

TABLED

CHEROKEE COUNCIL HOUSE
CHEROKEE, QUALLA BOUNDARY, NC

Date: OCT 16 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 20 (2025)

*AUTHORIZING THE WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$348,126.31 FROM
THE EASTERN CHEROKEE INDIANS NORTH CAROLINA – 7224 -S52/001 ACCOUNT
(ACCOUNT NO. PL7224709) DERIVED FROM THE STONY RIDGE FIRE SETTLEMENT
WITH DUKE ENERGY, FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PETERSEN ATLAS-AL-2 50YD
GRAPPLE TRUCK*

WHEREAS, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) is a federally recognized, sovereign tribal nation with powers of self-governance and jurisdiction over lands held in trust for the benefit of the Tribe and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the EBCI previously received settlement funds from Duke Energy in response to damages resulting from the Stony Ridge Fire, with said funds held in *EASTERN CHEROKEE INDIANS NORTH CAROLINA – 7224 -S52/001* (Account No. *PL7224709*) for use in activities that promote restoration, environmental protection, and fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, wildfire prevention and sustainable land management remain essential responsibilities of Tribal governance, especially in light of ongoing climate threats and increased risk to natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Petersen Atlas-AL-2 50 YD is a specialized vehicle designed to help crews perform safe and efficient tree removal, large-scale vegetation management, and hazard mitigation, especially in rugged and fire-prone terrain; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of this equipment will significantly strengthen the Tribe's capacity to reduce wildfire risk, and improve efficiency of tree removal efforts by tribal crews; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Fleet Committee has heard and approved the purchase of this equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that purchasing this equipment constitutes a responsible and effective use of settlement funds, in accordance with the original purpose of the Stony Ridge Fire settlement.

1 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, in
2 Council assembled at which a quorum is present, that: funds shall be withdrawn from **EASTERN**
3 **CHEROKEE INDIANS NORTH CAROLINA – 7224 -S52/001** (Account No. **PL7224709**), in
4 the amount of \$348,126.31 to purchase one (1) Petersen Atlas-AL-2 50 YD Grapple Truck;
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6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the appropriate Tribal departments are authorized and
7 directed to carry out procurement of this equipment in full compliance with existing Tribal fiscal
8 policies and procurement guidelines;
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10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this piece of equipment shall be placed under the
11 purview of the Tribal Construction Tree Cutting Program
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13 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Office of Budget and Finance is hereby directed to
14 complete and submit the required SF-1034 form to the Eastern Region Office of the Special
15 Trustee for American Indians (OST) to ensure proper documentation and processing of the
16 associated funds; and
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18 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall become effective immediately upon
19 ratification by the Principal Chief.
20

21 *Submitted by Vice Chief Alan B Ensley*