



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing Submission of FY 2020 Native American Business Development Institute Grant Application for WMATCO Sawmill Feasibility Study)

- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(j) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power, “To accept grants and donations from any person, State, or the United States”; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe is the beneficial owner of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”), which includes more than 1,370,000 acres of forest and timberlands; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe’s sawmill operation, White Mountain Apache Timber Company (“WMATCO”), fulfills a vital role in the management of the Tribe’s timberlands through the selective timber harvesting and forest thinning projects required under the timber sales program; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe has been working to secure investment and upgrades to the sawmill to improve efficiency and expand employment and the economic benefits to the Tribe and the region; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe, through its management team at WMATCO, has determined that it can make significant improvement to efficiency by installing a new board edger system to achieve greater yield; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe seeks funding to complete a study to determine the appropriate design and system characteristics to best serve the mill and raw material brought to the mill from the Tribe’s forest lands; and
- WHEREAS,** The BIA Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Native American Business Development Institute has announced a grant for funding to assess tribal economic development opportunities in Opportunity Zones (the “Grant”); and
- WHEREAS,** The Reservation is located within a designated Opportunity Zone; and
- WHEREAS,** The WMATCO management team proposal for the upgrade includes a Project Narrative, reviewed this date, that describes the proposed undertaking; and
- WHEREAS,** The Council recognizes the value to the Tribe and its sawmill operation in securing funds for this purpose, and finds that authorizing application of the Grant on behalf of

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WMATCO will help the improve the viability of WMATCO and is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the submission by the Tribe of a grant application to the Native American Business Development Institute for funding to undertake a feasibility study for the Tribal Sawmill Edger/Optimizer System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribal Chairwoman is authorized to serve as the designated Tribal representative to sign the grant application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the authorization includes the submission of all information and documentation requested under the grant application guidelines, and including the Tribal Sawmill Edger/Optimizer System Project Narrative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

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

The foregoing resolution was on **SEPTEMBER 15, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **TEN** for, **ZERO** against, and **ZERO** abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



Gwendena Lee-Gatewood
Tribal Chairwoman

9/16/2020
Date



Doreen T. Numkena
Tribal Secretary

9-17-2020
Date