

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-060

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF RAPID CITY SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION ON THE TITLE OF RAPID CITY INDIAN BOARD SCHOOL LANDS WHICH ARE STILL UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM GENERAL FEDERAL TRUST LAND TO TRIBAL TRUST LAND.

WHEREAS, approximately 1,200 acres was acquired by the United States for the creation of the Rapid City Indian Boarding School, to provide education to the Tribes in the region in compliance with the provisions of the 1868 Treaty of Ft. Laramie. The Boarding School operated from approximately 1900-1930s; and

WHEREAS, after the United States ended the policy of Indian boarding schools, the Rapid City Indian Boarding School lands and the facilities were converted to use as a tuberculosis clinic for Indians in the region. The new facility was called the Sioux Sanatorium and operated from approximately the 1930s to the 1960s; and

WHEREAS, in 1948 Congress passed The Act of May 20, 1948 ("The 1948 Act"), which allowed the Department of Interior (DOI) to grant the Rapid City Indian Boarding School lands to the South Dakota State National Guard, the City of Rapid City, and the Rapid City Independent School District with a reversion clause. The legislation also allowed sale of the lands to churches for religious purposes; and

WHEREAS, a second section in the 1948 legislation, "Section (b)", allowed the lands to be used for "needy Indians," however, this provision has never been utilized; and

WHEREAS, of the original 1,200 acres, only three parcels, still remain in the name of the United States. One parcel contains the Indian Health Service campus ("Sioux San Campus"), one parcel contains a cemetery with the burials of the children from the boarding school and the patients from the tuberculosis clinic ("Boarding School Cemetery"), and one parcel is an undeveloped hill ("Boarding School Hill"); and

WHEREAS, these three parcels are already titled under the federal government and therefore not subject to local taxation; and

WHEREAS, the local Native American community and local tribal governments are seeking to petition the federal government to have the status of these lands changed so that they become tribal trust lands.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Rapid City that the City Council supports the efforts of our Native American community and the Tribes to request the federal government change the title and status of the above described lands from general federal trust to tribal trust lands.

CITY OF RAPID CITY

Sam Kooiker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pauline Sumption, Finance Officer