



May 6, 2024 10:00 A.M.

PLANNING MEETING AGENDA

TELECONFERENCE: 1-219-803-8769 PIN# 160 108 500#

Video call link: meet.google.com/ahs-epsf-aep

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. INVOCATION

IV. REVIEW-OF THE AGENDA

V. COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTERS:

1.

VI. REPORTS:

***Council Delegate Report:**

1. Update on Spring session legislations -
2. Update on Safety Complex and available funding -

***Community Service Coordinator/Officials' /CLUPC Report:**

1. Update on the distribution on Emergency Funds -
2. DCD Meeting with Mr. Waseta and their Commitment on the \$80,000 and \$100,000 for Septic and Leach replacements -
3. East Flats Water Drilling, Status of the East Flats Participants -
4. ARPA—Status of Assessments with LAM and 6-30-2024 Encumbrance Deadline -
5. Cemetery Expansion – Update on the processing of documents to Land Department -
6. Bike Trail Documents to DOJ -
7. Status of Senior Center discrepancies -
8. Update on meeting with Division of Economic Development -
9. CLUPC on Land Use Recertification Update -
10. Discussion to purchase New Router (Wireless) –
11. Need Vendors for Commercial Development Land Designation

***Red Willow Farm's Report –**

1.

***Grazing Officer Moore's Report -**

1. Update on Emergency funding for livestock -

VII. RESOLUTIONS

1.

2.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

IX. NEXT CHAPTER MEETING DATE: May 22, 2024 (Chapter Meeting)

X. ADJOURNMENT:



May 06, 2024 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: 10:15am**
- II. **ROLL CALL:** President Sonny Moore, Vice President Mike Halona, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Officer Gerald Moore on teleconference call.
- III. **INVOCATION:** President Sonny Moore
- IV. **REVIEW OF THE AGENDA/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- V. **APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2024 CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**
- VI. **COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTERS:**
 1. **Manuel Shirleson** – Veteran’s meeting luncheon requested by the Veterans Organization.
Manuel Shirleson – Just to mention Memorial Day is coming up here at the end of the month. The Veterans have a ceremony at this time annually. They start with raising of the US flag and then move on over to the cemetery for a tribute to the Veterans who have passed. They will come back to the Chapter to do an unfolding and refolding for community member’s flags. We have also been requested to go to W/R and then over to Crownpoint on the same day. I will need to verify the time they want us at W/R and Crownpoint. Please remember this is a “memorial” service and we all need to be quite and respectful.
 2. **Herman Yazzie** – I’m requesting Housing Discretionary assistance for homesite lease. I was informed by the Land Department I need a survey done to complete my application for a homesite. I submitted the 3 quotes to the CSC; Maria and I will like to be put on the agenda for the next Chapter meeting.
President Moore – This is a cost-sharing program and I’m sure Maria will explain that to you.
 3. **Treva Etsitty** – Requesting Housing Discretionary assistance. She has submitted documents to CSC, Maria.
 4. **Geneva Begay** – I just want to remind the Chapter that it is planting season and the Red Willow Farmers will be requesting for the grader and tractor to start planting. We are still encouraging community members to sign up for a 2-acre lot to plant at Red Willow.
- VII. **REPORTS:**
 - *Council Delegate’s Report:**
Ansley Curley – I will be discussing the 2 legislations which have bearing here on this community but also certainly affect the rest of the NN. CAP-22-24 appointed Mike Anderson as the DPS Division Director. This has been an on-going issue within Council and he had to present himself to the Law-and-Order Committee which our Council Delegate Notah sits on. Mr. Anderson will head the police department, fire and EMS services. So, its and important position that requires a lot of questions on the part of Delegates to ensure that we have the right person there. Ultimately, he was confirmed for the position. The second issue that came up as it relates to somewhat the district but certainly the rest of the NN is CAP-23-24. This resolution requested of the Federal Government specifically President Biden to stop any and all transportation of uranium tailing and waste across the NN. There are continued discussions with the US EPA on the part of the NN EPA to curb any future movement of these tailings without proper discussions between the NN and the US. One area specifically that is in District 14 and falls within Delegate Notah legislative responsibility is in Coyote Canyon. There is a small corner of Coyote Canyon that falls on the other side near Churchrock. If you are not aware, Kerr-McGee Mine and other mining operations took place in this area. So, there is a problem within the Coyote Canyon community as it relates to that particular piece of land. There have been on-going discussions with US EPA and if you have been reading the local newspaper, the proposal is to pick up all that waste and transfer it to a landfilled just north of Thoreau. Now, this has been contested, however; the NN through the president’s office, they have not made a

declaratory statement saying we do not want this to happen on the part of the executive branch. However; the legislative body has considered it and thought it was a big enough issue to issue a proclamation through resolution that we do not want any of those tailings transported on Navajo roads. This not only includes that area also some areas to the west of us closer to Cameron, AZ. The US EPA has essentially placed the NN in a corner with not a whole lot of options regarding these waste materials. Two issues that they sight very heavily is distance and cost to transport these materials off NN. As it relates to the area in Coyote Canyon, they (Churchrock Chapter) have requested those tailings and those hazardous waste be transported to Colorado, which is actually the closest and the most secure facility to receive that type of waste. However; the EPA has pushed back saying it's going to cost too much, distance is too far. They have discussed using the railway system by transporting on trains but this has fallen through, but we are hoping (all the folks in involved in these meetings) that will not occur or be the end results of these discussions moving forward. An alternative plan will be produced and a resolution will be implementable. These are the 2 big issues that came out during the Spring Session. Delegate Notah did not have any legislation as sponsor or a co-sponsor that was presented during the Spring Session. There were some changes to the Fiscal Recovery Fund expenditure plans for two of the Chapters. Currently, those 2 expenditure plans are being reviewed by DOJ and the offices associated which are providing oversight. Because those resolutions in the past required approval by Council, Council saw the need to reduce that requirement to only NABI committee approval. So, all the expenditure plan changes will be going through NABI and not through Council. Two of the Chapters have submitted their amendments to their original legislation on the expenditure and going through the process. Regarding the Safety Complex and available funding, a lot of credit goes to the officials. They have been working very hard to secure funding both through the State and with the NN. Currently, the Chapter is working with the Department of Corrections, under Dr. Delores Greyeyes. The Department of Correction has been tasks by the Law-and-Order Committee to create the priority list for all the Safety Complexes across the NN. We are currently in the running for our Safety Complex because we have an amount of money that has been allocated by the State toward the funding of the Complex itself. There had been several hic-up along the way, including the selection of the contracting firm and the amounts that contracting firm wanted to propose in their bid. We are hoping the cost has been driven down by "Parsons" who is the project management firm running our Safety Complex project. The State of NM has been approached several times not only by your elected Officials local here but also Delegate Notah in Santa Fe. The issue that keeps arising with the moneys allocated by the State is that the NN through certain employees have been saying "professional services" in the form of contractors, project managers, architect, and engineers are not covered under professional services. However; there is a letter that is going to come forward from DCD (Division of Community Development) through Duane Waseta, who runs CPMD (Capital Projects Management Department). He is issuing a memo to the Department of Corrections stating their opinion that money issued by the State can be used toward project management and design expenses. Going forward with that letter, we are hoping to complete the design for the Safety Complex within the next 2 months. Of the \$2.1 million that was received, we are down to \$1.9 million currently which will be used toward the design of the building. Because the Safety Complex is going to be essentially the main blue print for the rest of the NN. It's going to be a cookie cutter type solution for the rest of the Nation. There are 17 communities across Navajo that want the same Safety Complex within their own communities. But there is a question on whether are not the Nation will provide additional funds because they are going to be using our blue print which we paid for the rest of the Nation. This will be another discussion that will be had at a later date. We are continuing to press forward with our Safety Complex, and it really depends on funding now.

President Moore – When we had the meeting with Department of Corrections and Mr. Waseta, he didn't seem to have a problem with the State funds being used for professional services. Now, do you see someone in Santa Fe to say "no?" Is this a possibility?

We have selected LAM, (Loren A. Miller owner) as the architect. We are asking for 15,000 sq ft just like the building in Twin Arrows. We've had people try to talk us out of the 15,000 sq ft but we want to keep it at 15,000 sq ft because it will house the police and fire departments and EMS services. Currently, for 15,000 sq ft it will cost \$15 million, but we believe we can raise the fundings for the building. So, it sounds like we will be using our money to help the other Chapters design their own Safety complex by using our blue print.

LDA Curley – I mean everything is a possibility, but I don't believe they the State is against us expending the funds on our Safety Complex. I believe the State is on board with it. Another thing, this project is really a District project and the other communities in District 14 will benefit from the Safety Complex as well, so Delegate Notah has asked each of the Chapters to submit ICIP funding request to the State of NM at the most top threshold of \$2.3 million. Each Chapter has agreed and will be requesting funds from the State for Safety Complex. One suggestion that came out 2 weeks ago was to have the District Council meeting held at Twin Arrows Safety Complex building. Of course it would depend on your travel budget to allow for that. The push back that President Moore mentioned was too much building for District 14. Will you be able to afford the maintenance and operation of the building? The NN does receive some funding through a contract with the Federal Government. Part of those maintenance and operating cost might be offset based off of the money that comes in from the Federal Government.

Vice President Halona – Have we reached out to the other entities like the police and fire departments including EMS so they can voice their excitement about having a Safety Complex in Tohatchi and all the services it will be providing? I believe this will add more support for the building.

LDA Curley – They were part of the planning from the beginning but we'll continue to work with them as closely as possible and make those coordinating efforts.

1. Update on spring session legislations -
2. Update on Safety Complex and available funding -

***Community Service Coordinator/Officials' Report:**

1. Update on the distribution on Emergency Funds in the amount of \$35,000 –

Maria, CSC – The funds are in our account and resolution was approved, but they are asking for an “Emergency Plan” before we can spend the funds. I am working on it and I will be sharing with the officials to add to the plan and will be sent back to the ASC office. Since winter has passed, we won't really use the emergency fund unless there is another legislation from the NN. Through resolution we did put aside money for diesel fuel for heavy equipment, wood and pellets for cold season. We also put aside money for hay for livestock and livestock owners who are in compliance with tally counts. We did put more money into “Professional Fees” for things like cots and flashlights for emergency situations.

2. DCD meeting with Mr. Wasetta and their commitment on the \$80,000 and \$100,000 for Septic and Leach line replacements –

Maria, CSC - The chapter does have these funds available which were allocated from the State and right now I have 5 families who are requesting for septic and leach line replacement. When we met with CPMD, they requested to have the septic tanks cleaned out before replacing them. They state to have chapter submit 3 price quotes to them and they will select the vendor and have them paid from the State funds. Then CPMD will come out and do assessments on these septic and leach fields. Mr. Wasetta also states the septic has to have issues like its breakdown or leaking to have the septic tank replace. As far as I know he has not assigned a project manager to this project.

3. East flats Water Drilling projects and status with participants –

Maria, CSC – The well drilling started last month with Matilda Todacheenie residence. They were able to hit water at 500ft down and now they are testing the water to see if it's potable water. They are at Lucinda Barney's residence and will start drilling there. President Moore, Janice, and myself took a drive down eastflats to do a site visit to see for ourselves the process of the drilling. We are also able to take pictures of the drilling and equipment being used. We are waiting on a report from Souder & Miller on the drilling. After Lucinda Barney's water has been drilled, there will be 5 other families down eastflat waiting to have water drilled at their residence. We do have 2 individuals, Charlene Manuelito who is on the list to have a well drilled but currently does not have a homesite lease, but the paperwork is in progress. Vince Natonabah is also waiting on his homesite lease which was been sent for probate in Crownpoint.

4. ARPA, status of assessments with LAM –

Maria, CSC – LDA Curley recommended that we should move around some of the ARPA funds to areas were short as far as ARPA projects. I had Janice work on this with LDA Curley and they went through the listing again and put families who are deemed priority to the front of the list. So, our list sort of shrunk and we put more money into the bathroom additions and all the amendments were submitted to DOJ who have since approved our ARPA projects. We will be meeting with LDA Curley again so we can move forward.

5. Cemetery Expansion – update on the processing of documents to Land Department –
Maria, CSC – All the required documents have been sent back to Land Department and according to President Moore, Byron Bitsuie Sr. sent an email stating our documents have been approved for the requested expansion. We also received approved for the fencing of the expansion of the cemetery using ARPA funds. I'll need to submit an update quote on the cost of the fencing.
6. Bike Trail Documents to DOJ –
Maria, CSC – The attorney with DOJ finally responded regarding the bike trail and informed us we would need to go through procurement process. Which means we will have to get 3 price quotes for the construction of the bike trail. This is a challenge because we do not know of any other organization who is in the business of constructing bike trails. It will not have to go through the 164 processes but we still need to follow procurement process.
7. Status of Senior Center discrepancies –
Maria, CSC – We were hoping to open the Center back up in June but we are still having an issue with the HVAC system. This system needs to be assessed to determine if it needs maintenance or replaced. We did meet with OEH/IHS including Jared's supervisor and she did say she would be working on this issue. The fire extinguishers which were replaced were tested and everything is a go. The Senior Center building still needs a good cleaning and I'm hoping Jared will get started on this. Jared is looking to hire a cook and a driver for the Tohatchi center and you can go onto the NN website to apply.
8. Update on meeting with Division of Economic Development -
9. Update on CLUPC on Land Use Recertification -
10. Discussion to purchase new Router (Wireless) with NTUA –
Maria, CSC – I'm working with NTUA and they asked that we get an IT person who can do an assessment of the wiring and the router. NTUA did recommend an IT person from Farmington to come out to do the assessment but the cost was at \$3,000 and even more if we decide to hire him to do the actually wiring. So, in the meantime I'm working with an IT person from Gallup, but he has been sick for the last 2 weeks. I'm hoping he is feeling better and can come in to do the assessment this coming week. I also reached out to Byron Bitsuie but he is very busy with his work. I even offered to have him come in after hours to get this assessment completed. We will have wireless in the administrative section of the Chapter and other one setup for people who want to give presentations.
 Other things that are happening is we are taking applications for college and high school students for summer employment. But based on our current budget, we can only hire 12 high school students, and 4 college students. The opening date was May 1st and closing date is June 21st. High School students get out on June 12th and the start of employment is July 1st and end on July 12th. During their employment, the Chapter will provide presentations, food handlers training, and hopefully CPR training as well.
 We are also taking fall applications for college students currently and will close June 28th and will present it at the July Planning meeting to get approval.
 The Chapter did receive Sales Tax funds in the amount of \$65,268.00 and the Unhealthy Food Tax in the amount of \$17,280.00. We received a low amount this year, because we still have over \$80,000 which is unspent.
 I still have PEP workers, Marvin Begay and Walton Watchman, I also have a work force employee name Emerson Sam. They are currently working at Theresa Bryant's house putting in installation and ceiling up. They are nearly completed with the work and we do have a deadline with NTUA. The next project will be assisting Winifred Muskett.
 Rhonda Lewis from work force has been our receptionist and her employment will end at the end of May. We will have Carol Lowe back with us from work force as well. We appreciate all the employees provided by work force. It helps to save our PEP budget.
 I just want to acknowledge the staff here at the Chapter to say how much I appreciate them. We have been working together to make positive change to our community.
President Moore – Just for information, I usually go with our CSC, Maria and office assistant, Janice to job sites. I want them to know as aspect of the construction at the job sites. We have a lot of pending projects going on at the same time and we try to help the CSC as much as we can. The one project that as us worried is the \$350,000 for the Senior Center which is due to expire on June 30th. We are working to save this money

for the Center and will be getting Council Delegate Notah involved.

I also would like to ask VP Halona for his assistance in getting Mr. Arbin Mitchell to get our ASC, Patricia Begay and Mr. Echohawk to complete our Finding I of our audit.

I also want to mention the newspaper article of the violence happening at Chapter meetings. I've been talking with Maria, CSC about the Chapter being proactive by establishing a process for these kinds of incidents. I want to remind people the Chapter will not tolerate any violence, whether it be verbal abuse or physical attacks.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Does the HVAC system need to go through procurement and secondly, I would like to request VP Halona to reach out to Mr. Arbin Mitchell to get our ASC, Patricia Begay and Mr. Echohawk to help us resolve the Finding I on our audit. Unfortunately, they are the only ones who can reconcile this account. It cannot be done here at the Chapter level. I myself, have tried to contact Ms. Begay by phone and email with no response. We want to continue our quest to becoming a certified chapter.

11. Need Vendors for Commercial Development Land Designation -

***Red Will Farm's Report/CLUPC**

1. Update on the Conservation Planning session –

Elvis Bitsilly (President of RWF) – Just an FYI, the Staff Development is offering CPR training for officials and staff. The cost is \$70.00 per person and the Unhealthy Food Tax fund can be used for this training.

As far as the Bike Trail is concern, DOJ has come back to say we need to follow procurement process.

The application for the 5-year plan has been submitted to Land Department and I ask the Chapter to follow up on the application. I did send an email to manage, Byron Bitsuie and “cc: VP Halona but have not received a response as to where our application is at. I stopped by NHA office to invite them to our CLUPC meeting on the 21st of May to discuss new housing development in our community. We also have been in discussion with Economic Development from W/R who have provided guidance to our club.

CLUPC is reviewing the Land Use Planning and have assigned sections of it and we want to complete it by October 2024. Next CLUPC meeting will be on May 21st at 9am. I encourage community members to get involved and attend our meetings.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I would like to know if CLUPC has reached out to Mr. Tully with NHA or his co-presenter, Mr. Olin Kieyoomia? He was here at the Chapter to request for land to build some new houses. I would recommend the CLUPC pursue this and see what they have to offer our community.

Elvis Bitsilly – No, I don't have his contact information but I get look into it. The CLUPC in the past have not been very active, but we are doing what we can and trying to make things happen.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Just to put this on record, the CLUPC needs to also be aware that they also need to go through the procurement process as well.

Elvis Bitsilly – we are not doing any hiring currently and we have had this discussion with CLUPC to give them clarification.

Red Willow: We submitted a request for a supporting resolution for “In Kind Services” for our farmers. We normally will have this request submitted at the beginning of the year. The Chapter will assist us as a Farm Board in providing heavy equipment use, backhoe, and at times the grader. This request for assistance has been on-going and put in place years ago and we want to continue with it.

Last week on the 23rd we attended the high school assembly by invitation to present on Red Willow Farm. We setup a small display and we talked about the history of Red Willow and some of the projects we have going currently. The school has a project which will involve Red Willow which will be eventually worked into their school programs. The students were very interested and excited about learning how to farm and we handed out application for farm plots to the parents of the students.

I also want to mention and make you aware that we have a family who resides right behind the high school that have decided to diverted some canal water from the mountain to their farming area. This plot has never been repaired or fixed up to do any farming and they also did not get our permission to do so. We have asked them to come to our meeting tomorrow to discuss what they need to do. We have already had this discussion with them about the canal water. We ask them to come to us if they want to do any small farming near their home. We do have a water usage fee that we charge all farmers and this is water specifically coming from the Chooshgai reservoir into the irrigation line. This is stated in our Plan of Operation as well.

Tomorrow we will be meeting with NN Water Resources with engineers who will be updating us the diversion

dam and the canal system. The Department of Agriculture approved \$467,000 for this project which will reconstruct our water system that goes into the lake. Last week, I talked with NN Department of Agriculture, Ferdinand Notah who stated they have the grant agreement in place which is great news.

The Chapter approved \$1077.00 toward our utility bill and we are grateful for your assistance. In January, we paid \$1150 from Red Willow account toward the outstanding bill. I took payment to NTUA thinking they will reconnect the electricity, but was told we still owe money. The contract that was done to install the power box, lights, and other accessories to give us power. This funding of \$30,000 was all done through NN Water Resources and they did the project. There was a sales tax attached to this project which was left out of the total cost of the project. Now, NTUA is requesting this sales tax be paid before reconnection can occur and I spent 45 minutes trying to explain this was not our bill. It should have been taken care of with the contract that was drafted between the departments. I went to Water Resources with this information and ask them to take care of the sales tax cost. They said they would look into it and get back with me but I do plan to send out some emails and try to get this issue resolved.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – So, how much is the construction sales tax they are saying Red Willow owes? Water Resources does plan to pay for the Sales Tax, right?

Elvis Bitsilly – Yes, the bill is \$1,833.00. I will try to get Water Resources to be responsible and pay for this bill since it was part of the contract.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I also would like to know if you have reached out to Alexander Carlisle. She offered the RWF resources they can tap into and she was even willing to do presentations about agriculture and farming. She is very knowledgeable and full of information and I think we need to have her come in to give more information on different topics.

President Moore – As far as NHA, they would be one source and CLUPC would be looking for other developers to come in to discuss what they have to offer.

Vice President Halona – I think what we can do and because we are limited as to what we can do. We do have a supporting resolution for our community and we have identified acres of land for housing. I think we could use an RFP or RFQ to get the word out that we have land available for housing. It could be a private developer who will come in to look at the site. We need to find out who is really interested and our NN President has an initiative for 1000 homes. I've mentioned it many times, we have acres and who will be the developer but we don't have the money for develop or even design. Maybe somebody needs to design that community first, what would it look like, what are some of the alternatives that we would have there, maybe a laundry mat in the middle and so forth. And it's all designed out from apartments on up to your mortgage homes. I think we need to take a proactive approach and say, "over here, we are ready, we got land" which is available and who will bring us the best plan. I think this is something we should consider or else we will be stuck with NHA and their plans.

President Moore - Just a reminder, there will be a groundbreaking in July. Laris Manuelito will be constructing a new super market at this location. She had withdrawn 6 acres for this project.

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

Grazing Officer Moore – Announcement: May 28th will be the second part to the Farm and Ranch workshop at Tohatchi Chapter from 9am-3pm and we will have Alexander Carlisle at this session as well. We will have agriculture in the morning and farming in the afternoon. Some of the topics will be "what is a good bull and how do you select one." Hay selection will be another topic, "what is good hay." With the grazing permittees, there is a few things that we need clarification on in reference to "what is a trustee," and if you are going to do a transfer or probate, how does that effect the process. BIA and NN Department of Agriculture will be here to explain the difference and processes.

For farming, we'll have part 2, how to plant your seeds in a small garden?

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution to Approve 25 community members who have not had a septic cleaning since 2022 with a cost share of \$100.00 money order from community member and balance paid by Chapter in amount of \$130.00.
2. Resolution to Approve a budget transfer within fund 15 for PEP, heavy equipment operator, and FICA & SUTA taxes.
3. Resolution to Approve funds from Sales Tax in the amount of \$65,268.00.

4. Resolution to Approve funds from Unhealthy Food Tax in the amount of \$17,280.00.
5. Resolution to Approve Billy Jo Eastridge, sewing instructor to give sewing classing to our community members. Two days of sewing instruction at a \$1000 and participates need to provide their own sewing machines.
6. Resolution to Approve two wheelchair ramps using the Emergency funds for Herbert Dennison and Cecelia Hardy. They both provided doctor's referrals.
7. Resolution to Approve "In kind Services" for Red Willow Farmers.
8. Resolution to Approve Housing Discretionary Assistance for Treva Etsitty, Carol Lowe and Herman Yazzie.
9. Resolution to approve the 3-mile designation with NNDOT. It will begin at Calvin Smith's residence and 3 miles going east.

President Moore - I would like to bring back the resolution that was tabled which stated having RWF or bigger farms lands to use the account "unhealthy food tax" to pay for their utility bills.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Wouldn't this require a legislation if it's going to affect the bigger farm lands across Navajo.

President Moore – it might, I'm still researching this and I'll find out.

Elvis Bitsilly – Remember, the Red Willow Farm is one of its kind. It's a first as far as a water well project for the NN farming that I'm aware of. Also, there are only 13 farm boards and we are not talking about all 110 chapters. It would only apply to the 13 farm boards. Ganado and Red Lake recently had two dams reconstructed and renovated. They don't have power going to their systems and Red Lake is using solar and I believe Ganado is using solar as well. Their power is only used seasonally and they don't need a lot of power like we do which is year around. There are some differences there and we will be talking to NTUA to let them know our power will only be used seasonally. It's a good idea to submit this resolution in regards to the process we are talking about. If a legislation is drafted an amendment would have to occur to say the unhealthy food tax will be used to pay utilities. The unhealthy food tax does not have clear language, it's vague as to how this fund should be used. It doesn't say yes you can use it in this matter or no you can't. It's not like you'll be paying for our utility year-round and it shouldn't be that much either.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I would agree to this resolution if you had maybe 25-30 farmers which would support this resolution to use unhealthy food tax funds to pay for RWF's utility bill. I think if you had more people who are interested in farming would explain why we are submitting this as a resolution. How many farmers do you have presently who have planted?

Elvis Bitsilly – I have less than 10 farmers who have planted this season, but we have 25 'active farmers.' Hopefully, working with the high school will bring in more farmers. We did let them know they get 2 acres per individual to plant.

Geneva Begay – we did communicate with the school and Ms. Hillmeyer will be setting up a program for the high school students and farming will be their main project this fall through the school year. We need to get the farm area ready and get them interested in agriculture and farming. Maybe they can bring their knowledge back to their families and start a garden at home. There is also AIF incentives, \$500 for home gardens and a lot of the families are unaware of the incentive.

- IX. ANOUNCEMENTS:** Next Chapter Meeting, May 22nd @ 10am. RWF meeting tomorrow at 1pm and we also have a meeting with LAM corporation tomorrow as well. Veterans meeting on Wednesday, May 8th at 10am. Mother's Day, May 12th. Early voting starts tomorrow, May 7th. CLUPC meeting on May 21st. Memorial Day, May 27th. PRCA Rodeo in W/R on May 31, June 1st and 2nd. The top cowboys (world champions) are coming into Window Rock. It will also be aired on television on the Cowboy Channel.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – If you would like the minutes emailed to you, please share your email

address with me so I can include you on my list. I have several people who I send out the minutes to on a monthly base.

X. NEXT CHAPTER MEETING DATE: May 22, 2024 @ 10am

XI. AJOURNMENT: 1:30pm

Submitted by;

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Crawford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "C".

Jean Crawford, Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter – May 17, 2024

cc: Mr. Sonny Moore, President

Mr. Mike Halona, Vice-President

Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer

Ms. Maria Allison, CSC

Mr. Nathan Notah, Council Delegate