

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

RESOLUTION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_ (2026)

*A resolution approving the Lickstone Ridge Tribal Reserve Management Plan*

WHEREAS, the EBCI occupies roughly 56,000 acres of forested land held in trust by the United States government with approximately 5,600 acres set aside as "Tribal Reserve" for EBCI enrolled member use; and

WHEREAS, the Lickstone Ridge Tribal Reserve Management Unit, needs active forest restoration efforts to improve forest stand composition, structure, and species diversity; and

WHEREAS, the current forest conditions at Lickstone Ridge present an opportunity to advance long-term ecological health through targeted management interventions, including treatments designed to favor native species assemblages and restore natural forest dynamics; and

WHEREAS, active restoration efforts at Lickstone Ridge will contribute to the broader oak-hickory forest restoration and wildlife habitat management goals established for the EBCI's forest lands; and

WHEREAS, the Lickstone Ridge Tribal Reserve Management Plan has been developed in alignment with the goals, strategies, and priorities set forth in the Legacy Plan (Integrated Resource Management Plan) and the EBCI Forest Management Plan, providing a consistent and coordinated framework for long-term stewardship of this reserve; and

WHEREAS, approval of the Lickstone Ridge Tribal Reserve Management Plan will provide the Natural Resources Department with the direction and authority needed to implement active restoration treatments in a manner that reflects the EBCI's values and commitment to responsible land stewardship

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, in Council assembled at which a quorum is present, hereby approves the Lickstone Ridge Tribal Reserve Management Plan and authorizes the Natural Resources Department to implement the management activities contained therein

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are hereby rescinded, and that this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief

*Submitted by Josh Parris, Manager – Forestry, Natural Resources Department*