

**RESOLUTION**

***Directing the Wichita Executive Committee to Pass a Resolution to Rescind Resolution WT-18-17-a to Protect the Tribe's Sovereignty and the Tribe's Ability to Self-Govern and to Reinforce the Petition Signed by Tribal Members Directing the Wichita Executive Committee to Take Said Action***

- WHEREAS,** the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco, and Tawakoni) (the "Tribe") possesses substantial inherent sovereign powers and has exercised those powers since time immemorial; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has a duly established Tribal Government recognized by the Secretary of the Interior; and
- WHEREAS,** Article III of the Wichita Governing Resolution affirms that the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes Council is the Tribe's supreme governing body; and
- WHEREAS,** the Council may transact any business which may come regularly before it at its annual meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** Article V of the Wichita Governing Resolution authorizes the Wichita Executive Committee to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future; and
- WHEREAS,** Resolution WT-18-17-a has repeatedly been misused and misinterpreted to undermine the sovereignty of the Tribe by inserting the CFR Court into the Tribe's internal governance and frustrating the decisions of our people in our elections; and
- WHEREAS,** the results of such actions have been the disruption of our Tribal Government, court rulings contrary to the laws of the Tribe, and endless litigation that needlessly burdens the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council desires to reinforce the petition signed by over 100 Tribal Members calling for the Executive Committee to rescind Resolution WT-18-17-a; and

**WHEREAS,** Resolution WT-18-17-a does not serve the best interests of the Tribe or Tribal Members and should be replaced with a new dispute resolution system to restore the full sovereignty of the Tribal Government.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Court of Indian Offenses and the Court of Indian Appeals have incorrectly and improperly interpreted Resolution WT-18-17-a in a manner that does not reflect the understanding or will of the Council of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, and the Council does not recognize as lawful, valid or binding any opinion, order or writ previously or hereafter issued by either the Court of Indian Offenses or the Court of Indian Appeals that relies on Resolution WT-18-17-a.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that it is the will of the Council of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes that the Wichita Executive Committee pass a resolution rescinding Resolution WT-18-17-a to remove all doubt regarding the CFR Court's lack of authority in internal Tribal matters.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution shall be continuing unless and until rescinded by separate action of this body, and shall supersede any and all prior resolutions or actions to the extent such actions conflict with the authorities granted by this Resolution.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma on **July 20, 2019**, in Anadarko, Oklahoma, by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ for, \_\_\_\_\_ against, with \_\_\_\_\_ abstentions and a quorum being present.

Attest:

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Myles Stephenson, Jr.  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri Parton  
President