions and retention policies; policies governing intercollegiate programs; faculty promotions, sabbatical leaves and tenure; establishing fees; accepting gifts; naming facilities; and a number of other areas; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that education of Tribal members and Native Americans is an important aspect of the growth of Tribal governments and the personal growth of members; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council believes that Joseph Sowmick will bring insight into the interaction of the State of Michigan, Tribal government, state and Tribal citizens and the needs of both to the Central Michigan University system through his being appointed to the Board of Trustees;

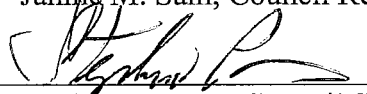
WHEREAS, there has never been a Native American appointed to the Board of Trustees of a major university in the State of Michigan;

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby presents its support of the appointment of Joseph Sowmick to the Board of Trustees by the Governor Granholm.

**CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 8 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 1 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on January 26, 2005, at the Little River Band's Dome Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

  
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Janine M. Sam, Council Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Parsons, Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Records  
Tribal Ogema  
Tribal Court