

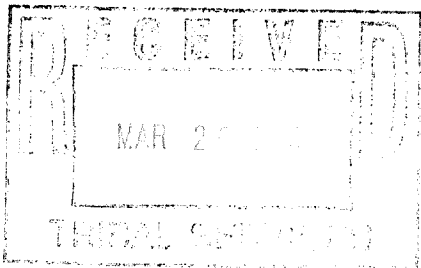
**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS**, the White Mountain Apache Tribe through its delegate, Council Member Judy Dehose, is a member of the Western Region Type II Crew Management Board; and
- WHEREAS**, this Board has been formed through representation from Tribes and agencies within the Western Region which sponsor Type II fire crews; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board, among other things, advises the BIA National Inter-Agency Fire Center (NIFC) on its programs, including program funding and budget needs; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board has held meetings this year to collect and evaluate data to prepare a well-researched funding request to meet the needs of the Type II fire crews in the Western Region; and
- WHEREAS**, the Board, following that research, recommended to BIA-NIFC that \$610,285 is needed in funding for the Type II programs; and
- WHEREAS**, the meetings of the Board and the recent Tri-Regional fire meeting in Albuquerque have further underscored the need for adequate funding to ensure the program effectiveness and provide for the safety of all fire personnel; and
- WHEREAS**, it has been the consensus of all Board Members and the stated objective of BIA-NIFC that safety is a paramount concern for all fire personnel; and
- WHEREAS**, despite these stated commitments, the BIA-NIFC allocated only \$300,000 in Type II funding, less than half the amount recommended as adequate, and for the White Mountain Apache Tribe Type II crew, the funding amounted to only \$12,500, approximately only one-eighth of the \$93,600 recommended by the Board for the Fort Apache crew; and
- WHEREAS**, these funding decisions by the BIA-NIFC undermine the purpose, good faith and participation of the Management Board and place unacceptable compromises on the safety of fire personnel; and
- WHEREAS**, the White Mountain Apache strongly opposes the BIA-NIFC funding decision made contrary to the Management Board's fact finding and recommendations.
- BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that on the basis of fire personnel safety and needs for adequate program effectiveness, and as

otherwise described above, it hereby opposes the BIA-NIFC funding allocation for the Type II Western Region teams and seeks full funding as recommended by the Management Board at the level of \$610,285 for the Western Region Type II teams, including the \$93,600 recommended for the Fort Apache Type II crew.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it directs the Tribal Chairman to advise the BIA-NIFC in writing of the strong concerns in regard to the current NIFC funding decision, and further authorizes Tribal delegate Judy Dehose to participate in the pending Board meeting to be held in Boise with BIA-NIFC in order to bring these specific concerns to the full knowledge of NIFC personnel.

The foregoing resolution was on February 28, 2001 duly adopted by a vote of SIX 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), (c), (f), (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