Department of the Interior  
Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs  
Attn: Office of Federal Acknowledgment  
1951 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

March 24, 2016

Dear Assistant Secretary –

At the March 22 regular meeting of the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners, a resolution (attached) was approved by a vote of 3-2. The resolution supports the petition for federal recognition by the Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe of the Pueblo of San Juan de Guadalupe, based in Las Cruces, N.M.

This matter has been in process since 1971, and the Tribe holds the position of being Petitioner #5 in the acknowledgment process.

Please consider the majority support of and by the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners as this matter moves forward toward final resolution.

Sincerely –

Julia T. Brown, Esq.  
Doña Ana County Manager

Cc: New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez  
Sen. Martin Heinrich  
Rep. Michelle Grisham  
State Sen. Mary Kay Papen  
State Rep. Terry McMillan  
N.M. Attorney General Hector Balderas  
Sen. Tom Udall  
Rep. Steve Pearce  
Rep. Ben Lujan  
State Rep. Jeff Steinborn  
Las Cruces Mayor Ken Miyagishima  
file

# 03.69
RESOLUTION 2016 - ___29

SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF THE
PIRO/MANSO/TIWA INDIAN TRIBE,
PUEBLO OF SAN JUAN de GUADALUPE

WHEREAS, respect for diversity and celebration of our multi-cultural heritage is essential to the quality of life for all residents of Doña Ana County; and

WHEREAS, the Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe, Pueblo of San Juan de Guadalupe, (henceforth "Tribe"), are descendants of native peoples who lived in what was to become southern New Mexico and the vicinity of El Paso, Texas, prior to and after Spanish incursion into the area; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe was living on land that would become part of the Town of Las Cruces when it was established in 1849, and a significant percentage of tribal members still live within a few blocks of the old Tribal community and cacique’s plaza near downtown Las Cruces, and

WHEREAS, the Tribe’s current Cacique, Ed Roybal, Sr., was born on historic property which originally belonged to his grandfather, Felipe Roybal, who was the Tribe’s Cacique at the turn of the 20th century, and

WHEREAS, the Tribe actively maintains its cultural traditions and partners with local organizations to promote awareness and appreciation of Tribal history; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe first submitted a letter to the Department of the Interior in 1971 requesting federal recognition as an Indian tribe, and they hold the distinction of being Petitioner #5 in the acknowledgement process; and

WHEREAS, as Petitioner #5, the Tribe has recently submitted substantial documentation of their history, genealogy, political and religious leaders, and other kinds of evidence, and is now ready for Active Consideration by the Office of Federal Acknowledgment in accordance with 25 CFR 83, and

WHEREAS, recognition of the Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe, Pueblo of San Juan de Guadalupe – with the accompanying federal services and benefits – is wholly appropriate and due;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(I)
That the Doña Ana County Board of County Commissioners supports the petition of the Piro/Manso/Tiwa Indian Tribe of the Pueblo of San Juan de Guadalupe, (Petitioner #5) to achieve their long sought federal recognition and to be officially known as an extant Indian tribe.
That letters of support be sent on or before Thursday, March 24, 2016, to appropriate state and federal officials, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the following address:

Department of the Interior
Office of the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs
Attn: Office of Federal Acknowledgment
1951 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20240

And, that the County Manager is hereby authorized to carry out all actions necessary to accomplish the intent of this resolution.

RESOLVED this 22th day of March 2016

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Wayne D. Hancock, Chair, District 4  For / Against

Dr. David Garcia, Vice-Chair, District 2  For / Against

Billy Q. Garrett, District 1  For / Against

Benjamin L. Rawson, District 3  For / Against

Leticia Duarte Benavidez, District 5  For / Against

ATTEST:

Lynn J. Ellins
County Clerk
COUNTY OF DONA ANA ) RESOLUTION
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) 3 PAGES: 3

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for
Record on MAR 24, 2016 11:08:38 AM
And was duly recorded as Instrument # 1606214
Of the Records of Dona Ana County

Witness my hand and seal of office.
Lynn J. Elline, County Clerk, Dona Ana, NM

Deputy Brandi Delgado