RESOLUTION No. 19-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUANAH, TEXAS, DESIGNATING THE SECOND SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER AS QUANAH PARKER DAY.

WHEREAS, the life of the iconic Comanche leader, Quanah Parker, spanned the transition of his people from a traditional, nomadic, way of life to their acceptance of a settled existence in the late 19th century, and his leading role in this epic story is truly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, known as the "Lords of the Plains" for their outstanding horsemanship, the Comanche were roving hunters and gatherers who dominated the Southern Plains of North America, including large portions of Texas; individuals lived together in small bands and were free to join another group if they so desired; although they once roamed the plains in numbers "like the stars", by the mid-19th century, the Comanche were threatened by the U.S. policy of Manifest Destiny and the eradication by Anglo American hunters of the bison, which were both the Comanche's main food source and the center of their spiritual life; and

WHEREAS, born either in Texas or Oklahoma sometime between 1845 and 1852, Quanah Parker was the son of Peta Nocona, a war chief of the Noconi band of the Comanche, and Cynthia Ann Parker, who had been captured by the Comanche while still a child and who adopted their way of life, spending 25 years with the tribe; Quanah grew to manhood with the Quahada Comanche of the Llano Estacado region; and

WHEREAS, Quanah Parker rose to become a powerful and influential chief among the Quahada, and for years he led the resistance to increased Anglo expansion in the Southern Plains; under his direction, the Comanche eluded the Fourth U.S. Calvary in 1871 and 1872, but in 1874, an alliance of Comanche and several other tribes under his leadership raided Adobe Walls in the Texas Panhandle to no avail; a year later, Quanah Parker and the Quahada sadly decided to abandon their way and made their journey to the settlement on the Kiowa-Comanche reservation in Oklahoma, where he was appointed as the new chief of the tribe; and

WHEREAS, Quanah Parker's influence was also felt in other areas; he was a strong proponent of schooling for Comanche children and served on the tribal court and as the deputy sheriff of Lawton, Oklahoma; in time, he became a very successful rancher in his own right, and he remained a highly respected figure among the Comanche until his death in 1911; and

WHEREAS, during one of the greatest social and cultural shifts in American history, Quanah Parker served the Comanche people first as a warrior and then as a statesman, helping them retain their identity while adapting to a different way of life, and he stands as a pivotal figure in the history of the Lone Star State; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the City of Quanah Council hereby designate the second Saturday in September as QUANAH PARKER DAY.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City of Quanah, County of Hardeman, Texas this 13th day of August, 2019

Attest: /S/_____ /S/_____
Paula Wilson, City Administrator Dale Eaton, Mayor