

BLACKFEET NATION

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Earl Old Person, Chairman
Roger "Sassy" Running Crane, Vice-Chairman
Willie A. Sharp, Jr., Secretary

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

Earl Old Person
Roger "Sassy" Running Crane
Willie A. Sharp, Jr.
Betty N. Cooper
Rodney "Fish" Gervais
Patrick "Pat" Thomas
Edwin "Sooney" Little Plume
Paul McEvers
Ronald H. "Smiley" Kittson

RESOLUTION

No. 184-2008

- WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, protect and advance the views, interests, education and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is charged with the responsibility of protecting and preserve the resources of the Blackfeet Tribe, and
- WHEREAS, Water is one of the most important resources of the Blackfeet Tribe, and is critical to the culture, religion and economic well-being of the Tribe, and
- WHEREAS, Pursuant to the McCarran Amendment, 43 United States Code, section 666, and the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Arizona v. San Carlos Apache Tribe, 463 U.S. 545 (1983), the water rights of the Blackfeet Tribe are subject to adjudication in the pending Montana state-wide water rights adjudication in the Montana Water Court, and
- WHEREAS, The adjudication of the Tribe's water rights has been suspended or stayed by the Montana Water Court while the Tribe has been involved in negotiating a water rights compact with the Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission, and
- WHEREAS, The Tribe has finalized the terms of a Compact with the Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission, and
- WHEREAS, Completion of the Compact represents the first step in achieving a comprehensive settlement of the Tribe's water rights, and
- WHEREAS, The next steps in achieving a comprehensive water rights settlement are:
1) approval of the Compact by Congress, including resolution of water

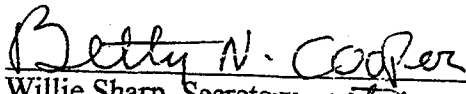
related claims against the United States and the authorization of funds and other benefits to the Tribe in the form of a federal contribution to settlement; and 2) approval of the Compact by the Montana Legislature including the authorization of funds in the form of a State contribution to settlement; 3) approval of the Compact by Tribal members; and 4) entry of the Compact as a final decree in the Montana Water Court; and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has reviewed the final terms of the Compact and has determined that the Compact is an historic step forward in completing a comprehensive settlement of the Blackfeet Tribe's water rights, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Water Rights Compact Entered into by The Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, The State of Montana and The United States that is attached hereto and by this reference is incorporated into this Resolution provides an appropriate and acceptable basis to proceed with the next steps in completing a comprehensive settlement of the Blackfeet Tribe's water rights, including federal, state approval and Tribal approval of the Compact; and
2. The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council authorizes its Tribal representatives and Legal Counsel to seek approval of the Compact by Congress through the introduction of appropriate federal legislation.
3. The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council further authorizes its Tribal representative and Legal Counsel to seek state approval of the Compact through the introduction of appropriate state legislation.
4. Finally, the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council authorizes its Tribal representatives and Legal Counsel, following federal and state approval of the Compact, to seek approval by the membership of the Blackfeet Tribe of the comprehensive settlement of Blackfeet water rights as embodied by the Compact and the Federal and State legislation.
5. The Chairman is authorized to sign this Resolution.

ATTEST:


Willie Sharp, Secretary *acting*

THE BLACKFEET-TRIBE OF THE
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION


Earl Old Person, Chairman

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council in a duly called, noticed and convened Regular Session, assembled the 11th day of December, 2007, with SEVEN (7) members present to constitute a quorum, and with a vote of FOUR (4) FOR and THREE (3) OPPOSED, Edwin Little Plume, Willie Sharp, Paul McEvers.

Betty N. Cooper
Willie Sharp, Secretary