



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

**(Supporting the Candidacy of Bernadette Kniffin
for Gila County Supervisor)**

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power to, “represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe...”; and

WHEREAS, The Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”) consists, in part, of lands that are inside Gila County, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, Bernadette Kniffin seeks support for her candidacy for Gila County Supervisor, District No. 3; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kniffin has successfully assisted with the planning, development and execution of the Ft. Apache Connector Transit (“FACT”), which serves the general public transit riders within the Reservation, and facilitates transit access to the Reservation, as well as to employment and businesses throughout Gila and Navajo Counties. Ms. Kniffin has diligently worked for 17 years as director of the San Carlos Apache Tribe’s TANF program, which employs over 32 persons and carries a budget of \$5 million, and provided hope and opportunity for countless families in need; throughout her tenure at TANF, over the past 25 years, she has raised \$40 million in grants and contracts; and, as a graduate of Northern Arizona University, she has a demonstrated technical and professional capacity to manage and lead large, complex organizations, such as the Gila County government; and

WHEREAS, The Council finds that the Tribe’s government and its subsidiary enterprises has a direct interest in the economy and management of Gila County; and

WHEREAS, Given her professional management background, successful career and education the Council finds that Ms. Kniffin is eminently qualified for the position of Gila County Supervisor and that her candidacy is in the best interests of not just the Tribe, but all of Gila County.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribe hereby supports the candidacy of Bernadette Kniffin for Gila County Supervisor.

Resolution No. 07-2020-147

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 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 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 JULY 1, 2020 duly adopted by a vote of ELEVEN 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, Chairwoman

7/14/2020
Date



Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

7-14-2020
Date