## Little River Band of Ottawa Indians



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

## **Resolution #19-0123-016**

## Censure of Tribal Councilor Gary DiPiazza

- WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng Ziíbi 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 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, there is clear and convincing evidence of Violation of Tribal Council Procedures Ordinance #06-100-02 Article XI; and
- WHEREAS, Tribal Councilor, Gary DiPiazza has engaged in conduct that Tribal Council find reprehensible and where such conduct reflects adversely on his office; and
- WHEREAS, Gary DiPiazza was given a three (3) days' notice in writing on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, that a discussion and vote would be taken regarding the censure.

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NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council has seen the clear and convincing evidence of Violation of Tribal Council Procedures Ordinance #06-100-02 Article XI, which is attached to this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council hereby censures Tribal Councilor Gary DiPiazza.

## **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 7 FOR, 1 AGAINST, 1 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on January 23, 2019, at the Little River Band's Government Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Sandra Lewis, Tribal Council Recorder

Joseph Riley II, Tribal Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution:

Council Records
Tribal Ogema
Tribal Court

On January 2, 2019 according to the testimony of multiple Tribal Council members', Councilor DiPiazza was playing with a stun gun in the offices. Possession of this type of device is prohibited by Tribal Law to have on property. Also during a work-session the Councilor brandished this device and discharged it in plain view of everyone in attendance. This action precipitated a criminal investigation which is ongoing.