

**THE NAVAJO NATION**

**TOHATCHI COMMUNITY CHAPTER**

Post Office Box 1236 Tohatchi, New Mexico 87325 Tel: (505) 733-2845/2846 FAX: (505) 733-2847

***Julie Badonie, President Larson Manuelito, Vice President Harry” Sonny” Moore, Secretary/Treasurer Pernell Halona, Council Delegate***

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**TOHATCHI CHAPTER**

**COMMUNITY PLANNING MEETING**

**MAY 13, 2019 @ 9:00 AM**

Meeting Recorded **MINUTES**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

9:25 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Julie Badonie, President, Mr. Larson Manuelito, Vice-President, Mr. Sonny Moore, Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Leonard McReeves, Ms. Laris Manuelito, LDA

**INVOCATION**

Ms. Camilla Lynch

**COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND CONCERNS**

**-**Community Using Teacherage Trash Bins- Senior Week is this week. Graduation is this week. 45 accepted to college out of 51 Seniors graduation. Over to “trash”, community is dumping trash at the teacherage school compound. People come in after 10 p.m. to dump their trash and disturb the tenants. Fern was involved with an accident because of community dumping their trash. She is requesting the chapter to communicate that they don’t want “outsiders” dumping their trash at the teacherage.

**-**Animals in the School Compound- Teachers are planting this year and at one time there were 12 horses in her (Fern’s) front yard. There are also cows that enter the compound. These animals eat the plants and whatever is grown by the teachers. She doesn’t know how these animals come into the compound and she requested the assistance of Mr. McReeves. Ms. Joyce Maynard was introduced to the attendees. Mr. Invento (Shop Teacher) is also selling an outhouse and benches. Mr. McReeves acknowledge the animal situation on the compound. Fern was requested to have the school maintenance personnel and Mr. McReeves to walk the compound to check the fence. Ms.Marcella Franklin requested to have the student help with the Senior Citizen planting project.

\*Camilla Lynch-requesting for housing assistance to an addition to her home. She is from the Truman and Wilomina Badonie family. She has filled out her paper work. She has her own contractor and will be only requesting for materials.

\*Virginia Barney-received help with housing material before. She started a portion of the house that includes the roof and is requesting to use the labor from the chapter. She has the material and needs help from a carpenter. Mrs. Dee Silver offered the name of a handyman person by the name of Billy Destea, Jr. She stated he is reasonable with his cost to do business. The Baptist Church was also mention to assist in the project. Someone will follow-up with Mr. Jim.

\* Dee Silver-problems with bathroom system for her relatives. Indian Health Service did an assessment but doesn’t know when and how much they will be able to assist. These relatives are elderly and they also have a problem with another bathroom. She submitted an application before; however, the paper work could not be located as a result she is starting all over. She has meet with Lucinda (CSC) and was requested to attend the monthly planning meeting. It looks like we need a certified plumber to correct the situation and it does involve replacing the leach field. I suggested that a letter be produced to request for assistance for the elderly Halona’s and also a request for a feasibility study for a sewer system several families in the vicinity. The requestor was asked if they could cost-share the expenses Ms. Carlene Halona is the care-taker and she was also requested to cost-share. Mr. Vernon Tom is the contact person from HIS or OEH.

\*Anice Yazzie-requesting for a walk-in shower. She is from the Buffalo Springs area. Also asking for roof repair. Widow for over 40 years. She only asked for a walk-in shower and not the roofing, she is eighty years old. Her sister (88 years old) is also elderly and she needs a walk-in shower, she has a tendency to fall. The chapter has not completed an assessment. The chapter is a source and should be helpful to community members.

\*Geneva Begay- Red Willow Farm Board Member- reported that James Hale, Water Resource, is requesting for the location of the earth dams and has listed a total of ten dams for repairs. Lucinda will be following-up with James Hale.

\*Mr. Ernest Sleuth-from Buffalo Springs, was residing in Naschitti, Albuquerque, Gallup and has returned home. He doesn’t have a home-site lease? He considers himself a homeless person. He was referred to Mr. McReeves to work on the application for a homesite lease. He is not a registered voter. There was an approval process at one time; however, there was one person that denied his request for a homesite.

\*Tommy Kinsel-homesite issue, has gone through an approval process; however, an individual denied his request. The family referred to is the Lowe family. They complained of the numerous animals that encroach on their property. Mr. McReeves says there was approval by the former Grazing Official; however, the dispute continues. Mr. McReeves will be working on this situation and will be reporting it to the District Grazing committee and will come up with a recommendation.

**REPORTS/DISCUSSION AND PRESENTORS**

\*Presenters-EPA or All Nations to Present on Illegal Dumping-Sonny Moore will contact Elaine Stewart to do a presentation during the next chapter meeting.

\*Presenters-Fern Spencer/Mrs. Allison-Tohatchi High School- Ms. Tamara Allison, the Principal, the Career Pathway is on its way, there are three programs being made available. They submitted a hand-out for the records that shows the pathway courses. Soft skills and employability skills is also going to be introduced and also call “essential skills.” The Superintendent Hyatt is on-board with this new program. I gave my expectations for the McKinley School system and future outlook. Mr. Manuelito talked about vocational program and the input of unions. I also talk about parental involvement. The possibility of a parental summit this summer. Ms. Allison stated that she is limited in funds to produce a summit. She wanted names and sources or examples of these parental summits.

\*Presenters-Ms. Leonora Fulton-to present a resolution- requesting for a resolution to be presented during the regular chapter meeting. Going back to 2014 election. July 2014 was the primary election. There is another 10-day grievance period. There was a complaint made on Mr. Chris Descheeney, whom was a Presidential candidate. Hearing and Appeals dismissed this complaint. However, the Chief Justice become involved. Early voting stated in October. November 04, was the general election day. The issue was on the topic of “fluency.” Mr. Descheeney was disqualified on October 23, 2014 and the Election Board was requested to stop the election. The Chief Justice charged the Election Board for contempt because they did not stop the election. The final result was that the Board were removed and could not run for office for eight (8) years. The Presidential election was held at a later date.

**-**Senior Center Report- Marcella Franklin reported on the various activities at the Center. She provided a copy of the report. She reported on getting assistance for eyeglasses. The stove has been leaking natural gas. It can be repaired or possibly purchase a new stove. Seniors (Center is closed temporally) are referred to eat at other locations. She gave a number on food serve for the month. This is an all-time high. Mrs. Sharon Sandman is also here to report on the planting project. They are still looking for a location to plant (40x40). Looks like the location or one of the recommended site is the Head Start area. Roberta Edsitty is willing to give up some space by the school. She was hired on with Dine’ College. They are working with schools and families (Burbanks only one) on planting projects. They will fence off the planting site. They are shooting for the end of May to begin the planting. There are seven (7) workshops schedule for the planting project with the first workshop scheduled for May 17, 2019. They are looking for more funding to pollinate the planting beds. There was a request to check the Unhealthy Food Tax funds for this expense. They are also looking at sponsoring a canning class.

-Grazing Officer Report-left early; and did not provide a report. However, he addressed the situations or disputes during the community requests and concerns.

-Council Delegate Report-Ms. Laris Manuelito provided a written report. The report will be attached to the minutes. The “at-will” topic entertain some comments. At one time, checks (Veterans) were produced locally before it was taken back to Window Rock. Head-Start is federally funded but they are coming to the chapter for assistance? Why? The Council Delegate should be coming to our planning meeting and chapter meetings and Laris (LDA) is the only one that represents his office. We need his leadership and his presence.

-Red Willow Board – Mrs. Dorothy Bitsilly reported NTUA still needs to run a power for the well and the Council Delegate should be helping with this project. The problem is internally at NTUA and they have not receive an account number from the Department of Agriculture to proceed with project. Mrs. Dorothy Bitsilly reported of gun shots in her area. The Officials need to look into this dangerous situation. I notice that our compound is not secure and we have elders that are by themselves.

-CLUPC Report- No representative present.

-Officials Report-

a. Facility Usage Policy-we have a problem with insurance, someone trip outside

and was injured. This was during a Bingo and this activity is considered illegal.

The chapter is not covered with insurance after 5 p.m. This individual is asking for compensation from the chapter for the injuries. There will be a recommended

charge of $175 (usage fee) for register voters and $250 (usage fee) for non-registered with a cleaning fee of $75. Kitchen usage will be bumped up to $80. The change in policy will include a waiver or to include a liability clause.

b. Heavy Equipment Rental-this was discuss before in another meeting. Road clearing is okay and need clearances when work is performed within NHA housing site. An additional charge for requests beyond 5 miles. We don’t have any working relationship with NHA and a letter should be written to the Central Office to have them aware of the lack of communications or lack of working relationship, stray dog issues, request of ground or land clearances (boundary issues), etc. The recommended fees are $60 per hour (backhoe) and $65 per hour (grader). This is without taxes and to include the over 5-mile rate at $20 per usage.

c. Community Trash and Illegal Dumping-there were 17 mattresses found under the

highway. There is no enforcement from the Navajo Nation. There were different

ideas exchange about how to address this issue.

d. Stray Dogs – This is an issue not only here but all over the reservation. A letter will be written to Navajo Nation and other entities to bring awareness to the situation.

**RESOLUTIONS FOR CHAPTER MEETING**

**-**Resolution to Approve Payment for Dana Arviso-Unhealthy Food Fund-for a Healthy

Community Activity

**-**Resolution for Sheep Butchering Workshop on June 14, 2019

**-**Resolution for Highway Lighting for Tohatchi and Buffalo Springs

**-**Recommending to the Navajo Nation Council to Exonerate the 2014 Navajo Board of

Election Supervisors of Indirect Civil Contempt in the Case of Number SC-CV-68-14

and FDAVC-19-001

**-**Resolution to Change the Scope of Work for Tohatchi East Flats-from a Domestic

Water System to Individual Wells

-Resolution to Amend the Facility Usage Policy

-Resolution to Amend the Heavy Equipment Rental Policy

-Resolution to Amend the NTEC 064-6-2016 from CLUPC

Motion: Larson Manuelito Second: Mrs. Julie Badonie Vote 2-0-1

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

3:55 p.m.

Submitted by

Mr. Sonny Moore

Secretary/Treasurer

Tohatchi Chapter

May 14, 2019

Cc:

Mrs. Julie Badonie, President

Mr. Larson Manuelito, Vice-President

Ms. Lucinda Barney, CSC

Mr. Deon Ben, President, CLUPC

Mr. Mike Begay, Vice-President, CLUPC

Mr. Leonard McReeves, Grazing Officer

Mrs. Dorothy Bitsilly, President, Red Willow Farm

Mr. Pernell Halona, Council Delegate

Staff

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