Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

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RESOLUTION NO.: PL 21-18

RESOLUTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE NIXON, NEVADA

- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, is organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, (25 U.S.C. 476) and is Federally recognized by the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with federal, state and local governments; and
- WHEREAS, among the powers of inherent sovereignty vested in the Tribe is the power to determine its own form of government, interpret its own laws and be governed by those laws; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes that Native people and tribal nations, including members of the Tribe, are disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic; and
- WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic poses a direct threat to the continuation of tribal culture, identity, and membership; and
- WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic forces tribal governments to incur costs of providing increased medical care and services, social services, child welfare, law enforcement, and public safety; and
- WHEREAS, the conduct of large pharmaceutical companies directly contributes to the opioid epidemic and has caused a crisis in many tribal communities, threatening the health, welfare, economic security, and political integrity of tribal governments and their members; and
- WHEREAS, litigation against pharmaceutical drug manufacturers, the opioid drug distributors or wholesalers, and the big retail pharmacies will force these companies to change their current practices and to reimburse tribal communities for some of the harm caused by the opioid epidemic; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council seeks to enter into an Engagement Agreement ("Agreement"), attached hereto as Exhibit A, with a legal team with experience in complex pharmaceutical drug litigation, including Beggs & Lane, RLLP, Frazer PLC, The Kuykendall Group, and Ceiba Legal, to represent the Tribe in connection with

potential litigation regarding the impact that prescription opioids have had upon the Tribe; and

- WHEREAS, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement, the legal team will represent the Tribe on a contingency fee basis, meaning that the Tribe will incur zero out of pocket costs, the legal team will advance all costs related to the litigation, including expert witness fees, and the Tribe will pay one-fourth (25%) of the total amount of money or other items of value obtained in connection with the settlement, trial, or appeal of the claim; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that it is in the best interests of the Tribe's health, safety, and welfare to enter into the Engagement Agreement (attached hereto as Exhibit A) with Beggs & Lane, RLLP, Frazer PLC, The Kuykendall Group, and Ceiba Legal, to represent the Tribe in connection with potential litigation regarding the impact that prescription opioids have had upon the Tribe; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Tribal Council hereby approves the Tribe entering into the Engagement Agreement upon the terms stated herein with Beggs & Lane, RLLP, Frazer PLC, The Kuykendall Group, and Ceiba Legal.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal Council authorizes the Chairman or his designee to negotiate, finalize and execute the Agreement on behalf of the Tribe to effectuate the intent of this resolution, and that the authorities of this resolution remain in effect until such time that the contract is closed, renegotiated or amended.

CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, composed of ten members, <u>nine (9)</u> of whom constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly held on the <u>19th</u> day of <u>March</u>, 2018 was adopted by the affirmative vote of <u>eight (8)</u> FOR and <u>zero (0)</u> AGAINST, with <u>zero (0)</u> ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

Brenda A. Henry, Tribal Secretary Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council