



# The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed

Vice Chief Alan B. Ensley



**Adam Wachacha**  
Chairman  
Snowbird &  
Cherokee Co. Township

**David Wolfe**  
Vice-Chairman  
Yellowhill Township

## Tribal Council Members

**Tom Wahnetah**  
Yellowhill Township

**Bucky Brown**  
Snowbird &  
Cherokee Co. Township

**Richard French**  
Big Cove Township

**Perry Shell**  
Big Cove Township

**Bo Crowe**  
Wolfstown Township

**Chelsea Saunooke**  
Wolfstown Township

**Tommye Saunooke**  
Painttown Township

**Dike Sneed**  
Painttown Township

**Albert D. Rose**  
Birdtown Township

**Boyd Owle**  
Birdtown Township

## EXECUTIVE ORDER # 12 (2020)

May 7, 2020

### EBCI Re-Opening Retail Operations

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is fortunate to have the resources and leadership necessary to implement public health and safety measures on the Qualla Boundary. The closures, social distancing and other steps the Tribe has taken have enabled us to slow the growth in the number of cases of COVID-19 in our community. The steps we have taken have also given our community members time to pause and educate themselves on how to safely live in a world that includes this virus.

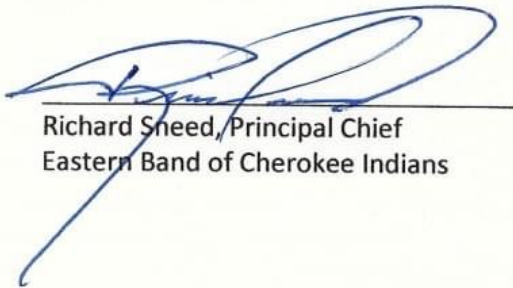
After extensive consultation with EBCI leadership, public health officials, and emergency management services, the Tribe has developed a plan to cautiously and safely reopen the Qualla Boundary for business. In light of the low number of positive cases in our community, identified through testing at the Cherokee Indian Hospital, and consistent with the metrics put in place by countless municipalities to reopen, I am hereby instituting the following steps for re-opening:

- Retail Establishments, Hotels, and Campgrounds may reopen at 50% capacity, while following strict cleaning and social distancing procedures, on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Outdoor Recreation Areas including Mingo Falls, Soco Falls, Picnic Areas, and tribal backroads will reopen on May 15<sup>th</sup> for public access.
- Harrah's Cherokee Casino will open on May 18<sup>th</sup>, by invitation only, at a maximum of 30% capacity.
- EBCI Tribal government operations will reopen at full capacity on June 8<sup>th</sup>, with the current leave and pay guidelines that are in effect remaining in place.

The opening date for salons, theaters, spas, bowling alleys, public playgrounds, and barber shops will be announced at a later date.

People are required to wear cloth face coverings while in public spaces. Senior Citizens and those with compromised immune systems are highly encouraged to follow strict social distancing measures to limit their exposure. We will closely monitor community transmission if any occurs and the effects of this virus to determine what measures we might need to implement in the coming weeks.

This authorization is issued under authority granted in Cherokee Code Chapter 166, Article II, and the Declaration of State of Emergency issued on March 13, 2020. It is a supplement and amendment to that Declaration and shall remain in effect while the Tribe is under the State of Emergency.



Richard Sneed, Principal Chief  
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians