

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Approving Recommendations to Address Complaints Regarding the
Management and Operations of the Tohono O'odham Farms)

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DEFEATED
RESOLUTION NO. 96-337

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1996, a meeting was called by San Lucy District to be held in Casa Grande in regard to concerns raised by the Tohono O'odham Nation's Farms employees; and

WHEREAS, representation to this meeting consisted of the Executive, Chairman Manuel and Vice Chairman Ramon, as well as the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council Agriculture Committee, the Farm Manager, Tohono O'odham Farming Authority, Tohono O'odham Farm employees and several District Chairpersons and other concerned individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Farm employees did address their concerns to the group in regard to the Farm Management and the Farm Board; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Manuel did make several commitments to these employees at this meeting and assured them that there would be no retaliation or intimidation against any employee; and

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**WHEREAS, to date things continue to happen on a weekly, if not on a daily
basis that effects not only the employees but the integrity of the
Tohono O'odham Nation; and**

**WHEREAS, some of the Districts have been approached by employees demanding
that some action be taken against the Farm Manager and the board
for their continued intimidation towards the employees; and**

**WHEREAS, on July 23, 1996, a meeting was held at San Lucy District to address
all these concerns at which six District Chairpersons, along with other
concerned members of the Tohono O'odham Nation were present;
and**

**WHEREAS, on July 23, 1996 another meeting was held at Sif Oidak District with
Farm employees per their request with the District Chairpersons, at
which 48 people were in attendance to voice their concerns; and**

**WHEREAS, the District Chairpersons present did present to Vice Chairman
Ramon a letter requesting that Chairman Manuel take immediate
actions on the matter at hand; and**

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WHEREAS, the employees as well as the District Chairpersons and other concerned members of the Tohono O'odham Nation are very concerned and frustrated due to the fact that no action has been taken, and with the latest action of the Farm Manager this only proves to the O'odham that we are not in control of our own lands, and not looking out for the best interest of the O'odham; and

WHEREAS, some of the District Chairmen's, along with other concerned people and Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Henry Ramon did meet with the Agriculture Committee to address these concerns and it was the committee's position that they could not do anything because they did not have evidence and that the Tohono O'odham Farming Authority's Plan of Operation does not allow them to proceed in any fashion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council take immediate actions as follows for the protection and well being of our fellow O'odham:

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1. Immediate suspension of the Farm manager, Wayne Evans; without pay. That he be escorted off the reservation, and that he return any keys, vehicles and all other property of the Nation that are in his possession.
2. Immediate suspension of the Tohono O'odham Farming Authority Board pending investigation.
3. During time of investigation appoint O'odham Supervisors currently employed at the farms to operate and manage the Tohono O'odham Farms and also appoint O'odham employees to handle the day to day administration of the Tohono O'odham Farms office.
4. That all financial institutions and vendors be informed of the above.
5. Conduct an investigation on the management and operations of Tohono O'odham Farms immediately, inclusive of the independent audit implementation of the recommendations of Eide Helmeke & Company per Legislative Council Resolution No. 95-223 (Approving Agriculture Committee Recommendations for Addressing Issues Related to the Tohono O'odham Farming Authority Board).
6. Provide for the protection of the employees and the security of the Tohono O'odham Nation's property.

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7. The time frame for the investigation will be two (2) weeks. Upon completion of the investigation should there be findings of corruption by the Farm Manager and the Tohono O'odham Farming Authority immediate termination take place. And that legal action be taken on these individuals.

8. Appoint new Tohono O'odham Farming Authority Board members and/or fill vacancies as soon as possible with individuals who will work in the best interest of the O'odham.

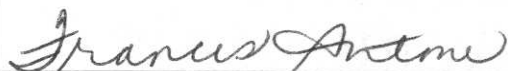
The foregoing Resolution was presented to the Tohono O'Odham Council on the 7TH day of AUGUST, 1996 at a meeting at which a quorum was present and by a vote of 635.0 FOR; 912.0 AGAINST; 187.0 NOT VOTING; and 142.0 [04] ABSENT, failed to pass because it did not receive a majority of the votes cast as required by Section 1 (c)(2) & (1) of Article V of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



Dennis Ramon, Legislative Chairman

ATTEST:



Frances Antone, Legislative Secretary

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ACTION: APPROVING RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM FARMS

MOVED: COUNCILWOMAN MARY ANN ANTONE

SECOND: COUNCILMAN JOHN RENO

DATE: AUGUST 7, 1996

DISTRICT	LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES	# OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING	ABSENT
SIF OIDAK 160.0	1. MARY ANN ANTONE (Nellie Miguel)	80.0	X			
	2. RITA MARTINEZ (Maxine Norris)	80.0	X			
SELLS 314.0	1. JOSEPH T. JOAQUIN (Allen W. Garcia, Jr.)	157.0		X		
	2. LUCILLE ENCINAS (Cynthia Chico)	157.0		X		
SCHUK TOAK 117.0	1. KENNETH J. ANTONE ()	58.5		X		
	2. JOSEPH JUAN ()	58.5	X			
SAN XAVIER 142.0	1. DENNIS RAMON ()	71.0				X
	2. TONY BURRELL ()	71.0				X
BABOQUIVARI 257.0	1. EDWARD KISTO (Idella Stanley)	128.5	X			
	2. FRANCES MIGUEL (Kenneth Chico, Sr.)	128.5		X		
GU ACHI 187.0	1. WILLARD ANITA (Louis Johnson)	93.5			X	X
	2. ALEX J. RAMON (Marian Johnson)	93.5			X	
PISINEMO 135.0	1. JOHNSON JOSE (Roseleen Antone)	67.5		X		
	2. BARBARA SALVICIO ()	67.5		X		
SAN LUCY 105.0	1. ALBERT MANUEL, JR. ()	52.5	X			
	2. JOHN RENO (Mary Hoffman)	52.5	X			
GU VO 134.0	1. ()	67.0		X		
	2. FERN SALCIDO (Larry Montana)	67.0		X		
HICKIWAN 142.0	1. LLOYD FRANCISCO ()	71.0		X		
	2. ALEX JOSE ()	71.0		X		
CHUKUT KUK 183.0	1. KENNETH WILLIAMS ()	91.5	X			X
	2. DAVID GARCIA (Marvin Thomas)	91.5	X			
TOTAL		1,876.0	635.0	912.0	187.0	142.0 [04]

****PASSED VOTES**