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**CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE  
CHEROKEE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (2018)**

WHEREAS, upon approval by the Audit and Ethics Committee, the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics (“Internal Audit”) contracted with Veriti Consulting, LLC, to perform an investigation of the 2017 Tribal election; and

WHEREAS Veriti submitted its report to Internal Audit on January 29, 2018, and Internal Audit released it to Tribal Council and the Executive Office on January 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in its report, Veriti stated that “it appears the General Election in Birdtown, specifically the Early Ballots and Undervote Ballots, were altered between Election Day and the Recount” and that “ballot tampering occurred”; and

WHEREAS, Veriti’s report does not identify any specific person or persons who might have committed the tampering; and

WHEREAS, having transparent, reliable Tribal elections is absolutely necessary for the proper functioning of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, to restore trust in the election system, and to bring those responsible to justice, it is necessary for the Tribe to contract with an independent third-party investigator to dig deeper into the subject and attempt to identify who was responsible for the adulteration of the 2017 election.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians assembled, at which a quorum is present, that the Tribe, acting through the Office of Internal Audit and Ethics, shall recruit and contract with an independent third-party investigator or investigations firm that is free from Tribal political and community influences, and shall contact with that person or firm to perform a deeper investigation into the issues identified in the report dated January 29, 2018 by Veriti Consulting, LLC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the person or firm hired to perform this second-level investigation shall have training and experience in conducting investigations for the purpose of identifying violations of applicable law, for the purpose of identifying persons responsible for such violations, and for the purpose of

1 obtaining and preserving evidence for criminal prosecutions and civil legal  
2 actions.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the money to pay for the investigation shall be drawn from  
4 the following account: \_\_\_\_\_  
5 and shall not exceed the following amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the investigator shall report to the Office of Internal Audit  
8 and Ethics which, at appropriate intervals, shall provide interim updates to the  
9 Executive Office and Tribal Council, in a manner that will not compromise the  
10 investigation.

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12 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all resolutions that are inconsistent with this resolution are  
13 rescinded, and that this resolution shall become effective when ratified by the  
14 Principal Chief.

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32 *Submitted by Principal Chief Richard Sneed*