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**SECRETARY**  
 EvAnn White Feather

**TREASURER**  
 Kevin C. Keckler

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
 Robert "Bob" Walters



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**TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- DISTRICT 1**  
 Bryce In The Woods  
 Steve Moran
- DISTRICT 2**  
 Theodore Knife, Jr.
- DISTRICT 3**  
 John C. Kessler  
 Kenric Dupris
- DISTRICT 4**  
 Sharon F. Lee  
 Merrie Miller (White Bull)  
 Kelsie K. Haskell  
 Thad Rose
- DISTRICT 5**  
 Derek Bartlett  
 Francine Garreau Hall  
 Joseph J. Brings Plenty, Sr.  
 Robert "Bob" Walters
- DISTRICT 6**  
 Ronald Rousseau  
 Tuffy Thompson

**TRIBAL MEMORANDUM**

**DATE** : 02/07/2024

**TO** : SUPERINTENDENT, Cheyenne River Agency

**FROM** : Ev Ann White Feather, Tribal Secretary *EvAnn White Feather*

**SUBJECT** : Resolution No. 30-2024-CR: That the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council does hereby rescind all the motions made on December 6, 2023 regarding ARPA economic hardship assistance grants to District Residents and enacts this resolution regarding ARPA economic hardship assistance grants for District Residents and contains the provision.

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Transmitted herewith are an original and two (2) copies of Resolution No. 30-2024-CR which was duly adopted by the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council during its Regular Session held on February 7, 2024.

EWF/kr

- Cc:** Chairman  
 Treasurer  
 Administrative Officer  
 Tribal Comptroller  
 Central Records  
 Committee Secretary  
 Council Representatives (15)  
 District Officers (6)  
 Budget & Finance Committee Chair  
 ARPA Office, Emily Lawrence  
 File/2

The blue represents the thunderclouds above the world where live the thunder birds who control the four winds. The rainbow is for the Cheyenne River Sioux people who are keepers of the Most Sacred Calf Pipe, a gift from the White Buffalo Calf Maiden. The eagle feathers at the edges of the rim of the world represent the spotted eagle who is the protector of all Lakota. The two pipes fused together are for unity. One pipe is for the Lakota, the other for all the other Indian Nations. The yellow hoops represent the Sacred Hoop, which shall not be broken. The Sacred Calf Pipe Bundle in red represents Wakan Tanka - The Great Mystery. All the colors of the Lakota are visible. The red, yellow, black and white represent the four major races. The blue is

## RESOLUTION NO. 30-2024-CR

- WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of South Dakota is an unincorporated Tribe of Indians, having accepted the provisions of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984); and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe, in order to establish its Tribal organization; to conserve its Tribal property; to develop its common resources; and to promote the general welfare of its people, as ordained and established a Constitution and By-Laws; and
- WHEREAS, in response to the 2020 pandemic, the United States authorized two different programs to help the American people with monetary assistance and other programs; and
- WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") authorized funding to be spent under six different umbrella categories including providing economic hardship grants to individuals; and
- WHEREAS, ARPA requires any economic hardship assistance grants made by the Tribe to its members must be "reasonably proportional to, and not grossly in excess of, the amount needed to address the negative economic impact." (Quoting Final ARPA rule by Treasury on page 4362 of Vol 87 of the CFR); and
- WHEREAS, Treasury also stated that "governments may consider and take guidance from the per person amounts previously provided by the Federal Government in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Cash transfers that are grossly in excess of such amounts would be outside the scope of eligible uses...and could be subject to recoupment; and
- WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe still is impacted by the pandemic and has been challenged with its economy not rebounding resulting in very high unemployment rates on the reservation; and
- WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Reservation in north central South Dakota encompasses Dewey and Ziebach Counties, South Dakota with our Tribal members among the poorest in America, and measured on a per capita income basis, Dewey and Ziebach Counties are among the poorest 50 counties in America; and
- WHEREAS, according to the 2020 census taken during the pandemic, Ziebach County has poverty rate of 41.3% with an unemployment rate of 55.6% and Dewey County has a poverty rate of approximately 30.9% with an unemployment rate of 40.2%; and

**RESOLUTION NO. 30-2024-CR**

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WHEREAS, there is a severe housing shortage on the Reservation, with more than 30% of tribal members living in overcrowded housing – at times, more than 25 family members living in a 2 or 3 bedroom house intended for a family of four; and

WHEREAS, Tribal members on the reservation have experienced higher food prices due to inflation compounded by the remoteness of the reservation and increased transportation costs; and

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council has decided that it would be in the best interest of on-reservation Tribal members who are District Residents to make economic hardship assistance grants under the category of responding to negative economic impacts caused by COVID, an allowable US Dept. of Treasury ARPA category; and

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council understands that any economic hardship assistance grants to enrolled Tribal members who are District Residents must be proportional to the ongoing harm and used to mitigate the negative effects and ongoing impacts of the pandemic; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council does hereby rescind all the motions made on December 6, 2023 regarding ARPA economic hardship assistance grants to District Residents and enacts this resolution regarding ARPA economic hardship assistance grants for District Residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in order to be eligible for the ARPA economic hardship assistance grant you must have been a resident of one of the Six Districts of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe as of December 6, 2023 and be an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe as of March 29, 2024. Children born after December 6, 2023 are eligible recipients as long as they are enrolled by the deadline of March 29, 2024 and their parents were District Residents as of December 6, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Tribal Council has determined that it is more fair and equitable to make an ARPA economic hardship assistance grant to District Residents that are in the same equal amount to each District Resident; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the economic hardship assistance grant applications for District Residents will be open for 29 business days beginning at 8:00 A.M. on February 20, 2024 and closing at 5:00 P.M., March 29, 2024 at which time the District Residents' allocation amount will be calculated with the checks to be mailed out via mail beginning the following week; and

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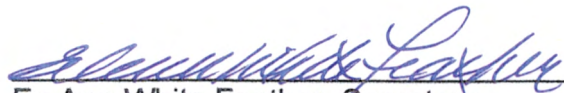
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that District Residents who are members of the military or attending educational institutions who are domiciled here must have their economic hardship assistance grant applications received in the CRST ARPA Office by March 29, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any District Residents applicants that are denied an economic hardship assistance grant may appeal the decision to an Appeal's Board comprised of members of the CRST Tribal Council who are not up for election in 2024; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that nothing in this Resolution diminishes, divests, alters, or otherwise affects any inherent, treaty, statutory, or other rights of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe over the property or activities described herein. The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe expressly retains all rights and authority over the property and activities described herein, including but not limited to legislative, regulatory, adjudicatory, and taxing powers.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, certify that the Tribal Council is composed of fifteen (15) members, of whom 12, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024, Regular Session; and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a roll call vote of 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstaining, and 3 absent.

  
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Ev Ann White Feather, Secretary  
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe