



2015 Winter Convention Lincoln City, Oregon

RESOLUTION #15 - 01

"ATNI TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE TO FIRSTNET TRIBAL WORKING GROUP"

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, the ATNI Telecommunications Committee has been working hard to address the lack of access to infrastructure that provides high speed internet and cell phone coverage in rural native communities; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI Member Tribes have made significant progress this past year by working together to inform, educate, and advocate on broadband needs to the leadership at the White House and the United States Congress, as well as State Representatives on how the lack of broadband coverage impacts Native Health & Social Services, Economic Development, Public Safety, Small Business Development, Governmental Services, and Emergency Management Services; and

WHEREAS, FirstNet is 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

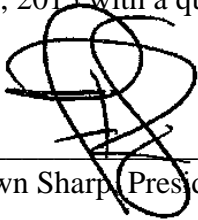
WHEREAS, the First Responder Network Authority or FirstNet is an independent agency within the federal Department of Commerce which is responsible to build the network; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the development of the First Responder Network will help Tribal efforts inform the public and policy makers on the lack of support rural communities receive in regard to communication in the event of a disaster and emergency situations that would impact the health and welfare of all native people; and

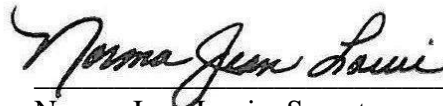
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians support the appointment of Randall Harris, the ATNI Energy & Telecommunications Committee Co-Chair to the Tribal Working Group, a sub-committee of the FirstNet Public Safety Advisory Committee.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2015 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City, Oregon on February 2-5, 2015 with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary