

Resolution No. _____ (2018)

- WHEREAS: the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA) was established in section 130B of the Tribal Code, and section 130B-5 has authorized the CIHA to develop long-range plans and provide direction, oversight, and management for the healthcare resources of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS: the Tribal Council is committed to elevating the health status of enrolled members to the highest possible level, including the provision long-term care services for tribal elders and crisis stabilization services for members suffering from mental health and addiction disorders; and
- WHEREAS: the Tsali Care Center is outdated and in desperate need of a new facility, and the community is in great need of additional services for elders including but not limited to assisted living and adult day care; and
- WHEREAS: the greatest current threat to the health and wellbeing of the Tribe has become the opioid and illicit drug epidemic, causing wide spread trauma and grief, leading to criminal justice involvement, family disruption, overdose and death; and
- WHEREAS: approximately 430 cases present to the emergency department annually in need of detox or inpatient psychiatric services which are often not available through the State system; and
- WHEREAS: Tribal Council has consistently demonstrated its leadership and commitment to addressing this community crisis, as evidenced by the passage of resolution 590 (2015) charging the CIHA with the planning and development of a comprehensive recovery community continuum, recognizing that a multitude of services would be necessary to effectively address this growing epidemic; and
- WHEREAS: Tribal Council also passed resolution 389(2016) stating:
"The CIHA has developed a project proposal, at the request of Tribal Council as specified in resolution 267, June 2, 2016 for the renovation of the former Cherokee Indian Hospital which includes the construction of a crisis stabilization unit adjacent to the newly constructed Emergency Room, and the co-location of all centered based services provided by Analenisgi,"
and
- WHEREAS: resolution 389(2016) approved \$1.7 million dollars and authorized CIHA to proceed with the design phase of the aforementioned project, and "to develop a defensible project scope and budget," and
- WHEREAS: the CIHA has determined the most feasible and cost effective option to be a combination of remodel and new construction; and

WHEREAS: the CIHA Board of Directors have officially endorsed the scope, budget, and preferred option for the Hospital Phase II/Crisis Stabilization project; and

WHEREAS: after meeting with a lending institution to discuss financing terms and modeling a range of amortization schedules, it has been determined that it is financially prudent to finance this project, servicing the annual debt using only a portion of the annual interest earned by the Debt Service Sinking Fund; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee

Indians where a quorum is present that the EBCI Finance Division and the Principal Chief shall be authorized to negotiate and acquire financing for an amount up to \$31 million for the remodel of the former Cherokee Indian Hospital including the construction of the Crisis Stabilization Unit. The debt shall be paid from the annual interest earned by the Debt Service Sinking Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that \$100,000 shall be appropriated for the evaluation and planning of a comprehensive continuum of long-term care services for Tribal Elders, including Master Planning for a new Skilled Nursing Facility, and detailed site analysis.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is authorized to carry out the intent of this resolution, which shall remain in effect until implemented or rescinded.

Submitted by: Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority