Resolution No. (2019)

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Regional Office Branch of Forestry and Wildland Fire Management has the responsibility for permitting all EBCI forest management activities on trust lands; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a backlog of possessory holder logging projects that require additional support with assessment and planning actions before timber sales can be initiated; and,

WHEREAS, the BIA is requesting EBCI assistance to efficiently process tribal member applications for timber harvesting permits following BIA regulations; and,

WHEREAS, the EBCI Timber and Natural Resources Committee has determined that it is in the best interest of the EBCI for the EBCI Natural Resources Program to seek contractual assistance in order to aid the BIA in expediting possessory holder logging projects; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, at which a quorum is present that the EBCI Natural Resources Program be authorized to utilize \$30,000 from the EBCI Proceeds of Labor account, also referred to as "stumpage", to contract a qualified forestry consultant to perform forestry assessment and planning services in coordination with the BIA.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief.

Submitted by: EBCI Timber and Natural Resources Committee