



2018 Winter Convention Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #18 – 15

"ATNI PARTNERSHIPS WITH WASHINGTON STATE FOR FIRSTNET"

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, many ATNI member Tribes in the Northwest United States are located in rural areas that have challenging terrain ranging from deep valleys, high mountain ranges, or vast ocean and river locked shorelines that can impact cell phone or internet access; and

WHEREAS, rural areas are underserved by large telecommunications carriers due to the small populations that prevent necessary infrastructure investment to connect small native communities to affordable cell and internet communications services; and

WHEREAS, as a result of climate change and the many tribes located in active earthquake, tsunami, fire and flood zones, to low income native people will suffer if tribes are not active in the planning and deployment of first responder communication services that requires a high level of coordination with local, county, state and national public safety first responders in the event of a disaster; and

WHEREAS, ATNI has been active in meetings with FirstNet, a project funded by Congress in 2012 through the Department of Commerce to build a nationwide public safety wireless LTE broadband data network to address the communications needs of First Responders; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2017, FirstNet announced the award of a contract to AT&T to build the network, and Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana Governors have "Opted In" for Emergency Management Systems under the FirstNet system that will be built and serviced by AT&T; and

WHEREAS, this will be one of the most complex, technical and expensive federal project of our times with many moving parts; and

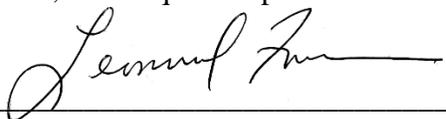
WHEREAS, FirstNet just passed a tribal consultation policy and as we move from planning to implementation, open and transparent communication and coordination will be key to ensure all public safety jurisdictions, the FirstNet State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Tribal technology and public safety staff work together to implement the system; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ATNI requests that FirstNet and AT&T proactively support stakeholder partnerships at the local, state and tribal level that are responsible for implementing disaster and first responder services and to provide tribes with deployment plans; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI reaffirms its intent to continue its collaborative relationship with Washington's Single Point of Contact for the advancement of public safety and public safety communications.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2018 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the DoubleTree by Hilton - Portland, Oregon, on January 22-25, 2018, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary