

TO APPROVE AND SUPPORT PINE TELEPHONE COMPANY’S APPLICATION FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY CONNECT GRANT PROGRAM

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

RONALD PERRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO APPROVE consent and support for Pine Telephone Company’s application to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service Community Connect Grant Program to provide broadband access within the Choctaw Nation Reservation.

WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (the “Nation”) provides that the Tribal Council (the “Council”) shall enact legislation, rules and regulations not inconsistent with the Constitution for the general good of the Choctaw Nation and for the administration and regulation of the affairs of the Choctaw Nation;

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation (the “Nation”) realizes the need to expand broadband infrastructure on tribal lands increasing access to and adoption of broadband by citizens to increase quality of life and services;

WHEREAS, Pine Telephone Company is eligible for funding to provide broadband infrastructure deployment including new infrastructure, replacing or upgrading existing infrastructure and equipment, and extending existing infrastructure and services with Federal funds within the Choctaw Nation Reservation;

WHEREAS, in order to receive said federal funding, the Nation must enact legislation showing its consent and support for Pine Telephone Company to perform this work in Honobia, Oklahoma, within the Choctaw Nation Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has determined it is in the best interest of the Nation to provide its consent and support for Pine Telephone Company’s application to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service for the Community Connect Grant Program in order to provide broadband access/service within the Choctaw Nation Reservation.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma that this Bill be cited as the Nation’s consent and support for Pine Telephone Company’s application to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service for the Community Connect Grant Program in order to provide broadband access/service within the Choctaw Nation Reservation.

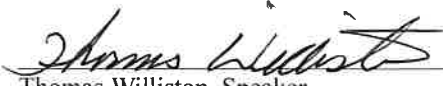
CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as speaker of the Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of twelve (12) seats. Eight (8) members must be present to constitute a quorum. I further certify that twelve (12) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tuskahoma, Oklahoma on November 9, 2024. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB- 09 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of twelve (12) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.

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Ronald Perry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council



Gary Batton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 11-12-24

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Purpose/Need of Council Bill: Pine Telephone Company is eligible for funding to provide broadband infrastructure deployment, including new infrastructure, replacing or upgrading existing infrastructure and equipment, and extending existing infrastructure and services with federal funds within the Choctaw Nation Reservation. In order to receive this federal funding, the Nation must enact legislation showing its consent and support for Pine Telephone Company to perform this work in Honobia, Oklahoma, within the Choctaw Nation Reservation. This bill meets the Nation's strategic goal of achieving digital transformation to be strategically positioned in the digital economy through access to broadband.

Title of Council Bill: **TO APPROVE AND SUPPORT PINE TELEPHONE COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY CONNECT GRANT PROGRAM**

Federal Agency: United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

CNO Dept: Information Technology

Budget: \$4,363,350.00

Match Required: N/A

Total Budget: N/A

Request by Project Director/SEO: Rob Griffin, Tribal Broadband Coordinator; David Ledford, Executive Director of Information Technology; Kelly McKaughan, SEO Integrated Services

Suggested Legislative Committee Review: Member Services