

**TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF TO PLACE PROPERTY IN BRYAN COUNTY IN TRUST
STATUS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

IN THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION

JAMES DRY INTRODUCED THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL BILL

A COUNCIL BILL

TO AUTHORIZE the Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the below-mentioned property in Bryan County in trust status with the United States of America.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article IX, Sections 4 and 6 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Choctaw Tribal Council shall enact rule and regulations pertaining to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Chief shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of chief executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma ("the Nation") is a federally recognized Indian Nation with authority to acquire land for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of its people and taking further advantage of the opportunities for self-determination and economic independence. As a recognized Indian Nation, the Nation is eligible to utilize the fee to trust application process set out in the 25 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 151 including Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of June 18, 1934, as amended, which is codified at 25 U.S.C. § 465, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to acquire land in trust for Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Nation has acquired fee title to 138.51 acres of real property located in Sections 13 and 24, Township 7 South, Range 8 East, Bryan County, Oklahoma. The subject property is located within the recognized former reservation and current jurisdictional boundaries of the Nation. The property is described in Attachment "A";

WHEREAS, the Nation has determined the need for additional trust land to its land base to accommodate increase in governmental services to tribal members to promote tribal self-determination and sovereignty, self-sufficiency and economic independence. The Nation has approximately 220,000 enrolled members, approximately 47,649 living in the tribal service area. See BIA, American Indian Population and Labor Force Report, (2013). The Nation expects tribal membership to increase along with tribal services, these services such as education, health care, housing, cultural, youth and family programs, and numerous other social programs all depending on revenue generated from economic opportunities. The Nation has a strong commitment to economic development which is essential for future generation to come, new approaches must be taken to generate sustainable revenue for the Nation. In 2014, the Nation was one of the five areas selected for the Promise Zone initiative to create partnership with the communities and businesses to create jobs, increase economic security, expand educational opportunities, excess to affordable housing, and improving public safety. By this designation, the Nation has the opportunity to investing in its members and community to bring economic opportunities to areas of needs. This

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acquisition will assist the Nation to meeting the Nation's current and long-term needs and investments;
and


WHEREAS, the Nation intends to use the vacant land for agricultural use. The Choctaw Ranch's currently use the land for hay production. There are no plans to change the use of the land at this time.


WHEREAS, the Nation seeks to request the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior to accept this fee title to the United States of America to be held by the United States in trust for the benefit of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, that the Choctaw Tribal Council of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma authorizes and approves the Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, or his designee, to make a request to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, to place this property into trust status in accordance with the Bureau of Indian Affair policy and procedure for the acquisition of land.

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 eleven (11) members answered roll call and that a quorum was present at the Regular Session of the Tribal Council at Tvshka Homma, Oklahoma, on May 10, 2025. I further certify that the foregoing Council Bill CB-61 -25 was adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of eleven (11) members, zero (0) negative votes, and zero (0) abstaining.


Thomas Williston, Speaker
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


James Dry, Secretary
Choctaw Nation Tribal Council


Gary Battor, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Date 5-15-25

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Attachment "A"

All Blocks 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 in the Town of Calera, formerly Sterrett, Bryan County, State of Oklahoma according to the Official Plat thereof.

And

All that part of the SW1/4 NW1/4 SE1/4 lying East of the M.K.&T. Railroad right of way; the NW1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4 less 1.04 acres for the M.K.&T. Railroad right of way; the SE1/4 SE1/4 SW1/4 less 1.70 acres for the M.K.&T. Railroad right of way; the SW1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4; also beginning at the Southeast corner of the NE1/4 SE1/4 SW1/4 and thence running North 5.81 chains to right of way of M.K.&T. Railroad, thence Southwesterly with said right of way, 7.75 chains to the South line of the NE1/4 SE1/4 SW1/4 thence East 4.96 chains to the Point of Beginning, all in Section 13.

And

The W1/2 NW1/4 NE1/4; the NE1/4 NW1/4 less 10 acres reserved for the townsite of Sterrett now called Calera; the W1/2 SW1/4 NE1/4; the NW1/4 SE1/4 NW1/4 and the E1/2 SE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 24 all in the T-7-S, R-8-E, of the I.B.M., Bryan County, State of Oklahoma; according to the Government Survey thereof.

ALSO KNOWN BY SURVEYED LEGAL DESCRIPTION AS FOLLOWS:

A tract of land situated in the S1/2 of Section 13 and the N1/2 of Section 24 T-7-S, R-8-E, of the I.B.M., Bryan County, State of Oklahoma, better described as follows: Beginning at the NE corner of the W1/2 of the NW1/4 of the NE1/4 of said Section 24; thence S00°48'29"E along the East line of said W1/2 of the NW1/4 of the NE1/4 and the W1/2 of the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of said Section 24 a distance of 2641.92 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence S89°13'01"W along the South lines of said W1/2 of the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 and the E1/2 of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 of said Section 24 a distance of 1320.33 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N00°46'37"W along the West line of the said E1/2 of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 a distance of 660.61 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence S89°13'22"W along the South line of the NW1/4 of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 of said Section 24 a distance of 660.35 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N00°46'10"W along the West lines of the said NW1/4 of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 and the NE1/4 of the NW1/4 of said Section 24 a distance of 1321.58 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N89°14'34"E a distance of 202.72 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N51°40'37"W along the Southwest line of Block 6 of the Town of Calera a distance of 214.37 feet to a point on the Railroad R/W and a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N38°19'27"E along the said Railroad R/W a distance of 677.12 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N89°15'31"E along the South line of the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SW1/4 of said Section 13 a distance of 196.77 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N00°55'42"W along the West line of the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of the SW1/4 of said Section 13 a distance of 241.46 feet to a point on said Railroad R/W and a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence N38°19'28"E along said Railroad R/W a distance of 2084.25 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap; thence S00°55'52"E along East lines of the SW1/4 of the NW1/4 of the SE1/4 and the NW1/4 of the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 and the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of said Section 13 a distance of 1859.51 feet to a set 3/8" iron pin with cap and the Point of Beginning. Said tract containing 138.51 acres, more or less.

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Purpose/Need of Council Bill: This Council Bill authorizes and approves the Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, or his designed to make a request to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, to place property in Bryan County, Oklahoma into trust status with the United States of America in accordance with the Bureau of Indian Affairs policy and procedure for the acquisition of land. This Council Bill supports the Nations's strategic goal of strengthening financial growth and economic sustainability, as well as supporting service delivery to improve the Tribal Member quality of life, by acquiring additional trust land to accommodate the continued growth of tribal membership and tribal services within the Choctaw Nation.

Title of Council Bill: TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF TO PLACE PROPERTY IN BRYAN COUNTY IN TRUST STATUS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Agency: Choctaw Nation – Land & Title

CNO Match: N/A

Request by Project Director/SEO: Donna Loper, Executive Director of Land and Title, Kelly McKaughan, SEO of Integrated Services