

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS

MANISTEE ELDERS GROUP

MOTION # 0503 – 0004 – 25

Establish Ethical Standards for Elected Officials consistent with the Constitution of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

We, the Elders of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, located in Manistee, Michigan, established under the authority of Ordinance #07-150-08, Committees Ordinance, specifically delegated to collect and organize information to assist Tribal Council in understanding, identifying and addressing the needs of the Tribal Membership and the Community; and

Operating under the Approved Elders Committee Work Plan adopted by Resolution #17-0404-119, having gathered comment and information at the Elder's Meeting on April 12, 2025, from the Elders in attendance; and

Per the Consensus and Affirmation of the Elders in Attendance April 12, 2025, MOVE THAT it is in the interest of the Tribe to re-establish ethical standards for all Elected Officials; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Constitution defines in Article IV, Tribal Council, Section 3. Qualifications (b) 1 through 4, and Article V, Tribal Ogema, Section 2. Qualifications (b) 1 through 4, criteria for seeking office that may be the basis for the creation of the standards; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT the moral basis for conduct of elected officials while in office should reflect the cultural moray of the Odawa/Anishinaabe peoples 7 Grandfather Teachings; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT there already exists ethical standards for the LRBIO Tribal Judiciary in Chapter 2 Ethical Conduct which can advise similar development of Ethical Standards for elected official; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT Article X, Resignation, Recall or Removal of Elected Officials. Section 3. Removal, offers terms that may be defined in the Ethical Standards; gross misconduct, malfeasance, conviction while in office, dishonesty, moral turpitude, inability to fulfill duties due to mental or physical disability to the extent...incapable of exercising judgment about or attending to business of...office; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT the practices of decorum and civility in our elected officials behavior and interactions with each other and the membership during official business and on social media has eroded to the point of creating an environment of harassment, embarrassment, disrespect and disregard for the emotional, physical, spiritual, and mental health and wellbeing of our people; and

FURTHER MOVE THAT the continued behavior is no longer acceptable within our governance; and

FINALLY MOVE THAT this motion be given full consideration for adoption, and there be a commitment to establish and adopt Ethical Standards for Elected Officials as soon as possible to govern behavior while in office and ensure continued respect for the government of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Affirmed by a vote of the elders in Attendance 04/12/2025 and reaffirmed by vote of the Elders in attendance on 05/03/2025.

Attest: _____ Date: _____