



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

TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES January 20, 2026

- I. Call to Order: Time: 9:18 am Roll Call: 5 Invocation: Elvis Bitsilly
- II. Approval of Agenda:

Motion: add Mr. Wilfred Yazzie to New Business C.

Motion – Pernell Halona 2nd – Priscilla Duncan Vote: 4-0-1

- III. Approval of Minutes: Tuesday December 16, 2025

Motion to waive and read on your own.

Motion: Pernell Halona 2nd – Delphine Bitsilly Vote: 4-0-1

- IV. Old Business:

A. Community Land Use Plan Status-Schedule work session

Elvis Bitsilly – I mentioned last year we do a work session, your thoughts and recommendations, your ideas when we can do this work session to see where we are at our community plan, overall plan for our chapter, we been working on the documents, the copies, our sections, we need to put this package together, a normal schedule 9 to 12 here at Tohatchi Chapter unless you want to request elsewhere, look at your schedules, our regular schedule CLUPC meeting – what day Delphine; **Delphine Bitsilly** – February 17; **Fern Spencer** – what about February 4th a Wednesday; **Elvis Bitsilly** – committee, February 4th; **Delphine Bitsilly** – when is the District 14 Grazing Committee meeting; **Gerald Moore** – it will be in Twin Lakes; **Fern Spencer** – 28th of January; **Pernell Halona** – February 4th, finalizing your plan, did you put it together; **Delphine Bitsilly** – I finally was able to go to that office in Tse Bonito, that printing, I got dollar estimates on how the package, xeroxing and they gave me a price quote, at the same time I asked one of the workers in how to combine or transfer word documents into our manual, she showed me how, I went home and I tried it, the thing is you have to have Adobe Reader/Acrobat, it put a stop to continue, I thought about it, even though it says it's a 7 day free trial, it will charge my credit card every month if I don't cancel it, I went ahead and did it, I'm on a 7 day free trial to Sunday, I only worked on Section 6 because I think it's the biggest and most important section, I was able to combine my Section 6 Microsoft Word and changed it to a PDF file, I was able to print back to back which includes the page numbers, passed out the Section 6 sample, I'm thinking when we do the whole binder, you would have to change all the Microsoft files to PDF to do back to back and combine the files, it's a lot of documents and I know we said we are going to delete certain sections, bottom line is it has to convert to PDF in order for it to work, the girl at Tse Bonito said if you bring me all your work on a flash drive I can work it out for you, print it out, I don't know if they will charge us extra for doing that, I'll probably have Adobe keep charging my card until this is all done, there was no other way around it and it was the only way to do it, I know it's black and white but it look real nice in color; **Fern Spencer** – how much is it; **Delphine Bitsilly** – she told me black and white is 18 cents a copy, color copy is 30 cents, the binding ring is 80 cents, 85 cents including the binding services, if we want to use the color copy cover stock is 90 cents a page, that's 8 x 11 or 8 x 14 sheet, if we want to use black and white the whole price for the one manual is \$29.71; **Fern Spencer** – print how many; **Delphine Bitsilly** – I told her we probably need 15, I don't know how many RDC members there are, there's five of us plus the chapter officials, I don't know who else

will get one, Counsel Delegate, RDC, that's about 15, I'm thinking when we are done with the manual, I will make one draft copy and we'll all look at it, if anything needs to be changed we will do it in the draft instead of printing for everybody, after looking at it and everything is fine we can take it to that office and they will do the printing, that's if we choose to go with; **Pernell Halona** – I'd think it would be the cheapest; **Lee Rodgers** – how much is Adobe charging you by the month; **Delphine Bitsilly** - \$24.99 a month; **Pernell Halona** – how do we pay for that; **Delphine Bitsilly** – I'm okay with it since I may use it in the future; **Pernell Halona** - we still have to pay for what we are going to do with it, after that it's up to you to keep it, what we are working on right now, what we are doing with this project we need to pay for that; **Priscilla Duncan** – can we all pitch in \$5.00; **Delphine Bitsilly** – if you want to; **Fern Spencer** – can CLUPC pay for this, they are the ones who wanted it; **Pernell Halona** – the chapter needs to pay for it, somebody; **Elvis Bitsilly** – I did mention it to Maria, I think there are some funds for CLUPC for supplies, copies and materials like this, I think there's something possibly in the budget, we can do that, you have to sit down with the staff Delphine and talk that out with them, see where we are with that, if there's nothing there and if there's something else we can do we can all pitch in and pay you, 5 copies for the committee, anticipate Spring; **Fern Spencer** – the date we are going to work on this is February 4th; **Elvis Bitsilly** – February 4th we are going to get this all taken care of, do what we need to do, we'll have our regular CLUPC and so forth, work session will cover what we need for internal wise, what we need like what we are discussing now, that was the reason for this, 9:00 am; **Delphine Bitsilly** – any updates you have can you give them to me, I was going through the whole manual and there will be a lot of sections to edit as far as words, pages and any new information, like Pernell's information I have to add that to Section 2 and the one Mr. Rodgers gave us I have to include that too, last year 2024 then Chapter President Sonny Moore said we should only update sections 1, 2, and 7, I don't know if we should do that or continue to update all the sections with new information; **Pernell Halona** – we already started, it's already done; **Elvis Bitsilly** – we completed what we needed to do, we are not looking back, we are looking forward, we need to simplify it and not make it bulky, our purpose with this committee is to downsize it and readable for everybody, I praise the former CLUPC members for their work and they did a good job, we will still have a public meeting on it, have an open meeting on it, share with the community, get other input at the time, we have to have those two meetings before we finalize, it's important to get the draft out, thank you, February 4th 9 am work session CLUPC members only, Delphine should have what she needs to take care of, those of us who are sharing information will have it by that time, thank you on your research on what you needed to do; **Delphine Bitsilly** - do you know what your sections are, you have 1, 3, and 6, you have 5 and I have 7, just to clarify, thank you; **Priscilla Duncan** – 2; **Fern Spencer** – 4.

B. Rural Addressing Mapping Update- SDR, Donica Sharpe

Elvis Bitsilly – she's been helping us with Rural Addressing, thank you for joining us Donica, we met here last year and we invited you back to hear from you about our Rural Addressing project that we have started, we would like to get this done, we will work with you and share the information you have; **Donica Sharpe** – thank you Master Chairman, members and officers I appreciate the opportunity to be here today to help you complete the addressing, as Elvis mentioned we started it and we really need to get this finish, we need to sure up all these road names changes we created last month, December 2nd when I was here, for those of you who don't know me, I'm Donica Sharpe, I'm a Subject Matter Expert for Rural Addressing for Special Data Research the company that is working on the Rural Addressing for the Navajo Nation, we're working with all the chapters, originally we weren't supposed to work with the section 3 chapters because they were going in a different direction or they were going to do it themselves but that's now changed, additional section 3 chapters we will be working with those to help them get finish this summer, we completed all the field data collection for all the chapters we originally started working with and yours was one of them, thank you for calling me a friend it makes my heart warm because this addressing is so important to me, I started working with the addressing people for the Navajo Nation back in the 90's in Window Rock, at that time they had someone, her name is Pearl Lee, she started the addressing department back then with the Addressing Department in Window Rock, I met with her and I was the addressing coordinator for San Juan County, New Mexico for 20 years, since then I went on worked with all the counties, cities, reservations, and

pueblos in New Mexico through the Department of Finance Administration in Santa Fe, when I met with Pearl back in the 90's she was really excited to try and get addressing for all the chapters on the Navajo Nation, they had a federal grant at that time, they were using that money to hire people to get the addressing going, few years later they ran out of funding, so the addressing diminished, fast forward 10 years they hire MC Baldwin, he was hired to be the Addressing Coordinator for the Navajo Nation, many of you may know MC and he has been working a lot with the chapters to try to help them get addressing since he was hired, it's a big area and people don't realize how big the Navajo Nation is until you look at it chapter by chapter, I mentioned to MC when I first met him in 2000's, my opinion the only way you could ever get the addressing done on the Navajo Nation is do each chapter, get a chapter done, go to another chapter, get another chapter done and move on to another chapter, that's how we've been able to accomplish what we've accomplished, we have a website called Address Navajo, it shows all the different chapters we've been working with, it shows the status of all the chapters on this web map, you can look that up anytime you want as long as you have internet, you can go to Address Navajo, it will give you a lot of information, Power Point presentation – Tohatchi, this is a web map we created, we had field data collectors, 4 teams working at one time in different areas, one of the teams that worked in your area they would drive all the roads with GPS, collect the data, drive up to a house, collect a point that we knew that it would be an addressable structure, then they would drive another road, look for structures and drive up to the house to collect the point, we didn't collect any personal information whatsoever, this was only to collect the data so we could determine which roads to be numbered or named and where we need assigned addresses structures for 911, in that process this is sort of the final product you see in the web map for Tohatchi, these are the roads driven and data that was collected, when I met with the council last month we reviewed a lot of these roads and it was determined that there were some changes that wanted to be made, some of these have Navajo numbered roads, some members wanted them changed to a specific road name, we have standards we have to go by for our addressing established by the Department of Public Safety for the Navajo Nation, one of those standards is not to have a Navajo name on the roads but we worked with the members to try to help them come up with some names they felt they would like to see on their road, here are some of those changes from last meeting, click on Ear Rock Rd and it will show me in my database it's Ear Rock Rd and it will tell me other information on there for 911 purposes, when I zoom in on the Ear Rock Rd it will show where the addresses are that we come up with that needs a sign, here we have 84 and I click on 84, it will tell me it's a hogan right there, this will be tied into the 911 system, we are going to have two 911 answering points, one will be in Shiprock and the other one in Kayenta, they are in the process of being built right now, the whole purpose of this project is to tie all this information in to enhance 911 which is called the NextGeneration 911, they will have these maps, they will be able to determine by the address who responds to that structure if it's a fire call, emergency call, whatever it may be, law enforcement, they will determine who they need to dispatch to that structure, we collected land marks when the crews were out there, maybe not everything has to have an address, some are storages and we have addresses for them anyway, these addresses are called mile marker system addresses, the Rural Addressing is based on a mile marker system, if your address at the end of the road is 3.25 it means you are 3.25 miles from the beginning of that road, the beginning of this road, your road back here at the intersection highway 491 to the end of that address it's 3.25 miles so they know exactly emergency services know by that address how far they have to go on that road to find you, odd numbers are on the left side and even on the right side so they automatically know, we've had several meetings with all the emergency services departments on the Navajo Nation so they understand how this addressing system works, you click on the address here, looks like the road and it will bring up that information and this address 325 Ear Rock Rd and it's a single family home, lots of times there may be a cluster like in the particular area, if you zoom in you have 325, behind it you have 325a, we consider that a cluster – family group, here's another address and it's 319 Ear Rock Rd which means it 3.19 miles from the beginning of the road, zoom back out and look at the addresses along the highway, you have many addresses that come off New Mexico highways, this would be 3425a, that means you are 2.5 miles from mile marker 34, not only do the mile markers work on the rural roads, the mile marker system work on the state highways and US highways as well, we did change quite a few road names

when I was here from numbers to names, we did run into one problem we can't have duplicate road names that are already in existence if it's in the same zip code, we predict the Post Office will assign Tohatchi to the Gallup zip code, we have no control over what the post office does, we have to do what they tell us to do, so if they tell us you will be in the Gallup zip code with all your addresses, we cannot duplicate any names already in Gallup, one of the problems we come across is the Deer Spring Road, we have Deer Spring Road on here and Deer Spring Road already in Gallup, we have to come up with another name for that road, this little section of Halona Canyon Road needed to be changed, it was previously part of; **Lee Rodgers** – Antelope Pass; **Donica Sharpe** – this section needed to be continued on Halona Canyon Road, which we changed that and got that done, there were some other little things we needed to correct, we needed a need stretcher here for a family reunion on Whiskey Lake Road, there were other addresses in different places that we either needed to delete because they really weren't a structure and we deleted those, we went through the whole list and have a couple questions for you Ms. Rodgers, those two roads Cecilia was talking to me about on the coordinates she gave me and the road you were talking to me about, I need to get with you after the meeting to make sure I got it correct, I have some problems with the editing when I got back to make those corrections, is there any particular area anyone would like to look at and I can zoom in look at that for you or you have any questions about the addressing, we need to finish the road naming and hopefully today's meeting we can finish it up with any changes and then we can submit it to the US Postal Service, submit to Google Plus, once we do that then you can start getting packages delivered to your addresses but we can't do it until we finish the road naming; **Priscilla Duncan** – after they approve the names; **Lee Rodgers** – she's saying the delivery system won't start until after the National Addressing System approves the whole names; **Donica Sharpe** – right, they can't find it if it's not in there system yet, we have to prep the data that you're looking at here, the address points and the roads, we have to prep that data then submit it to a contact person with the US postal service, they start their process in getting it in their system, at the same time we have to prep the data for Google Plus because they have different requirements for the data, we have to prep the data for Google Plus and submit data to Google Plus, once those two have been provided with information and data, once they get it in to their system then you should be able to get packages, you can do a search on Google after that is done and it will come up with the address and they will deliver to you, pilot project was with Upper Fruitland, they been done for several months now, I got a text from one of the guys I worked with and he said thank you, your hard work is paying off I got my first delivery from FedEx today and send a picture of the FedEx truck, he was so excited and that's what you look forward to, 911 is most important to save lives and save property, this will change your life in a good way, we will be providing you with the address plaques for each house, that is included in the project to provide you the materials, we will provide the President of the chapter with the letters that will be printed, it will be up to the chapter to print up those letters, it's a notification letter of each residence's address, when the crews are out putting up the addresses and this is something you guys can talk about, Upper Fruitland had volunteers the help put up the addresses and they hired summer help, it's up to the chapters to post the addresses, we have a video that we will provide to you and show you how to do it, if you request for me to come back to help you when you start, I can send that request to upper management, I posted addresses all by myself in San Juan County and I know exactly how to do it; **Fern Spencer** – zip codes are going to change; **Donica Sharpe** – I don't know that because we have no control over what the post office is gonna do; **Fern Spencer** – we are doing okay, the same guy is there putting up the mail when he feels like it; **Donica Sharpe** – it creates problems for us too, every time we have a meeting, the chapter's want to know what our zip code is gonna be, will we don't know until the post office tells us, it doesn't apply to your mail, it's up to the post office if they are going to keep your delivery the same as it is or not, some places they have rural delivery where they give you a route number and a box, they would deliver mail to you on a route, now you have a physical address, what they are doing in a lot of counties and areas, in San Juan County they have a locking box unit, they tell the different people where their box is to get their mail from the locking box unit; **Gerald Moore** – 9679 there's a street already there and it's called Mountain Sheep Road, I don't know how that person got that particular name, they have a FedEx Amazon deliver; **Donica Sharpe** – that's not uncommon, what I found out is a lot of people make up addresses, they know

the person and make up the address just to get a delivery, they work real close with the person they know who is doing the delivery, the problem is nobody knows about it especially emergency services, that name for that road if we want to use now is the time to change it and I can change 9679 and change to Mountain Sheep Road if everyone knows it as; **Lee Rodgers** – the Navajo name is Sheep Springs, it's already a name of a community, that's why they named it Mountain Sheep Road just so it's not a duplicate; **Gerald Moore** – has anyone seen that street; **Donica Sharpe** – is there a sign up there, somebody made the sign and put it up; **Gerald Moore** - I don't know how they made it or what they did to get it, it's Mountain Sheep Road; **Donica Sharpe** – people have done a lot of that everywhere, not just here on the Navajo Nation, other areas where they didn't have addressing, I worked with Jicarilla Reservation, they started doing that too and that was the only way to get anybody to deliver; **Lee Rodgers** – add now Mountain Sheep Road, those addresses on there will not change since it is the same distance, just changing the name of the road, we'll make that change and update the data on that road, I'll make sure Mountain Sheep Road is not in Gallup; **Elvis Bitsilly** – those of you who are here for Rural Addressing, family you need to know your road information, you need to identify your road number, if you're here for that let us know; **Pernell Halona** – I have a camp on the mountain top on Tohatchi Road, my grandpa has a hogan up there, Halona Canyon Road, looking at map on screen and describing where the camp is to Doncia, Whiskey Lake in this area I have a camp; **Donica Sharpe** – this is the boundary we show between Tohatchi, we wouldn't be looking at this in your chapter, according to these boundaries it put over in Mexican Springs chapter, I will notify them, who is working with Mexican Springs the road name; **Pernell Halona** – continues to describe where camp is, what is this 360 – red dot; **Donica Sharpe** – it a address point, it's a resident and maybe vacant, it's Whiskey Lake road, I got that noted and I will let them know; **Elvis Bitsilly** – we did have a public meeting for Rural Addressing, we do have clarification; **Donica Sharpe** – I'll make the corrections, I need a name for Deer Springs road, any suggestions for that; **Lee Rodgers** – it's Mexican Springs area and that name is in memorial; **Donica Sharpe** – I haven't met with them, I will find out who has been working with them and make sure they are aware of that and needs to be changed, if the road is known by a name and that's what we want to use, that is what the people know it as, we want to use that and we don't have anything to work off of then that's where the four digit road numbers come in, road names and road numbers all work as long as we have it in there correctly and we have the addresses right and in the system, we are making road signs for all these roads, once we get finished today we will finalized the road naming we can start making the road signs, I think they will be delivered to the chapters, MC is in charge of that, I'm not sure if they will be delivered to him or to the chapters, we can make sure they get delivered to whoever MC wants us to deliver to, to me it makes sense to deliver the signs directly to the chapter, we will provide the ten foot posts, provide the breakaway posts that go on the ground, we provide the bolts, we provide the brackets the sign sits on top of, all that material is paid out of the grant and it will be provided to the chapter, to me it should go straight to the chapter; **Lee Rodgers** – it should go straight to the chapter, if it goes to Window Rock it will get lost, it will sit there, it will collect dust, and we will start all over again from 30 years ago; **Donica Sharpe** - that's how I feel too, you start thinking about 110 chapters and all getting delivered to one place, you have to keep it all organized, address posts, address plaques, address numbers go to the chapter, we already made that determination, actual letter that has the address on it, the road signs are up in the air right now, if they listen to me they go to the chapter; **Fern Spencer** – working with MC Baldwin it didn't happen years ago, I would say it would go to you all, we can do our part, we are never going to see it if he has it, he's never done it, if you need a letter we can produce one; **Donica Sharpe** – it's all being in the work the road sign delivery and what's going to happen, everything is leaning towards delivering it to the chapter directly, if that changes I'll let the President know and then I will request a letter then, I think we can persuade DCD's boss to let us deliver the signs to the chapters; **Pernell Halona** – I went to his class, they tell you have to set it up like you're saying even odd and all that good stuff, and how to place the residents off the roads, went to his for 3-4 days, there were 4 or 5 people there, they gave us the paperwork for us to go out there to the community, I went out and did my job, I got all my paperwork done and turned it in over here to the Vice President, the President at that time, he sent it to MC Hammer a copy and they lost it, so I did all that work for free, when I got in the Council I said we are not going to do this for free no more and it's not ever going to get done, pay somebody

to come out here and do this for us, that's how we got money together to get a company to come out here and do this job, it's getting done, we need to see it finished; **Donica Sharpe** – need a process in place to change the names later on where they can submit a request to the Council if there's a problem with the name that has been assigned to a road, one problem to arise is one person wants a name for that road, a neighbor down the road doesn't like the name, that's the problem with road names, you must have a process in place where they can petition the Council to change it, it doesn't mean it will change, it's very difficult once you have addressing in place to change your addressing, people start using those addresses, they get it on their driver's license and get a real ID, get on their bank records, their utilities and everybody needs that address, all departments will need the information in what you are changing those addresses to, I don't recommend it if you can help it, road numbers people usually don't come in and say I don't like Road #9650 and change to 9651; **Gerald Moore** – if you don't get this rural addressing done, in the future you will need a physical address, no more PO Boxes; **Elvis Bitsilly** – once you get rural addressing you will be getting your mail to your physical address, each homeowner must decide if you want to continue to use your mailbox, Naschitti, Mexican Springs, Twin Lakes, Coyote Canyon they can have their mail delivered to them instead of coming here and cancel their box here at Tohatchi Post Office, open up a box for another family who is waiting for a box; **Donica Sharpe** – it falls back on the US Postal Service, if you push to get changes done with the US Postal Service, you have the power and authority to do that through your Council and I recommend that when you need it; **Elvis Bitsilly** – after today what are we looking at; **Donica Sharpe** – I'll look at the changes that are recommended today, process the data, submit to the US Postal Service, process the data and submit to Google Plus, I'll let you know when we got that submitted so you will know it's been done, we need to calculate how many address plaques you need, posts, numbers and everything for your addresses and we will work on the calculations done to where we can deliver all the materials to the chapter, we will notify you when we will deliver those materials, you can start working on a plan on how you want to start posting the addresses and notifying the residents that this is their address with the notification letter, do a lot of community outreach once the changes are good and we are good to go, then start working on community outreach program to let your people know that this is coming and working on posting addresses, notifying them of what their address is, there is a person who works on this project, he is a PR person, he is Tius, if you want I can have him get a hold of you, he has some resources to help you, he can provide resources for community outreach, I don't know how long it will take and we have been submitting a lot of chapters to the post office and Google Plus, we have to wait for them to notify us back and it's good to go, you can print out an area in the web map.

V. New Business:

A. Red Willow Farm- Homesite- BIA, NN Policy on Farmland

Elvis Bitsilly – I don't see BIA here, Gerald Moore is here, a coordinator effort on this subject; **Geneva Begay** – my name is Geneva Begay with the Red Willow Farm Board Chair, James, there's a family that lives down, he doesn't live there's a home located at the Red Willow Farm site, it's an existing home and they are wanting to establish a homesite there, they brought their documents forward, the home I believe the sister who took over the home when their parents passed away, they want to renovate the home or establish a homesite by the home, we are not sure, he said there's electric and running water, it sounds like they want to build a foundation up, they brought two different stories to us, these documents were signed back in August 2025 by a grazing official, our policy from the farm board it states we take care of the Red Willow as a crop land and not as developing homesites on Red Willow Farm, I gave forms to Maria to make copies for all of us to have in our plan of operation, in the grazing official policy states or the homesite policy states there's no homesite allowed in the farm site, the fence is located outside the of that home, if they are to establish a new home they need to be outside of the Red Willow fence, they wanted a gate and a road and all of that was brought to their attention that we don't have an heavy equipment operator here at Tohatchi Chapter, Ray was the heavy equipment operator he doesn't have a CDL and was dropped from being the heavy equipment operation, we are looking at six months later when Red Willow Farm finally found out a homesite is being establish there, there's no communication with Red Willow Farm Board, we brought this up to Department of Agriculture to Ray Castillo who is our Extension Agent, he stated in the policy there's

no homesite allowed in farm areas, he stated who is going to tell the family now if they spend money on the survey, it costs money to get surveys done, all the documents are put together and ready to turn in to Land Department and will get kicked back to the family, we don't want the family coming up to the Board saying oh we spent our money for nothing, why didn't you guys tell us already and we weren't able to do this; **Fern Spencer** – question, you're saying the family is trying to be inside Red Willow area, inside the fenced area; **Geneva Begay** – there's a home already inside Red Willow Farm; **Pernell Halona** – is that their home beside the road, too; **Geneva Begay** – it's beside the Mutton Hill, yeah east side of it; **Priscilla Duncan** – that family lived there forever before you started your farm, their mom lived there, there dad lived there, there farm is right in front of the home, that's there farmland, they used to have peach trees and no more peach trees; **Geneva Begay** – if the home is to be renovated or a new homesite is what I'm talking about, I understand the family lived there a long ago, they abandoned their home, I believe there were other homes there and those homes were burn down by people coming in drinking and vandalize the area, that's what happened in the past history; **Pernell Halona** – is the home you are talking about the Becenti Family; **Geneva Begay** – no; **Gerald Moore** – you're right about no homesite lease is to be established on farm land, they are looking to get a homesite lease next to the existing homesite, it won't happen, establishing a new one and can't have that, the old one there that Priscilla is talking about, a person came and said he is going to probate this homesite, electric and water is there, he wants to reestablish and move back to that house, I signed off on it and he will go to probate, they can see what happens at court; **Fern Spencer** – the situation between the family that lives there now versus the one who wants to come in; **Gerald Moore** – is it the same family; **Geneva Begay** – nobody lives there now, the home is there, sitting there, nobody has lived in it, there was another home that people were living in and they moved away and it got vandalized with the shed and other property, the family wants to come back saying it was their mom's home, it was made a long time ago, they want to reestablish the home, they are talking building a new homesite by that home which is no, the existing home is there but it has to go through probate, the sister has her name on it, his sister, the man that came in and said it's his sister home and my mom gave it to her, which is the right process to probate; **Gerald Moore** – who is the guy; **Geneva Begay** – James; **Priscilla Duncan** - Monetta; **Geneva Begay** – there's another home outside the fence which is Virginia home; **Fern Spencer** – you are asking CLUPC for; **Geneva Begay** – we don't want any disputes with the family and we need to follow the policy; **Pernell Halona** – policy says they cannot build now, they can build outside; **Elvis Bitsilly** – I heard about this when I attended the Red Willow meeting last week, I told Red Willow to come to CLUPC so we can hear about the situation for record reason, this whole withdrawn area for the farm area was taken care of by my late mom, Kathleen and McReeves during their time, not sure how long ago, I requested Red Willow to get with BIA to follow up on this scenario, what's going on, it's pretty sensitive to the Red Willow Farm that it has been mentioned you cannot establish a homesite within the farm area, I don't know if this family ever had a ALUP, don't know if they have a record on it, it doesn't matter right now, that home however way it was withdrawn it was withdrawn for whatever reason, that's why this whole area including this former place where is it located is within Red Willow Farm, at this point there cannot be any homesites all at, another thing with this family they want to, James says they are working on the probate and I don't think it can happen either, change name or probate to his name, we were told from the get go as farm board we can't establish or allow any homesites anywhere for any reasons, another request from the family they wanted an entrance way to that place, they wanted a gate key to the main gate to Red Willow without any approval with anything in place yet, they made it sound like they were allowed now because they have a document in place to go in and out of there as they please so they can fix up the home, it can't happen and we have a secure gate there for a reason, for a season - winter time it is closed, whatever happened prior to that home years ago wasn't on Red Willow, they will not be able to use the main entrance gate to a home, which will not happen and will have to find another way to get in on their own, on their own time, must be a regular entrance like a home, Red Willow is all fenced off for its purpose, they can have a ALUP and farm there if they have a plot, a lot of follow up Red Willow has to do with the assistance from the grazing official to what is going on, Department of Agriculture - you contacted Ray Castillo and BIA, the family have no approved

documents yet, make sure everything is approved before anything happens, again a family cannot live there it's withdrawn for its reason, it cannot happen and everyone would want to live in there.

B. NN Homesite Policy & Procedure- Tohatchi Grazing Official

Gerald Moore – homesite policy is being revised, we been meeting with Navajo Land Department and Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture, we have been sitting down and redoing the homesite lease policy 2016 and revising the application, the Department of Agriculture wants us, the grazing officials out of the homesite lease procedure, you have no business doing a homesite, you have an office in Land Department, Homesite Office they can do their job, we don't need you to get involve in any process other than finding the permittees in the location they want a homesite, my suggestion to them was as far as I have been working with the ARPA projects, NTUA and fiber optics they have, we told them you guys are doing these projects and are requesting our approval or signature on these projects, we were told not to sign off on any consent, you have your own field agents, we will tell you who to go see, who is the permittee in the area, and you guys get their consent, you be the compliance officer, it's your project and you go find them, these are the people and I'll tell you where they live, you consent from them and they will sign off or not, we were told not to sign off on anything from the very beginning but they come back to us they show us proof that they can sign or consented and the signatures there and I tried to verify with them, did you guys sign this, I sign the bottom part and I can consent to it, what activities they had done to find these permittees, my recommendation to Department of Ag and Navajo Land Department, have the Navajo Land Department do the same thing, we as grazing officials can identify those permittees, let your officers – your field agents get their consent, that way it will leave things out of our hands and then come back to us, we'll either go and see that individual, see if they actually signed off or didn't sign off, they went with that and that's where it's at right now, Director from the Department of Agriculture, Jessie Jim says that probably will be okay, we need to do something to keep you guys out of the loop of the Homesite lease, in the meantime we were revising the homesite policy, hopefully it will be introduced to the RDC in the springtime, either they will consent approve and go into legislation at summer session and become law, that is where the policy is today, for the longest time the Homesite office stated they will have Compliance Officers, if there's any dispute it goes back to them, it doesn't go to the grazing official and it goes directly to the Navajo Land Department, we oversee Natural Resources, Livestock and their animals, not homes; **Elvis Bitsilly** – consent is under the Grazing Official; **Gerald Moore** – as of right now, must have a valid grazing permit, what's a valid grazing permit – a valid grazing permit is when your name is actually on the permit, while it's going through probate it's still not valid – your name isn't on there, they talked about prime grazing area, the grazing official – what is prime grazing area, they talked about it on the application, one half mile and now it depends where this house will be set, is it within the grazing area, prime grazing area, is it too far away from utilities, water, power, roads, it can be denied, something they can live with and afford, to buy utility poles, electricity and water line, it will be part of the policy; **Elvis Bitsilly** – I hope the Department of Agriculture will follow through with that, if we don't know the law or policy that is in place, how can we take any action or anticipate what we need to do to move forward, it's important all parties need to discuss this so we can see what is going on, we were never really informed from the Navajo Nation Government, never informed of this process, there's always changes, it reflects us here at the chapter when we make decisions on situations like this, we can say what is the latest policy or law, how are we going to work together; **Geneva Begay** – this is the last election, they are doing away with grazing officials and farm board, there will be one agent who will be coming in for District 14, this is the talk at the council, not sure if they voted on it yet, it's part of their agenda they are working on, the LDA probably has more information on it; **Gerald Moore** – we met last week and no mention of that; **Elvis Bitsilly** – they have been talking about this years ago, it has to be presented to the people; **Geneva Begay** – you can get your priority listing as the grazing official and myself, turn our report over to the agent who will come in.

C. Mr. Wilfred Yazzie

Elvis Bitsilly – he wants to voice a couple of things to CLUPC, I invited him to come last year and we had a family come here before, they voiced their concern, we should hear from both sides, we allowed it and I didn't anticipate you to be here and you are, what is happening on our part as far as chapter officials, we do

have our grazing officer here; **Wilfred Yazzie** – introduced himself, I was born in the location where we are asking for burial withdrawal, I'm not only representing myself, I'm representing my grandparents, my aunts and uncle, brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, grandkids and I want to stand for them, we live in this area where we are requesting this burial site, it's been over 85 years that a first burial took place, 24 people are buried there, I understood there's a concern we have a burial site and also a concern that livestock wandering around and trampling over the burial site and we do have headstones, a fence was erected to protect the burial site, from my family's perspective it is a sacred burial ground to us, I developed an application to withdrawal the burial site, it wasn't easy as you talked about policy changes, you mentioned 2016 that policy first started, it's very vague, that regulation was shown to me to develop my application to withdrawn the land, it doesn't specifically address withdrawals of burial site, I did my best and developed it, in doing so I presented it, I was told it was the wrong form you are using, it was in November the form was given to me by Mr. Bitsilly, follow this form and reviewed it again, compared with the old form and not much difference, I presented it again on December 1, 2025 to the planning committee, at that time I was told the secretary to do a resolution for the next chapter meeting for December 17th, on that day December 17th, Mr. Bitsilly asked to speak to me outside, in the hallway, he told me no I wasn't on the agenda because there's a complaint file, I asked for more information and what was that complaint about, he didn't tell me, you will be notified, I got on the agenda and made my presentation, stated that the regulation that was given to me I followed step by step everything, there's a checklist on it, this is the checklist that was given to me and the regulation that goes with it, General Land Development Department, Navajo Nation Private and Family Cemetery Lease flow chart, it's says there Cemetery Application, cover letter and family plan of operation, I did that, I followed everything that was in there, it request for a survey, GPS legal land, Mr. Moore was able to come out and inspect the cemetery, saw the fence, and took the GPS on the four corners, I was supposed to request for a chapter resolution, I made my request, before that I went to the grazing committee to state my concern and to address, there they supported my application, Mr. Moore was directed to develop a letter to be sent to the Navajo Nation Land Development Department, I met all those, when I went to the chapter meeting I was denied because of a complaint, what I said in here there's no CLUPC, Community Land Use Program Action, whatever you call, it's not on here, you're not following the protocol on this regulation and this is dated back to 2024, this is the regulation, I haven't receive any formal written concern or complaint to me or to any of my family, what I'm requesting from this group right now is a written minutes of when my application was presented and what plan of action that was taken at that time, I did receive the minutes and just read it, I didn't see any plan of action on it, what was the next step, I didn't see no written complaint too, I don't know what the written complaint is about, I heard different things, but I still like to see a written complaint as to what it is about, according to the regulation I followed, it says if there's any law being violated report it to the court and it will be handled there according to the regulation, if I'm breaking any law I don't know what it is, I'm questioning that, another thing I'd like to say is my family lived there too, my grandmother who is from that same family, Nasbah Manuelito, she was my grandfather's wife and those are her children, my aunt's my mother are all buried there, that is our land too, to be denied that, right to bury our own dead is beyond me, I don't know who gave them the right to deny us that right, I still like to see it in writing why we are being denied, I want to see the minutes, complaint and the regulations that is being use to deny me the steps to go to the next chapter meeting, that's what I like to see, what is holding me up, you are not going to be the final approval, this will be reviewed by the Department of Justice, reviewed by the Office of the President and Vice President, reviewed by Legislative Counsel, those are all legal people who will review it, you have all those safeguards in place, we are stuck right here, I don't see the legal process going from here, we are not following the correct protocol and I want that to be known, I probably won't appear at tomorrow's chapter meeting because of this, until I hear or see everything in written, what is the main reason we are being denied, looking at this minute, there is something that stands out, we are doing something illegal there, what is illegal that we are doing, report it to the police department, report it to the authority, that's where it should go, and then use the court process to correct this, I'm anxious to see what is illegal, and another thing in this regulation, what is the negative impact, there's no negative impact to anybody, all we are doing is burying our own family

where we started 85 years ago and we want to continue that, don't know what the big issue is, thank you very much, I have my sisters here, Effie and Eleanor and I don't know if they want to say something; **Elvis Bitsilly** – Mr. Yazzie, this committee didn't make any action or decision on denying you anything that's one thing, the flow chart you are showing is all Land Department, it's their process, that is the Navajo Nation Policy not CLUPC or chapter, we didn't discuss any of that matter other than what the family presented to the CLUPC, that is all, I gave you the opportunity to say what you have to say, that is all, we didn't take no action of any sort at all last year on this matter, I'm not following that policy because we are not involved in that area, all our committee does is hear the issue, recommend and let that person party know these are the steps to follow, my concern for you is we only want to hear what is going on, we are not the committee to say yea or nay or approve any of this, it's not our job, if you have an issue with the documents and all of that, it's with the next level and that is Land Department, I referred you to Ray Castillo at Department of Agriculture, we have our grazing officer here to give you some information in how to process this, we don't have anything to do with what where you take this matter, as the chapter as well, that you were supposedly denied, you were not denied you were just told you don't have all the formal information on this issue, we cannot approve something that's not heard out from both parties because at that time this all came out one after another last year, as a chapter president I couldn't authorize that with the other officials I have as assistants as well, we needed to hear this out, other recommendations were given to you Mr. Yazzie, if you have any issue like you mentioned, you wanted a police report you should have gotten a police report, maybe you have questions on what's going on, maybe that's something else you need to do, if you have any more issues with it as you move forward, that's not our issue as a family, it's on you, the information given to you was from documents and records are coming from the Navajo Nation Department, the chapter we only get what we get until things are cleared out, if there's a resolution that needs to be done, and we'll handle that as matters move on, that's all I have on CLUPC and that is who we are CLUPC, we don't make any decisions, we didn't vote on any action item, nothing from CLUPC other than what we heard from the other family; **Gerald Moore** – reference to the burial site, withdrawal request, I did get a hold of the package, the package was forward to the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture, I'm assuming it included a complaint form as well as mediation, I'm pretty sure it will be forward to Navajo Land Department, they have a section in there that deals with burials, most likely that package will go there, so that's where it's at; **Wilfred Yazzie** – will we bypass the chapter; **Gerald Moore** – until this complaint or mediation occurs, to bring the families in, to talk discuss or maybe it will be up to the Department of Ag; **Wilfred Yazzie** – it says within 90 days, so far I haven't heard anything, I'm not satisfied mainly because not moving forward with the project I started two years ago, maybe because the regulations aren't clear, the second regulation isn't clear, I don't know when CLUPC got started and I don't know what your regulations are or what your main purpose is, I see a lot of confusion yet, Mr. Council Delegate here it needs to be clear from A, B, C all the way through, it took me a lot of effort to work on this, read things and look through things but it's not clear, last time I went to the chapter grazing committee meeting they said we are working on it and we'll get it renewed, include me in because I see a lot of fuzzy area, thank you.

***Flora Nez** – Mr. Francisco wants information on the Francisco plot and he wants some sort of plan on what you are going to do with that before we advertise all the sites again, all the business sites that are vacant he wanted to include that whether we are going to include that, that's what he wanted to know, I'll be here in March, you probably email him about your discussion on that site; **Elvis Bitsilly** – homesite and grazing it goes back to that problem the community has been having for too long, people are claiming places they don't have any business claiming, the business sites we have for Tohatchi we have some areas that we have withdrawn, in years pass the chapter has done this and what we are doing now is following through with these areas that have been designated, along the way we have been following up, me and the Vice President we met with Economic Development, talked with them about some of these sites in Tohatchi that we need to develop, one purpose is for Economic business, Navajo Petroleum is one of them, we've been pushing Navajo to open up, there's a site we've had for a long, long time ago and it's the old Francisco homesite and business site across the street, it's been pending for many years and nothing has been done with it, we are revisiting that and see what we possibility can do with that, in the real world people would

sue each other and there would be lawsuits, it can't happen with Navajo to some extent, we have to follow up and finish some of these things that have been going on so Navajo Nation Economic Development has been helping us with that, RBDO and so forth, we will follow up on the business sites so we can have business sites here, we need it; ***Christine Bitsoi** – I'm Christine Bitsoi from Naschitti and I'm with CLUPC as Vice President, we're working on our recertification and working in different areas, gathering data, statistics, we are working on a mission site lease for the Catholic Church out there, we are going to meet with Father on Thursday evening at 5, I don't know if you guys have a mission site lease for here Tohatchi, somehow he claims he doesn't have it, maybe he doesn't know about it, we are working on mission site lease for all the different congregations in our area, if you're interested will be downstairs at Tohatchi Catholic Church, I like how you conducted your meeting, I didn't like the situation at Red Willow, prior to 1987 they didn't have homesite lease but there were structures there, there was an existence, those are considered under the probate, if a house is already there, I don't know when this Red Willow lease started, to me why would they want to put a farm in there fence it off, the existence was already there; **Lee Rodgers** – read the minutes regarding the Catholic Church regarding me doing my job, I'm not happy with the wording in the minutes, I'm doing my job; **Christine Bitsoi** – I picked up a copy from the Land Department, mission site lease, it has all the steps we follow in order to get this lease, so far in our area we have one lease that is legit, he is willing to work with us, I can get you a copy of the mission site lease; **Elvis Bitsilly** – we have two churches that have official documents, Catholic Church is not one of them, Vice President and I followed up on this and started working with Father Dale; **Christine Bitsoi** – who are the CLUPC officials, you are welcome to come to our next meeting is February 10 at 9 am; **Elvis Bitsilly** – introduced the CLUPC members; **Fern Spencer** – do you have anything; **Sonny Moore** – there is a meeting in Farmington on Rural Addressing, San Juan College campus, one thing we are faced with and you (Nali) have been going here and there, we apologize for that, the Navajo Nation Regulation burial it wants each chapter to identify existing family plot, it hasn't happen yet, in spite of the complaint, it can be identified and rectified right away, use your officials and you have to work through them, when I was President I took those complaints and worked with the grazing officer, my little brother grazing officer move this forward fast, it's bothering the family and they are here, if you can help out that way it would be appreciated, Economic Development thank you for coming Flora, purposely all these years when I was in office, we didn't want to bother the Francisco's and the business site, the family living by the trading post we didn't bother that family either, we worked with what was existing, going back to our Economic Development meeting with District 14, I still think there should be some group effort with all five chapters to identify potential sites, that way you don't have Naschitti doing this, Twin Lakes doing that, Mexican Springs doing that, what is feasible we should be looking at, thank you; **Lee Rodgers** – I like to expand on what my father said, there's a complaint, how come the grazing officials didn't share the complaint with him, a copy of it, that should have been done at the get go, he has every right the family has every right to see the complaint, they will know what is being said against them and they will know how to deal with it, I worked with the courts and if you're a defendant charged with something, if told you are doing something illegal, under the Constitution of the United States, you have every right to be told what you are being charged with, my father the business site lease, the Francisco and Nakai sites, I have the same feelings you do my father, I don't want to touch them because they are rooted in, they are our relatives, Nakai's are rooted in, we should work with what is available and what we can tap in to, to uproot people from their sites, I'm not in favor of that, if the discussion comes in like that, I'll recuse myself as Vice President, I will not touch that subject, both are my cousins, we should let that family decide what they had done, see if they have homesites and figure that out before we go after them; **Elvis Bitsilly** – Vice President we are not going after anybody for any homesite or any area of business site, we need clarification on what that party or family wants to do, how are they going to handle what they need to handle or do what they need to do, we just need clarity so we can do our other sites as I mentioned before, we are focus on the other sites, that site has been pending for a long time and nobody didn't take it in to their hands and say what are we going to do, only need clarification and we're not moving anywhere with economic development on that, it's their area and if they want to have it, it's fine, and we have no purpose in doing anything with it as mentioned by former official, Chapter President, that's fine, we're developing the

projects that we withdrew, that's our priority, we are not taking away anything from anybody, we are not going down that road, let me make that clear, let's not throw out things that don't have anything to do with what we are doing, we are working as a team, working together in a work session and so forth. Thank you, Mr. Yazzie, for coming forward and we want to work with you, grazing officer is here to help you, thank you for being here everyone, I appreciate your participation.

- VI. Resolutions: none
- VII. Announcements: NM Legislature Begins: January 20, 2026 - February 19, 2026
- VIII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 @9am-12n
- IX. Adjournment: 11:48 am


Delphine Bitsilly
CLUPC Recorder