

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

(Demand for Removal or Transfer of Nona Tuchawena off Fort Apache Indian Reservation)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) and 1(s) 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 has suffered greatly from the effects of global economic collapse and continues to struggle financially and spiritually in the aftermath of the Rodeo-Chediski Wildfire; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Members are enduring a dark period in this Tribe's history due to numerous issues that cannot be easily resolved and the trust agent of the Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, seems ambivalent about the best course of action for the Tribe;

WHEREAS, and the indecision and lack of direction is detrimental to the Tribe's progress; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the frustration and uncertainty that this Tribe is facing, the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe require a strong Superintendent at the Fort Apache Indian Reservation that can help the Tribe achieve its short and long-term goals without undermining Tribal Sovereignty or fostering a hostile and condescending relationship between the Trust Agent and Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that in order to meet the high demands and considerable needs of this Tribe, the Fort Apache Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs should transfer Superintendent Nona Tuchawena off the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further finds that the BIA should act swiftly to place a new Superintendent at the Fort Apache Agency with the necessary qualifications to handle a Tribe with a plethora of complex issues, including but not limited to expertise with Natural Resources, the greatest source of this Tribe's wealth, the ability to provide technical assistance on financial policies, general administrative matters, a clear path to rise above the designated "high risk" status, and a plan that can facilitate the Tribe's aspiration to meet its financial obligations and provide much needed services to the Tribe without interruption due to bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further finds that it is in the best interest of the Tribe for the BIA to act immediately to remedy this long-standing concern of the Tribe and ensure that the White Mountain Apache Tribe is not unnecessarily adversely impacted by this change.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests prompt action from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, as Trust Agent of the Tribe to transfer Superintendent Nona Tuchawena off site and away from the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

Resolution No. <u>1-2010-22</u>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests a Superintendent that is highly qualified in natural resources, that has strong management and communication skills, and is in a position to offer in some capacity, the technical expertise and assistance that a large Tribe with complicated legal and financial issues may require.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that due to the Tribe's previous experience with failed bureaucracy at the local BIA level, the Tribe asks that the BIA's Regional Manager monitor the situation closely to ensure that the people of the Tribe are not punished for the failures of current and prior BIA administrations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall govern.

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 <u>January 14, 2010</u>, duly adopted by a vote of <u>NINE</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> 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), (c), (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).

Ronnie/Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council

yndy R. Harvey, Secretary of the Tribal Council