## CLAY COUNCIL GROUNDS RED CLAY, TENNESSEE

FRIDAY APRIL 17, 2009



## **PASSED**

ITEM NO. 1

JOINT COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2 (2009)

- WHEREAS, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation have exercised the sovereign rights of self-governance on behalf of the Cherokee People since time immemorial; and
- WHEREAS, for thousands of years the Council Grounds at Red Clay has served as a gathering place for Cherokee and Native American people; and
- WHEREAS, the birth of the Cherokee government was envisioned, conspired, and discussed at the Red Clay Council Grounds during Council meetings from 1816 until 1819; and
- WHEREAS, following anti-Cherokee laws passed by the State of Georgia in 1830, the official seat of Tribal government was moved from New Echota, Georgia, to Red Clay, Tennessee, so that Cherokee leaders could continue to conduct Tribal business; and
- WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation held several Council Sessions at the Red Clay Council Grounds between 1832 and 1837 to discuss and develop strategies to avoid Removal; and
- WHEREAS, our last Council meeting prior to Removal as one united Tribe was held here at Red Clay in 1837; and

- WHEREAS, based upon these facts, the Red Clay Council Grounds are very important and special to the Cherokee people and we wish to recognize and honor the grounds on which we stand today.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Joint Council assembled, at which a quorum is present, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation hereby publicly commemorate the significant historical importance of Red Clay to the Cherokee people.

Submitted by: The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Red Clay Planning Committee

## **CERTIFICATION**

Mike Parker, Chairman

**Tribal Council** 

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Meredith A. Frailey

Speaker

Council of the Cherokee Nation

## **ATTEST**

Approved and signed by the Principal Chiefs this the 15th day of June 2009.

Michell Hicks

Principal Chief

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Chadwick Smith

Principal Chief

Cherokee Nation