

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

A Resolution entitled, "Hiring three Special Counsel for Wills and Gift Deeds for Elders."

- WHEREAS, The Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara Nation ("Nation" or "Tribes") having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 ("IRA"), and the authority under said Act and having adopted a Constitution and By-Laws pursuant to said Act; and
- WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Nation generally 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 III, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Nation 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, The MHA Nation recognizes that the American Indian Probate Reform Act (AIPRA) went into effect for Indians who own trust lands or hold IIM accounts who passed away on or after June 20, 2006. MHA Elders may be surprised to learn that AIPRA's intestacy rules are not what they might expect. For example, the rules include a single heir rule for highly fractionized properties representing less than a 5% ownership, the rules do not include aunts, uncles, or cousins as beneficiaries, and the MHA Nation frequently inherits over close relatives. For this reason, the MHA Nation wants to provide Estate Planning Advice, Wills, and or Gift Deeds to its Elders to minimize litigation and to honor Elders' wishes.
- WHEREAS, As recently as 2013, four to five MHA Members passed away each month and it was recommended by at least one Council Member that an Estate Planning Office be established. For this reason, the Nation wishes to authorize Special Counsel for Wills and Gift Deeds for Elders.
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Business Council hereby authorizes and approves the Three Affiliated Tribes to (1) contract with three Attorneys as Special Counsel for Elders Wills and Gift Deeds and to pay for the Contracts with 380 funds for one year (with the option by mutual agreement to renew for up to three additional years) and (2) to purchase a Fire Proof Safe for the Legal Department to store Wills.

Three Separate Mirrored Contracts follow: one for Rebecca Anne Burbridge, David Satermo Leigh, and Catherine DuBois Rayder. Each contract authorizes the named Attorney to perform 60 Estate packages for Elders for the next fiscal

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years. The total cost for this first year including exercising any options for that year shall not exceed \$144,350.00 unless approved in writing by the Tribal Business Council. If OPTION YEARS are exercised in the future, the OPTION YEAR price shall be subject to the mutual negotiation of the parties.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** The Business Council hereby approves the three (3) Special Legal Services Contracts attached hereto and incorporated by reference and the purchase of a Fire Proof Safe; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Tribal Business hereby (1) authorizes the Tribal Chairman to execute these contracts on behalf of the Tribe and (2) authorizes the Tribal Chairman, the Segments, and the MHA Legal Department to take such action as is necessary to carry out the terms and intent of this Resolution.





## CERTIFICATION

I, the und	dersign	ed, as Se	cretary of t	the Tribal Bu	usines	Counc	il of	the Three	Affiliated	Tribes	of
the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed											
of seven (7) members of whom five (5) constitute a quorum, 6 were present at a Regular Meeting											
thereof	duly	called,	noticed,	convened	and	held	on	the	11th	day	of
June		2015	5, that the	foregoing R	esolut	ion was	duly	adopted	at such m	eeting	by
the affirmative vote of 6 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 1 members not											
voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.											

Chairman [X] Voting. [ ] Not Voting.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2015.

ATTEST:

Tribal Secretary, L. Kenneth Hall

Tribal Business Council

Three Affiliated Tribes

Tribal Chairman, Mark Fox Tribal Business Council Three Affiliated Tribes

## Attachments:

- 1. Budget
- 2. Example Safe
- 3. Attorney Contract with Rebecca Anne Burbridge
- 4. Attorney Contract with David Satermo Leigh
- 5. Attorney Contract with Catherine DuBois Rayder