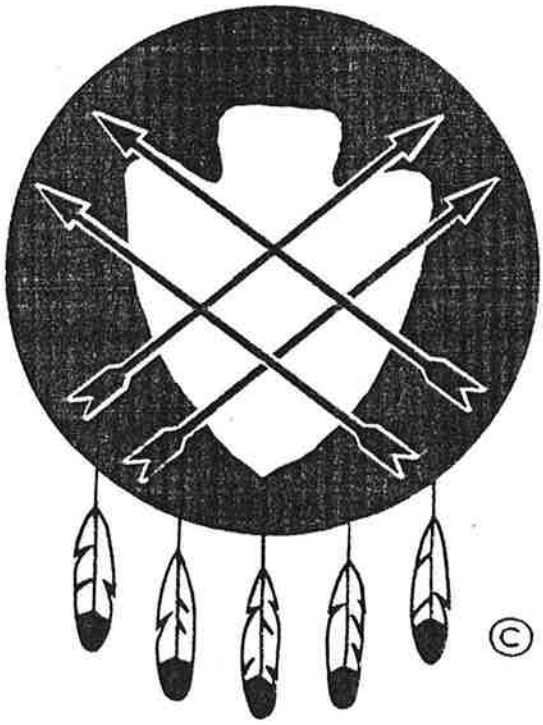
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS
OF OKLAHOMA



Approved: August 13, 1997

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MUSKOGEE AREA OFFICE
101 N. 5TH STREET
MUSKOGEE, OK 74401-6206

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Tribal Operations

SEP - 5 1997

Honorable Donald E. Giles
Chief, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
P. O. Box 1527
Miami, Oklahoma 74354

Dear Chief Giles:

By memorandum dated August 13, 1997, the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs transmitted the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as adopted on July 23, 1997. This document was approved pursuant to the authority delegated to the Secretary of the Interior by the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), and delegated to the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs by Secretarial Order No. 3150, as extended by Secretarial Order No. 3177, Amendment No. 2.

The results of the election held July 23, 1997, were forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs on July 31, 1997. The election was called in accordance with an order issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs on March 31, 1997, which permitted the qualified voters of the Tribe to vote on the adoption or rejection of the proposed Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

The proposed constitution was duly adopted by a vote of 226 for, 7 against, and 8 ballots found spoiled, in an election in which at least thirty percent of the 343 members registered and entitled to vote cast their ballots.

We wish to extend our congratulations on this accomplishment and are pleased to forward to you the approved original document.

Sincerely,

James E. Fields

Area Director

Enclosure: Approved Constitution

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

PREAMBLE ..... Page 1

Article I. Name ..... Page 1

II. Jurisdiction ..... Page 1

III. Membership of Tribe ..... Page 2

IV. Peoria Council ..... Page 3

V. Elected Officials ..... Page 3

VI. Duties of Officers ..... Page 3

VII. Grievance Committee ..... Page 5

VIII. Powers ..... Page 6

IX. Elections ..... Page 7

X. Vacancies ..... Page 9

XI. Removal, Recall and Forfeiture .. Page 9

XII. Initiative and Referendum ..... Page 10

XIII. Severability ..... Page 11

XIV. Meetings ..... Page 11

XV. Quorum ..... Page 12

XVI. Tribal Court ..... Page 13

XVII. Savings Clause ..... Page 13

XVIII. Civil Rights ..... Page 13

XIX. Amendments ..... Page 14

XX. Ratification ..... Page 14

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

PREAMBLE

We, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, (initially organized under a Constitution ratified by the Tribal Council on July 30, 1981), desire to: promote the common welfare of our Tribe; protect our people, our land and natural resources, now and in the future; acquire additional lands for the benefit of the Tribe; protect our Indian heritage, including our religion, customs, and language; and to preserve, secure, and exercise all the inherent sovereign rights and powers hereby adopt the following Constitution pursuant to the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

This Constitution shall supersede all previous Constitutions of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

ARTICLE II - JURISDICTION

The authority and jurisdiction of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall extend to all the territory within the boundaries now known as Peoria lands, and to all lands which may be acquired for the Peoria Tribe by the United States Government or which may be acquired by the Peoria Tribe for its land base and to all Indian country of the Peoria Tribe and its citizens as of now or hereafter as defined by Federal law. The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma may exercise its authority and jurisdiction outside the territory above described to the fullest extent not prohibited by Federal law.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

Section 1. The membership of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe dated January 1, 1937, and/or on the official membership roll of the Tribe as of August 3, 1956.

(b) Any person of Peoria Indian blood who is descendant from a person whose name appears on the official census roll of the Tribe dated January 1, 1937, or on the official membership roll of the Tribe as of August 3, 1956, shall be eligible for membership, provided that such person is not a member of any other Federally recognized Tribe.

(c) Any child born to a member of the Peoria Tribe shall be eligible for membership, provided such person is not a member of any other Federally recognized Tribe.

Section 2. The Peoria Council shall have the power to prescribe rules and regulations covering future membership, including loss of membership, not inconsistent with this Constitution.

Section 3. Enrollment Committee. The Enrollment Committee shall consist of three (3) persons selected by the Business Committee to certify the qualifications of prospective new enrollees of the Tribe under procedures consistent with this Constitution. Such prospective enrollees will be admitted to membership by the Business Committee at any Regular Monthly meeting, subject to final approval by the Peoria Council at any duly called meeting.

Section 4. Enrollment Ordinance. All enrollment procedures shall be conducted in accordance with an Enrollment Ordinance enacted by the Peoria Council, consistent with this Constitution. The purpose of the Ordinance is to establish guidelines and rules, ensure an individual receives equal protection and due process, develop orderly procedures to maintain a current membership roll and to provide for enrollment of eligible persons into membership of the Tribe. Such Ordinance shall provide for, but not be limited to: procedures for processing of membership applications, relinquishment and disenrollment of Tribal Members, the right to appeal decisions, and record keeping.

ARTICLE IV - PEORIA COUNCIL

The Peoria Council shall consist of all tribal members who are at least eighteen (18) years of age and shall exercise those powers delegated to it by this Constitution.

ARTICLE V - ELECTED OFFICIALS

The officials of the Tribe shall consist of seven (7) members of the Business Committee: Chief, Second Chief, Secretary, Treasurer, and three (3) Councilmen; and a five (5) member Grievance Committee who shall be elected in accordance with Article IX - Elections.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Chief. It shall be the duty of the Chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, also to act as chairman of the Business Committee.

Section 2. Second Chief. In the absence of the Chief, or during procedures to remove him or her, the Second Chief shall perform the duties of the Chief. In case of vacancy, the Second Chief shall succeed at once to the office of Chief until the next special or regular election for the office of Chief.

Section 3. Secretary. The duties of the Secretary shall include:

(a) Correctly recording the proceedings of all meetings;

(b) Making out the order of business for the Chief;

(c) Notifying all committee members of their appointments;

(d) Being wholly responsible for all records and papers of the Peoria Council. These records and papers shall be held within the confines of the Peoria Tribal building, unless otherwise directed by the Business Committee or Peoria Council.

(e) Providing for the inspection of the records and papers of the Peoria Council in his or her possession upon request of any member of the Peoria Council, provided that such inspection takes place within the Secretary's presence during normal working hours;

(f) Maintaining the Tribe's membership roll, as well as a current list of the members of the Peoria Council;

(g) Authenticating all directives and resolutions of the Peoria Council and Business Committee;

(h) In the absence of the Chief and Second Chief, calling meetings to order and presiding over the selection of a chairman pro tem;

(i) Issuing notices of all meetings and conducting all general correspondence when directed to do so by the Peoria Council or Business Committee;

(j) In the event of the simultaneous vacancies of the offices of Chief and Second Chief, the Secretary shall succeed at once to the office of Chief until the next special or regular election for the office of Chief.

All records and papers compiled, written by, or entrusted to the Secretary shall remain the property of the Peoria Tribe, and upon expiration of his or her term of office, all such records and papers in his or her possession shall be turned over to his or her successor.

Section 4. Treasurer. The duties of the Treasurer shall include:

(a) Supervising receipt of all monies of the Peoria Tribe and accurate accounting of receipts and disbursements;

(b) Rendering a written financial report annually, and a quarterly report to all tribal members;

(c) Supervising all tribal monies to be kept in a special account and disbursing such funds as may be directed by the Business Committee or the Peoria Council therefrom by check;

(d) Acquiring a bond to ensure proper performance of duties of the Business Committee.

All records and papers compiled, written by or entrusted to the Treasurer shall remain the property of the Peoria Tribe and upon expiration of his or her term of office, all such records and papers in his or her possession shall be turned over to his or her successor.

ARTICLE VII - GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Grievance Committee shall consist of five (5) members who shall be elected by the Peoria Council and who shall not be members of the Business Committee. This committee shall choose, from within its membership, a chairman and a secretary. The term of office shall be four (4) years.

Section 2. Meetings of the Grievance Committee may be called by the chairman and shall be called if a written request is received bearing the signature of at least three (3) members of the committee or if a petition is received signed by at least thirty (30) members of the Peoria Council.

Section 3. The Grievance Committee shall have the responsibility to decide Constitutional interpretations, by a majority vote of at least four (4) members, that should arise under any provision of this Constitution. The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be final.

Section 4. The Grievance Committee shall have the responsibility to determine disputes, by a majority vote of at least four (4) members, regarding any business conducted by the Business Committee. The decision of the Grievance Committee shall be brought before the Peoria Council at a special meeting called for the purpose of settling this dispute. The decision of the Peoria Council shall be final.

Section 5. If, within twenty (20) days after receipt of a written petition signed by at least thirty (30) members of the Peoria Council, a meeting of the Grievance Committee has not been duly conducted with at least four (4) members of the committee present, the designated spokesman for the petitioners shall be authorized to call and conduct a special meeting of the Peoria Council. The Peoria Council shall act on the complaint contained in the petition and its decision shall be final.

Section 6. The Grievance Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of insuring that the individual rights of members of the tribe, which have been guaranteed by the Act of April 11, 1968, P.L. 90-284 (82 Stat. 77), as amended, commonly referred to as the Indian Civil Rights Act, are not violated. When the Grievance Committee receives a complaint of a rights violation, it will conduct a hearing with all parties present. If, by a vote of at least four (4) members, the committee determines that the evidence presented is sufficient to substantiate the complaint, the committee shall call a special meeting of the Peoria Council to act upon the complaint. The decision of the Peoria Council is final.

ARTICLE VIII - POWERS

Section 1. The Peoria Council shall be the supreme governing body of the Tribe. The Peoria Council shall exercise those powers delegated to it by this Constitution, including, but not limited to:

(a) Approval of Annual budgets of Trust Fund expenditures.

(b) Approval of salaries and/or stipends of Business Committee members.

Section 2. The Business Committee shall serve as the legislative body of the Tribe and shall have the authority to act in and on all matters and subjects upon which the Tribe is empowered to act, now or in the future, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) To represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the health, peace, safety and general welfare of the Tribe and all persons within its territory, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to the Constitution.

(b) To negotiate and make contracts with Federal, Tribal, state and local governments, and with any individual, firm or company.

(c) To employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, or his authorized representative, so long as such approval is required by Federal law.

(d) To veto the sale, disposition, lease or encumbrance of Tribal lands, or interest in Tribal lands, Tribal funds or other Tribal assets which may be authorized by any agency or employee of the Federal Government.

(e) To regulate and provide for permits, leases, and assignments of land for business, homesite, and other purposes, and generally to provide for proper use and development of all Tribal lands, natural resources, and other Tribal property.

(f) To regulate its own procedures, to appoint subordinate committees, commissions, boards, Tribal officials and employees not otherwise provided for in this Constitution, to prescribe their salaries, tenure and duties. Appointees to Constitutionally required committees shall be Tribal members.

(g) The authority to establish and prescribe rules for governing Tribal courts and Tribal law enforcement agencies, and to provide for the maintenance of law and order on Tribal lands; subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative so long as such approval is required by federal law.

(h) To protect and preserve the wildlife and natural resources of the Tribe; to regulate hunting, fishing, and trapping on Tribal lands.

(i) To levy and collect taxes; to regulate the conduct of business within the territory of the Tribe; to charter public or private business, financial, and similar entities; and otherwise provide for the development of the economy within the territory of the Tribe.

(j) To enact codes, ordinances and resolutions necessary or incidental to the exercise of its legislative powers.

Section 3. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Peoria Tribe, but not expressly referred to in this Constitution, shall not be abridged by this article, but may be exercised by the people of the Peoria Tribe, through the adoption of appropriate constitutional amendments.

ARTICLE IX - ELECTIONS

Section 1. First Election. All Business Committee members shall continue to hold office until their term expires under the previous Constitution. The first election of Secretary (formerly combined with Treasurer responsibilities) and the newly created Third Councilman shall take place within one hundred twenty (120) days following the effective date of this Constitution. These two officers shall be elected for a term expiring at the annual election to be held on the first Saturday of March 2000. Thereafter, all terms shall be for four (4) years.

The current Secretary-Treasurer shall continue to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of the current elective term.

Section 2. Annual Elections. The Constitution ratified July 30, 1981, established a system of staggered terms. This system shall continue with staggered elections of:

(a) Chief and two (2) members of the Grievance Committee.

(b) Secretary and Third Councilman.

(c) Treasurer, First Councilman, and one (1) member of the Grievance Committee.

(d) Second Chief, Second Councilman, and two (2) members of the Grievance Committee.

All terms of office shall be for four (4) years and elections shall be held on the first Saturday of March as required when such terms expire. Officials of the Business Committee and the Grievance Committee shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Section 3. Election Committee. The Business Committee shall appoint five (5) members of the Peoria Council to serve on the Election Committee. Appointments shall be made in December for the following calendar year. The Election Committee shall be solely responsible for calling and conducting the regular election of officers and any other tribal elections which may be necessary throughout the year. No elective tribal official or candidate shall serve on the Election Committee.

Section 4. Voter Eligibility. Any member of the Peoria Tribe shall be eligible to vote, provided the member is eighteen (18) years of age or over on the date of the election.

Section 5. Qualifications of Candidates. Any member of the Peoria Tribe who is at least twenty-five (25) years of age on the date of the election; and who has never been convicted of a felony in a court of competent jurisdiction, shall qualify as a candidate for membership on the Business Committee or Grievance Committee.

Any member of the Peoria Tribe who files for an elective office and is currently holding another elective Tribal office, will upon filing, immediately resign his or her present office. Resigning from a present office will apply only if an incumbent files for a different elective office.

Section 6. Nominations. Nominations for the Business Committee and the Grievance Committee shall be filed with the Election Committee at least forty-five (45) days prior to the election in accordance with the Election Ordinance.

Section 7. Election Ordinance. All tribal elections, including the first one under this Constitution, shall be conducted in accordance with an Election Ordinance enacted by the Business Committee consistent with this Constitution. Such Ordinance shall provide for filing procedures, secret balloting, majority election, tie votes, absentee balloting, a procedure for handling protests and resolving election disputes, and an oath of office. Provisions shall also be included regarding the conduct of recall, referendum and initiative elections and a uniform procedure for submitting and validating petitions.

Elections to amend this Constitution shall be conducted pursuant to Article XIX of this Constitution.

Section 8. Installation of Officers. All duly elected officials of the Peoria Tribe shall assume office immediately upon their election.

ARTICLE X - VACANCIES

Vacancies created in any elective office with an unexpired term exceeding six (6) months shall be filled within ninety (90) days by a regular or special election of the Peoria Council through election procedures established in Article IX.

ARTICLE XI - REMOVAL, RECALL AND FORFEITURE

Section 1. Removal. Each elected or appointive body of the Peoria Tribe shall have the power to remove any of its members for cause by affirmative vote of a majority of the total membership of the elected or appointive body. The Business Committee shall adopt an ordinance providing for such removal. The procedures set out in the ordinance shall be used in removal proceedings by each of the elected or appointive bodies. Included in the ordinance shall be procedures for the accused to confront his or her accusers and speak on his or her behalf in answer to a written statement of the charges at a special meeting of the affected body called for that purpose. The accused shall be provided with the written statement of charges at least fifteen (15) days prior to the removal meeting. Such ordinance shall further provide that only one (1) person from any governmental body of the Tribe shall be considered for removal at any meeting called for that purpose. Should the process result in removal, no further removal shall be considered until the resulting vacancy has been filled. Any Tribal member who has knowledge of wrongdoing by a Tribal official may file such charges with the appropriate body.

In the event either the accused, accuser or the affected body requests an investigation into the matter, it shall be the duty of the Grievance Committee to conduct such investigation and within (20) days provide its findings to the affected body for its use in making a final determination.

In the event an official is accused of misfeasance or malfeasance in the office and the respective body refuses to invoke the removal process, such charges may be submitted in writing to the Grievance Committee. Upon its receipt of written charges, it shall be the duty of the Grievance Committee to determine whether such charges have sufficient substance to warrant serious consideration. If so, the Grievance Committee shall conduct a hearing within thirty (30) days of its receipt of the written charges.

The same advance notification and rights of the accused apply as set forth in this section. If the accused refuse to attend such hearing, it may be grounds for forfeiture of his office. If the accuser fails to attend, the charges may be dismissed. The Grievance Committee shall decide whether the accused shall be cleared of the charges or removed from office.

In the event a member of the Grievance Committee is the subject of removal action, the Business Committee shall be responsible for conducting the procedures stipulated above.

Section 2. Recall. Upon receipt of a valid petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the Peoria Council, the Grievance Committee shall call and conduct, within sixty (60) days, an election for the purpose of recall of a tribal official holding elective office. The election shall be conducted pursuant to the Election Ordinance. Once an individual is subjected to recall proceedings, he or she shall not again be subject to such action during the balance of his or her term.

Section 3. Forfeiture. The affected governmental body shall immediately declare vacant any position within itself and promptly fill such vacancy in the manner provided in Article X, when it is determined that the incumbent:

(a) Has died;

(b) Has resigned;

(c) Has been convicted of a felony while in office;

(d) Has been convicted, while in office, of a crime involving dishonesty;

(e) Has been absent without being excused by the respective body for more than three (3) consecutive meetings.

ARTICLE XII - INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Section 1. Initiative is the procedure whereby the members of the Peoria Council may exercise their right to present to the Business Committee proposed legislation and compel a popular vote on its adoption. An initiative is put into motion by a petition. Upon receipt of a valid petition signed by at least thirty (30) eligible voters, the chairman of the Business Committee shall call and conduct a special meeting of the Peoria Council within sixty (60) days of receipt of the petition. The Peoria Council shall determine such issues and questions as contained in the petition. To adopt such a measure, at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voters present would be required. Voting will be conducted by secret balloting in accordance with the Election Ordinance.

(a) In the event that the chairman of the Business Committee does not call a meeting of the Peoria Council within the specified sixty (60) days, the Peoria Council member representing the petitioners is hereby authorized to call and conduct such a meeting.

(b) The decision of the Peoria Council shall be binding on the Business Committee and the Tribe, and shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by subsequent action of the Peoria Council, except as it may expire by its own terms.

Section 2. Referendum. At the discretion of the Business Committee, any matter within its authority may be referred to the Peoria Council for its decision at a publicized, special meeting of the Council. To adopt such a measure, at least two-thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voters present would be required. Voting will be by secret balloting. If the proposed measure is adopted, it shall be binding on the Peoria Tribe and the Business Committee and shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by subsequent initiative or referendum action, except as it may expire by its own terms.

ARTICLE XIII - SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Constitution shall, in the future, be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid proviso or provisions shall be severed and the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

ARTICLE XIV - MEETINGS

Section 1. Peoria Council

(a) Annual meetings of the Peoria Council shall be held on the first Saturday of March for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Peoria Council.

(b) Special meetings of the Peoria Council may be called at the discretion of the Chief, or shall be called by the Chief upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or when otherwise required by the Constitution.

The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other

business that may be presented." Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

(c) Actions of the Peoria Council shall be final and binding at any duly called meeting.

Section 2. Business Committee.

(a) Regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held the first Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise provided for by resolution.

(b) Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chief at his discretion, or shall be called by the Chief upon the written request of four (4) members of the Business Committee.

Section 3. All meetings of the Peoria Council, Business Committee, and Grievance Committee shall be held at any Tribal facility or other designated location. Special meetings as described in this Article shall require a ten (10) day public notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the Tribal Office area.

Section 4. Peoria Council members shall be notified of special Peoria Council meetings, as referenced in Section 3 of Article XIV.

Section 5. All meetings of the Business Committee and Peoria Council shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order" except as otherwise provided for in the Business Committee or Peoria Council's rules of procedures.

ARTICLE XV - QUORUM

Section 1. Five (5) members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum at any duly called Business Committee Meeting.

Section 2. Twenty-five (25) members of the Peoria Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any duly called Peoria Council Meeting.

Section 3. Four (4) members of the Grievance Committee shall constitute a quorum at any duly called Grievance Committee Meeting.

ARTICLE XVI - TRIBAL COURT

Section 1. Until such time as the Peoria Council determines that the Tribe is financially and otherwise prepared to maintain a separate Tribal Court, the judicial authority of the Tribe shall be exercised by the Court of Indian Offenses. The jurisdiction of the Court of Indian Offenses shall include, but not be limited to, criminal and civil jurisdiction.

Section 2. When the Peoria Council determines that the Tribe is prepared to begin exercising its judicial authority, it shall notify the Court of Indian Offenses by resolution, transmitting the following:

(a) a copy of Judicial Ordinance,

(b) a plan for establishing the Tribal Court, and

(c) a timetable and procedures for orderly transition of pending cases.

In line with the above provisions, the judicial authority of the Tribe will, thereafter, be exercised by the Tribal Court. If, because of financial or other reasons, it is not appropriate for the Tribe to continue to maintain a separate Tribal Court, the Peoria Council may restore jurisdiction to the Court of Indian Offenses.

ARTICLE XVII - SAVINGS CLAUSE

All legislation enacted under any previous Constitutions shall remain in force to the extent that those enactments are consistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVIII - CIVIL RIGHTS

The Peoria Tribe, in exercising its powers of self-government, shall not take any action which is in violation of the laws of the United States as the same shall exist from time to time respecting civil rights and civil liberties of persons. This article shall not abridge the concept of self-government or the obligations of the members of the Peoria Tribe to abide by this constitution and the ordinances, resolutions and other legally instituted actions of the Peoria Tribe. The protections guaranteed by the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (82 Stat. 77), as amended, shall apply to all members of the Peoria Tribe.

ARTICLE XIX - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by petition signed by thirty percent (30%) of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the qualified voters of the Tribe pursuant to the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior and shall be effective when ratified by a majority vote of those voting in the election.

ARTICLE XX - RATIFICATION

This Constitution shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Peoria Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1935; provided that at least thirty percent (30%) of the qualified voters vote in such election.

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to a Secretarial election authorized by the Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs on March 31, 1997, the foregoing Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted to the registered voters of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and on July 23, 1997, was duly adopted/~~rejected~~ by a vote of 226 for, and 7 against, and 8 cast ballots found spoiled or mutilated, in an election in which at least thirty percent (30%) of the 343 members registered to vote cast their ballots in accordance with the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

Mary Moss
Chairman, Election Board

Ronald E. Standi
Election Board Member

Ernest A. Ellis Jr.
Election Board Member

Date:

July 23, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

I, Deborah J. Maddox, Acting, Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of the Interior by the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967) and delegated to me by Secretarial Order No. 3150 as extended by Secretarial Order No. 3177, Amendment No. 2, do hereby approve the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. This Constitution is effective as of this date; PROVIDED, That nothing in this approval shall be construed as authorizing any action under this document that would be contrary to Federal law.

ACTING Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington, D.C.

Date: AUG 13 1997