

**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 and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and

**WHEREAS,** The President of the United States has declared a National Livestock Economic Emergency thereby allowing the haying of land under the Conservation Reservation Program (CRP) which does not significantly benefit the Reservation since very little land on the Reservation is enrolled under the CRP. Or additional equal assistance; and

**WHEREAS,** The Three Affiliated Tribes through Resolution #96-206-DSB dated October 1996 and through Resolution #96-254-DSB dated January 13, 1997 declared the Fort Berthold Reservation a disaster area due to the severe winter weather and requested assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the United State Department of Agriculture; and

**WHEREAS,** A severe spring snow storm occurred on the Fort Berthold Reservation April 4 through April 6, 1997 leaving people in town and rural areas snow bound, livestock stranded or totally covered by snow drifts in low areas; and

**WHEREAS,** Many businesses and livestock operations suffered extreme financial hardship due to the spring storm of 1997.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** The Three Affiliated Tribes hereby declares the Fort Berthold Reservation a major disaster area which included portions of McLean, Mountrail, McKenzie, Dunn, Mercer, Ward counties due to the severe snow storm of April 1997.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Three Affiliated Tribes Tribal Business Council hereby requests financial relief for business and livestock operations from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Department of Agriculture and other federal agencies that may apply, on behalf of tribal enrolled members and the tribe as a whole.



# MANDAN, HIDATSA, & ARIKARA NATION

*Three Affiliated Tribes • Fort Berthold Indian Reservation*

*HC3 Box 2 • New Town, North Dakota 58763-9402*

March 19, 1997

TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL  
701-627-4781  
Fax 701-627-3805

Honorable Byron Dorgan  
United States Senate  
SH-713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3403

Dear Senator Dorgan:

Thank you, again, for your help and support in our effort to combat the severe winter weather here.

Ms. Donovan requested information regarding actual expenditures of the Tribe for snow removal and services to individual members. **Expenditures for snow removal totaled \$235,432 as of March 7, 1997; and, the amount expended by the Tribe for disaster relief to individuals, as of this date, totals \$18,078.85.** We are attaching a break-down of actual expenditures and projected funding needs that we have also summarized below.

Because of the extent of accumulation and condition of the compacted snow, the task has not yet been completed. **We estimate the additional cost to be about \$125,000.** Also, our roads have been damaged to the extent that repair and rebuilding will be necessary. **We have estimated an additional cost for this to be around \$250,000.** We are hopeful that supplemental appropriations includes expenditures already incurred by the Tribe, as well as the additional costs we've mentioned.

The expenditure of \$18,078.85 for disaster relief to individuals represents an encumbrance above and beyond those programs that are specifically for welfare and fuel and energy assistance. Our Low-Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program exhausted its FY 1997 funding (\$257,000) prior to the severe natural disaster.. The need for the program, under normal conditions, far exceeded available program funding.

With the remaining months, we anticipate there will be a need to address the 424 eligible applicants who will be seeking and needing assistance. **Additional funding in**

**the amount of \$377,000 is needed in order that we might provide a basic necessity to eligible applicants.** We would appreciate your including the additional funding need for heating and energy assistance to the supplemental appropriations request.

We cannot fully express our gratitude for your help and support to the Three Affiliated Tribes. We appreciate all that you have accomplished for us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. D. Mason, Sr.", with a small checkmark at the end.

Russell D. Mason, Sr.  
Chairman, Tribal Business Council

BREAK-DOWN

Actual Expenditures and Additional Projected Funding Needs

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Projected</u>
Snow Removal	\$235,432	\$125,000
Road Repair/Rebuilding		<u>250,000</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$235,432</b>	<b>\$375,000</b>
Disaster Relief	\$ 18,079	
Heating and Fuel Assistance	<u>423,000</u>	<u>\$377,000</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$441,079</b>	<b>\$377,000</b>
	<u><b>ACTUAL</b></u>	<u><b>ADDITIONAL-- PROJECTED NEED</b></u>
<u><b>GRAND TOTAL</b></u>	<b>\$676,511</b>	<b>\$752,000</b>

**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, 7 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1997; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting 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.

Dated the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1997.

Daylon Spotted Bears  
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:



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Chairman, Tribal Business Council