



TEMPORARY AUTHORIZE QUORUM REDUCTION MEETING

February 01, 2021 10:00 A.M.

PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

TELECONFERENCE NUMBERS: (508) 603-6262 CODE: # 304-129-698#

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

10:08 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Sonny Moore, President, Mr. Mike Halona, Vice President, Jean Crawford, Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer, Mr. Pernell Halona, Council Delegate, Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, LDA, Farm Board, Maria Allison-King, CSC, Byron Bitsioe Sr., CLUPC, Committee Members: Dorothy Bitsilly, Doris Benally, Laris Manuelito, Julie Badonie, and Troy Essary.

INVOCATION

Mr. Elvis Bitsilly

REVIEW OF THE AGENDA

Agenda was read to the audience. See sign-in sheet. There is no motion in a planning meeting.

COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTATORS

Maria reported there are no community members requesting assistance, but Dorothy Bitsilly does have a request to get on agenda. She is requesting reimbursement for the labor cost of \$1,000 for a ramp that was built for her by a carpenter that she hired on her own. Dorothy did receive assistance from the Discretion Fund back in September 2020 in amount of \$1,300. Per Julie Badonie, we need to be careful as far as reimbursing an amount for Discretion Fund, especially if is after the fact. Mr. Mike Halona request this be put on the agenda for the chapter meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS and REPORTS

Safety Complex Building – Mary West, Project Manager reported she is willing to help us have a good experience and transfer the knowledge of everything learned in the design of the construction of the Twin Arrow Complex.

I'm here to answer your questions about your vision for the public safety complex.

Sonny Moore – I will give a rundown of the 2 phases so far. Phase I, we will need an abatement and demolition for the former detention center and also seeking funds to have that completed.

Phase II – The type of design. Last year we took a tour of the Twin Arrow Complex and from our discussion, we asked if you would be willing to work with us on our Safety Complex project and maybe scheduled an appointment.

Mary West – I have the time now and I'm available to provide assistance and help. I am not a designer or an architect. We learned a lot from the people who will be utilizing the building; for example, firemen, police chief, and the Navajo Police Department and also have the building accessible to the member of the chapter in a positive way.

Vice President Halona – Who owns the design blueprint?

Mary West – In the contract with the architect, the design, plans, etc., is the ownership of the Navajo Nation. We made sure we own everything. We have a huge archive of information transferring to the Division of Public Safety and we are depositing all documentation with Division Director, Jessie Delmar. His office will retain the long-term ownership of everything.

Julie Badonie – We were told the design can be downsized to fit our needs.

Mary West – Yes, this design was created to be de-scalable.

Delegate Halona – The lot for this project is 4 acres and has been withdrawn. We would like to invite you out again soon to look at the location here in Tohatchi. When will you be available?

Mary – I have to go to Albuquerque in February, so I can reach out to Sonny or Maria to give a date and time as to when I will be in the area. The Twin Arrow Complex was built on 3 acres. 4 acres is more than sufficient for this project. The cost of the Twin Arrow Project cost and estimated \$4,970,000. So, shoot for 5 million for your

project.

*Council Delegate Report – Good News, President Nez signed off on the request for heavy equipment for District 14, including Farm Board's tractor. Hardship checks were mailed out and still have problems with checks. 340 duplicate checks were mailed out and had to be cancelled. This cost the NN money to have to cancelled checks. Hazard Pay for chapter officials and PEP workers will need new legislation which we are currently working on. Cares Funding is available for the tribe, but don't know how much will be coming to the tribe.

Sonny – During District 14 council meeting there was a question on which agency District 14 should be reporting to? Is it Crownpoint or Ft. Defiance Agency. Per Casey Begay, Project Manager, there was legislation in place that stated District 14 is under Eastern Agency. Administratively, we have been reporting to Eastern agency. We may need to do another resolution to support this legislation. Second question: The impact aide, legislation at state based on ruling from court they are moving forward to re-do the formula. We need to make sure we have funding for Tohatchi schools. Maybe doing another resolution. We should schedule a meeting with the school board and talk about impact aide and how they can allocation more money for our schools. I'm talking about millions of dollars being taking from our schools since 1974. Thirdly, Twin Lakes has not paid their share for the highway light along 491.

Delegate Halona – I did not know Twin Lakes had not paid their share. Impact Aide, we have been getting the short end of the deal for years. Governor Grisham did say during her campaign speech, she would support the impact aide for the Mckinley County schools, but Navajo Nation is in full support of the Impact Aide. The transfer of District 14 to Eastern Agency. Found an old legislation done back in 2016, but no mention of the transfer of District 14. A new legislation may need to be drafted. This came about during the pandemic when we were asked to get our updates from Eastern Agency.

Elvis – The legislation for Regionalization for all of the Navajo Nation chapters was a legislation passed by NN council back in 2016, but Russell Begay vetoed this legislation. I did not find any other documentation that says District 14 is under Eastern Agency. Currently, Naschitti is reporting to Northern Agency and Coyote Canyon is reporting to Eastern Agency. Information and research need to be completed through the department of Community Development and Casey Begay. Chapters needs to work with Mr. Begay. District 14 council would have to make the request with a resolution or legislation and submit to Eastern and Ft. Defiance Agency. They would have to work together and one would have to withdraw and other would have to be willing to adopt. Vice President Halona – Out here we don't see the state lines as a boundary, but states do. Regionalization was supported by the council for referendum vote. Agencies are known and created by the BIA boundaries and the chapters that fell in there. Back then before 1970, they used grazing boundaries so they fell into place perfectly. In 1978, Chairman McDonald contacted the census bureau wanting to change the boundaries to numeration for the upcoming census count in 1980. All those chapters were re-drawn for political reasons and some lost a large tract of their service area and some chapters gain. This caused a lot of confusion. Finally, came to an agreement. So, when you see Grazing map it's still as is and falls into District 14 grazing area perfectly.

*Community Service Coordinator Report – Cares Act Shipment, Tohatchi Chapter has not received anything as far as supplies for water, food and PPE. Called Casey Begay and he states it's based on how W/R does their distribution. They go through the listing of chapters and will notify Mr. Casey Begay when a chapter is going to receive supplies.

ICIP Status – I met with Denise Copeland last week Friday, she went over the process of how to submit the list of priority projects electronically. She strongly advised to stick with the list (top 5) as is because making changes now will delay meeting the deadline of February 8th. We do have money for the Public Safety Complex and the Warehouse, so we should be pushing these two projects. The state Senator, Representatives, Legislators are aware of these projects and will assist to approve these. She also informed me there is a lump sum of money given to state

and is divided among 3 different branches and each branch gets a third of the money. With 10 chapters and other business wanting money, we will need to move quickly on our projects. Senator Pinto did mention Representatives and our state Governor are involved saying these projects are part of the pandemic emergency funds and will assist District 14. The request will be submitted as soon as President Moore completes the language that will be added on. More projects can be added in July and sent in by October 2021.

WIND System Training – I was able to update the WIND system with top 5 projects and now ready to be viewed.

Speedway Fuel Purchase – We just started purchasing fuel from Tohatchi Speedway and using the fuel card and form. We will be purchasing gas monthly and waiting on Mr. Herbert Dennison to give feedback on how much fuel he is using monthly.

Budget to Actual Report – Everything is up to date in WIND system including the 2021 budget including the 75%. Sent the officials the actual report. Payroll taxes is updated, payroll taxes paid to IRS, got W-2 and 1099 forms out.

Wells Fargo – The Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer has sent in all required documents requested by Wells Fargo Bank for new signatures for Chapter Account.

Website – Janice Begay is working on reactivating the Webpage for the Chapter. Last time the website was being utilized was in October 2019 and Janice is working with Sylvia with IT. Someone had changed the password on the Website account. Jean C. is willing to help establish the webpage.

Fire Protection from Chooshgai School Fire Station – Troy Essay, Safety Officer with Chooshgai School states they are able to answer fire calls. Just the simple act of changing our insurance has now allowed us to assist with community calls. We also have signed a mutual aid agreement with the McKinley county. Unfortunately, we will not be able to take medical emergency calls at this time since I am the only medically trained person other than basic first aid training that our people have right now but we are working towards higher medical training for our fire department staff which are again all volunteers. But the pandemic has put a whole on a lot of stuff but still responding to calls in our community. Currently working on getting an agreement with Navajo Nation and finding it a bit difficult, but I think the new Public Safety Complex idea is awesome and is available to work with Chapter.

*CLUPC Report – Mr. Byron Bitsoie, last meeting we had we ended with the 2 resolutions for Tosidoh. The revised MOU was accepted. The expansion of the cemetery is on hold until we get approval in writing from the two permittee holders in the area. Information map, acreage and utilities was sent to Sonny, President.

*Red Willow Farm Board – Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, I was fortunate to be elected including Mr. Sam Natonabah and Geneva Begay to Farm Board. We have scheduled our 1st meeting tomorrow at 10am to meet and greet each other and start that communication as newly elected officers. I do have a drafted agenda and I will have a teleconference number for people who want to call in. We will also review all outstanding projects and as you heard, we did get a new tractor with flatbed for our farm. We are very appreciative and thankful. One of our main goal this year is to re-initiate and contact all our past farmers and new farmers who are interested in farming. As you know, Dorothy Bitsilly has retired and we are all thankful for all the work she has done for the Farm Board. I would like to thank all the new board members for Red Willow, looking forward to working with you.

Vice President Halona – The Navajo Nation does have the authority to issue agriculture leases. 1st done was with NAPI.

*Grazing Officer Report – District 14 had a meeting last Friday as a meet and greet. Only one person was returning as grazing officer, Larry Tsosie from Twin Lakes. Vincent Muskett from Mexican Springs, Angela Safford, from Naschitti and Isaiah Tsosie from Coyote Canyon. Larry states our paperwork is not signed by the judge, even though we have taken the oath. In meantime we can give out information to the permittees and I will be getting the list of permittees in our community. We will continue our discussion at next meeting on Wednesday. I do have

information regarding the Livestock Management Incentive Program, Navajo Nation department of Agriculture is in partnership with CKP Insurance. They will be taking applications from permittee for assistance with livestock feed and livestock equipment. You will need to go on-line to apply and the deadline is February 17th. Website to apply is www.Navajoaif.com, This application can also be used as a self-tally count of your livestock. This document will be your record that goes to Department of Agriculture as your self-tally count. The next to time to apply will be February 10th in Crownpoint, NM from 10:00am-3pm. CPK is based in Navajo, NM and is open on Tuesday and Thursday only from 9:00am – 3:30pm, phone (505)777-2657.

Livestock right way – We need to take responsibility for our livestock. Vincent states they are responsible for the right-a-way on 491 since it's a state highway. If you see livestock on highway you can call: (505)732-4221 during working hours. After hours call: Carlos Long (505)240-1810. Gerald Moore's phone number: (928)206-6247.

Sonny – Asked about update on feral horses.

Gerald – We did resolution and it was approved. So, we will be working with EdMiles with Navajo Nation who will be doing entrancements for feral horses.

Vice President Halona – Advised to get a listing of all the permittees under Tohatchi Chapter and entered into a data base for tracking.

*Projects – President Moore gave a brief update on the pending projects for Chapter starting with Warehouse. This time of year, the state is looking at chapter projects, and there is not much money being allocated at this time. Maria and I met with the architect, Loren Miller who will be designing the Warehouse project. The infrastructure is there and money has been allocated with the Division of Community Development's approval.

Leach field Replacement – Several families are in need of septic and leach field replacement. Prior to 1975 IHS provided septic and leach field for families. But over the years they start to deteriorate and cause backup. We will be asking for money through ICIP. This information is sent to Robert Kuipers with the Gallup Resources Council of Government. We also need to work with the Division of Community Development to get balances for these projects. It was also recommended we send individuals letters to our house of representatives, and senator to ask them to assist us with money to complete these projects. We will need to start prioritizing the projects based on their status and pending allocation of monies

East Flat-Water Drilling – Families living east of El Paso will have water drilled for them. The cost is estimated at \$866,000 which will be coming from Navajo Nation Shinn Fund.

Julie Badonie – We already have money for the Powerline Project. We'll need updated status on this project. I don't think the state will agree to give more money for this project and the deadline is February 08th. We may already have enough money to complete this project, we may need to ask for an extension.

*Upcoming Resolutions:

1. Resolution to Approve Budget Transfer from Fund 01 (professional fees) to
2. Resolution to Approve the purchase of a (1) year computer virus protection plan for seven computers at chapter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Red Willow Farm Board Meeting February 2, 2021 @ 10:00am

District 14 Grazing Meeting February 03, 2021 @ 10:00am

CLUPC Meeting on February 05, 2021 @ 9:00am

February 17, 2021 Chapter Meeting at 10 a.m.

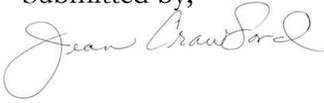
NEXT MEETING DATE

March 01 2021 at 10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

1:55 p.m.

Submitted by;



Ms. Jean Crawford
Secretary/Treasurer
Tohatchi Chapter
February 09, 2021

cc:

Mr. Harry "Sonny" Moore, President
Vice-President -Mike Halona
Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer
Mr. Byron Bitsoie, President, CLUPC
Mr. Mike Begay, Vice-President, CLUPC
Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, President, Red Willow Farm Board

Ms. Geneva Begay, Member, Red Willow Farm Board
Mr. Pernell Halona, Council Delegate
Ms. Maria Allison-King, Community Service Coordinator
Tohatchi Staff
CLUPC Members