

**RESOLUTION**

***Directing the Wichita Executive Committee to Allocate Funds for FY-2020 to Purchase Additional Land in the Tribes Jurisdiction to Increase the Tribes Land Base Utilizing the Proceeds of Labor Funds and to Eventually Establish Plans for a Bison Herd***

- 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**, the Wichita people are aboriginal to Oklahoma where we once freely roamed between the points as far north as Wichita, Kansas and far south to Waco, Texas; and
- WHEREAS**, the Wichita Tribe along with two other tribes were assigned by the government to share an area in western Oklahoma commonly known as the "Wichia Reservation"; and
- WHEREAS**, much of the reservation was ceded through allotment prior to statehood; and

**WHEREAS,** the United States, between 1963 and 1983, restored over 2,500 acres of ceded lands to the WCD (Wichita, Caddo and Delaware) Tribes through public land orders under joint jurisdiction that has made the land almost impossible to develop due to jurisdictional issues; and

**WHEREAS,** the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes never owned land in title in their own name until approximately when it acquired the land where the Sugar Creek Casino currently sits in Hinton, Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2014, the Wichita Executive Committee purchased several tracts of land in Hinton and Hydro to increase the Tribes' land base to move towards the goal of purchasing land with the boundaries of the "Wichita Reservation" to take back the land within the small reservation boundaries that we were confined to, to spur economic development, to create jobs and to ensure a future for our children; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe has not moved towards the purchase of any additional lands since that time; and

**WHEREAS,** the Wichita Tribal Council desires to purchase land for economic growth and to also eventually establish a bison herd and other projects that would provide for our tribal people in the pursuit of becoming self-sustaining; and

**WHEREAS,** the Wichita Tribal Council understands that all of the land cannot be bought back at one time but desires to take steps that would yearly increase the Tribes' land base.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that it is the will of the Council of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes that the Wichita Executive Committee allocate funds for FY-2020 to purchase additional lands in the Tribes' jurisdiction to increase the Tribes land base so that the Tribe may pursue activities such as a establishing plans for a bison herd and other related projects that would spur economic growth, create jobs and move the Tribe to be more self-sustaining.

**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

DRAFT