## Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

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**RESOLUTION NO.: PL 035-22** 

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## 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 to negotiate with federal, state and local governments; and
- WHEREAS, among the powers of inherent sovereignty vested in the Tribe is the power to determine its own form of government, interpret its own laws and be governed by those laws; and
- WHEREAS, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, the Tribe's governing body, recognizes that Native people and tribal nations, including members of the Tribe, are disproportionately impacted by the opioid epidemic; and
- WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic poses a direct threat to the continuation of tribal culture, identity, and membership, and the opioid epidemic has forced tribal governments to incur costs of provide increased medical care and services, social services, child welfare, law enforcement, and public safety; and
- WHEREAS, the Native American population has suffered some of the worst consequences of the opioid epidemic of any population in the United States. Tribal governments have had to spend considerable tribal funds to cover the costs of the opioid crisis, including increased costs for health care, social services, child welfare, law enforcement and other government services; and
- **WHEREAS,** over 400 federally recognized tribes filed litigation against the opioid manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies, all of which these tribal plaintiffs maintain are responsible for the opioid crisis; and
- WHEREAS, on February 1, 2022, the court-appointed Tribal Leadership Committee ("TLC") announced comprehensive settlements of opioid claims asserted in cases filed by the tribes against Janssen/Johnson & Johnson ("J&J") and against the three major distributors of opioid pharmaceuticals McKesson, Amerisource Bergen and Cardinal Health ("Big 3 Distributors"); and

- WHEREAS, J&J has agreed to resolve the Tribal claims for \$150,000,000, payable over two years and the Big 3 Distributors have agreed to resolve the tribal claims for \$439,964,500 payable over six and a half years; and
- WHEREAS, the Settlements only go into effect if certain participation thresholds are reached; and
- WHEREAS, under the terms of the Settlements, each tribal entity has the right to determine which approved opioid abatement uses are best for the tribal entity and each tribal entity has the right to meaningfully participate in the final allocation process and a right to be heard prior to entry of the final allocation order; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is aware of and has reviewed the terms of the J&J Settlement and the Big 3 Distributors' Settlement and elects to participate in the Settlements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, on behalf of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, in order to obtain and in consideration for the benefits provided to the Tribe pursuant to the Settlement Term Sheets, and acting through its authorized law firm, FRAZER P.L.C. hereby elects to participate in the J&J Settlement and the Big 3 Distributors' Settlement and become a Participating Tribe as defined therein, and release all Released Claims against all Released Entities as defined therein;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that FRAZER P.L.C. is authorized to submit the Tribal Participation Forms attached to this Resolution on behalf of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council authorizes the Chairperson or designee to execute the Participation forms on behalf of the Tribe to effectuate 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 <u>ten (10)</u> constituting a quorum were present at a meeting duly held on the <u>Ist</u> day of <u>April 2022</u>, was adopted by the affirmative vote of <u>nine (9)</u> FOR and <u>zero (0)</u> AGAINST, with <u>zero (0)</u> ABSTENTIONS; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

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