TEMPORARY AUTHORIZE QUORUM REDUCTION MEETING

MAY 02, 2022 10:00 A.M.

PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

TELECONFERENCE: 219-803-8769 PIN: 160 108 500#
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/ahs-epsf-aep

I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER:** 10:14AM

II. **ROLL CALL:** President Sonny Moore, Vice President Mike Halona, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer, LDA Elvis Bitsilly, and Council Delegate Halona

III. **INVOCATION:** Clinton Jim

IV. **REVIEW OF THE AGENDA**

IV. **COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTATORS:**

Leander Tally - I'm requesting for a support resolution for Southwest Indian Foundation. I am asking for housing assistance and I'm a registered voter here at Tohatchi Chapter.

Maria - Per Southwest Indian Foundation, the supporting resolution would need to come from Mexican Springs Chapter since the homesite is located in their community.

President Moore - I will call Christine Barney and if she says Tohatchi should be drafting the support resolution, we can do that for you.

Francie Martinez - McKinley County Sheriff candidate. I am currently working for the Gallup Police and have over 26 years with the department. I work as a patrol lieutenant for upper division command staff. I'm on call to introduce myself and to say I am running for McKinley County Sheriff along with 5 other candidates. With my educational background and with 26 years of experience with the police department, I feel I am ready to expand my services. I received my associate degree from UNM-Gallup, and I also attended two other schools: Western NM University in Silver City to study Police Administration, Northwestern University Police Academy to study Police Staff Command something similar OCS. Now, I'm a General Instructor, which means I can teach basic courses in the State of New Mexico through Santa Fe. I was also an investigator with police department and currently FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) certified, as well. I humble ask for your vote on June 7th (Primary Election) as your next McKinley County Sheriff.

Grazing Officer Moore - What made you decide to switch from Gallup Police Department to McKinley County Sheriff?

Francie Martinez - I hear the concerns of my family and all Navajos across the nation regarding the lack of police presence and the response time for an officer to arrive at the scene. When McKinley County Sheriff Department meet, all they talk about is issues with the City of Gallup. There is no mention of the out-lining communities like Tohatchi, Thoreau, and, Crownpoint, but we have state and county roads which need police presence. The McKinley County deputies are all covering just the city of Gallup and not surrounding communities. Yes, there are jurisdiction, but we have state and county roads which needs patrolling as well. As the new McKinley County Sheriff, I'm hoping to change and improve the State Police presence in our surrounding communities.

Vice President Halona - How do you for see working out the jurisdictional issues? Cross-deputizing, Cross-commissioning, what is your plan to address this across NN?

Francie Martinez - The word cross-commission exist with the state police but for it to be worked out with the sheriff department it would have to be cross-deputization. This cross deputization with Indian country started back in 1980, but you have to have an agreement MOU/MOA in place by leaders. Example: If you have another agency enter into your jurisdiction, you have to have some type of agreement with that agency to say what they can do and can't do, but you still have to give the primary agency the authority. We all need to work together and collaborate because we are all short on man power. This process of cross-commission needs to be explained in detail.

Community Member - Taking prior experiences from many Navajo people on the reservation within McKinley County were to call 911, they would be told they do not take care of that area and should call Navajo Nation Police. Will you address these issue in the rural areas as McKinley County Sheriff?
Francie Martinez - That decision lies with the immediate supervisor, sergeant or lieutenant who is on duty. I even hear people being told to call another agency because they do not handle that particular area. It's the supervisors, they pick and choose where they want to go. I do plan to look into this and get answers as to why they will not response when called upon no matter which community it is. It's their responsibility, and should be held accountable under the oath they took to become police officers. There is cross-commission, but it's just not enforced.
Doreen Wonda Johnson: Candidate for re-election as State Representative for District 5 - I am from Crownpoint, NM and I have been your State Representative for 8 years working in Santa Fe, NM. Tohatchi Chapter is one of my chapters. I'm very proud to represent this community in House District 5. I would like to highlight some of the projects I've been working on as a report, first thing I want to share is I've been working for 8 years on the uranium mine cleanup. It required 3 phases; 1st phase was feasibility/research/education study. I wanted a report of this from UNM to get our own children involved to get educated and to learn about the skills and opportunity to take care of their own land. This phase was completed, I introduced the bill and it was funded. 2nd phase was to work with EPA, NN, County, and our local tribal government. This was accomplished and the 3rd phase, we introduced a bill and it was passed. Now the work begins, we will be hiring a coordinator, get an office and have the person hired worked with the national EPA, NN, our government, our local communities, and our children. With this education, we don't always have to hire people out of the country or state, we can put our children to work. I will be attending a meeting tomorrow on the initiative I've been working on "The Substance Abuse Licensure Career Path." I introduce this bill and it was funded and we want to provide a career path so our own children can become licensed counselors, in mental and behavioral health. The students from UNM-Gallup Branch came to me to ask if I would assist at the state level with their career path, because they were getting stuck and we had to change the statue and now they have a career path and they can finish their education and become counselors. On May 6th at 8:00am, I will be hosting a veteran's forum at UNM-Gallup Branch to address the concerns of the veterans and the closure of the veterans' clinics in Gallup. There are 4 VA satellite clinics closing in New Mexico. This will take more than one meeting to resolve. These are some of the projects I've been working on, but the main thing is I hope you have filed your income taxes. We have a gas tax rebate; you will automatically get either a $500 or $1000 check however you filed your income tax. If you get it direct deposit, you'll get it direct deposited, if you get a check, you'll get a check. If you did not file your income tax, I have a website where you can submit a form on-line. They will be sending out the rebate in phases, in the months of July and August 2022. We went back to special session and governor vetoed $50 million of our programs and projects. We back to the table to present our case and we pleaded and had the $50 million re-instated for our communities. I am running for my 5th term; I've served 8 years in Santa Fe. I think I've shown you my commitment, loyalty, and trust. I have never forgotten Tohatchi, I always include Tohatchi for Capital Outlay dollars. I listen to my constituents and leadership from this community and surrounding communities. I myself am on a leadership path, last Tuesday I was officially confirmed by the Speaker of the House and I was unanimously voted in the Legislation Council Committee to serve as interim-Indian Affairs Chair. I am also the Majority Democratic Caucus Chairwoman serving 3 terms and vice chair of State Government Indian Affairs and Elections. We have a seat at the table and I respectfully request we continue this work. This takes years of work and commitment, every year going back and working with your community and caucus.
Dr. Mamie Becenti-Begay - I am a community member and I would like to share some information about Chooshgai Community School. We do have our elected Board Members: Hoskie Bryant, Virginia Harvey, Mitzie Begay, Jimmy Detsoi and our principal, Mr. Frank Chiapetti. As staff we are assisting our Board Members by sharing information about our school so hopefully get more student enrolled for this coming year. We serve several communities within District 14 and within the last year we increased our planning as far as to how we prepare our lesson plans. We spent a lot of time on that this year training teachers and developing our own better and accurate assessments of our student learning. Since the pandemic we switched to the hybrid model even though some of the surrounding schools did not have any face to face we open that up to the community. Our school was very safe because we had one of the best sanitizing, which including

weekly fogging and will continue to do this since safety of our students is priority. We look forward to seeing our students return for face-to-face learning. There was a lot of gaps created because of the virtual learning environment. We had the HVAC system replaced at our school, so we have the best ventilation again to make sure our students are safe. Some of the programs we offer is academic support, health assistant, math and reading interventionist, and Academic Parent Teaching Team. This where we work at developing a relationship with our parents to create learning kits that the student can take home so the parent can continue to work at home with their student. We have both Traditional and Western approach to counseling and we recently start something unique. The student mentorship program where all the staff are assigned to a certain number of students, we follow up with the parents, we also see the students at school to see how they are doing and we provide emotional support as well. All our teachers are licensed and certified in the areas they are teaching. We still have our residential program and have students on campus and are provided a very good after school programs.

Oscar Detsoi - Representing candidate Brent Detsoi: My son is running for Magistrate Judge for McKinley County, Division One. His education includes a Masters in Legal Studies Candidate, BA in Legal Studies, AA in Paralegal Studies with and undergraduate certificate in Paralegal Studies, Associates of Arts in General Studies, and Post Bachelorette certificate in Alterative Dispute/Resolution. He has a strong educational background and will be fair and honest. I'm asking for everyone to support and vote for my son Brent. He will do very well representing our communities.

Clinton Jim - Representing Sacred Wind: I would like ask the chapter for a supporting resolution to bring Sacred Wind services into District 14 communities. A request was made prior to this meeting for a supporting resolution, but we were asked to make some changes to the resolution to appeal to the chapter membership. We received funds from Washington, the Federal Commission of ERate Funding and I will be asking the Grazing Officer for assistance.

Vice President Halona - I had a concern with the language(wording) of the resolution provided prior. We would like to know how you will be better than NTUA, Frontier, and other internet providers in our area?

Clinton Jim - Changes have been made to the resolution and Sacred Wind is requesting for support from the Chapter.

Priscilla Duncan - We have fiber optic lines along highway 491, why can't we tap into these lines for better service?

Grazing Officer Moore - We get about 20-25 mbps when downloading and about 3-5 mbps when uploading

Jonathan Hale - Presenter, states he has provided a resolution to the chapter to be added to the agenda for the next Chapter meeting.

Al Henderson - Representative for the Freight Rail Line which is being proposed and will run from Farmington to Gallup, NM.

VI. *DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Community Service Coordinator - Maria, CSC

1. Report on Clean-up Day - This was a huge success with all the local entities participating, including the schools, clinic, housing authority, and store.
2. Status of $19,000 powerline, $80,000 State funding for Septic and Leach Field Replacements, $28,000 for State funding for Warehouse - For the $19,000, we have 1 candidate Rhonda Lewis who submitted her application to NTUA for inspection and cost of quote for hookup. I still waiting on Irma Julian from CPMD to get the paperwork going. For the $80,000 septic and leach line replacement, home visits were made on April 29th to get price quote on these projects. Again, I will need Irma's assistance with the bidding process.
3. Assistance to Community with Homesite (Eastflats Water Drilling) - We only have a couple of families who still need to obtain their homesite leases. Charlene Manuelito and the Badonie family.
4. Audit Status, under a time line to work on each Audit Finding - I will be working with Myrtis Begay to complete Finding One which has to do with "gift cards" and how to reconcile this into the MIP system.
5. Revision of the Housing, PEP, and Student Youth Employment (will review and submit to DOJ) - These policies are near completion. Once completed it will be forwarded to the DOJ for their review and will be returned to Chapter for approval from the Chapter membership with a resolution.
6. Interoffice Memo to add a line item in Fund 01 for "Assistance with Food," Policy will be updated at a later date. I want to ask to revise the policy to where community members can use the fund for food expense in the amount of $150.00 for funeral receptions. Funeral homes are not accepting our check and a check from the NN, there can only be one check coming from the Navajo Nation which the funeral homes will accept.

***Grazing Officer Moore's Report:**

AIF Program - As far as the AIF feed and hay program, there were 36 grazing permittee holders who submitted applications. I also had 15 who applied that did not have their tally counts done, and 4 without grazing permits.

Spay and Neuter - I will try to get this program to our community so members can take advantage of this program.

Abandoned Home Sites - I am waiting on Land Administration to get back with me on all the abandoned homesites.

***Red Willow Farm**

Elvis Bitsilly - We are at the last phase of the powerline and informed May 1st will be completion day. There is water in the pump currently and want to encourage our farmers to do start moving dirt. I also submitted to the officials, legislation which has been approved.

Gloria Begay - We are working hard on healthy food across Navajo. DFA are helping farmers and ranchers as well. We have been recognized by the state and having a meeting at SIPI in Albuquerque, NM to renew policies.

Vice President Halona - For your information on May 24&25, there will a food summit at San Juan College.

Geneva Begay - The restrooms at the school are concerning, there is a lot of water waste from the school housing.

Unhealthy Food Tax - Allowable are greenhouses, health education, farming, and healthy lifestyles like environment and physical activity. Building and infrastructure is **Not** allowed.

***Council Delegate's Report**

Council Delegate Halona - is attending the special session in W/R but is listening in on our meeting. Council Delegate Crotty has obtained $68 million for the San Juan Lateral.

***Official's Report/CLUPC - President Moore**

The CLUPC will be withdrawing land for businesses and professional housing hopefully by summer.

Vice President Halona - There are only 103 business site leases across Navajo, but we have over 40,000 self-employed individuals who are doing business out of the homes.

President Moore - I attended the Economic Summit 2022 in Twin Arrows. We had breakout sessions and the focus was on "buy Navajo, buy local." Navajo Nation wants to grow small businesses across Navajo and have more women entrepreneurs.

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution to NN Department of Transportation and the NM Department of Transportation to alleviate the dangerous dust storms on Highway 491 and partnering with Mexican Springs Chapter.
2. Resolution to delete the decease members in our community off of NN Voters Registrar.
3. Resolution to transfer funds into "District Meeting" in the amount of $2000 from "Planning Meeting Stipend."
4. Resolution to support Scared Wind
5. Resolution received from Jonathan Hale.
6. Resolution to approve Mike Begay as our new representation for Soil Water Conservation District.
7. Resolution for Budget Transfer from Fund 25 in amount of $2000
8. Resolution to approve $19,000 to use for Powerline extension
9. Resolution to approve $80,000 from state for leach line and septic tank replacement.
10. Resolution to approved $28,000 to complete the Chapter warehouse.

Motion to Accept:

1st Secretary/Treasurer Crawford 2nd Vice President Halona Vote: 3-0-1

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

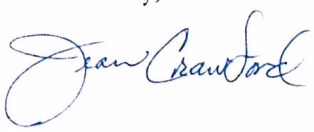
Chapter Meeting, May 18th @ 10am, CLUPC Meeting May 6th @ 9am, District 14 Grazing Committee meeting, May 4th @ 9am Red Willow Farm Board Meeting May 3rd @ 1pm.

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING DATE – May 18, 2022 @ 10am

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 3:01pm

Motion: Vice President Halona 2nd Jean Crawford

Submitted by;



Jean Crawford, Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter, - May 11, 2022

cc: Mr. Sonny Moore, President
Mr. Mike Halona, Vice-President
Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer
Mrs. Maria Allison, CSC
Mr. Pernall Halona, Council Delegate