



THE NAVAJO NATION

REVISED

TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Elvis Bitsilly
President

Larry Rodgers
Vice-President

Delphine Bitsilly
Recorder

Fern Spencer
Member

Byron Bitsoie, Sr.
Member

TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLAN COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2024

- I. Call to Order: Time: 9:14 am Roll Call: 4 Invocation: Fern Spencer
II. Introduction of Guests: Rachelle Morris, Megan Berry, Mike Begay, Sonny Moore
III. Approval of Agenda:
Motion to accept agenda without B and C in Old Business:
Delphine Bitsilly 2nd: Fern Spencer Vote: 3-0-1
IV. Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2024
Motion to accept minutes as is and read on your own:
Larry Rodgers 2nd: Fern Spencer Vote: 3-0-1
V. Old Business:

SEP 23 PM 4:11

A. Tohatchi IHS- Rachelle Morris

*Elvis Bitsilly - Rachelle Morris with Megan Berry and give updates; *Rachelle Morris - I wanted to ask updates from the Health System Administrator, Zondra Bitsuie and she's not here today, there's 4 building being demolished and they are the historic former clinic, dental building, EMS and WIC offices, EMS deteriorating fast and not doing anymore improves, don't want to waste money and try to fix things on the building, EMS moving to Crownpoint and in the process of moving out completely, the paper work was submitted to NTUA to remove all utilities; *Elvis Bitsilly - how soon is the EMS to move out and do they have a schedule?; *Rachelle Morris - we didn't know EMS moved, not enough staff to stay at Tohatchi site and other EMT's from other service areas like Kayenta, Chinle, Tuba City that help out, they alternate their EMS to different locations on the reservation, they moved to Crownpoint and that's where they get dispatched from, waiting on the new building, safety complex, they currently don't have a place to stay, everything in the process of demolishing their building and work out of Crownpoint; *Sonny Moore - I was with the department head for EMS, there's a lot of vacancies in the paper for Crownpoint, even the supervisor position, is Ralee Charley still in charge there, I need to follow up, who do we work with, now that we have a building up at Ch'ooshgai school, Mr. Frank Chiapetti has a house at Ch'ooshgai and it is ready, background checks is an issue, since that time they've been operating out of Crownpoint, Maria and I will follow up on and see what the holdup is; *Fern Spencer - they didn't tell you Rochelle; *Rachelle Morris - I wasn't aware of this, I didn't know about the Ch'ooshgai building; *Fern Spencer - their personnel - housing person on background checks, I don't understand EMT's do go through background checks, maybe Sonny you can push it and it's crazy EMT's come out of Crownpoint; *Sonny Moore - safety complex is far off, we will hire a contractor, we need to know how much it will cost, \$15 million and may take about 3 years; *Elvis Bitsilly - 4 buildings to be demolished, as a chapter maybe you should follow up on that, who is coordinated all that who, where, when, plans for a helipad, maybe that's what they're making room for, we have plans for development; *Larry Rodgers - attend meeting for Land use, committee is responsible for land use plan, main question - any plans to use the excess land that

extends southward from the health center, if so, what's going on there, what's plan to be built there?; you just brought up the buildings will be demolished, are **their** plans for those areas once the **buildings** are demolished? ***Rachelle Morris** – I don't have an answer for you, I have to get with the Health System Administrator, they have meetings and I'm not part of their meetings, not sure what the plan is, I can rely this information back to our Health System Administrator, I'm aware during 2018-2019, there was discussion when I attended some meetings – the south area of the Tohatchi Health Center they were looking to make storage buildings, start a garden bed and where the old TAOS administrative building parking lot to make a helipad, currently if there's any emergency they use the football field as the helipad and didn't want to continue to use that in the future and build their own helipad on south side; ***Larry Rodgers** – this is the football field at the high school?; ***Rachelle Morris** – yeah, that was back then and don't know if anything has changed; ***Larry Rodgers** – any idea when the buildings will be demolished?; ***Rachelle Morris** – no time line, only said they are in the process of being demolished, paper work has been submitted to NTUA for removal of all utilities; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – covid is on the rise, be aware of it, talk is there's possible vaccination, is this happening again; ***Rachelle Morris** – yes, we are in the planning phases right now, we did schedule all of our chapters for the fall season, we have a calendar sent out, we are beginning with September 21, there will be Rio West Fall into Fitness, a health fair 11 to 3 pm, if we have vaccine that arrive, it's tentative right now, it should arrive around that week September 17 or 24, there could be a delay in shipment, it could arrive until October, if the flu and covid vaccines are available and they arrive, it will be administered to the public on the 21st, public health nursing for Gallup Service Unit, we have all the chapters scheduled in October, October 1st at Lupton, October 3rd at Manuelito, October 8th at Rock Springs, October 10th is Pinedale, a close pod with Coyote Canyon Rehab Center at there Gallup location on October 11th, I scheduled with Ch'ooshgai on October 15th, however, I was told the MOU with Ch'ooshgai school has expired two years ago, therefore we cannot request the school roster and we can't hold any school vaccination clinics until the MOU is approved, right now that's on hold, October 17th at Tsayatoh Chapter, October 22nd Houck and Naschitti, October 24th is Chichiltah, October 29th Red Rock or Breadsprings, November 5th Ch'ooshgai school and is currently on hold, November 7th Twin Lakes Chapter, November 12th Church Rock, November 14th Red Rock or Breadsprings, November 19th Iyanbito, Covid cases have gone up, we did get an email to our staff about 2-3 weeks ago, staff who are in direct patient care are required to wear a mask, with fair season starting and if you're in crowded places, especially if you have chronic underline health conditions it is recommended to wear a mask, everyone should be wearing a mask; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – you work with our CHR, is it their responsible to inform the chapter about things like this?; ***Rachelle Morris** – she has that closer communication with the chapters, we are delegated with our own work and referrals, we have delegated tasks we're doing, we're addressing the high syphilis cases across the Navajo Nation, planning our flu and covid vaccination clinics, we're coordinating with our schools, immunizations reviews, incoming referrals, we have our chronic disease patients we follow up on, we have a high risk list and share the list with our CHR, CHR doesn't have a supervisor for Gallup, so Renee our Tohatchi CHR is delegated as the CHR supervisor for now until they hire one, there's no office secretary, get MOA back in place so they can have access to the Electronic Health Record System (EHRS) and currently they are submitting paper pcc and it's delaying patient care with submitting the paperwork which takes time, as the Navajo Area Public Health Nursing program, we're coming together and planning to write a letter to the Navajo Area office to request that our tribal partners have access back to EHR, not only for CHR and also for our social hygiene techs, if a referral is generated from a provider or a public health nurse, it goes to them and we have to write it out the paper referral, hand carry it to the Gallup office, the electronic system, it will generate a copy with a printer setup it will print to their office; ***Fern Spencer** – who is our CHR; ***Rachelle Morris** – Rachel Martinez, she has been a CHR for Tohatchi for ten years; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – test kits with expiration dates, if passed expiration

date, are they invalid; ***Rachelle Morris** – CDC weblink, type covid vaccine expiration dates in the search, shows a whole listing of covid test kits by date and lot number, if you look at it, it will have an updated expiration date, for example – May 2024 that may have changed to a later expiration date, say it's not until December of this year, we were getting our home covid kits ordered through our health promotions program, public health nursing budget we have to order home test kits and give it to the public like chapters and schools, CHR is encouraged to order their own supplies using their budget; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – can people go to the clinic to get test kits; ***Rachelle Morris** – was asked about home covid test kits, I sent an email to the Gallup Public Health Nursing supervisor, Gallup under their own line item budget they are ordering home covid test kits so we can utilize in our own department to give to the public, I don't know what the clinic is doing and they are still talking about it; ***Mike Begay** – old BIA land area, is there any plans for a wellness center; ***Rachelle Morris** – 5-6 years ago there was a plan to build a wellness center, they need to form a committee and collaborate with Tohatchi Chapter to be included on the Health committee, they need someone to write a grant to use the grant money to build and there's no one in charge right now; ***Larry Rodgers** – that was part of my question, that southern extension that's what it was intended for, the land is for the old boarding school, IHS has its lease, there's a southern extension that's open, so it was talked about to put a wellness center, we need something definitive on that so we don't start planning a wellness center on the old BIA campus, that where we want to know the difference, collaboration will need to come in; ***Mike Begay** – did you talk to Rose McReeves, did they ever get a map as far as, where buildings and services to be built; ***Rachelle Morris** – I did ask her, she didn't have a whole lot of information, I need to get back with Zondra, the Health System Administrator to get the updated plans, they haven't invited me to any planning meetings for IHS regarding what projects they are working on, I'll get with Zondra first then get back with this committee with updates; ***Mike Begay** – Tohatchi CLUPC, Steering Committee from IHS, trying to work together then covid 19 came in; ***Rachelle Morris** – a former general service manager, who is now at Gallup, I asked him about the health wellness center for our community, he said it is doable, not one person can do it and we form a committee, have all stakeholders involved, get a grant writer to get the money – funding to get the project going, with IHS there's a lot of process and red tape, it goes by phases, phase one can take 1-3 years, when everything is complete is could be a ten year process with IHS; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – what percentage of staff traveling from outside of Tohatchi IHS clinic, is that a high percentage, what are the responses – comments from the staff, who is willing to stay in the community if there was a place to stay; ***Rachelle Morris** – general services manager stated, IHS needs land for housing infrastructure for clinic staff, I don't know the percentage of people to travel and commute, we have approximately staff of 60-65, some staff travel west of Ganado, one nurse traveled from Aztec every day, two staff from Zuni every day, it's a hinder on staff who ask if there's housing for us, closest place they can find housing is in Gallup, Gallup has a 1-5 year waiting list for apartments and housing, not building fast enough, with no housing they take another opportunity elsewhere, that's why there's a lot of turnovers of our providers and clinic staff in our departments, they are looking at land north of the clinic, not sure if that's under Tohatchi chapter; ***Sonny Moore** – the people who need to be at the table, there is land designated, we need people from this community to be at the table with us and start planning, we're calling it professional houses, this group here is trying to update the land use plan required by Title 26 through Navajo Nation, your Health System Administrator needs to be aware and start working with her on these projects, it's time to bring in people to build homes, work with IHS and what are the plans for the vacant lots over there, we need to work together with the chapter and Health Center; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – this is new information, they are looking for a place to develop as well, we can coordinate with them, Chuska is available for us to develop, it's been idle for many years; ***Sonny Moore** - there are 30 homes at Ch'ooshgai school, I talked with Frank Chiapetti and there's possibility they can be turned over to the chapter, any time you deal with BIE it's a lengthy

process; ***Rachelle Morris** – intern here, needs housing here and would like a place; ***Megan Berry** – travels daily from Gallup, over time it would make a difference, having housing closer would be better and help me in the future; ***Rachelle Morris** – people who commute a long way, winter season and not sure of roads, Megan already concerned about the roads in the winter and doesn't know what to expect, can hinder patient care since staff have to travel a long distance; ***Fern Spencer** – who is your head person for the whole service unit for the Navajo Nation, Tohatchi area; ***Rachelle Morris** – CEO, Detsoi; ***Fern Spencer** – she should know about the situation, she commutes, too, Tohatchi is a hub, it's unfortunate the EMT's are coming from Crownpoint, pharmacy still on the 48 hours, will that change; ***Rachelle Morris** – when they get enough staff, staff are alternating from other service areas to come help, we're serving a large area in district 14, people being seen in the clinic, refilling their meds, they are priority because they have appointments and pick up their meds the same day, people calling in for refills and it takes time for them to do that; ***Fern Spencer** - dentist area, do we have a dentist here or everyone goes to Gallup; ***Rachelle Morris** – dentist, I'm not sure, I know they need to hire 2-3 more dentists, I don't have the updates; ***Fern Spencer** – there's a former student from Mexican Springs, she was here and detailed her to Gallup or Wingate, doctors go on vacations, are they back from their vacations?; ***Rachelle Morris** – I can't tell you if they are on vacation or not, we have 5 providers who are permanent, Dr. Taylor, Dr. Gonzalez, Dr. Cruz, Dr. Offerhide, Dr., if the providers for Gallup and Tohatchi are on leave, they delegate another provider, we do have an pamphlet and I can share next time, it has a picture of the providers, their background, it tells the community who the providers are; ***Mike Begay** – how close is that area, is it ready for a master plan?; ***Rachelle Morris** – I can get with Zondra and get back with the committee, I can bring the information regarding the housing, health wellness center, the EMS situation and housing for them so they can come back here locally, to form a committee with Tohatchi chapter and IHS together, sit at a table and talk about these plans, get back with the Health System Administrator; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – can you forward me their information, give us their email information contact; ***Mike Begay** – get a master plan for that area to be part of the land use plan; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – yes, that is what we are working on, good information from IHS; ***Rachelle Morris** – vaccines – E3 vaccine national strategy with Indian Health Service, E3 strategy refers to every patient, every encounter, every recommended vaccine, when you come in as a walk in, they will see you are due for some vaccines, treatment will be available to you from your provider, in the plans the pediatric clinic will get services after working hours for the kids, if they are due for vaccines they will be referred to go there for after hours, parents who work during the day have that opportunity to get there in the evening; ***Mike Begay** – when I go to the Health Center, you haven't had a shot in twenty years; ***Sonny Moore** – I used to go to College clinic in Gallup, I called here and Dr. Taylor, Dr. Gonzalez and I received a courtesy call, there's a more personal relationship with the Doctor and nurse, keep up the good; ***Rachelle Morris** – our providers appreciate the positive feedback; ***Fern Spencer** – invite Pamela Detsoi Smiley to next meeting, where's is Christensen, Lori, she was the head in Window Rock, St. Michaels; ***Rachelle Morris** – Dr. Christensen, I think she's in Rockville, Maryland, I have a wish list for this area, I want to be involve, solar lights in the community, sidewalks, better roads; ***Sonny Moore** – a community forum this Thursday, 1-5 pm.

B. Tohatchi NHA Director-Valerie Wilson – no respond.

C. NN Economic Development- Leonard Francisco, Jr/Flora Nez – will not attend.

D. Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan Review

***Elvis Bitsilly** – working in our sections with the Land Use Plan 2018, make recommendations for changes in sections and language, we were assigned sections and moving forward with that, than you to the committee for working on the sections, a public hearing for the community to know what the land use plan is, what we are doing and make them aware of the plan, the last approval

was in 2018, required by the chapter to review the plan every five years, we want input from the community so they will know what we are doing; *Mike Begay – how far are you off to present to RDC and Navajo Nation Council?; *Elvis Bitsilly – we gave ourselves a deadline to get it done this year, we need to finalize this plan, we made changes, recommendations, research, new information to update the plan, it's a lot of information for the community and us because the chapter and community spent a lot of time on this, need input from the community; *Rachelle Morris – safety building should include animal control officers – animal abuse and dogs tied up, animals need medical attention, stray dogs – not spay and neuter, becomes a problem with animal bites or attacks on children, livestock, it would be nice if all chapters to be proactive in hiring for their safety buildings with having a animal control officer, like a police department that will enforce the laws, fill those positions; *Fern Spencer – it would be nice, I have dogs, when I was at the vet clinic, this person came in and asking to look at his dog, the lady there said we only have one doctor, we don't take emergencies right now, you should have been here at 9 o'clock, I can give you a referral to Grants or Albuquerque, Dr. Manuelito is with the Navajo Tribe and they are shorthanded here in Gallup with the only veterinarian services; *Larry Rodgers – those comments are for Thursday, we need to be transparent here, my involvement with the committee has been really strained, back to your question on how long will I be serving on here, Mr. Moore will need to answer that sometime, July 24 – Mr. Moore, the Chair here, myself, we had a meeting Mike Halona, for the purpose of working on the community land use plan, I asked Michael Halona since he overlooks the Land Administration, I asked Michael Halona if we could have the data to the information that's on this map, the information I requested is corner points, corner points, corner points, GPS coordinates reading, and what the tract is for, is it a business site, mission site, homesite, no names nothing, I went through eleven rationales as to why we needed the information, the most important thing is the information we can get from them is official, so the corner points are official, any new additional lands we work with, open land we can do other types of development, we can do better planning with it and identify the corner points and make new areas for future withdrawals, that is why and to document it into the community land use plan, we already worked on the Tohatchi Boarding School, we used GPS to designate the exterior of that area so we know how much acreage there is, where the delineation is of the land, that's why I'm familiar with the IHS land withdrawn, chapter withdrawal for other development, we're talking about housing, apartment complex, other institutional building like bringing in NTU to have college courses there, that's for that area, we wanted to make sure what we have is very official, 45 minute meeting on the phone, Mr. Halona said I can't grant that, I can't grant that request, a damper on the whole thing, he says we work with individual chapters, only project by project, so if you're going to withdraw land we work with the chapter to do that, that's when we provide those points, but the points they don't provide to the chapters, they provide to the organization they are working with or developer to get that done, the survey is will done and I can understand that, legal description for land withdrawal is very important and precise, the information I requested so we can better work on it, he denied it, one point he made, he says community land use plan is so simple, if you want something built, copy a map, then draw in what you want done, like if you want a store, draw that in, that's all you need to do with your community land use plan, that's what he said on the phone, I documented it and the committee is aware of it, I sent it to the three officials

regarding what happened during the conversation, in the end he denied it and update your land use plan, towards the end, our chair here agreed with him that we already have a land use plan in place and the maps in there are sufficient, they are good enough, didn't support his committee member to go after the important information, we've had two or three, almost every meeting we talked about land use plan since January, we've had a couple work sessions, in those work sessions we talked about how we're going about updating the land use plan, I personally put in about 30-40 hours writing the first component, I finished that and showed it as a draft at the last meeting to this committee, in addition I download census data 2022 American Survey Data for this chapter, also for the Navajo Nation and also for the State of New Mexico, made three tables and I thought I had 30 tables, I start setting it up and 23 tables I developed, this is demographic tables – age, gender, race, people related, go into social data like grandparents taking care, living with grandkids, Navajo language spoken, Econ data – how much money people are earning, I got those tables ready, the next component which is called the Community Assessment and put it in there, I put that much work into it and we had this meeting and I got this negative reaction to it or my request was not granted, I took it at that time that this committee doesn't support what I was doing, why should I be wasting my time anymore on it, I'm stepping away from the work on the community land use plan, my role on the committee which is, when I was appointed for one year and during my appointment I help modified our Plan of Operation, in that Plan of Operation we put new appointments would serve two years, two year terms instead of one year, makes it longer, it brings out my point on the committee, under the time I was appointed and it was for one year and it is up in September, if you read the new Plan of Operation, it says appointments are for two year terms, since I was part of the group that was reappointed, does that mean my term is two years, too?, we can ask the President, that's for your information, I'm ending, I ended, I didn't even look at the document after that, July 25 and dated the email at that point, I want this part of the minutes record, I have a great deal of interest and I'm working on a very good community land use plan, I always say the community land use plan is a living document, we just improve it and that's what we're trying to do, when we look at it now – the maps are good enough, to me it's not, it needs additional improvements, leave at that, as you can see I was very quiet, usually I'm not this quite, I'm outspoken about things, a lot of things to talk about, a lot of development items that we deal with and so forth, as a individual member I'm very down trodden, I'm trying to recoup from that, that's it Chair; *Elvis Bitsilly – thank you Vice Chair, thank you for your comment, Mr. Vice Chair we heard you in our meetings before that you were here for one year, your original assignment and I don't think anything has changed since, unless we as the committee made that change or recommendation to keep you on, the teleconference meeting I had covid and I listened to that call that morning, put in my recommendations under that condition, we appreciate your work, Vice Chair in what you're doing, thank you so much Vice Chair, your concerns – issue sounds like it's to the Land Department and Mr. Halona not me, I only agreed to his recommendation on the mapping, that's what we talked about, the committee has made that statement to you here, as well, I think you wanted more, sometimes you have to accept when someone says no, or I don't approve or this doesn't fit with what I'm doing as a committee member or so forth, it doesn't me I don't like you or honestly disagree with you totally, we have to work together as a committee whether we have yays and nays along with what we are doing as a committee and a chapter, if you

get mad and stay mad; ***Larry Rodgers** – don't put it that way, it's not; ***Elvis Bitsilly** - that's not me, you're disgruntled with what you're doing; ***Larry Rodgers** - talk directly with the issue, don't be putting in your personal information on it, as well, too, don't make it personal, you done enough harm for me; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – you're upset about the call and that's what I'm referring to; ***Larry Rodgers** – you didn't have to out rightly agree with Mr. Halona, you could have play the good logical chair and support your member, back stabbing; ***Delphine Bitsilly** – let him finish then you can finish after him; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – I gave you time without saying anything, I didn't interrupt your conversation, I'm moving forward, this committee doesn't feel the same way, what we're working is for the chapter and it's what they need, I also overheard you during the teleconference that we as a committee we didn't furnish you our information on the sections we are working on, while in work sessions we have been discussing this information all this time, we have provided the committee with what we have been doing, as you can see right now, this has been updated as of last week or last work session, this is what we are doing, we have to continue on with this stuff and deal with it, and go forward, I don't have any disagreement or disapproval of anybody, even you as Vice Chair of this committee, we would appreciate you to continue to work with us, you can do it and it's up to you, only positivity here and we get bombarded with things, interfere, I can handle it; ***Larry Rodgers** – the information I requesting from Window Rock, if we got an okay, we would be the very first chapter on the Navajo Nation to do something that is of that magnitude, it hasn't happened elsewhere, the thing is I have the knowledge, the technical help elsewhere to get something like this done, if we got the data to work with it, the information we put together would be very professional, be very precise, and very near official, the official part is the data we get from there, the land around the area would still be recommendations that go into the plan, later the plan is used, somebody would say the land is there and let's get that land withdrawn for this purpose, that's what it intended to do to make it quite simple, if you remember in the discussion on the phone I told Mr. Halona what I'm bringing up is what a city would be doing, they would be planning for open areas to do certain things with, that is what I was getting at, but they don't see that, I appreciate the President being there but he was very neutral about it, my mind is made up, I know that you will continue with the community land use plan, no thank you I'm not part of it, I'm not stepping off the committee until I get a letter that says you're no longer on there, and I don't think Chair you have much to say about if I continue to serve or not, it's the call of the chapter that votes you in, that's votes to have you serve on it, if I need to go before the Chair, I mean before the chapter and let them know what's going on with that, I can do that but I don't want to go that far, keeping it within the committee in the meantime, the new plan of operation, was put in place around the same time that we got appointed to this committee for this fiscal year, they used to do this by the fiscal year, the new plan of operation says, once your appointed you serve two years, so if someone gets appointed like in March, their clock begins that March not by the fiscal year, like Mr. Bitsoie replacement, it hasn't happen yet, whenever that happens the new person's clock begins at that point, I don't know if we're waiting for the fiscal year to end for that appointment, maybe later on down the road, I might not mind serving on the committee again, if my term ends in September which is just one more month, I don't mind that, please understand that I no longer am in support of going forward with the land use plan as it is, Chair thank you; ***Sonny Moore** – in any committee there's agreements and disagreements, I'm thinking as a President you're among

the people, I appreciate the expertise and knowledge of this committee, give expertise from different areas and that's what we need, I hear the Vice Chair and the President, keep the document up to date and that's the important thing, this chapter has gotten to the point to where we can do the foundation depending on the elections, we can put a foundation in place to be certified, even though the Navajo Nation has proposed four other models to government reform, first thing we can do is operate with more autonomy, we have to go before the community with a resolution, here's the pros and cons, once we cleared all of the audit, we move forward, the land use plan and it has to be redone, our communication lines are the same, I get what you're saying and if that information is available, we make an agreement of some sort and none of this information will be shared, I went to NTUA met with Rex Koonz and signed a document not to share information with a third party, maybe with this example we can work something like this, with your permission from CLUPC and have a meeting with the Resource Director, continue to work with us my uncle, we have a plan of operation and two years, you're the best person for the job, Delphine too, Elvis and Fern, we're going to bring in a fifth person soon, I think we've been real productive, CLUPC to do 80-90% of the work, are we ready to present this, let's work together and this is what I'm thinking; ***Delphine Bitsilly** – I'm going over section, you all got a copy, it's the order we discussed at the work session, how we reordered the importance of the commercial development, top three is highway lighting, warehouse project, public safety complex, four with the sub importance – Tohatchi Rental Flick, Veterans, Old Orchard site, Chuska Lake across the high school, Nakai Park, five and six – old housing tract and BIA, seven – baseball field, eight – Trading Post, nine – airport, ten – Hamburger Hill, eleven – Old Francisco site, outline we tentatively approved from our work session last week, changes are based from the 2018 land use plan, we when have an approval if we're going to make changes to this listing order, if good enough we leave as is, I have some documents for these sites in the actual 2018 plan, they will go attached to these in the 2024 plan once when put it together, this started the map issue and I apologize for that, I like to make a comment, departments and every work office in this whole entire country have policy and procedures as to what you can and cannot get, we have to follow and abide their policy, regulations and so forth, that's how I see it, if I want some information and they say no, that's the answer, we have to respect those policies and procedures from departments, offices, anywhere, if they go sneak around, it's on them and we don't want them to get into trouble, that's my feeling and how I see it, I'm sure everyone here has encountered that kind of situation on your own personally, we shouldn't have to go and continue to request when it's their own policy that we can't get that type of information, that's my feeling on it because that's how I see it at the departments anywhere you go, we can't break that policy and that's what they have in place thank you very much; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – this is what we worked last week and before as a group and President Moore was here, everyone's input was a part of this and not only at that meeting but prior meetings as well, as to how this priority list will be listed, we did go off the ICIP listing for the Navajo Nation chapters specifically Tohatchi, this is what was recommended, it's a draft, not a final and everything we do is a draft, information and input is what we're making changes to, a final draft will come at a later time, when don't know when this will happen, as you see on the column some are pending as well, this information comes from the chapter, and what they have in place in

regards to data, we don't know if they are all accurate, we're going by what is given to us, and what we know.

VI. **New Business:**

A. **Bike Trail Update- President Moore**

***Elvis Bitsilly** – give us updates Mr. Moore, there's new information and we've been talking about this for a long time; ***Sonny Moore** – Maria stated it came down to one vendor, she's working with Patricia Begay and the paper work has been processed, Patricia will assist with Maria to walk through the 164 process, Maria has the paper work here, it's ready to go and did a vendor search; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – working with the Navajo Nation, I had to hand carry these documents through departments, you have to make an appointment or go in and say I'm here to do this, I worked with these departments for signatures and approval, if you email you will not get an answer right away, keep following up on it; ***Fern Spencer** – which vendor?; ***Sonny Moore** – the same as before; ***Fern Spencer** – how much will it cost?; ***Sonny Moore** – no change in cost; ***Larry Rodgers** – President you might want to look into it more, I got an email from IMBA that the contract was approved, they also are working with Kayenta, he is describing our the contract we will work with Kayenta and Tohatchi, Mike is the one who signed the contract, need to be sign in Window Rock by the President after DOJ review, he sent out notice the contract was approved two days ago, work a schedule to present at the chapter to get the project going, schedule for the fall, their contact person in Window Rock is Laura Johnson, it's good news.

B. **Requesting Technical Support (Consultant, Planner) for the Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan Recertification**

***Elvis Bitsilly** – this was brought to the table, we as the committee to possibly request for a consultation or planner to assist us in the land use plan process, and don't know how long it will take us, with this memo request to the chapter and have it for record, memo to President and Coordinator, are there professional services for community land use planning, I think there is, received a new template from DOJ on a community land use plan for the Navajo Nation chapters, do we keep the plan we have now or go with the one in place now?, we keep what have and not change it, DOJ stated you can keep your current plan, I did submit memo to Mr. Moore and Maria; ***Larry Rodgers** – need clarification from DOJ, what I got from DOJ is a template plan of operation for the committee, we been asking for it since our session in Gallup for the Fort Defiance Agency when the CLUPC members had a meeting, we asked for one and I followed up on it with an email to Roderick Begay, the attorney, asking him for a sample copy a plan of operation that is generic, it took about half a year then he sent out a memo with the template to the chapters namely sent to Mr. Moore and Mr. Moore email to us, that's the template I'm familiar with, I'm not aware of a template for a land use plan, other than what we're covering which is in Title 26, there are no changes since 2004, two attempts in 12 and 16 to amend Title 26 in section community land use plan; ***Elvis Bitsilly** – you're right, it should be plan of operation, send out to all 110 chapters; ***Larry Rodgers** – the memo that is written regarding requesting the technical support, I'm going to make a motion to approve it, the agenda item as is, let's take the words from the President for us to be in good standing, I've always been a good sportsman, I'm a team player to begin with for sure, even though we won second, third, fourth place trophies, our team always ended up with the sportsmanship trophy, that's because of the way we were, I'm really proud of that, I'm very sportsmanship in line with that because of my upbringing, when it comes to teamwork, and the team doesn't gel that's when I get upset, I want to take the President's word and be good to each other, approve your request to get technical support for working on the community land use plan, I'm not participating on this and I can support you to move forward, while I was promoting to get technical assistance for mapping, you weren't supporting me on it, and I was doing a major write up in the land use plan in place, this is where my sportsmanship comes in, you jump the gun on it

and we haven't approved it yet and you have it dated yesterday, I advise you change the date on it to today and add the language to it, the committee acted on it and this is the vote in the closing paragraph as my requesting as part of my motion; *Elvis Bitsilly – I wasn't sure of the date and I drafted it yesterday, I can change the date with your request at the end of the paragraph.

- C. **Motion to accept memo from Elvis Bitsilly in regard to requesting technical support (Consultant, Planner) for the Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan Recertification and to change the date from August 19 to August 20, 2024 and add at the end of the paragraph, this recommendation was made by Larry Rodgers, motion by Elvis Bitsilly and 2nd by Fern Spencer, Vote – Larry.**

*Larry Rodgers – not sure if the reading is correct, the motion is to approve the intend of the letter request, recommendation of adding the paragraph, just to say the committee acted on this memo on this date with a vote of:

Larry Rodgers, 2nd Fern Spencer Vote: 3-0-1

*Fern Spencer – need clarification, on August 13 when we met for our work session, President asked for a letter to technical assistance to be drafted by you to give to him, that's all we talked about at that time and we didn't vote on it at that time, now we're voting on it; *Larry Rodgers – Chair, on B. what we're discussing I think you should modify the topic then it's known there's an instrument which is a letter requesting technical support, redo just for the record, New Business B. approving a letter requesting, just add that in and the rest will stay the same, for the record we will be voting on it and it will be contain in the letter, the vote tally, we're approving a letter you're sending, "requesting technical support," **approving a letter requesting technical support.**

- D. **SWCD-Soil & Water Conservation District- Mike Begay**

*Mike Begay – is nonexistent, nobody wants to join because there's no stipends, recruiting stopped, no stipends, no attraction, one member from each chapter – 6 members – Tohatchi, Naschitti, Twin Lakes, Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Houck, SWCD – Elouise Brown and they are having the same problems, dealing with their plan of operations with deficiency; *Larry Rodgers – who attended last meeting; *Mike Begay - Larry Tsoisie, Dennis Becenti attended meeting; *Fern Spencer – every chapter have this; *Mike Begay – SWCD is non-governmental; *Fern Spencer – when did it start; *Mike Begay – dust bowl; *Fern Spencer – Dennis was trying to recruit, it fizzled out; *Mike Begay – Collier; *Larry Rodgers – Collier, 1934, Navajo Nation didn't trust Collier; *Fern Spencer – what are you going to do, dissolve the SWCD, can you join Red Willow; *Larry Rodgers – how is Houck involved?; *Mike Begay – I have to ask and will find out, Gallup has one and it's out of our district, we're in trust land, there's federal funding and we live in trust land, Dennis is trying to form SWCD Ft. Defiance, living on the reservation is hard; *Sonny Moore – this topic ties in with conservation, if you have a good group working on this, you need a good group to work on this, goes out to the people who work on the land, *Larry Rodgers – look at BIA and they look at weeds, Gallup office might refer you to who you can get help from; *Mike Begay – exterminate weeds, remove all animals east and west on the eastern agency, grazing committee to handle this problem so grassroots people won't be pushed around, we'll find a solution, using same techniques from the 1930's, plans to cancel out permits, looking for people who have done a conservation plan, Mike Halona to save Mother Earth for next generation, SWCD, people who operate in Arizona are different and they retain their tradition, respect land, in New Mexico we like to be educated, chapters out there in Arizona set aside money for stipends and that's what I heard, plan is on attack globally, over population.

- E. **Red Willow Farm Board- Geneva Begay, Sam Natonabah, Jr**

*Elvis Bitsilly – refer to next meeting; *Fern Spencer – did you get the pump working?; *Elvis Bitsilly – yes pump is working, a man from Arizona was supposed to come yesterday and he didn't come yesterday.

VII. Resolutions: none

VIII. Announcements:

A. 1st CLUPC Public Hearing on Community Land Use Plan- Thursday, August 22, 2024@1p-5p/Tohatchi Chapter

*Larry Rodgers – okay to use the survey draft for Public Hearing on Thursday; *Elvis Bitsilly – need agenda, we do have a sign in sheet; *Larry Rodgers – yes you need an agenda for the record.

B. Tohatchi Chapter Regular Meeting- August 21, 2024, 10am

IX. Next Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, September 20, 2024 @ 9am Tohatchi Chapter

*Fern Spencer – is meeting September 20?; *Elvis Bitsilly – September 17, 2024

X. Adjournment/ Time: 12:05 pm

VIII. A

VIII. A

VIII. A

VIII. A