Committee: Rules Committee

Date: <u>08-23-17</u> Committee Date: <u>8-31-17</u>

Author: <u>Todd. Hembree</u>

Sponsor: B. Warner, K. Austin, J. Taylor, R. Jordan

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**RESOLUTION NO. 64-17** 

### COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CERTAIN LENDING TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING CHEROKEE NATION BUSINESSES, L.L.C., A CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, AND AUTHORIZING A LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of self-government in behalf of the Cherokee people; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation is a federally recognized Indian Nation with an historic and continual government to government relationship with the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Cherokee Nation Businesses, L.L.C. ("CNB") is a for-profit limited liability company organized under the laws of the Cherokee Nation, is wholly owned by the Cherokee Nation and enjoys sovereign immunity from suit under federal law; and

WHEREAS, Cherokee Nation Entertainment, L.L.C. ("CNE") is a for-profit limited liability company organized under the laws of the Cherokee Nation, is wholly-owned by CNB and enjoys sovereign immunity from suit under federal law; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 CNB obtained a five-year credit facility from BOKF, NA dba Bank of Oklahoma ("BOK") in the amount of \$100,000,000, (ii) CNE and its subsidiaries guaranteed the loan, (iii) CNB, CNE, and CNE's subsidiaries pledged certain of their assets relating to gaming and entertainment operations, and (iv) the Cherokee Nation entered into a Non-Interference Agreement and provided limited waivers of sovereign immunity to allow BOK to enforce the transaction parties' obligations with respect to the credit facility and to enforce the Cherokee Nation's obligations with respect to the Non-Interference Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the parties to the transactions desire to increase the amount of credit available under the Credit Agreement from \$100,000,000 to \$150,000,000 and extend the maturity date, desire to have the guarantees, the asset pledges and the Non-Interference Agreement ratified and confirmed, and desire to have the Cherokee Nation provide an updated limited waiver of sovereign immunity.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the increase of the amount of credit available under the Credit Agreement to \$150,000,000 and the extension of the maturity date, and authorizes the ratification and confirmation of the guarantees, the asset pledges and the Non-Interference Agreement, all on terms and conditions to be negotiated by the authorized officers of CNB, CNE, and CNE's subsidiaries and/or the Principal Chief; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION**, that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Principal Chief and/or his designee to negotiate as necessary and to expressly waive the sovereign immunity and jurisdiction of the transaction parties as they apply to the loan transactions, and of the Cherokee Nation as they apply to the reaffirmed Non-Interference Agreement; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that this Resolution shall in no manner or in any respect operate or be construed to operate to waive or otherwise diminish the sovereign immunity of the Cherokee Nation, except as to allow certain actions against the transaction parties and the Cherokee Nation as provided herein and in the applicable loan documents.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the Cherokee Nation at a duly called meeting on the  $11^{th}$  day of September, 2017, having 17 members present, constituting a quorum, by the vote of 17 yea; 0 nay; 0 abstaining.

Joe Byrd, Speaker

Council of the Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:

rankie Hargis, Secretory

Council of the Cherokee Nation

Approved and signed by the Principal Chief this 13 day of September 2017.

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief

Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:

Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Secretary of State

Cherokee Nation

## <u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u> **CLEARANCE** Dept/Program: Signature/Initial Date **Executive Director:** Signature/Initial Treasurer: (Required: Grants/Contracts/Budgets) Signature/Initial Date **Government Resources:** Signature/Initial Date Administration Approval: Date Signature/Initial **LEGISLATIVE CLEARANCE:** Legislative Coordinator: Standing Committee,& Date: Date Returned to Presenter: Date

# Cherokee Nation Act/Resolution Proposal Form

Act

TITLE:
DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Doug Evans, CNB CFO
RESOLUTION PRESENTER: Shawn Slaton, CEO/Doug Evans, CFO
COUNCIL SPONSOR: Bryan Warner Kieth Austin, Janees Tay

Resolution

### **NARRATIVE:**

The Cherokee Nation conducts gaming and entertainment operations through Cherokee Nation Entertainment, LLC ("CNE"). CNE is wholly owned by Cherokee Nation Businesses, LLC ("CNB"), which is wholly owned by the Cherokee Nation.

Rex Jordan

In 2013, CNB obtained a five-year Credit Facility from Bank of Oklahoma ("BOK") in the amount of \$100,000,000, (ii) CNE and its subsidiaries guaranteed the loan, and (iii) CNB, CNE and its subsidiaries pledged their assets relating to gaming and entertainment operations. As a condition to providing the loan, BOK required that the Cherokee Nation enter into a Non-Interference Agreement and provide limited waivers of sovereign immunity to allow BOK to enforce CNB's and CNE's obligations with respect to the Credit Facility and enforce the Cherokee Nation's obligations with respect to the Non-Interference Agreement.

CNB's Board of Directors has determined that it is in the best interest of CNB and CNE to increase the amount of credit available under the Credit Agreement to \$150,000,000 and extend the maturity date to September of 2022, amend the Credit Agreement accordingly and, as required by BOK, have the guarantees, the asset pledges and the Non-Interference Agreement ratified and confirmed, and have the Cherokee Nation provide an updated limited waiver of sovereign immunity.