



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

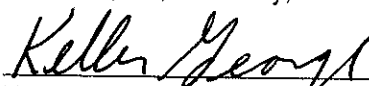
USET Resolution No. 2002:085

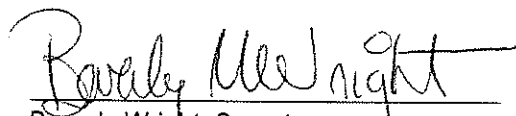
USET TRANSPORTATION SUPPLEMENTAL CHALLENGE LIST ON BIA EASTERN REGIONAL AREA OFFICE ROAD DIVISION ISSUES

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors has established the USET Transportation Committee for the purpose of reviewing issues of concern and policy regarding transportation programs and/or affecting USET member tribes, and to provide the Board with proposed recommendations and resolutions for Board consideration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Regional Office (ERO), Division of Engineering is committed to serve and assist USET Member tribes to meet their transportation needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Transportation Committee has seen some improvement in program services identified in USET Resolution 2002:051 approved by the USET Board of Directors at the January 2002 USET Impact Week Meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** the Transportation Committee has identified additional areas of concern and has developed a supplemental challenge list for the BIA-ERO Roads Division, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports and encourages the Regional Director of BIA ERO to implement policies and/or programs, which address the attached USET Transportation Committee's Supplemental Challenge List dated June 12, 2002.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.


Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.


Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Eastern Regional Office
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Nashville, TN 37214

AUG 09 2002

James T. Martin
Executive Director
United South and Eastern Tribes Inc.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike
Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37214

Subject: USET Resolution No. 2002:085

Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for your letter of July 1, 2002 forwarding United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) Resolution No. 2002:085, USET Transportation Committee Supplemental Challenge List on BIA Eastern Regional Office Road Division Issues. Included below are responses to items listed in the USET Transportation Committee Supplemental Challenge List:

Item 1. We will continue to attend USET Transportation Committee meetings when invited. We will provide Regional budget information on all Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) and Maintenance program funds.

Item 2. We have requested the Road Maintenance Fund allocations to other regions from our Central Office and will provide the data in a monthly report once we receive it. We are in the final stages of developing a proposed formula for future Regional Road Maintenance fund distributions we will be presenting for tribal consultation in the near future.

Item 3. We will continue to monitor staffing needs in the office and adjust within budget and workload constraints.

Item 4. The majority of the requested items were included in the July newsletter and will be continued in the future.

Item 5. We concur.

Item 6. We concur.

Item 7. The only funds we can use to support travel to these types of meetings are unused 2% planning funds. Fortunately we have some money generated by tribes not using their planning funds we can provide for these types of trips. Committee members anticipating travel to BIA sponsored transportation meetings should include those cost in their budget for use of planning funds and we will fund these to the extent possible.

*Check with Tiffany about
cc to committee
Sent to Committee by [signature]*

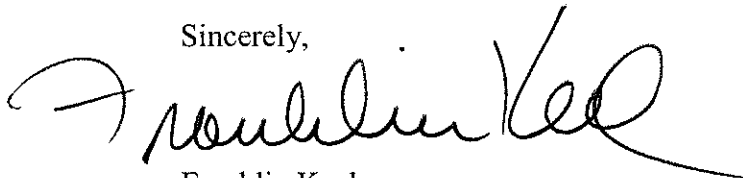
Item 8. We have developed a schedule to be included in the next monthly newsletter. We will work to keep this schedule up to date at all times. However, we cannot guarantee unexpected data calls resulting from requests by Central Office or the Federal Highway Administration. We understand frustrations resulting from short notice data calls and work to minimize these.

Item 9. We will provide, at a summary level, total budgeted labor, travel and training costs and anticipated Program Management and Oversight and Project Administration expenses in an upcoming newsletter.

Item 10. We will look into the best way to address this training need. One possibility is a session at the October Transportation Committee meeting.

I hope this response meets your expectations. I ensure you my staff and I will continue to work with you and all tribes in improving our Roads and Transportation Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Franklin Keel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "F" and a long, sweeping underline.

Franklin Keel
Director, Eastern Region

cc: Ms. Jody Clark, Seneca Tribe of Indians
Ms. Tiffany Chevront, USET



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.


USET Resolution No. 2002:085

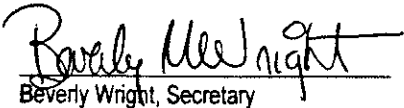
**USET TRANSPORTATION SUPPLEMENTAL CHALLENGE LIST ON BIA EASTERN REGIONAL AREA
OFFICE ROAD DIVISION ISSUES**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Board of Directors has established the USET Transportation Committee for the purpose of reviewing issues of concern and policy regarding transportation programs and/or affecting USET member tribes, and to provide the Board with proposed recommendations and resolutions for Board consideration; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Eastern Regional Office (ERO), Division of Engineering is committed to serve and assist USET Member tribes to meet their transportation needs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Transportation Committee has seen some improvement in program services identified in USET Resolution 2002:051 approved by the USET Board of Directors at the January 2002 USET Impact Week Meeting; and
- WHEREAS,** the Transportation Committee has identified additional areas of concern and has developed a supplemental challenge list for the BIA-ERO Roads Division, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports and encourages the Regional Director of BIA ERO to implement policies and/or programs, which address the attached USET Transportation Committee's Supplemental Challenge List dated June 12, 2002.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.


Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.


Beverly Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

USET Transportation Committee Supplemental Challenge List
June 12, 2002

USET Transportation Committee Challenge/Action items for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Regional Office:

1. Continue to hold Semi-Annual Transportation Budget meetings with the Tribes in the region to review project status and funding levels. Preferably at USET or at a Tribal location. Specifically these meetings will provide financial information in the following transportation areas:
 - a. Individual Tribal Allocations
 - b. 6% oversight and administration funds
 - c. 2% planning funds
 - d. Construction funds
 - e. Road Maintenance funds
 - f. All other set-aside budgets
2. Provide information to the tribes about Road Maintenance Funds. How are the funds distributed (what is the formula?) What are the past, present and projected allocations for each Tribe and all BIA Regions
3. Although the turnaround times are better, we see the need for an Engineer Technician/Office Automation Clerk left on the "chalkboard" as a check and balance in case there is a return to the old way of handling the programs.
4. The Committee is very pleased with the Monthly Newsletter being produced through the Roads Department of Eastern Region. In this, the committee would like to also request a monthly calendar to include program deadlines, training dates, etc... and continue to include the following:
 - Accomplishments
 - Actions needed/required
 - Follow-up information
 - Projected schedules of projects for close outs (final inspections, deadlines, etc...)
5. The Committee approves of the Point of Contact engineer the ERO has put into place. Of all of the participants, only two of the reservations had yet to have a site visit.
6. Continue to perform the action/challenge list provided in January of 2002.
7. Establish a process for the USET Transportation Committee to sponsor tribal attendee(s) at regional/national transportation meetings, utilizing BIA funding.

The tribal attendee will provide a report/presentation to the USET Transportation Committee. (Approximately 12 Meetings per year)

8. Establish a schedule of regional and national deadlines for program updates and submittals, keeping in mind that tribes need to have data reviewed and approved before the information is submitted to the BIA-ERO. (Most tribal operations need a minimum of 4 weeks for review and approvals alone.) Deadline schedules should take into consideration the amount of detail required and the size of the base that is being created/revised.
9. Provide budget breakdown of BIA-ERO Roads Division
 - o "up to 6%" Administrative Program oversight and Management Expenses/Projections
 - o BIA's Project Administration Expenses/Projections
10. Develop and provide road inventory training. The 5704 Form is confusing. Possible modification of form for parity with the States Transportation systems.