A RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 53-BOD-15

"Expressing the Strong Support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures for the nomination of a Son of Micronesia, Mr. Benjamin Schulte of Guam, and encouraging APIL Delegates to support this young swimmer by participating in the on-line campaign to select him as Man of the Year for WOWSA, the World Open Water Swimming Association."

1. WHEREAS, Open Water Swimming is organized swimming that takes place in outdoor bodies of water such as oceans, lakes, seas, rivers, canals and reservoirs, and the distance of each event varies from 1 kilometer to 80 kilometers, with typical major competitive distances usually of 5 kilometers, 10 kilometers and 25 kilometers; and

2. WHEREAS, in 1986, Open Water Swimming was once again added to the international competition calendar, and an Open Water event was staged in 1991 at the Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA) World Championships, the sport rising to greater significance after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) listed a 10 kilometer race in 2005 as one of the events for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games; and

3. WHEREAS, the World Open Water Swimming Association (WOWSA) annually sponsors awards in four (4) categories: Man of the Year, Woman of the Year, Performance of the Year, which are given to honor the athletes who "best embody the spirit of open water swimming, possess the sense of adventure, tenacity, and perseverance that open water swimmers are known for, and have most positively influenced the world of open water swimming," and the fourth award; Offering of the Year, identifying "products and services that (1) best support and assist open water swimmers achieve their goals, (2) are innovative, unique and beneficial to open water swimmers, race directors, coaches or administrators, and
(3) have made the most positive impact on the world of open water swimming during the
calendar year;” and

WHEREAS, for 2012, 16-year-old Mr. Benjamin Schulte, a swimmer from the
island of Guam, is one of the nominees for the prestigious Man of the Year award, with
winners of the WOWSA awards being selected by the number of on-line votes received by
the nominees, and each vote for Mr. Schulte will be a vote for a Son of Micronesia; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin’s award nomination reads in part, “He was a boy among men
... but the 16-year-old teenager from Guam proved grace under pressure (competing) at the
2012 London Olympic Games against men double his age ... swimming alone in front of
30,000 spectators lining the banks of the Serpentine ... (giving) it his all, swimming faster
than expected and showing his potential for the next few Olympics. For his grit at never
giving anything less than 100%, for his future upside demonstrated on the world’s biggest
stage, for his maturity and pride in embodying the Olympic ideal, young Benjamin Schulte is
a worthy nominee for the 2012 WOWSA Open Water Swimming Man of the Year award;”
and

WHEREAS, voting is open through December 31st, results will be announced on
January 1st, 2013, and the link to cast a vote for Benjamin Schulte is:

http://www.worldopenwaterswimmingassociation.com/2012-wowsa-man-of-the-year-
nominees/; now; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd Board of
Directors Meeting, State of Pohnpei, FSM, December 5-6, 2012, that the Board of Directors,
on behalf of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, hereby extend its strong support
for encouraging full participation by Pacific Island countries and territories in the on-line
voting for the Son of Micronesia, Benjamin Schulte, for the prestigious World Open Water
Swimming Association Man of the Year award; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that APIL encourages the Council of Micronesia Chief Executives (CMCE) to adopt a similar support resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL Secretary shall attest, to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same shall be transmitted to the Honorable Dr. Jimmie Rodgers, Director-General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community; the Honorable Edward B. Calvo, Governor Guam; the Honorable Judith T. WonPat, Ed.D, Speaker of the 31st Guam Legislature; and to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief Executives of each of the APIL member jurisdictions.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED. D. PRESIDENT

CHANG B. WILLIAM SECRETARY