



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians**  
2608 Government Center Drive  
Manistee, MI 49660

**Resolution # 16-1109-347**

*Ratification of Agreement with VSP, Including Acceptance of Pricing for  
Contract/Coverage, Beginning January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018*

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 Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on July 11, 2016 which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on August 24, 2016; 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 vested with the authority, under Article IV, Section 7(b), to ratify contracts to be entered into by the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council authorized a change in the benefit structure for employees of Little River Band Tribal Government and Little River Trading post, effective January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the ancillary insurance carriers notified the Little River Band that certain changes and modifications were required in order to separate the pool of covered employees between the Little River Casino Resort and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as requested by the Little River Casino Resort; and

WHEREAS, VSP had provided a proposal to continue its vision insurance coverage and provided that a new contract of January 1, 2015, that was accepted by the Ogema and Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, VSP has agreed to renew the coverages and rates at no changes in the agreement or rates for FY 2017 and FY 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Ogema requests that Tribal Council authorize agreement with VSP to continue coverages and pricing for FY 2017 and FY 2018.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians authorizes the Ogema to execute agreements and manage all matters related to extending VSP agreement, including such ancillary documents as may be required to facilitate.

IT IS ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council consents to a limited waiver of sovereign immunity for disputes that may arise out of this Agreement, and the disputes shall be governed by Michigan law.

IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED THAT additional actions as may be required may proceed under this same authorization, provided that any significant financial expenditures, if required, must be carried out in accordance to established processes and policy of the Tribe.

#### **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 Closed Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on November 9, 2016, at the Little River Band's Conference Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

  
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Joseph Riley III, Council Recorder

  
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Virgil Johnson, Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Tribal Council, Tribal Ogema, Purchasing