



# Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

RESOLUTION 21-51  
AUGUST 7, 2021

## RESOLUTION

- Whereas,** The Pawnee Business Council is the supreme governing body of the Pawnee Nation and is authorized to conduct business on behalf of the Pawnee Nation in accordance with Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of the Pawnee Nation Constitution and By-Laws; and
- Whereas,** the Pawnee Business Council met in virtual Quarterly Meeting on August 7, 2021, on Pawnee Nation Microsoft TEAMS, duly authorized, with a quorum present; and
- Whereas,** the Pawnee Nation and its citizens have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as evidenced by closure of facilities, loss of jobs, sudden changes to our social lives, inability to access education, food insecurity, experience of unsafe home environments, and juggling multiple responsibilities in the midst of much uncertainty and rapid changes in our environment. In addition, the struggle of making sense of situations of being exposure and the unknown risk of spreading the virus resulting our community to experience social and emotional implications from this pandemic. These challenges are presenting feelings of sadness, despair, anxiety, and stress which increase mental health illnesses and substance abuse in our community.
- Whereas,** the President recommends the following appropriation from funds received as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in form of bridge financing in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 with Ascension Recovery Services (Ascension RS), and
- Whereas,** the Pawnee Nation and Ascension RS will develop the facility and program services for the Pawnee Nation Behavioral Health Facility. Meeting deadlines and progress on the initial development activities that are all listed in an attached Term Agreement. This project will minimize the mental health and substance abuse in our community that has been from the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Pawnee Business Council does hereby approve the allocation from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in the amount of \$1,500,000 on terms satisfactory to the President to develop the Pawnee Nation Behavioral Health Facility to provide relief, mental health stability, and other resources needed to address the substance abuse crisis to our Citizen and community.

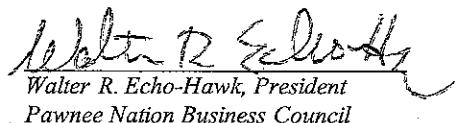
## CERTIFICATION

I, George Gardipe, Secretary of the Pawnee Business Council, certify that a Special Meeting of the Pawnee Business Council was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021 and that the Pawnee Business Council is composed of eight members, of whom 8 were present, 0 absent, comprising a quorum, and the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 1 not voting.

*Signed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021*

ATTEST:

  
George Gardipe, Secretary  
Pawnee Nation Business Council

  
Walter R. Echo-Hawk, President  
Pawnee Nation Business Council