RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- **WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has consistently advocated for the health and health care of the people of the Tribe; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council works closely with the Indian Health Service to address the health care needs of the growing Tribal population; and
- WHEREAS, more than ten years ago work began to plan and prepare for a much needed expansion to the existing Indian Health Service Whiteriver Service Unit hospital facility; and
- WHEREAS, this effort led to approval in February of 2002 of the program justification document for the new and expanded Whiteriver Service Unit; and
- WHEREAS, the expansion project would bring much needed new services to the facility, including a full obstetrical unit, intensive care unit, a surgical unit and cardiac rehabilitation unit and also add to existing programs to address the health care needs of the people; and
- WHEREAS, the total project which includes more than 200,000 square feet of renovated facilities and new construction as well as staff housing at a cost of up to \$146 million dollars is ready for implementation following approval by Congress of design and construction funding; and
- WHEREAS, the project construction and permanent employment will bring a significant economic benefit to this entire region of rural Arizona; and
- WHEREAS, the Council understands that other national issues have placed severe demands upon the federal budget, but the health care of our people must remain a priority for this nation and is mandated under federal law and federal trust obligations to Indian tribes; and
- **WHEREAS**, the Tribe recognizes that an investment now in the health care of its people is essential for the future of the Tribe and its people; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concludes that representatives of the Tribe must contact the Arizona Congressional Delegation and other representatives and administrative personnel to advocate for the funding necessary to implement a project which has already received full administrative approval; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe regularly advises members of Congress on appropriations and program initiatives which could benefit the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby calls for Congressional funding necessary to implement the Whiteriver Service Unit expansion PJD and on that basis requests of the Arizona Congressional Delegation its support in bringing this much-needed project in place for the health care of the White Mountain Apache people.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>JUNE 3, 2004</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>EIGHT</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (h), (i), (j), (t), and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Chairman of the Dibal Council

Secretary of the Tribal Counc