



THE NAVAJO NATION

TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Post Office Box 287 Tohatchi, New Mexico 87325 Tel: (505) 733-2845/2846

Elvis Bitsilly
President

Pernell Halona
Vice-President

Delphine Bitsilly
Recorder

Fern Spencer
Member

Priscilla Duncan
Member

AGENDA

Tuesday July 15, 2025 @ 9am-12n
Tohatchi Chapter

JUL 16 AM 9:23

- I. Call to Order: Time: _____ Roll Call: _____ Invocation: _____
- II. Approval of Agenda:
- III. Approval of Minutes: Monday June 23, 2025
- IV. Old Business:
 - A. Rural Addressing Tohatchi Chapter
- V. New Business:
 - A. CLUPC Plan of Operation 2025-2026
 - B. Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan
- VI. Resolutions: none
- VII. Announcements: NM Indian Affairs Committee Meeting- Tohatchi Chapter July 16, 2025, 9am-4pm
- VIII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 @9am-12n
- IX. Adjournment:



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TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Tuesday July 15, 2025

I. Call to Order: Time: 9:30 am Roll Call: 5 Invocation: Priscilla Duncan

II. Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Fern Spencer 2nd: Priscilla Duncan Vote: 4-0-1

III. Approval of Minutes: Monday June 23, 2025

Motion to accept as is and read on your own.

Motion: Pernell Halona 2nd: Fern Spencer Vote: 4-0-1

IV. Old Business:

A. Rural Addressing Tohatchi Chapter

Elvis Bitsilly – we all been to and attended the Rural Addressing project, handed out a map, map comes from Navajo Department of Transportation, this map was given to me on another project we are doing for Tohatchi regards to roads, this applies somewhat to Rural Addressing, community boundary lines and roads are identify with the 9000 four digit numbers, roads are marked throughout the community, including Naschitti boundary line, Twin Lakes, Mexican Springs, Coyote Canyon, I do have a larger print out of the roads, during the Rural Addressing presentation there is a problem with the 9000 number roads, they were fixing that and getting numbers in to the data system, they took care of that, last week I got a text message from Arnold Tsingine – he is one of the GPS truck driver team, Tohatchi Rural Addressing completed last week, they collected their GPS data, surveys and we were the last chapter due to the numbering system on the roads in McKinley County, identical to San Juan roads in the northern chapters, the problem is fixed, next step is to get the data collection and do a presentation to CLUPC then to the chapter; **Fern Spencer** – did they say when; **Elvis Bitsilly** – no, maybe a couple months, once they complete all Navajo chapters, as far as I know they completed all New Mexico chapters, not sure about the eastern, Rural Addressing has completed its phases, this information must be in our Land Use Plan, where to put in our plan today; **Fern Spencer** – looking at this map, it has Tohatchi and it has those lines going up, that is our chapter area, left hand side it has Mexican Springs on top, there was a discussion where Mexican Springs starts and where we end, is that area that goes all the way to Whiterock; **Elvis Bitsilly** – yes, goes by Lucinda Barney residence, goes pass her homesite, it's our community chapter boundary grazing line, it's very small; **Lee Rodgers** – the Damon's are in our area; **Elvis Bitsilly** – you can see the boundary line by Sitting Coyote mesa is where the chapter boundary is, Tohatchi and Mexican Springs then goes down to Coyote Canyon direction, the dotted lines on the map is what it is, it doesn't show on this smaller map, the bigger map will show you more, a very informative map from NNDOT, chapter is dealing with the 15 mile maintenance and service grading, Bitsilly road was identified for grading and services, important to know where these areas are and received from NNDOT, you have to go there to get the information and the information is there, the Hydro project up the mountain and will talk about one day, any comments about the mapping; **Lee Rodgers** – Mexican Springs took most of the mountain, the lookout tower was the boundary this way is Tohatchi and that way is Mexican Springs; **Pernell Halona** – people live here and have sheep up there, does he go up there to count the sheep to approve that or count here cause the sheep are here, who has authority over that; **Fern Spencer** – Naschitti boundary line where it should be, situated up the mountain cause of their grazing and

the people have their summer camp; **Pernell Halona** – the fire happened and people claiming, \$150,000 to rebuild those homes, money disappeared, it didn't turn out right and there's still a lawsuit; **Fern Spencer** – at the District meeting did you guys talk about Rural Addressing; **Elvis Bitsilly** – no, not on the agenda but as a chapter; **Lee Rodgers** – when Twin Lakes gave their report they talked about the Rural Addressing meeting; **Pernell Halona** – on Rural Addressing I'm waiting for them to come up to us, here's the roads and markers for the chapter, I want the names, no Navajo names; **Lee Rodgers** – when the tribe produces the map to put the GPS numbers on the map instead, there's a house there and these people want verification of where people live, they go to DCD, the staff are being told you put GPS points on there and not the name, how are they going to find someone, I don't know my GPS points, when they first started Rural Addressing they put little placards 108, BS207 whatever, when we worked with Red Lake chapter all the houses had placards on them and they have a number on them, that's how UPS, FedEx and emergency services can find them and look at that number, they put it in and they can find them, I thought they were going to put little placards on houses that are occupied, that's numbers, that's not a name, when you do your emergency call I'm from Tohatchi and my number is, you give them your number and they will find you; **Elvis Bitsilly** – it will be up to the community to decide a name or number; **Priscilla Duncan** – the roads and homes are in red along 491 to Farmington; **Elvis Bitsilly** – identify the number road and they will find the house, they did the housing area here and it's the same thing; **Fern Spencer** – when people have new homesite lease, do they contact those people for the address, or is that a job for the chapter; **Elvis Bitsilly** – probably the Rural Addressing Department, they will have all the information there by what was done by the contractor, wherever that residence is putting up a homesite it should have an identified road already, go to Rural Addressing on their own, as a chapter we wouldn't have anything to do with it, as a chapter we may have the map, so and so lives here there, this is the road to this residence area; **Fern Spencer** – hopefully they won't be removed by individuals; **Elvis Bitsilly** – there will always be vandalism, it's not on the agenda and may be a concern, this trans electric power project that is happening, the power line they will install at power station, chapter administration given complaints by neighbors; **Fern Spencer** – this is why our community doesn't grow, we can't improve; **Elvis Bitsilly** – I was confronted by coordinator, have a meeting with regards to the public and construction people there doing the work, bring community in and see what is going on, make them aware this is starting, I see some things starting, the project line was already approved which includes the right of way, all the plans for the line to be installed, now this is happening there are comments made from families who live next to the power station and family across the road; **Pernell Halona** – weren't they told about this and this was going to happen; **Lee Rodgers** – we had a meeting with the family who are in proximity of the substation, telling them where the lines will go, NTUA was right here, took notes of their complaints, people sitting here and compared notes with NTUA, these are the concerns I written down, what do you have over there, NTUA has all the of them written down, we glad we are heard, just so you are aware of it, I thought we all had a understanding when they left, we met with them – Maria sat here with us, it was Maria, NTUA and myself who met with them, this was before Elvis was nominated; **Pernell Halona** – what was the complaint; **Lee Rodgers** – they took up more space than they were given; **Pernell Halona** – it's not going to be like that forever; **Lee Rodgers** – what they are saying is when NTUA got the original land withdrawn, they got so much land withdrawn, they were only using this much, technically they decided to use the whole part of land to stage their equipment, they put up the fence and that's when the complaints starting happening, we called a meeting and by then all the stuff were in place – the equipment and inventory, I advised NTUA to bring the land withdrawn, they showed this to the people, this is how much land withdrawal was given by the chapter, this happened in the Nineties, now they are making use of it now, they planned this for the future and it's here now, 1st complaint was the fencing, 2nd complaint is vehicles driving all over the place, cutting vegetation for herding sheep, 3rd don't want the white people coming looking at anasazi subjects and objects along the hillside, 4th complaint is the family across the highway are concerned the powerline is close to the private cemetery-family plot, 5th complaint is how much EMS-EMP will be translating radiation, these were the complaints from the people and NTUA point after point answered the complaints, I rehashed just to make sure these people were heard, feel that they were heard I rehashed the list with what they gave and compared with NTUA, NTUA said yes, we both had the same notes; **Elvis Bitsilly** – Vice President, do you have the documents from that meeting; **Lee**

Rodgers – I do have the documents on record along with names with cell phone numbers, they want NTUA to notify them and not the chapter; **Elvis Bitsilly** – we will do a follow up with the families, how much will CLUPC be involved; **Priscilla Duncan** – none, it was approved 10 years ago; **Elvis Bitsilly** – the previous administration and leadership should have cleared the way for everything that took place, the main conversation I got from this is the family cemetery and the powerline will go over their little plot.

V. New Business:

A. CLUPC Plan of Operation 2025-2026

Elvis Bitsilly – approved at last chapter meeting last month; **Fern Spencer** – complimentary to all members there at the meeting; **Elvis Bitsilly** – thanks to Vice Chair for presenting the Plan of Operation good until next year, keep yourself inform, then presenting the Land Use Plan.

B. Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan

Elvis Bitsilly – where are we, I acquired new information, we will start to add and delete, I got a copy and go through each section one at a time, we received section 6 from previous Vice Chair Larry, we'll put it in section 6 along with yours, Section 6 - Economic Plan, population, income; **Pernell Halona** – that was done for 2020; **Elvis Bitsilly** – you have your booklets, this is the draft for our Land Use Plan, we will eliminate, add, restructure the plan, page 2 do we need this information, delete Navajo Planning Principles; **Pernell Halona** – move page 2 to Information Resources page; **Delphine Bitsilly** – my note says to move prayer to last page; **Elvis Bitsilly** – Table of Contents will stay as is for now, Section 1.1 - Project Team and Credit move to Resources page, pictures deleted; **Fern Spencer** – where is the Mission and Vision Statement, they should be in front, where can we put To'Haach'i and what it means; **Elvis Bitsilly** – keep Sections 1.2, 1.3 with adding To'Haach'i, to text; **Delphine Bitsilly** – read Mission and Vision Statements, found the meaning of To'Haach'i which is "water seeps up when one scratches the earth"; **Elvis Bitsilly** – put sections in order, **Priscilla Duncan** – keep Sections 2.1, 2.2 – delete picture, 2.2A – I will contact Gerald Moore to clarify grazing permits and tally counts, 2.2B, C, D will keep, Section 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6 will keep; **Elvis Bitsilly** – Section 3 – Community Infrastructure – delete picture, Section 3.1, 3.2 will keep, delete (Zoomed in) Tohatchi Chapter Roads Map (2) and add current map, Tohatchi Chapter Road Priority List – 6. Added Bitsilly, NNDOT; 7. Deleted Pinon Springs Rd, added Roads need to be graded, 15. Added Holyan Road, 17. Zia Weaver Road, 18. And 19. deleted; 3.3 keep, 3.4 add current Navajo Transit schedule; Section 4 – add Mission and Vision statements at beginning of plan, change section 4.3 to 4.1 – Vision, Values, Objectives and Goals, 4.1 a, b, c, keep 4.4; delete all of Section 5, Section 6 will include Pernell Halona's information and Larry's information from flashdrive; **Delphine Bitsilly** – Section 7 I rearranged the projects according to the revised Sites for Development, we will keep the pictures along side of the documents; **Elvis Bitsilly** – we will continue working on the Land Use Plan.

VI. Resolutions: none

VII. Announcements: NM Indian Affairs Committee Meeting- Tohatchi Chapter July 16, 2025, 9am-4pm

VIII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 @9am-12n

IX. Adjournment: 11:56 am

Motion: Fern Spencer 2nd: Priscilla Duncan vote: 4-0-1

Delphine Bitsilly
Recorder