AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FUND FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO BECOME COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION CERTIFIED

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) 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 United States Department of Treasury administers the Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), which was established to build capacity among organizations that serve low-income individuals and communities that lack access to affordable financial products and services; and

WHEREAS, CDFI provides grant funding through its technical assistance (TA) program up to $150,000 to certify an organization so it may develop needed resources to promote economic and community development including credit counseling, revolving loan fund administration, hiring staff, training and technical assistance, and planning; and

WHEREAS, CDFI does not require matching funds in order to be awarded TA funding; and

WHEREAS, CDFI will provide TA funding for three years and requires an annual proposal to be submitted; and

WHEREAS, becoming CDFI certified, creating a comprehensive economic development plan, developing needed resources to promote economic development for USET member Tribes has been identified in the USET Fiscal Year 2014-2016 Long Term Strategic Plan and in the USET 2015 Short Term Strategic Plan as goals, objectives, and activity tasks to achieve in the next one to three years; and

WHEREAS, in December 2010, the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors authorizes the USET Executive Director to submit a proposal to the United States Department of Treasury Community Development Financial Institution Fund seeking financial support to create economic development resources for USET member Tribes and to gain Community Development Financial Institution certification for USET; and, be it further
RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors approves the submission of proposals to the United States Department of Treasury Community Development Financial Institution Fund for Technical Assistance until USET’s eligibility expires with this program.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, December 4, 2014.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Brenda Lintinger, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

“Because there is strength in Unity”