

SEP 3 AM 8:07



August 21, 2024 @ 10:00am

TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING AGENDA

AUDIO TELECONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: (575) 567-3331 PIN: 290 206 733#

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I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. INVOCATION

IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

V. APPROVAL OF July 17, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

VI. PRESENTATION:

1. Kevin Mitchell – update on the progress of the new high school.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Resolution 051-07-2024: Un-table** - Resolution to approve the new rate schedule for the Transfer Station due to the increase in monthly charges from Northwest Regional Waste Authority.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. July 2024 Financial Report

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **053-08-2024:** Resolution to approve adding Antelope Pass Road Route 9508 of three (3) miles to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) Road inventory to be included to the fifteen miles (15) Road grading designation.
2. **054-08-2024:** Resolution to approve adding route 9653 Road of three (3) miles (from Calvin Smith's resident to the Barney's camp) to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) Road inventory to be included to the fifteen miles (15) road grading designation.
3. **055-08-2024:** Resolution to approve adding the former county route 11 (Bitsilly and Silago) three (3) miles to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) road inventory to be included to the fifteen-mile (15) road grading designation.
4. **056-08-2024:** Resolution to approve a Budget Transfer in Fund 03 for Gas/Propane in the amount of \$200 coming out of Electric.
5. **057-08-2024:** Resolution to close out General Fund 02 and transfer the amount \$5,877.56 to Fund 15 PEP Laborer.
6. **058-08-2024:** Resolution to approve General Wages in amount of \$5,048.00 into PEP Fund 15 for all PEP workers to cover them to the end of fiscal year 2024.
7. **059-08-2024:** Resolution to accept the Summer Youth Employment money in the amount of \$33,526.00.
8. **060-08-2024:** Resolution to approve Lowery IT Services to come to the Chapter to upgrade the Internet Router equipment in the amount of \$4,181.86.
9. **061-08-2024:** Resolution to approve Ms. Billie J. Eastridge to do another 2-day sewing class in the amount of \$500.00.
10. **062-08-2024:** Resolution to approve and support the updated FY 2025 Budget for the Tohatchi Veteran's Organization.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME: September 03, 2024 (Planning Meeting).

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:



August 21, 2024 10:00am

TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

- I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 10:20 AM**
- II. **ROLL CALL: President Sonny Moore, Vice President Mike Halona, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Office Gerald Moore**
- III. **INVOCATION: Ira Burbank**
- IV. **REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
Motion: 1st Mary Tsinnie 2nd Manuel Shirleson Vote: 21-0-1
- V. **APPROVAL OF JULY 17, 2024 MEETING MINUTES:**
Motion to include to read on your own:
Motion: 1ST Orlinda Nez 2nd Lillian Barney Vote: 22-0-1
- VI. **PRESENTERS:**

1. **Kevin Mitchell and Jvanna Hanks, and construction supervisor –**

Kevin Mitchell – just for your information, we have 543 students attending the McKinley County Academy which is amazing. I am so proud our students are taking advantage of this program and taking college courses while attending high school. Out of the 543 students currently enrolled, 56 of those students are from Tohatchi High School. These students will be graduating with not only a high school diploma, but an Associate degree or some type of certificate from the Academy which is great.

Jvanna Hanks – I brought with me handouts which describes a brief overview of the current Tohatchi High School construction. You may have noticed an extensive fencing area down in front of the existing high school where the new parking lot will be. So, we won't be touching the existing structure until the new structure is completed, which is part of phase 2. This project will cost over \$66 million and we anticipate this project will be completed by January 2026. The work that is being done now is the pier work or the earth work that is underneath. As we prepare to put the electrical and all the other utilities in underneath the slab. Give you have question on that, I did bring Mr. Cook with me to answer those questions. As we get into early 2025, maybe even late 2024 you will start seeing great big beams going up where they will be putting in roof joists and before we move into the interior. Next is the foundation schematics and you notice the piers which will go underneath the school. There is a good amount of compaction of the soil that is needed to ensure that our foundation stay for a long time and we have a good quality facility. We also have the schematics of the new school, what the new school will look like. You notice there will be a new gym added to the new school. The existing gym on the property will also remain. The other buildings of the old school will be demoed in the phase 2 of the project, but the gym will remain. We did that intentional, because we know this area has a large need for both academic after school activity type events at our location there at the high school.

We did get the turf done last year for the football field and we also did the baseball/softball field. We are currently trying to finish the benchers at the football field. We did have a delay with the vendor who was providing these services. We do anticipate having the stands in the announcer's booth up no later than September 10th. We are also providing temporary concession services and bathroom at that area until we are

able to get the formal concession and restroom area up there, but please know that we understand that is a big event area for the community and for our students so it is a priority for us to make sure that you have the areas that you need. Also, did include additional projects we are working on; Redrock Elementary School is almost complete and Tohatchi High School will be next school which will be completed. We are currently working on Crownpoint High and Middle Schools, Navajo Pine High School, Thoreau High School, Gallup High School Gallup Central High School, Dave Skeet Elementary, and Chee Dodge. I can say, we are able to do a lot of this work because of the support we receive from our Chapter Houses as we attempted to overturn the Impact Aid Credit from the State of NM. It was all with the dedication that everybody had during that fight, and really allowing us to go after that that we are now starting to see significant progress and changes in our county.

I also want to add, ROTC has been a foundation in McKinley County for many years, but unfortunately that traditional program would never allow us to expand into our county schools. We could never find instructors and they would never give us chapter for that organization and so we switch to a new organization called "Young Marine." You do not have to be a retired Marine to be an instructor for that program. We are currently looking for someone who will step up within the Tohatchi Community so we can get that ROTC program going here in this community. If you know of anyone who is interested in this position, please reach out to me because we know our youth is interested in this military program. And we want our students going in as an officer's track when they go into the military.

Lee Rodgers – You mentioned the old gym will remain and we'll have a new gym constructed. How much of an increase as far as size compared to the existing gym?

Jvanna Hanks – I'm deferring to Mr. Aaron Cook; I may have to get back with you. I hear it will seat 1,800 people. The current gym holds approximately 700 seats.

Aaron Cook – It's important to mention, then we will demolish the old school. We will transition the kids from the old school to the new school and we will still 9-12 months of construction as we finish the landscaping.

Sam Natonabah – How long will it take to complete the foundation?

Aaron Cook – They have already casted 350 piers and we hope to see steel erection in September and we finish with the cast period. We hope we will not have any concrete work before winter starts.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I know that they are moving dirt out from the project and now some of the dirt is being delivered to residences in the area. How long will they be doing this because I need some of that dirt for my road. I'm glad they are willing to assistance the community in this way.

Aaron Cook – That must have been done through Bradbury Stan Company, I didn't hear about and I know we ask them to retain as much dirt as possible for the parking lot in between the softball/baseball field that we use for graduation. This is the area where we will be able to access the football field for this season. This is the quickest path to get to the football field and we are hoping to gain a lot of parking space there. It's also wonderful that they are delivering dirt to people's homes. But I'll follow up on it.

Council Delegate Notah – Just to follow up on the dirt, the community would like that to continue and I hope they do continue with providing dirt to residences and the school does not deter them. You also mentioned the old facility will be demolished. I'm wondering if there will be a structure in place of the buildings that are being demolished?

Jvanna Hanks – The only one that is planned to remain is the gym and depending on population, we are in the process of building additional teacherage housing and this could be a point of expansion in the future depending of the population.

Geneva Begay – I'm thinking about agriculture, and landscaping. I hope you will consider planting plants that are native to our area.

Jvanna Hanks – I know one of our priorities is ensuring that we are using indigenous native plants to the area. What we've seen in prior landscaping they like to bring in things that are not indigenous to the area and this causes a lot of problems. We also want to be very considered of our water usage and whatever we plant is drought harden because we know water is very precious so I love the idea of having some sort of reservoir. I know the Red Willow Farm does great work related to agriculture. I just want you to know it is in the scope of work to use native plants.

Priscilla Duncan – Will the new school be a one-story or two-story building?

Jvanna Hanks – It is a one-story facility.

Sam Natonabah – What is the number of students who attend Tohatchi High School?

Jvanna Hanks – Around 300 and the new school will be over 68,000 square feet. One of the things with 2-story buildings we have attempted to get away from and we experienced in other parts of the county is we don't have a lot of elevator repair companies here. The majority come out of Arizona or Albuquerque so those students who are in need of an elevator services, we tend to run into issues with providing them that service when elevator panels go down. So, we try as much as possible when we have the available land, which Tohatchi had the available land to land it out in one-story. Other locations, we don't have as much land so we are having to build up. But I will tell you that elevator problem comes up more than we would like more than you would probably think. I wish we had more services here locally, but we just don't.

Sam Natonabah – How about the sewage, will it be run to the lagoon next to the transfer station?

Aaron Cook – I believe that's the plan and there is not a plan to add a new lagoon.

Jvanna Hanks – We want to be good community partners with you and these are your students, I view them as my students too. You should be very proud of your kids; they are doing a great job. I have left our contact information on the handouts. So, feel free to reach out to us with your concerns.

Mr. Kevin Mitchell had mentioned the technical facility which will be a centralized facility where students will be able to go for half day instructions. Half of their day will be at the home school and the other half at the technical school. So, they will be learning more technical type activities whether it be carpenter, welding, culinary arts we will have a cyber security at that location, CDL and varies things for those students who are looking to go straight out of high school into the workforce where they can get into a living wage job after high school.

Sam Natonabah – A couple of years back, there was a break in the canal west of the community. Is this taken into consideration as far as prevention?

Jvanna Hanks – I do remember we had a flood and we graded around the teacherage area and this is always on our minds because we do not want that water flow into the teacherage area or through your community. So, if there is are any issues or concerns directly related to that we are willing to look at the problem.

Elvis Bitsilly – Just to add on to the canal way issue, we do need help with that. Help as far as heavy equipment to rebuild the canal itself. I would like to collaborate with the school to do something about the canal way flooding.

I also like to add; thanks to the Gallup Mckinley County School we were able to obtain one of the portable buildings which GMCS no longer had use for. Now the problem is how to move the portable building down to Red Willow Farm. Can the School assistance in moving the building for us? We did contact several movers and the average cost is around \$5000, but we do not have the money for the move. I was wondering if the school could work something out with us to assistance the Red Willow Farm?

Jvanna Hanks – I will acknowledge that we are also having the exact same challenges with trying to move some of our housing from Ramah over to Navajo for the overflow of housing that we are having. We don't have anyone certified to move those facilities. There is so much liability, there is right-of-way access which

you have to get, have to have DOT certification.

We are back in the State Supreme Court in November relating to funding for Capital Outlay.

Council Delegate Notah – I attended the open house for Tohatchi Elementary School a couple of weeks ago and I had a couple of teachers approach me asking to have a sidewalk put in at the Elementary School. Students are trampling in mud and dirt into the school. The other issue is can we ask your district to put in signs which says “slow down” along the road to the Clinic? We have students who have to cross the road from the housing area across to the school. So, I would like to make these request on behalf of the teachers from the Elementary School.

I’m not sure who I would address this concern to, but I would like to ask our board member to look into this and I know you don’t have the authority to take care of this incident. Apparently, yesterday or the day before there was an incident that occurred at Tohatchi High School where 3 students who attacked 2 teachers by hitting them. Teachers are not allowed to hit back in self-defense. The security guards were called but it took them a while to get to the site. I believe we need to put into place some measures to keep our teachers safe. I would like to request to have this incident looked into and taken care of.

Kevin Mitchell – First thing I would like to make a request to the Chapter and the Council Delegate to have signs and flashing lights put up along the road to the Clinic. This is something the school has no control or jurisdiction over. We have been pushing for the flashing lights and of course it’s the county, the state, the NM highway department. I’m not sure who to address these issues to.

As far as the incident at the high school I know that it’s being taken care of and investigated. Our teachers do go through extensive training on how to handle these kinds of situations.

Jovanna can respond to the question on the incident that happen at the school. I know it is being handle and taken care of. The teachers are given extensive training on how to handle incidents like the one which just occurred. Safety is one of our biggest concerns when it comes to our students. At our last board meeting we had presentations on safety for the students and teachers at the schools.

Jvanna Hanks – like Mr. Mitchell mentioned, it is the County who does the flashers along the 491 road. I have asked them consistently to fix that and we are always willing to purchase the signage themselves but we are not allowed to install or maintain it because it is along a right-of-way. The County has said they don’t have the money, well that’s not a “me” problem, because they just need to do it. Not having the money means you didn’t prioritize money to do it. The reality is you need to prioritize the funding that you have. So, we will continue to push in that arena. As far as other areas that may be under Chapter control, through Land Use Committees as far as speed bumps, if we are given rights-of-way to do some of those or to paint them on Tribal control roads within the city of Tohatchi, we can definitely work through that. We have speed limit signs; we can do speed bumps those type of things. We just ask that you give us rights-of-way to do that because we will be drilling holes in your asphalt in order to put the speed bumps in.

As far as the teachers, it is unfortunate that we do have those incidents and we hope for every student to come to school ready to learn, but unfortunately, things do happen and so those students will go through the disciplinary action. Like Mr. Mitchell mentioned, we do have our teachers trained and we do have a safety committee at every school site that is trained in crises prevention and intervention and we continuously do that because we do have people come and go. Also, we over the last 5 years invested district wide in \$12 million in cameras so we can see almost every area exterior and interior of the school. Along with that we also have a button that all of our staff are trained on called a “panic button.” So we are notified immediately, even me. Anybody who pushes this button district wide, I get an immediate notification that something is going on and we staff getting staff there immediately. We were having issues getting security guards, consistently so we started hiring our own security guards from within the community to be a part of our security team. We feel just as you do, we want our staff supported.

Council Delegate Notah – Our President of CLUPC, Mr. Bitsilly and Mr. Mitchell are here and I would like you to reach out to Ms. Hanks to talk about the right-of-way to get these issues like the right-of way for the signage and the flashers in place. I will do what I can from W/R.

Jvanna Hanks – If the Chapter was willing to do a resolution to the County to push them to do the signs on highway 491, we do not have access to the program which actually sets the flashing to install them but we provide the machines, we provide all the physical items they need to put into the ground.

Elvis Bitsilly – I would like to announce tomorrow CLUPC will be having a public meeting here from 1pm-5pm. We invite our community to ask questions or comment on projects which were just mentioned.

Jvanna Hanks – I would be helpful if you had a map on which you can indicate where you want signages, or crosswalks and we can come out and look, but making sure we stay within all the regulations.

Council Delegate's report:

Council Delegate Notah – I want to say I enjoy working for the people within District 14 (Tohatchi, Twin Lakes, Naschitti, and Coyote Canyon Chapters). I'll start with what is going on with ARPA monies. All the money was taken out of ARPA fund and put into a General Fund. There were some things that took place that allowed us to take the ARPA funds into this General Fund. The reasoning behind this was because of the deadlines which the Federal Government has imposed on all ARPA funding. With all the pending projects for Navajo, this would have been impossible to do with all the rules and regulations of the Federal guidelines. Because people still want the projects completed in a timely manner, we will be working on establishing deadlines for these projects under Navajo Nation. So, I can say our money is safe from the Federal Government.

When the Navajo Nation receives money from the outside they are given account number just like the bank. Each project has an account number and if the money comes from outside, the way the Tribal regulation works is each project has to have a "K" account. The account will have the letter K and numbers after that. Now that the funds have gone into the General Fund, it has to have a different kind of account number so the budget/accounting office is changing all these account numbers for each project. I understand that is the reason all the ARPA projects have been put on hold. A month has already gone by and they are still working on establishing new account numbers for these projects. I don't like all the time that it is taking to complete this re-numbering of accounts, actually all the Council Delegates didn't like this. To this day, we have not heard when the money will be available to the Chapters.

The Capital Outlay funding which comes from the State of NM is also upset with the Chapters in NM. There is a lot of money for these projects which were entered into agreements with the State, but not used in a timely manner because the NN President has to sign off on some of these IGA (Intergovernmental agreements) and he is not available. He is very busy with other projects and he has not gotten to the signing of the IGAs. There are two types of funding which comes from the State which are TIF (Tribal Infrastructure Funds) and the Capital Outlay Funds (ICIP). Some projects with Chapters were funded back in 2019-2020 but were not used so the State is requesting for their money back. Yesterday, among the Tribal Infrastructure Board for the State of NM, I was able to save Coyote Canyon \$600,000 by explaining how reverting this fund back to NM would have a negative impact on the community of Coyote Canyon. They were given an extension to complete their project. For Tohatchi, I have a list of the pending projects and I do keep an eye on all the IGA's for my district. Capital Outlay projects we have roughly around \$2 million and a good part of that money will be going to the Public Safety building for Tohatchi. Water projects, waterline extensions, water system improvement, and even money for Senior Center are coming from Capital Outlay. On the TIF (Tribal Infrastructure Fund) there is a waterline project coming off of San Juan/Gallup waterline which will be bringing water into the community of Tohatchi. The chapters on the NM side can apply for either Capital Outlay or TIF for their chapters annually with the help from Senator

Pinto and State Representative Wonda Johnson. The State of NM only funded 2 projects for the Navajo Nation, because we are not using these funds in a timely manner. This all ties in with the situation going on in W/R with the shortage of staff working. We need to work much better in utilizing these funds from the State. One issue the chapters face is the 164 process which is a cumbersome task. They talked about streamlining the process but that has not happened. We, the council is trying to see how this process can better service the chapters. We need to start planning and I did meet with President Moore and the staff here for the new Capital Outlay and TIF projects for this coming year. The State will open up the portal in January and February for the chapters to apply funding. I need your help to follow up on some of these projects, for example; doing the leg work for these projects, that would really help me.

Just for your information, I was appointed by the governor to be on the TIF board for the State. The fiscal year 2024 will end on September 30st and the new year 2025 will began on October 1st, but there is an issue with how the funding will be allocated with the Council, President of NN, and the Chief Justice of the NN. There is a lot of bickering going on right now and we don't know how long it will be before an agreement is reached. So in the meantime, Council has started legislation for a continuing resolution for the 1st quarter in the event a shut down is inevitable. The Chief Justice and the President is asking for a lot more money than what they have received in the past years. I am a part of the Law & Order committee and we oversee the police/fire/EMS departments, attorney general, the prosecutor, criminal investigators, detention centers, courts, public defenders, medical examiners, and probation officers. If they decide to change the budget and give the President and Chief Justice what they are asking for we will have to go through the whole budget again. This is something I am not happy with. There are too many people involved which makes the process very slow.

I did travel to Washington D.C. on several occasion representing the Law & Order committee with the NN. I'm glad to report we will be able to increase the budgets for BIA and Public Safety by \$98 million. It still has to go through the legislative session and the President will have to sign off on it.

I am also working with the McKinley County manager, and commissioners to obtain 36 bridges, we are getting rights-of-way, funding in the amount of \$700 million, and working with the BIA and NNDOT. There are 16 bridges that were not listed on the infrastructure list and we are able to get them on the list to receive federal funding. Five of the bridges are in my district, 2 at Mexican Springs, 2 at Twin Lakes, and 1 in Coyote Canyon. I'm also trying to put a new bridge in for Mexican Springs but it's a little more difficult to get it on the infrastructure list. We are still working to get funding for the Public Safety Building, we need about \$16 million. Even this Public Safety building was not on the list as priority but I was able to get it on the list as priority. There are 8 other communities requesting for Public Safety buildings.

There is a public hearing tonight in Crownpoint on the railroad and I know the chapter does not want the railroad coming through here, but there is other location being looked at. I believe this railroad would help our roads by having fewer semi-trucks traveling our roads. They do a lot of damage by tearing up our roads and there is also the safety aspect as well. I would like to hear what your thoughts are on this topic.

I'm still working on the 491-highway lighting, we have the funds, the plans and design mostly completed with the transportation department. It's going to cost around \$3 million for each of the chapters which include Tohatchi, Mexican Springs, and Twin Lakes.

I'm glad Kevin Mitchell is here; I would like to talk to him about what President Moore touched on earlier which is quality education for our students.

The Yazzie/Martinez lawsuit case received a settlement and a legislation was drafted by the pueblos who stated it should be divided equally among the New Mexico Indian Tribes, but the Navajo Nation Council on the NM side rejected the legislation citing it was not fair to the Navajo children since we are the largest tribe and the funds should be divided to account for each Navajo child. We want a new legislation and we are

working with our representative, senator, and the congressional delegates.

Just an announcement that I want to make is the candidate, Edwin Begay who is running for Chapter President was disqualified for not turning in his documents. I am helping him appeal this to the Election Office. He was not the only one who was disqualified, there were many others who missed the deadline. Also, my LDA, Mr. Ansley Curley is leaving, he is now the new deputy director for Child & Family Services. So, I am looking for a new LDA, if you want to apply, please contact me. I just want to say, I enjoy my work as a Council Delegate and working for District 14. I'm busy every day and there is a lot of work which still needs to be done.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – You just covered the 164 process and we all dread this process because of how time consuming it is. I believe about 3 years ago, there was talk about streamlining this process. NN would implement a system when these documents are received by a director through email, he then has 5 days to review and sign off on and it goes on to the next person who needs to sign and on and on until all the directors have signed the documents. Was the 164 process ever streamlined? And secondly, the TIF funds which we get from the State is not being used in a timely manner which caused funds being reverted back to the State. We have a real problem with this because W/R is not working with us at the Chapter level. We have pending projects but we can't even get a project manager assigned to us to start these projects. Former Council Delegate Seth Damon was appointed to the TIF board and he had mentioned he would be able to assist the chapters with TIF funding and the 164 process, but this never happened as well.

Council Delegate Notah – This streamlining that was supposed to happen is not in place. There is an executive order which states an office has to sign off on a document within 10 days and if they don't it will continue to move on. The Budget and Finance Office and even the President's office is not enforcing this. There are documents that have been in there for over 900 days this is from the pandemic. I asked why haven't they been moved, this is ridiculous. But I hear this process is still being talked about and hopefully soon it will be in place. One of the issues with the IGA from TIF and ICIP is President Nygren has the final authority to sign off on these agreements (IGA). These agreements are stuck at the President's office because he is not there to sign these agreements. So as Council Delegates, we made a request to Santa Fe and the NN Council to have the Division Director, Mr. Arbin Mitchell, for Community Development be given the final authority to sign off on these agreements to help expedite this process. One of the things that happens is when Santa Fe sends stuff back, because the President is the final authority the documents are sent to his office and a lot of times the documents sit on the President's desk and does not move to Community Development office. In the meantime, we are trying to locate these documents which is time consuming.

Mr. Seth Damon is in Santa Fe working in the Indian Affairs Development office, but unfortunately, he is given other duties and responsibilities. He does not have a lot of the authority with TIF or ICIP, but he understands our system and will let us know what we need to do. So, in a sense he tries to help us from Santa Fe.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Council Delegate Notah if you could convey to our NN President that these projects with IGA's from the State is priority. We need the President to take responsibility for everything that crosses his desk to make sure all documents have been addressed in a timely manner and not pick and choose. Because these IGA's are not signed the State comes back and reverts money which we did not spend because of our President. This is just not good business.

Kevin Mitchell – Comment made by Secretary/Treasurer is true and this is why our community gets upset with our officials because we don't move on our projects. I know our State Representative has come here to our meetings to say, I give you money for your projects but you don't spend the money. But the problem is not at the Chapter level. The Chapter is ready to start a project but we have to wait on W/R on a project

manager. This has been going on for years and years. There needs to be a change in the process.

Lee Rodgers – Council Delegate Notah, you mentioned some money for the Public Safety has not been spent? What does your oversight committee have in place for the money that has not been spent? Can we tap into this funding for our Public Safety building? I know you mention there are 8 other communities who are on a list for a new Public Safety building.

Council Delegate Notah – there is no carryover for these funds, the Division will just lose those funds.

Kevin Mitchell – I know Senator Munoz gave the NN around \$2 million to be used for education. Do you know what these funds were earmarks for or how will these funds be used.

Council Delegate Notah – These monies come to the Nation through the Capital Outlay and TIF projects. The only chapter in his district is Mexican Springs and then on to Crystal, Ft. Defiance, and south of Gallup. These Chapters are getting the funding through Capital Outlay and through the TIF projects.

President Moore – Just some information on the Safety Complex, we have tap into those funds and we were able to hire and architect and now we are getting ready to hire a contractor. Yesterday I called Parsons, who are our project management team to let them know to hire this contractor and get the paperwork started. The paperwork has been processed from W/R to Santa Fe. So, the funds which came from Senator Pinto is what we are using currently. We hope to have the plans and designs completed by November of this year and that is when we will know exactly how much the Safety Complex will cost. We are estimating around \$16 million and we hope to apply with TIF in February 2025 to request for TIF funds. I believe we will have a better chance next year of getting TIF money because we will have a plan and design for the Safety Complex.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Resolution 051-07-2024: Un-table – Resolution to approve the new rate schedule for the Transfer Station due to the increase in monthly charges from Northwest Regional Waste Authority.

President Moore – We tabled this resolution to get cost comparison from the past couple of years and the Staff needed more time to prepare the spreadsheet. So, we will ask to deferred this resolution to next month.

Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Lee Rodgers Vote: 24-0-1

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

July 2024 Financial Report -

JULY BALANCE FUND		
1	Chapter Activities Gen Fund	\$19,752.17
2	NN General Fund	\$10,925.56
3	Land Claims Trust	\$19,714.72
8	Supplemental Youth Fund	\$3,545.92
9	Housing Discretionary Fund	\$5,228.41
10	LGA Grant Fund	\$67,113.88
12	Chapter Stipends	\$19,829.46
13	Scholarship General Fund	\$3,745.00
14	Scholarship Claims Fund	\$2,528.98
15	PEP Fund	\$13,006.44
16	Veterans Fund	\$4,668.00
17	Emergency Fund	\$35,848.02

23	NN Sales Tax	\$120,660.25
25	NN CIP - \$180,000	\$26,417.02
26	Red Willow	\$1,040.37
27	NN CIP - \$200,000	\$3,877.78
34	Agriculture & Infrastructure	\$3.68
40	Unhealthy Food Tax	\$105,455.19
51	NAPI	\$2,299.66
61	Senior Center	\$2,162.99
	Total Fund Balance	\$467,823.50

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – The financial reports were reviewed by Chapter President and Secretary /Treasurer. For the month of July 2024, our books are in balance and everything has been reconciled back to Wells Fargo bank. We reviewed all the checks that were written for the month and all have been accounted for. We found no discrepancies.

President Moore – Our fiscal year will be ending soon on September 30th and the new fiscal year will start October 1st for YR 2025. That’s if everything works out in W/R but there are times the chapter had to do a continuing resolution because the budget was not ready. We hope this does not happen.

Motion to Accept the July 31, 2024 Financial Report:

Motion: 1st Kevin Mitchell 2nd Lee Rodgers Vote: 24-1-1

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **053-08-2024:** Resolution to approve adding Antelope Pass Road route 9508 of three (3) miles to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) road inventory to be included to the fifteen miles (15) road grading designation.

Motion: 1st Lee Rodgers 2nd Priscilla Duncan Vote: 27-0-1

2. **054-07-2024:** Resolution to approve adding route 9653 road of three (3) miles (from Calvin Smith’s resident to the Barney’s camp) to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) road inventory to be included to the fifteen miles (15) road grading designation.

Motion: 1st Lee Rodgers 2nd Priscilla Duncan Vote: 27-0-1

3. **055-08-2024:** Resolution to approve adding the former county route 11 (Bitsilly and Silago) three (3) miles to the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation (NNDOT) road inventory to be included to the fifteen-mile (15) road grading designation.

Motion: 1st Lee Rodgers 2nd Priscilla Duncan Vote: 27-0-1

***Resolutions 053-08-2024, 054-08-2024, and 055-08-2024** were combined for a vote. NN Department of Transportation allows us to have certain roads graded quarterly. The roads designated for grading is done by the chapter and it’s the roads that need immediate attention and is used by many families. The 3 roads which was selected are the Bitsilly Road, route 11, Road route 9653 to the Barney’s, and Antelope Pass route 9508. Voting was done by “consent agenda.”

4. **056-08-2024:** Resolution approving a budget transfer within Fund 03, the Navajo Nation Land Claims Fund in the amount of \$200.00 to replenish Natural Gas/Propane account.

Motion: 1st Geneva Begay 2nd Lee Rodgers Vote: 27-0-1

5. **057-08-2024:** Resolution approving a budget transfer to closeout Fund 02 Navajo Nation General Fund to Fund 15 the Navajo Nation Project Employment Program (PEP) Funds in the amount of \$10,925.56

Motion: 1st Ira Burbank 2nd Manuel Shirleson Vote: 27-0-1

- 6. **058-08-2024: This resolution was combined with resolution 057-08-2024.**
- 7. **059-08-2024:** Resolution approving the supplemental Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) in the amount of \$33,526.00 for fiscal Year 2024.
Motion: Lee Rodgers 2nd Sarah Tom Vote: 26-0-1
- 8. **060-08-2024:** Resolution approving payment for Lowrey IT Services to upgrade and provide new wi-fi wireless router for Tohatchi Chapter in the amount of \$4,181.86 using Fund account 23 Navajo Nation Sales Tax.
Motion: 1st Kevin Mitchell 2nd Manuel Shirleson Vote: 26-0-1
- 9. **061-08-2024:** Resolution approving payment for Billie Casuse, instructor traditional outfits 2 day Sewing Class in the amount of \$500 for our community members using Unhealthy Food Tax (40) Fund.
Motion: 1st Lucinda Frank 2nd Manuel Shirleson Vote: 24-0-1
- 10. **062-08-2024:** Resolution approving and supporting the updated FY 2025 budget for the Tohatchi Veterans organization (TVO) in the amount of \$56,648.00.
Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Sarah Tom Vote: 25-0-1

- X. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: Maria, CSC** – Chapter will host the CPR class this Monday with 12 students from 8am to 5pm. We will have another CPR class scheduled for September, so if you are interested, please let me know. The instructor takes only 12 students at a time. These CPR classes are free to the public.
Grazing Officer Moore – AIF Farm & Gardening workshop next Tuesday, August 27th from 9am to 3pm. There is a flyer out and we will have speakers from NMSU. We will have door prizes and a grand prize. There will also be an Equine Rewards Program going on August 29th. This is the last day. The next District Grazing Meeting will be on September 4th at Naschitti Chapter from 9am to 3pm.
Manuel Shirleson – I would like to thank the Chapter and the staff for providing the chapter for our meetings. They always have lunch prepared for us as well which I really appreciate. On Friday, we will be traveling to Albuquerque for training on honor guards. My number priority is the veterans. We are also looking for a secretary for our organization. If interested, please contact me.
- XI. **NEXT MEETING DATE: August 21, 2024 Planning Meeting @ 10am.**
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT: 1:00pm**
Motion: 1st Manuel Shirleson 2nd Priscilla Duncan

Submitted by,



Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter **August 30, 2024**

cc: Mr. Sonny Moore, President
Mr. Mike Halona, Vice-President
Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer
Ms. Maria Allison, CSC