

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

- WHEREAS, This Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act; and
- WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of an in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS, All Tribes in the Aberdeen Area are currently developing operating budget projections under the Indian Priority System (IPS) for Fiscal Year 1989; and
- WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes has been committed to active participation in this Budget Planning exercise since the inception of the BIA's Band Analysis Concept in 1975, and
- WHEREAS, The Band Analysis/IPS System was established with the intention of providing Tribal input into the setting of BIA Budget Priorities and the management of programs; and
- WHEREAS, Local Agency Budgets have decreased over the last 3 to 5 years resulting in consistently decreased resources (both financial and personnel) to address ever increasingly complex issues, problems, and needs (collective and individual); and
- WHEREAS, The Bureau of Indian Affairs is constantly removing program functions from the band/system without Tribal consultation indirect conflict with the concept of Tribal Self-Determination; and
- WHEREAS, Many vital concerns and needs of the Tribe - ie: Law Enforcement, Roads Maintenance, Social Services, Education, Land Management, Economic/Social Development, etc. - have geometrically expanded while revenues to address the problems have diminished; and
- WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes and the Local BIA Agency, through the IPS Process are forced to negotiate and justify (in detail) on decreased allocations while the BIA Area and Central Offices' Budgets are not subject to the same scrutiny and negotiations with Tribal Governments - as should be the case; and

WHEREAS, The Area Offices receive an allocation for the Central Office, then take an allocation for their Area Operations, and distribute the balance among the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, The result of this situation is that Tribes are not involved in Area Offices' Allocation Process nor do they receive a good accounting of BIA Area Office Operations; and

WHEREAS, The identical situation (the lack of Tribal involvement with Budget Allocations) exists with respect to the Central Office Allocations; and

WHEREAS, The above identified inequities create an atmosphere where the Tribes and the Local BIA Agencies are forced to compete with each other while the BIA Area Office and Central Office funding priorities/allocation remain unchallenged/unscrutinized and are not subject to Tribal Input; and

WHEREAS, The Tribes do not exist to justify the BIA Area and Central Offices' "overhead" budgets - but rather the BIA through its Budget expenditures is mandated to support Tribally determined needs/priorities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes hereby demands that the BIA Area Office Director establish a Meeting (or Meetings) within ten days of the enactment of this resolution to review Area Office Allocations with a similar demand being directed towards the BIA Central Office Allocation and Budget Priorities;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Tribal Business Council respectfully requests that the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee initiate a comprehensive review of the current BIA internal allocation of Appropriated Funds

Resolution #87-5376

with the desired Objective being improved Tribal involvement from the Central Level through the Tribal/Agency Level;

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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, 5 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 14 day of May, 1987; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated the 14 day of May, 1987.

Acting: Elgin Crow-Breast
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:

Edward Joe Frijoles
Chairman, Tribal Business Council