



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing a Grant Application by Dishchii'bikoh Community School to the USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants Program)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power, "[t]o represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe", and at Article IV, Section 1(j), the power "[t]o accept grants and donations from any person, state, or the United States"; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of homes and businesses in the Cibecue community are currently without access to distance learning and/or telemedicine services, and this lack of access has placed community members, specifically the school children, at a significant disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, the Distance Learning and Telemedicine program under the U.S. Department of Agriculture ("USDA") provides funding opportunities to rural communities to advance telecommunications technology to connect and overcome the effects of remoteness and low population density; and

WHEREAS, the Distance Learning and Telemedicine program provides funding assistance up to \$1 million, with a minimum 15% match requirement; and

WHEREAS, Distance learning and/or telemedicine services provided through this program would greatly improve and expand the opportunities available to Tribal members for educational advancement, career enhancement, access to health care options, increased safety options, and a better quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Dishchii'bikoh Community School proposes to submit a grant application to the USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine program; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concurs and finds it in the best interest of the Tribe and its members to authorize a grant application to the Distance Learning and Telemedicine program.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Dishchii'bikoh Community School is hereby authorized to submit a complete and timely grant application to the USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine program.

Resolution No. 02-2025-30

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it supports and encourages Dishchiibikoh Community School to provide distance learning and/or telemedicine services on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and to serve the areas which are currently without service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on **FEBRUARY 19, 2025** duly adopted by a vote of **TEN** for, **ZERO** against, and **ZERO** abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1, of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

<u>Kasey Velasquez</u>	<u>2.19.25</u>	<u>Vaneysa Johnson</u>	<u>02/19/2025</u>
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman	Date	Vaneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary	Date