



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Addressing Game and Fish Management and Personnel Concerns)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Tribal Council action, members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“WMAT”) discussed several disciplinary and personnel actions that occurred at Game and Fish under the leadership of the recently terminated Enterprise Director; and

WHEREAS, recently, a long-term administrative staff employee, Evalene Tulene, was promoted as “Acting Director” of Game and Fish, in an effort to support continuity in the absence of Director, Josh Parker, who was placed on administrative leave without pay pending the results of an ongoing investigation; and

WHEREAS, numerous issues have become contentious under the umbrella of Game and Fish. For one, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has put the Tribal Council on notice that with a vacancy in sensitive species, the White Mountain Apache Tribe would be unable to satisfy its requirements pursuant to Federal Contracting. Similarly, with the world renown WMAT hunts approaching, questions regarding guides, coordination, and enforcement of Tribal policies have started to surface; and

WHEREAS, to alleviate the various concerns that have been brought to light by current and prior Game and Fish staff, the Directors, WMAT Treasurer, and Attorney General’s Office, the Tribal Council finds that it is in the best interest of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that immediate action be taken to correct the deficiencies that exist, whether through recent personnel actions or prior Council or administrative decisions.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that Josh Parker’s Form-E reflect administrative leave *with pay*, effective immediately, and that in accordance with our personnel practices, he shall receive compensation in an amount equal to two (2) pay periods of back-pay. The WMAT Council reasons that placing Tribal employees on indefinite suspension creates a hardship for people and families, and threatens employment rights and general principles of due process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that Evalene Tulene’s status as Acting Director shall be reverted back to her prior administrative position, title and pay, and that Chadwick Amos, shall be appointed as Acting Director in the interim, until the various investigations, sensitive species and contracting issues, and WMAT Hunting Season conflicts have been resolved, or, a qualified replacement has been appointed by the governing body, or through an appropriate personnel process, *if*, it is determined that such action is appropriate.

Resolution No. 05-2017-112

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 it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances or Federal Laws, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his 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 MAY 4, 2017 duly adopted by a vote of FIVE for and ZERO against with TWO abstaining 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).

Acting

Kasey B. Velasquez
Ronnie Lupe, Tribal Chairman

5-23-17
Date

Doreen Numkena
Doreen Numkena, Tribal Secretary

5/23/17
Date