



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Tribal Council**
2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-8288

Resolution #20-0520-147

Approving an Amendment to Emergency Assistance and Relief Payment Program of 2020

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 legislative powers of the Tribe are vested in the Tribal Council according to Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized by Article IV, Section 7(a)(1) and (2) to exercise the inherent powers of the Tribe by establishing laws through the enactment of ordinances and adoption of resolutions to govern the conduct of Tribal Members and others within the Tribe's jurisdiction and 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 approved the Revenue Allocation Plan by Tribal Council Resolution #08-0123-20 including Sections 4 and 6 allowing for assistance for Tribal Members through the funding of government programs that provide services and at times direct funds to address general welfare concerns; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”); and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the Tribal Ogema, pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-0320-01, officially declared a state of emergency (the “Executive Order”) for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council approved Resolution #20-0403-100, *Approving Emergency Assistance and Relief Payment Program of 2020*, creating a program to provide stimulus payments (“Relief Payments”) to help Tribal Members defray additional personal, family, and/or living expenses and costs in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council has a fiscal powers authorized in Article IV, Section 7(i), including the power to manage any funds within the exclusive control of the Little River Band and to appropriate these funds for the benefit of the Tribe and its members; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council has held several work sessions, including discussions with the tribal membership to include Tribal Members under eighteen (18) in the May stimulus payment.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby amends the *Emergency Assistance and Relief Payment Program of 2020* as follows:

1. *Relief Funds...*

a. *Tribal Members.* For each single adult member, the sum of \$500.00 shall be available for the month of April, ~~and an additional sum of \$500.00 shall be available for the month of May.~~

b. Adult Members are members who are at least eighteen (18) years of age at the time that this Resolution is passed.

c. *May Stimulus.* An additional sum of \$500.00 shall be available for the month of May for every Tribal Member regardless of age. This shall be administered so that the payment is made to all enrolled members alive on the adoption date of this Resolution.

2. *Accessibility.* Every member as defined above will be sent the above sums either through the current on file mechanism for tribal payments with the accounting department or, in the case of minor Tribal Members, through a check mailed to the address currently on file with the Enrollment Department.

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Except as amended herein, all other language in the *Emergency Assistance and Relief Payment Program 2020* shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

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, 0 ABSTAINING, and 1 ABSENT, at a Regular Meeting of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held via teleconference on May 20, 2020 at the Government Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.



Gary DiPiazza, Council Recorder



Ron Pete, Council Speaker

cc: Council Records
Tribal Ogema
Members Assistance
Accounting