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RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A USPH GENERAL HOSPITAL AT THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, DIVISION OF INDIAN HEALTH HOSPITAL, MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS SHAWNEE TUBERCULOSIS SANITORIUM, SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA.

WHEREAS: The Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma, the Citizens Band of Pottawatomie Tribe of Oklahoma, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, and the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma have met together in an inter-tribal meeting for the purpose of determining the need for the United States Public Health Service, Division of Indian Health Hospital, better known as the Shawnee Tuberculosis Sanitorium, located at Shawnee, Oklahoma, to be converted into a general hospital for all the Indians located in the central and south central part of Oklahoma and any other area in which there are no general hospital facilities available to the Indians within a reasonable commuting distance and where adequate public transportation is available, and

WHEREAS: The desires of the five above mentioned tribes have been expressed to the effect that there is a definite need for a general hospital at this location which would be utilized by portions of the Choctaw, Seminole, Creek and Chickasaw Tribes as well as the tribes passing this resolution, and

WHEREAS: Statistics show that the out-patient clinic at the Shawnee Hospital has increased 400% in five years and during the month of January 1959, 805 out-patients went through this clinic. These patients were handled in a three hour period three days, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, of each week which gives an indication that the load would be much heavier if the out-patient clinic was open eight hours a day five days a week, and

WHEREAS: The Public Health Service Hospital records show that the in-patient load at the Lawton General Hospital has increased 20% for the first half of Fiscal Year 1959 as compared to the full year for Fiscal Year 1958 and the latest reports are that some of the patients in the Lawton General Hospital are in beds in the halls because of the heavy in-patient load. For the month of January 1959, the budgeted bed capacity was 56 whereas an operating bed capacity was up to 80. This is indicative that the need for another general hospital is definitely acute, and

WHEREAS: It is known that an undetermined number of Indian people who need hospital care do not make use of the existing hospitals because of poor transportation connections and the long distances from home which removes them from visitations by their families and because the adults are hesitant to leave their children at distant points and few can afford to stay at the location of the hospital, and

WHEREAS: There is an area in central and south central Oklahoma that is not served by a general hospital for the Indians and this area includes all of the original reservations of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma, the Citizens Band of Pottawatomie Tribe of Oklahoma, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma, and portions of the Choctaw, Creek, and Chickasaw Nations, and

RESOLUTION - CONTINUED

WHEREAS: The Standard of Indian health in this general area continues to be below average and it is the opinion of this group that it is the responsibility of the Government to bring the Indian health status up to par with the average public in this area and therefore the conversion of the Shawnee Tuberculosis Sanitorium to a USPH General Hospital would definitely facilitate the improvement of the health of the Indians in this area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That inasmuch as there is a definite need for a General Hospital to serve the aforesaid tribes in the area indicated, it is requested that the existing facilities of that hospital be converted to the use as a General Hospital.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 3rd DAY OF MARCH, 1959

STATE OF OKLAHOMA     )  
POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY ) 68

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above Resolution to be a true and exact copy as approved at a meeting of a committee duly appointed at an inter-tribal meeting held on February 27, 1959, of the five tribes located under the jurisdiction of the Shawnee Area Field Office, for the purpose of requesting a USPH General Hospital to be located at Shawnee, Oklahoma.

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A. B. Peacore, Representative  
Citizens Band of Pottawatomie Tribe of Oklahoma

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Paul White, Representative  
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

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Arthur Rolette, Representative  
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

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Rex Whistler, Representative  
Sac & Fox Tribe of Oklahoma

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Bernard Herr, Representative  
Citizens Band of Pottawatomie Tribe of Oklahoma

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James O. Stevens, Representative  
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma