



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

(Approving the ANA Native Language Preservation & Maintenance Planning Grant, FY2009)

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council, acting as stewards of tribal sovereignty and seeking benefits for the Apache people of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation communities, has consistently supported initiatives to revitalize and perpetuate *Ndee biyati' hidahi*, *Ndee bizhiih*, the living Apache language; and
- WHEREAS,** the distinctive and unique identity of the White Mountain Apache Indigenous People, the sovereignty, the cultural knowledge, and spirituality are all predicated on the vitality of *Ndee biyati' hidahi*; and
- WHEREAS,** by several previous past resolutions the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council unanimously endorsed and adopted the *Ndee Biyati' Hidahi* Committee as the entity responsible for coordinating efforts to revitalize and maintain the Apache language and had convened but recently inactive, are re-organizing and are comprised of language activist tribal community members and teachers who have a high interest in, and have been involved in various ways in language preservation issues and Apache language education on the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council agrees with the assessment and consensus by the committee and many of the older generation of Apaches in our communities as evidenced in the local media, language assessments, anecdotal knowledge, meetings, and public talks, that there is a great concern in our communities that young Apaches are no longer learning their ancestral language as a first language and there is a great interest in, and need for language revitalization planning to reverse the continuing shift to English only among younger Apaches; and
- WHEREAS,** Ms. Bernadette SantaMaria, a published author and graduate of a university degree program of interdisciplinary American Indian Studies with a focus on the Apache language, linguistics, anthropology, and education, had been appointed in 2001 by Tribal Resolution 12-2001-231 as a Chairperson for the *Ndee Biyati' Hidahi* Language Committee, and is a tribal Planning & Community Development Office employee, has volunteered to lead as chair for the language committee, and as an ANA project manager; and
- WHEREAS,** the DHHS Administration for Native Americans has announced the availability of the **ANA Category 2, Native Language Preservation & Maintenance Planning Grant**,

FY2009 (FON# HHS-2009-ACF-ANA-NL-0033), of grants up to \$300,000 (\$150,000/year for two 12-month grant periods) to assist Native American tribes in language preservation efforts with an application deadline date of March 11, 2009; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that:

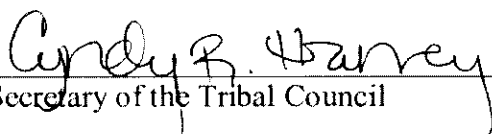
1. The Planning Office grant writer, Bernadette SantaMaria, is authorized to prepare and submit a grant application and budget to the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) agency's Category 2, Native Language Preservation & Maintenance Planning Grant FY2009, a proposal to request funding of approximately \$300,000 and approves a two-year project for a language revitalization planning project for, and involvement by the Fort Apache Indian Reservation communities in Apache language revitalization and maintenance activities; proposed budget will include a 20% match consisting of tribal in-kind contribution of salary, benefits, office equipment and overhead (office space, utilities) costs; additional contribution could be provided by the Tribe's Land Restoration Fund Board pending approval by the end of March, 2009.
2. The WMA Tribal Council approves and supports the renewal of appointment of Bernadette SantaMaria as the Chair of the Tribe's language planning committee, and to lead the ANA Native Language Preservation & Maintenance Planning Grant as a Project Manager.
3. The WMA Tribal Council strongly supports the Ndee Biyati' Hidahi language committee's language planning goals and objectives and recommends the involvement of the Tribe's Heritage Programs: Nohwike' Bagowa Culture Center/Museum, Historic Preservation Office, and the Tribe's Education, Planning, other departments, local entities, and communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairwoman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on **MARCH 3, 2009** duly adopted by a vote of **EIGHT** for and **ZERO** against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (g), (j), (k), (r), (s), (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 Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council