

PASSED

Cherokee Council House
Cherokee, North Carolina

OCT 29 2020

Date

RESOLUTION No. 324 (2020)

5 **WHEREAS**, Jackson County is located in southwestern North Carolina and was organized under state law
6 in 1851 when it was carved from adjoining Haywood and Macon counties.

7 **WHEREAS**, currently, Jackson County contains approximately 494 square miles and has a population of
8 approximately 43,939 people.

9 **WHEREAS**, part of Jackson County is located within the Qualla Boundary, and serves as a base for the
10 Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, which as a Tribe contributes to the highest proportion of
11 Native Americans among county population — more than 10 percent.

12 **WHEREAS**, Jackson County is named after former President Andrew Jackson, President of the United
13 States from 1829 to 1837. President Jackson was the architect and chief proponent of the
14 Indian Removal Act of 1830, which authorized the removal in 1838 of Cherokee and other
15 Indians from areas including Jackson County to the Indian territory in Oklahoma along what is
16 now known as the Trail of Tears.

17 **WHEREAS**, for the Cherokees, the Trail of Tears was a forced march of approximately 1200 miles. Most
18 everyone had to walk. Food, shelter and clothing were scarce. Several thousand Cherokees
19 died from exposure, disease, and starvation while in route to Indian Territory in Oklahoma.

20 **WHEREAS**, President Jackson argued to Congress that the Indian Removal Act was an expression of
21 government benevolence to the Indian residents of the area. He said it would free the
22 Indians from troublesome encounters with white settlers. In reality, it was a racist policy of
23 dominance and imperialism by which the United States took land and expanded the economy
24 of southern states, so they could flourish.

25 **WHEREAS**, President Jackson, who saw Native Americans as inferior and who said of the Cherokee that
26 "they must disappear" so his superior race could dominate.

27 **WHEREAS**, before the Removal, Cherokee aboriginal territory included all of Western North Carolina,
28 including what is now Jackson County. Today, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is the
29 largest single employer in Jackson County and of Jackson County residents (through Harrah's
30 Cherokee Casino Resort), and the County receives grants from the Cherokee Preservation
31 Foundation. Cherokee has always been a good neighbor to Jackson County.

32 **WHEREAS**, Cherokee One Feather journalist, Scott McKie Brings Plenty, suggests the idea of changing
33 the name associated to Jackson County, from President Andrew Jackson to EBCI Tribal
34 member and Principal Chief, Walter S. Jackson.

35 **WHEREAS**, Chief Jackson, born May 29th, 1923, died on April 26th, 1971, at the age of 47. Chief Walter
36 Jackson was a World War II Navy veteran, manager of the Oconaluftee Indian Village, Chief of
37 the Cherokee Indian Police Department, head of the Tribe's community services division, a
38 Council representative for 12 years, Vice-Chief for 4 years, and Principal Chief (elected in

1 1967). Chief Jackson played an instrumental part in developing the Cherokee Boys Club,
2 improving reservation roads, re-opening tribal rolls, securing a new elementary school; and
3 establishing the Public Health Service hospital.

4 **NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in
5 Council assembled, at which a quorum is present, that Tribal Council approves the intent to
6 change of the name associated with Jackson County from President Andrew Jackson to
7 former EBCI Principal Chief Walter S. Jackson.

8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tribe, through its executive branch divisions, shall undertake the
9 legal and cultural research necessary to give direction and effect to this intent.

10 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** this resolution shall become effective upon ratification by the Principal Chief
11 and shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded.

12
13 *Submitted by: Principal Chief, Richard G. Sneed*

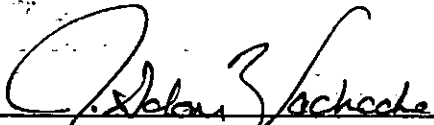
The attached Resolution/Ordinance No. 324 dated OCTOBER 29, 2020 was:

PASSED (X)

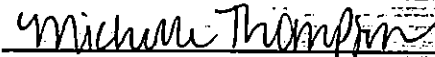
KILLED ()

and ratified in open Council on OCTOBER 29, 2020 by 93 voting for the act and 0 members voting against it as follows:

VOTE	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Richard French	X			
Perry Shell				X
Boyd Owle	X			
Bucky Brown	X			
Tom Wahneetah	X			
David Wolfe	X			
Adam Wachacha	X			
Bo Crowe	X			
Chelsea Saunooke	X			
Albert Rose	X			
Dike Sneed	X			
Tommye Saunooke	X			
	93	0	0	7



TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN



ENGLISH CLERK



PRINCIPAL CHIEF

APPROVED () VETOED ()

VETO UPHeld () VETO DENIED ()

DATE: 11/5/2020

I hereby certify that the foregoing act of the Council was duly:

PASSED ()

KILLED ()

and ratified in open Council after the same has been interpreted by the Official Interpreter and has been fully and freely discussed.

INTERPRETED ()

OMITTED ()