

## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council

2608 Government Center Drive Manistee, MI 49660 (231) 723-8288

## Resolution #16-0504-129

Resolution in Support for Keweenaw Bay Indian Community's relocation of the their Chocolay
Township Ojibwa Casino

- 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 [codified at 25 U.S.C. §1300k-2(a)]; 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 Tribe's legislative powers are vested in the Tribal Council in Article IV of the Constitution; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized by Article IV, Section 7(a) to exercise the inherent powers of the Tribe by establishing laws through the enactment of ordinances and the adoption of resolutions; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized by Article IV, Section 7(a)(2) to promote, protect and provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Tribe and its members; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council endeavors to support the advancement of all federally recognized Tribes in Michigan; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes the importance of economic development to the advancement of Tribes and Tribal Members; and

- WHEREAS, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community ("KBIC") is seeking approval from Governor Rick Snyder for the relocation of their existing Chocolay Township Ojibwa Casino to the new location of the former Marquette County Airport; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to section 20(b)(l)(A) of the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), the Secretary of Interior has made a positive determination in favor of KBIC's trust application, finding that placing this parcel into trust for KBIC is in the best interest of KBIC and is not detrimental to the surrounding community; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to section 20(b)(l)(A) of IGRA, the placement of this parcel into trust for gaming also requires that the Governor of the State of Michigan must concur in the Secretary's determination; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council agrees with and supports the positive determination made by the Secretary of Interior on behalf of KBIC and strongly believes that, consistent with the provisions of section 20(b)(1)(A) of IGRA and with commitments made by the State in the 2001 settlement agreement and consent order, the Governor should promptly concur in the Secretary's determination.
- NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that this resolution shall serve as the Tribal Council's official position on the relocation of KBIC's casino.
- IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall be forwarded to the Honorable Governor Rick Snyder and the Chairperson for KBIC.

## **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 7 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 2 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on May 4, 2016 at the Little River Band's Government Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Jessica Burger, Acting Council Recorder

Virgil Johnson, Pribal Council Speaker

Attest:

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