



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

**(Requesting Technical and Financial Assistance from the
Bureau of Indian Affairs)**

- 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 Tribe is facing a financial crisis of epic proportions that raises the level of fear, anger and incidences of violence and crime on the reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Rodeo-Chediski fires of 2002 devastated much of the Tribe's timber resources and compounded its already struggling economy which is largely dependent on the forest for jobs; and
- WHEREAS,** the unemployment rate for the Tribe is over 70% for our adult population, and the Tribe is facing closure of its sawmill and the loss of another 250 jobs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has been administratively classified as "High Risk" for non compliance issues regarding federal contracting by the Bureau of Indian Affairs – Fort Apache Agency Office (BIA), and this classification complicates the Tribe's financial/management system by eliminating advance payouts for budget and increases the frequency of reporting requirements to an already overwhelmed staff; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has also been informed that having "High Risk" status increases the chances of not receiving stimulus funding to provide jobs for our people ; and
- WHEREAS,** in view of our current plight, the Tribal Council finds it to be in the best interest of the Tribe to request that the Bureau of Indian Affairs provide the Tribe with both technical and financial assistance to help remove the "High Risk" designation as soon as possible to enable the Tribe to return to mature contract status; and
- WHEREAS,** specifically the Tribe is requesting:
1. The Fort Apache Agency Superintendent be recalled from detail immediately from the Western Regional Office to work with the Tribe to remove its "High Risk" status; and
 2. That funds be provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Tribe to hire three qualified accountants to improve its administrative systems and retain federal compliance; and
 3. That funds be provided to contract with a Certified Public Accounting firm to initiate and complete the FY 2008 single audit and FY 2009 single audit; and
 4. That funds be provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to enable the Tribe to hire a multi-disciplinary consulting team to study the Tribe's organizational structure and make recommendations to the Tribal Council on streamlining the organizational structure of the Tribe to include evaluating positions, supervision, and authorities to eliminate waste and duplication through pinpointing responsibilities and improved departmental coordination; and

5. That the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs request or make available a technical assistance team that can serve as a high level resource to provide technical assistance and training in contract compliance for financial and narrative reporting and 638 contracting; and
6. That regional and agency 638 staff complement their role as contract monitors with skills in providing hands on training and technical assistance to tribal governments in the spirit of minimal interference with maximum support.

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that these requests are in the best interests of the Tribe.

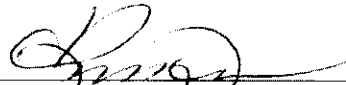
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests immediate technical and financial assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to support our tribal members, restore our economy and heal our forests.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it specifically requests for the following:

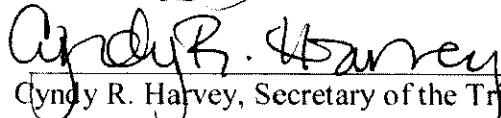
1. The Fort Apache Agency Superintendent be recalled from detail immediately from the Western Regional Office to work with the Tribe to remove its "High Risk" status.
2. That funds be provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Tribe to hire three qualified accountants to improve its administrative systems and retain federal compliance.
3. That funds be provided to contract with a Certified Public Accounting firm to initiate and complete the FY 2008 single audit and FY 2009 single audit.
4. That funds be provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to enable the Tribe to hire a multi-disciplinary consulting team to study the Tribe's organizational structure and make recommendations to the Tribal Council on streamlining the organizational structure of the Tribe to include evaluating positions, supervision, and authorities to eliminate waste and duplication through pinpointing responsibilities and improved departmental coordination.
5. That the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs request or make available to the Tribe a technical assistance team that can serve as a high level resource to provide technical assistance and training in contract compliance for financial and narrative reporting and 638 contracting.
6. That regional and agency 638 staff complement their role as contract monitors with skills in providing hands on training and technical assistance to tribal governments in the spirit of minimal interference with maximum support.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal 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 May 6, 2009, duly adopted by a vote of NINE for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1(a), (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).



Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council



Cindy R. Harvey, Secretary of the Tribal Council