

**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**

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

**Resolution # 05-0413-152**

*Authorizing the Tribal Council Speaker to Notify the Manistee National Forest  
Supervisor of Tribal Interest in Exploring the Transfer of the Chittenden  
Nursery Property*

WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaa' Ching Ziibi Daawaa Anishinaabek* (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 Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has a long and proud history as a Nation which pre-dates the establishment of the government of the United States of America, and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is the political successor to nine Bands of Grand River Ottawa whose Ogemuk or Chiefs were signatories to the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 and the Treaty of Detroit of July 31, 1855 with the United States of America, and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, together with other Grand River Bands, reserved a portion of land, known as the Manistee Reservation, pursuant to Article Second of 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491), which reservation was intended to provide a permanent home for our people, and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians reserved a portion of land, now known as Custer and Eden Townships in Mason County, Michigan, pursuant to Article I, paragraph Sixth of the 1855 Treaty of Detroit (11 Stat. 621), and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, together with other Michigan Ottawa/Chippewa Bands, were wrongfully denied their status and rights as federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, including the Bands' treaty-reserved homelands described above, and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians status as a federally-recognized Tribe was reaffirmed and restored by the United States Congress in Public Law 103-324, and

WHEREAS, the legislative history to Public Law 103-324 includes numerous references to the fact that United States Congress, in reaffirming and restoring the political status of the Tribal government of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, also recognized the boundaries of the Tribe's Reservations and provides mechanisms to assist the Tribe in restoring its Reservation land base,

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has been actively pursuing the restoration of the Tribe's land base within its treaty Reservations through acquisition and other means; and

WHEREAS, Tribal representatives have identified the Chittenden Nursery property as a parcel of land with historic significance to the Tribal Community, which parcel may be available to be transferred to the Tribe under conditions that are mutually beneficial to both the Tribe and the United States Forest Service, and


WHEREAS, representatives of the United States Forest Service have asked the Tribe to forward correspondence to the Forest Supervisor for the Huron-Manistee National Forest confirming the Tribe's interest in seeking transfer of the Chittenden Nursery property and requesting assistance and support from the Forest Service in exploring the feasibility of completing such a transfer.

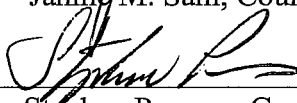
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby authorizes the Tribal Council Speaker to forward correspondence to the Huron-Manistee National Forest Supervisor confirming the Tribe's interest in exploring mechanisms to complete the transfer of the Chittenden Nursery property and requesting support and assistance from the Forest Service in completing an feasibility study necessary to successfully complete such a transfer.

**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 April 13, 2005, at the Little River Band's Conference Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Attest:

  
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Janine M. Sam, Council Recorder

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

Distribution: Council Records  
Tribal Ogema  
Tribal Court