

# *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council*

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**RESOLUTION NO.: PL 013-22**

*COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program Extended*

## **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 and the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 1(f), the Tribal Council has the authority to "administer any funds or property within the control of the tribe, to make expenditures from available funds for public purposes, including salaries or other remuneration of tribal officials or employees, such salaries or remuneration to be paid only for services actually authorized in a regular and legal manner and actually rendered"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 1(f) all such "expenditures shall be by resolution duly approved by a majority vote of the council, and the amounts so expended shall be a matter of public record at all times"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Constitution, Art. VI., Sec. 1(m) the Tribal Council has the authority to "adopt resolutions regulating the procedure of the council itself and of other tribal agencies and tribal officials of the reservation"; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe By-Laws, Art. VII, Sec. 1, the Tribal Council has the authority to determine just cause for aid and assistance to tribal members; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe By-Laws, Art. VII, Sec. 2, the Tribal Council has the authority and responsibility to promote the education of the Tribe's children; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 19, 2019, a novel coronavirus now known as COVID-19 was first detected in China and has now spread globally; and

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**WHEREAS,** on March 12, 2020, Governor Steve Sisolak by Executive Order issued a Declaration of Emergency for the State of Nevada; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency regarding the COVID-19 virus pursuant to Sec. 501(6) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act"); and

**WHEREAS,** on March 16, 2020, Chairman Anthony Sampson, pursuant to Tribal Council Resolution No. PL 37-16, declared a tribal emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 17, 2020, the Tribal Council passed Resolution No. C03-66-20 which declared a tribal emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** on May 15, 2020, at a duly held Tribal Council meeting, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council passed Resolution PL 59-020 to approve the Coronavirus Relief Fund General Welfare Grant Program, which was funded in part by funding from the CARES Act of 2020 Coronavirus Relief Fund; and

**WHEREAS,** due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to recover from the pandemic, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which was intended to provide additional financial relief and support to state, tribal and local governments to continue to respond to, and begin recovery from, the COVID-19 public health emergency and its impact on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses; and

**WHEREAS,** Title IX, Section 9901 of the ARPA authorized the State and Local Government Fiscal Recovery Fund (FRF) for payments to state and tribal governments for continued expenditures and costs incurred from March 11, 2021 until December 31, 2024 related to responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe received a total distribution of \$20,018,883.56 from the FRF; and

**WHEREAS,** according to the Department of Treasury Interim Final Rule to implement the FRF, funds may be used to provide cash assistance to individuals and families who have experienced negative economic impacts, including lost

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or reduced income, assistance with mortgage payments, rent payments, utilities payments, food, medicine, employment costs, child care and education, job training and re-employment expenses, and to compensate for other financial hardships due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

**HEREAS,** the Interim Final Rule issued by Treasury also acknowledges that tribal governments may use FRF monies, consistent with the statutory permitted uses, to implement projects and programs based on the Tribe's needs and in response to those needs; and

**WHEREAS,** as of the date of this Resolution, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and its enrolled tribal members continue to experience financial hardship and negative economic impacts due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council has developed the COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program for Tribal Members to promote the general welfare of the Tribe and its members by, among other things: alleviating the financial hardships endured from loss of income and increased costs; providing financial assistance with mortgage, rental, and utility payments; ensuring food security and continued education; providing assistance for medical and health services; and providing unreimbursed reasonable and necessary personal, living, and family expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 disaster and public health emergency situation; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the Tribe and its members to approve the attached COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program for eligible adult Tribal Members.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council approves the attached, and incorporated by reference, COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program for eligible adult Tribal Members and allocates \$6,054,000 from the Tribe's ARPA FRF for payments under the Program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Enrollment Committee is directed to compile a complete list of enrolled adult tribal members, regardless of enrollment status, who are eligible, notwithstanding the Enrollment Ordinance, to apply for the COVID Fiscal Recover General Welfare Grant Program; and

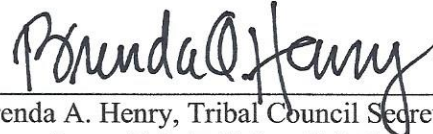
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that all eligible enrolled tribal members submit their application for the COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program by no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Applications must be received, stamped, emailed, no later than 1200 p.m. on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council reserves the authority to approve, by future resolution, any amendments to the COVID Fiscal Recovery General Welfare Grant Program or the allocation of funds; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council authorizes the Chairwoman to sign all documents and take any necessary and proper action to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

***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, of whom constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly held on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022, was adopted by the affirmative vote of nine (9) FOR and zero (0) AGAINST, with zero (0) ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.



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