



**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE  
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES  
OF THE  
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION**

A Resolution Entitled: *“Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Business Council Petition to the Secretary of Interior or His Authorized Representative Pursuant to Article X Amendments of the Three Affiliated Tribes Constitution and By-laws and 25 CFR Part 82 To Call a Secretarial Election on a Proposed Amendment to Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution”*.

**WHEREAS**, This Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act and having adopted a Constitution and By-laws pursuant to said Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Article III of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes provides that the Tribal Business Council is the governing body of the Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, Article VI, Section 5 (1) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes provides that the Tribal Business Council has the power to adopt resolutions regulating the procedure of the Tribal Business Council and other Tribal agencies and Tribal officials on the Reservation; and

**WHEREAS**, The Constitution and By-laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes was adopted by membership of the Tribes on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1936 pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and duly approved by the Secretary of Interior; and

**WHEREAS**, Article X- Amendments of the Constitution provides that the Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Tribes voting at an election called for that purpose by the Secretary of Interior, provided that at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election; and

**WHEREAS**, Article X further provides that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of Interior to call an election on any proposed amendment to the Constitution when requested by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Tribal Business Council; and



**WHEREAS**, 25 CFR Part 82 provides federal regulations for petitioning the Secretary of Interior to call secretarial elections to amend tribal constitutions; and

**WHEREAS**, Article II-Membership of the Tribal Constitution establishes criteria for membership into the Three Affiliated Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 1 (c) of the Constitution which was adopted in 1975 as an amendment to the Constitution provides that *All persons of at least ¼ degree Indian blood of a federally recognized tribe provided at least 1/8 Indian blood be of Gros Ventre, Mandan and/or Arikara Tribes* shall be eligible for membership into the Three Affiliated Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 1 (c) uses the term “Gros Ventre” which is a French term instead of Hidatsa which is the proper name for the Hidatsa Tribe and the Tribal Business Council believes this should be changed to use the term *Hidatsa* and it also uses a “c” in the spelling of the term “Arikara” which is not the proper spelling and the Tribal Business Council also believes this should also be corrected; and

**WHEREAS**, The Tribal Business Council believes that in order to preserve the heritage of the Three Tribes and expand the enrollment opportunities for individuals who are of Mandan, Hidatsa and/or Arikara blood, Article II, Section 1 (c) regarding membership should be amended to eliminate the ¼ degree Indian blood of a federally recognized Tribe and change it to 1/8<sup>th</sup> degree Indian blood of the Hidatsa, Mandan and/or Arikara Tribes.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes pursuant to Article X of the Constitution and 25 CFR Part 82 hereby petitions the Secretary of Interior or his authorized representative to call a secretarial election on the following proposed amendment to Article II, Section 1 (c) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes:

Article II, Section 1 (c) shall be amended by striking the following language:  
*At least ¼ degree Indian blood of a federally recognized tribe provided...*

Article II, Section 1 (c) shall also be amended by striking the term *Gros Ventre* and replacing it with the term *Hidatsa* and by striking the letter “c” from the term “*Arikara*”.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that if approved by a secretarial election called by the Secretary of Interior or his authorized representative by a majority vote of the qualified voters with at least thirty percent of those entitled to vote voting in such election the new Article II, section 1 (c) shall read as follows:



- (c) All persons of at least 1/8 Indian blood of the Hidatsa, Mandan and/or Arikara Tribes.


**CERTIFICATION**

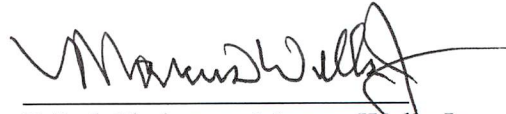
I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 6 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 16 day of May 2007; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 4 members, 2 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Chairman  voting.  not voting.

Dated this 16 day of May 2007.

**ATTEST:**

  
 Tribal Secretary, V. Judy Brugh  
 Tribal Business Council  
 Three Affiliated Tribes

  
 Tribal Chairman, Marcus Wells Jr.  
 Tribal Business Council  
 Three Affiliated Tribes