

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE,  
CHEROKEE, NC\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (2025)

*Resolution executing the Tribe's intent for the purchase of the lower section of the Cooper property for the purposes of cannabis.*

**WHEREAS**, on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, lands acquisition voted to purchase Lower Cherokee Community Parcel Numbers 18,57 (Part of Parcel No. 17), 65, 58 (Part of Parcel No. 17), 13, and 85 (Part of Parcel No. 17) for the purposes of workforce housing and cannabis, Tribal Council approved the purchase on May 5, 2022 (as reported by Smoky Mountain News on May 11, 2022). See Resolution No. 160 (2022) and Resolution No. 273 (2022); and

**WHEREAS**, while discussing resolution No. 273 (2022) on May 5, 2022 Principal Chief Sneed clarified the intent of the property use, stating "The part behind pioneer Motel would be used for medical cannabis"; and

**WHEREAS**, since the transfer of these parcels to the tribe on July 28, 2022, QE LLC has been strategically incorporating these assets into the start-up business model and long-term strategic plan and is currently positioned to begin expansion onto these parcels immediately; and

**WHEREAS**, the intended development of these parcels is critical to meeting market demands and sustainability goals, as such the parcels were included and approved within the QE LLC management agreement as critical infrastructure needs; and

**WHEREAS**, this project will create between 90-110 new jobs within an employment system comprised of over 85% enrolled members; and

**WHEREAS**, as the company and the market develop, it is important that QE LLC be able to expand rapidly enough to meet market needs while also ensuring future opportunities related to expanding retail markets and state regulation can be captured at the highest level, benefiting the Cherokee people the most; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2021 potentially suitable locations across all trust lands were vetted extensively for the purposes of cannabis operations; and

**WHEREAS**, there are currently no other sites of this size, proximity to operations, access to suitable utilities that can be identified; and

**WHEREAS**, through collaboration with EBCI planning and regulatory programs in addition to vast research and development at the Coopers Creek Farm, there are no major obstacles or barriers that would keep QE from developing this site as planned.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, in Council Assembled, at which a quorum is present, that the area shown on attachment A encompassing land within lower Cherokee community parcels numbers 85,13,65,58,57, and 18 be solely dedicated to the original intent, cannabis production by QE LLC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** QE LLC will complete adequate surveys to establish specific meets and bounds of the aforementioned project area referenced on attachment A.

*Submitted by Qualla Enterprises LLC*