

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY  
OF THE  
WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA**

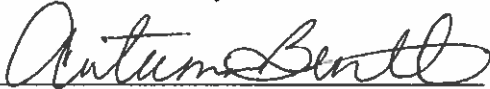
**A Resolution Declaring Native American Languages and the Washoe Language to be in a  
State of Emergency**

- WHEREAS,** the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California is organized under the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended, to exercise certain rights of home rule and be responsible for the general welfare of its membership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe is governed by the Washoe Tribal Council (the “Tribal Council”) pursuant to the Tribal Constitution adopted by the Tribe and approved by the Secretary of the Interior; and the Tribal Council is empowered to establish Tribal policies, enact Tribal laws and act for the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California has 1,413 Tribal members, of which there are 12 fluent speakers of the Washoe language as denoted in Attachment A, Washoe Language Circle Fiscal Year 1996 Administration of Native Americans grant application; and
- WHEREAS,** preservation, reclamation and revitalization of the Washoe Language is one of the highest issues of importance for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California; and
- WHEREAS,** preserving our Washoe Language is integral to preserving our Indigenous Knowledge, and is essential to addressing challenges facing our communities today; and
- WHEREAS,** the loss of Washoe Speakers and state of the Washoe Language has risen to the level that Washoe Tribal Council deems it fit to declare the Washoe Tribal language is in a “State of Emergency” due to the loss of fluent speakers; and
- WHEREAS,** the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Tribal Council affirms the need of our Tribal Administration, Tribal Staff, and Tribal Council to promote the use of our traditional language in the day-to-day communications; and
- WHEREAS,** the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Tribal Council recognizes the need to take immediate and concerted effort toward additional language preservation, reclamation and revitalization efforts.
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washoe Tribal Council hereby declares that the Washoe Language is in a State of Emergency; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Washoe Tribe has identified that there is a persistent need for funding to support, preserve, reclaim and revitalize the Washoe Language; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washoe Tribal Council directs Tribal Administration, the Culture/Language Resources Department, Emergency Operations Management and appropriate outside agencies to gain input as to which efforts Washoe Tribal Members would like to see implemented in order to stop the ongoing loss of the Washoe Language. The Washoe Tribal Council also directs the parties above to develop a 2-year, 5-year and 10-year strategic plan as to how these efforts will be implemented while also identifying current and future barriers; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT** the Washoe Tribal Council designates the Tribal Chairman to be the lead coordinator and point person for all Washoe Tribal efforts undertaken to address and resolve this Emergency within the Washoe Tribe. Furthermore, Tribal Council leadership is to work closely with Tribal Administration, the Culture/Language Resources Department, Emergency Operations Management and appropriate internal and external agencies and consultants to further our progress on this critical issue.

**CERTIFICATION**

It is hereby certified that the Washoe Tribal Council is the governing body of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California composed of twelve (12) members of whom nine (9), constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly held on the 8th day of July, 2022, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of nine (9) for, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention pursuant to the authority contained in Article VI, Section 1(h) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California.

  
Autumn Burt  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

7/11/2022  
Date



WASHOE SPEAKERS - as of March 15, 1996

Andrews, Sylvia *	McDonald, Leona *
Barber, Amy *	McDonald, Wilford
Barber, Wes *	Miller, Ruth
Carvin, Roslyn	Mitchell, Flora
Christensen, Lawrence *	Morris, Lucille Smokey *
Christensen, Wilson	Nicholas, Althea Martinez *
Christensen, Yvonne *	Palmer, Leighton *
Conway, Florine *	Pete, Dinah *
Cruz, Betty *	Phoenix, Alberta
Dick, Romana *	Rogers, Katherine
Dixon, Ethel Lois	Selman, Art
Dressler, Marvin *	Smokey, Eleanor
Dressler, Shumann	Smokey, Flora
Dutchy, Edgar *	Smokey, Fritz *
Frank, Garfield	Tripp, Thelma
Frank, Russell	Wade, Clyde
Frank, Shirley *	Wade, Dwayne
Frank, Vernell	Wade, Marada *
Fred, Dean *	Walker, Charlie *
Fred, Duman *	Wyatt, Dabert
Gallagher, Josephine *	Wyatt, Daniel (Froggie) *
George, Art Sr.	Wyatt, Elwood
George, Art Jr.	Wyatt, Tina Frank *
George, Elliot (Swamp)	Wyatt, Vernon
George, Margie *	
Gutierrez, Caroline *	TOTAL: 74: 36 female, 38 male
Henry, Madelina	
Holbrook, Herman *	
Jackson, Theresa *	youngest: 30s
Jacobsen, William	oldest: 90
Jake, Leslie *	most in age range 65-70
James, Adele *	
James, Alfred *	* denotes learning Washoe as
James, Flora *	first language or at the same
James, Ralph *	time as learning English
James, Russell *	
James, Stephen	
James, Wynona *	
Jim, Brian *	
Jim, Glen *	
Jim, Harvey *	
Jim, Velma *	
John, Albert *	
John, Madeline *	
John, Rema *	
Kizer, Delany	
Kizer, Marie	
Kizer, Walt	
Martinez, Joanne *	
McDonald, Daniel Sr. *	