MOTION: 1st Priscilla Duncan  2nd Gerald Moore  Vote: 4-0-1

2. 019-12-2022 - Resolution to support traditional food production, food and agricultural policies for the health of Dine people.
   
   *Dorothy Bitsilly* - The younger generation need to learn how to cook traditional/native foods. I support this resolution, but they need to work hard so that this program will not die out.
   
   *Gloria Begay* - We are working with NN and Department of Education to do the farm to school initiative. We plan to work with as many Navajo Schools as possible and encourage people to grow traditional foods which is better for our bodies.
   
   *President Moore* - We would like to work with you in the near future.
   
   MOTION: 1st Gerald Moore  2nd Pernell Halona  Vote: 7-0-1

3. 020-12-2022 - Resolution to approve and accept the AIF Program Funding.
   
   MOTION: 1st Jean Crawford  2nd Geneva Begay  Vote: 8-0-1

4. 021-12-2022 - Resolution to transfer funds within Sales Tax 23 to establish a line item for utilities.
   
   *Maria, CSC* - I'm requesting to add in a line item to Sales Tax 23 to cover the outstanding amount for our Frontier and NTUA bills. I would like to take out $6000 from professional fees and put toward utility for $2000, Frontier for $2000, and Internet for $2000 which will carry us to fiscal year end 2022. We are expecting more funds in February or March 2022 into Sales Tax to replenish account.
   
   Motion: 1st Jean Crawford  2nd CD Pernell Halona  Vote: 5-0-1

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chapter has wood for sale, a cord of wood for $47.70 Money Order Only; Free Coal bags, 2 bags per person. Drive through Christmas/New Year Luncheon on Thursday, December 30th @ 11am along with goodie bags. Senior Citizen is having their Christmas luncheon today. Chapter has 5 college students starting work this Monday for 3 weeks.

   RWF Meeting December 28th @ 1pm; Chapter Planning Meeting Jan 3. 2022; Chapter Meeting January 19, 2022; CLUPC Meeting January 7, 2022; District 14 Meeting December 29th @ 5pm; District Agency Meeting Jan 8th @ 5pm.

   Council Delegate Halona - Just want to warn everyone in the community that there is a bear loose in Halona Canyon. I also want to ask everyone to be safe, wear your mask, wash your hands, and stay away from large crowds. Lastly, I want to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and enjoy time with your families.

XI. NEXT CHAPTER MEETING: January 19, 2022

XII. ADJOURNMENT: 12:20pm

   Motion: 1st Jean Crawford  2nd Gerald Moore

Submitted by:

Secretary / Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter December 22, 2021
cc: Mr. Sonny Moore, President
    Mr. Mike Halona, Vice-President
    Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer
    Ms. Maria Allison, CSC
    Mr. Pernell Halona, Council Delegate
    Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, LDA
applications process. On the other hand, Department of Agricultural is saying they have nothing to do with it, it’s totally up to the chapters on how they will be distributing the allocations to their livestock permittees. The first group to receive assistance will be the permittee with valid permits, up to date tally counts from last year and this year. Secondly, grazing permittees with no tally counts, and after that the permittee with just state brands if funds are still available. The application Maria spoke of is an application from DCD which I plan to implement for our chapter to check for eligibility of the permit holder to see if they are in compliance. We have 133 permittees in our community divided by $38,200 would come out to roughly $287 per voucher. Some of the arguments at Twin Arrows were its too late in the season and it would be difficult to find hay to purchase now. DCD is not always helpful with information as well; they request for documents which we submitted but we do not get a response from them to say yes, we received your documents which delays the whole process. I did talk with T&R and they said they have done this before and know how to work with the chapter as far as vouchers. They also have their own bookkeeper to handle all the transactions using the vouchers. They are willing to help the livestock producers out here. Just a note, I will have the chapter staff provide a copy of the guidelines to go along with the applications.

**Secretary/Treasurer Crawford** - What are your thoughts on this, do you want to wait until next year when there will be more hay available or do you want to allocate vouchers as soon as possible? And when will the applications be available for permittees to pick up?

**Grazing Officer Moore** - As soon as possible, I would like to get the applications out to see how many permittees are interested, but it’s not going to be a quick turnaround to get the vouchers out. The applications are available now to pick up at chapter. The applications are numbered like Maria mentioned to try to keep it organized.

**VP Halona** - I’m wondering if we just focus on the 1st category of guidelines, the $38,000 would be absorbed in no time. Some chapters who only have 32 permittees, but are still getting the same amount. ($38,200)

**Grazing Officer Moore** - Tohatchi Chapter has 133 permittees, and this year I have only completed 28 tally counts who in compliance so far,

**Priscilla Duncan** - Grazing Officer Moore, I hope you will be negotiating a price on the hay with T&R before letting them know the amount of our funding. I’m just wondering because T&R’s hay is very expensive, $20 per bale.

**Grazing Officer Moore** - The only supplier I’ve talked with is T&R because they are familiar with vouchers. I have not shopped around as of yet. There is M&R, Shopping Center who are hard to do business with, and flea market who only do business with cash. I believe we are only limited to local businesses: there is also NAPI, but they are currently out of hay.

**Dorothy Bitsilly** - I think the funds should just be given out without all the restrictions. I also believe T&R has poor quality hay and the flea market has much better quality of hay for our animals. I have sheep and my permit has been updated. I would like to ask the grazing officer to shop around for the lowest price so we can get more hay for our money.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS: November 2021 Financial Report**

**Secretary/Treasurer** - The staff had some technical issue with the MIP system so the November financial report will be deferred to the January 19th Chapter Meeting. We will provide 2 financial reports on that day. This will give us time to review the reports before sharing with community.

**Motion to defer November 2021 financial Report to January 19th Chapter Meeting.**

1st Mike Halona 2nd Gerald Moore Vote: 5-0-1

**IX. RESOLUTIONS**

1. **018-12-2022** - Resolution to amend to add a surveyor to Shelia Ahasteen’s resolution.

   **Maria, CSC** - We are approving a new vendor for Shelia Ahasteen. She selected Iris Begay as the new surveyor to survey her homesite.
**Council Delegate Halona** - The planning for ARPA is getting bigger, we are needing to get legislations passed. We are still working on the ARPA programs and the funds are still in limbo right now. The big problem was most of the council delegates did not know how much their chapter was needing. This was from lack of working with their chapters. When legislation was drafted according to what the chapters entered into the portal, some chapters asked for $100 million and others barely asked for $16-20 million which led to huge discrepancies. Now delegates are working on trying to spread the money evenly across the nation. The legislation for the hardship funds is also going through and hopefully will be received by the people within the next couple of weeks.

**Secretary/Treasurer Crawford** - Speaking of the Hardship, is that from the Cares Act fund? And it was mentioned hardship monies that was left over from the Cares Act would be going to our dine people who are 60 years old and over, is this true?

**Council Delegate Halona** - No, this hardship fund is new legislation and will come out as soon as it gets approved. As far as people 60 and over receiving hardship, the legislation was drafted and dropped, but we have not met on it. As far as I’m concerned, it’s still out there until it comes before the committee.

**LDA Bitsilly** - Just to add on to the Physical Recovery Fund Department that was established for this funding which will have 5 title position. There will be 5 of each which will be 25 total positions. You can go on the Department of Personnel website and look under NN Physical Recovery Fund. The Office of the Controller is also looking for accountants to hire.

**Secretary/Treasurer Crawford** - VP Halona, you went over what your department can waive and what you can’t. Can you go over this again, please?

**VP Halona** - Yes, Council was asking if I have the authority to waive homesite leases. I do not have authority to waive, just the authority to approve homesite leases. It’s more complex because it comprises of other departments like grazing, chapter, the legal survey, arch clearance, biological, and the environmental requirements. What I can waive is the survey portion, we don’t have to do a legal survey if they have existing structures on the homesite, we can do the survey using google earth on the structure we can see. At one time there was waivers for arch for existing residences as well, this is something BIA needs to address because they are the ones saying the documents are no longer valid so they need to make their position or agreed to handle it like it was previously done.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Maria, CSC**

**Update on AIF program** - AIF is still pending at ASC department and I’m not sure which vendor Grazing Officer Moore will be going with, but I do know he is wanting to do vouchers. He did drop off the applications which will be used for the program. Community members with valid grazing permits can stop by the chapter to pick up an application. The applications are numbered in sequence and the permittee will have to sign off that he/she received an application. This application will then go to Grazing Officer Moore, who will verify eligibility of the permittee. My understanding of this program is if we decide to use vouchers, the money ($38,000) will stay in W/R and they will make the payments to whoever we select as the vendor for our supplies. The chapter and the grazing officer will work with the vendor to get the vouchers printed. I have not met with the grazing officer as of yet to discuss the process, but this funding will go into June of 2022.

**President Moore** - If the money will stay in W/R then we don’t have to setup an account here at Chapter. We received the guidelines and we have prepared a resolution to accept the funding. The grazing officer decided to go with vouchers because the chapter does not have a warehouse to store the hay nor the labor to assist with unloading bales of hay. I will be meeting with grazing officer, staff, and officials to discuss this process in more detail.

**Grazing Officer Moore** - We met last week in Twin Arrows and it turned out to be a huge discussion. The grazing officers across the nation had a lot of questions about the AIF funding. Why it’s taking too long to distribute, some chapters having difficulty with drafting resolutions, and understanding the guidelines and
TEMPORARY AUTHORIZING QUORUM REDUCTION MEETING
December 22, 2021 10:00 A.M.
TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

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

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 10:10 am
II. ROLL CALL: President Sonny Moore, Vice President Mike Halona, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, Grazing Officer Gerald Moore, and LDA Elvis Bitsilly
III. INVOCATION: Jean Crawford
IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
   Motion: 1st Mike Halona 2nd Jean Crawford Vote: 3-0-1
V. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2021 QUORUM REDUCTION MEETING MINUTES
   Motion to approve and read on our own: 1st Gerald Moore 2nd Priscilla Duncan Vote: 3-0-1
VI. PRESENTATION - Leadership Meetings
   VP Halona - Leadership are trying to pass hardship legislation and hopefully funds will be released before the holidays but council was not successful in getting it done. Other amendments have been added to the legislations surrounding proposed projects that were submitted. Dr. Yellowman also talked about the use of the portal and how these projects were submitted and reviewed. All reviews are being conducted by DOJ, along with the guidelines and policies established by the government. Not all of the projects will pass the DOJ’s review. They are also concerns with the timeline, saying we have 4 years to spend the ARPA funds and 1st year has passed and we haven’t started on projects. We are still talking projects and expenditures and have to meet the demand of orders because some of these supplies and materials will be coming in from outside US. We all know the delivery and cost of supplies from overseas has slowed down tremendously which is also a concern. Council is always looking at other ways to address the requirements. Land Department was asked how can things be streamlined, done quicker and can we get around the environmental requirements. Naabi asked about the possibility of waiving the homestite leases, my response was I don’t have the authority to waive home leases, only congress can make that determination. This past Monday, the council and Naabi were planning to meet to take action on some of the legislations and amendments of ARPA. This meeting did not happen, maybe until the 1st of the new year.
   President Moore - I noticed there has been some advertisement for the new ARPA office. Will this office be the ones coordinating the projects or is it just for accounting purposes?
   VP Halona - This office has been designated to coordinate projects which have been approved for ARPA, and they will be like “projects managers” to keep projects on track. The other side is the one-stop shop where everything has gone through, with design, pre-development, and so forth. The other requirements for rights-of-way, TAA’s, and leases will go through the One Stop Shop. The departments were asked to submit position classifications, job vacancy announcements position that are identified to assist with the ARPA projects. In our case, homestite leases and we have plans to bring 16 new employees into our department to help and assist with the processing of homestite leases. These positions are in place for the next 5 years, hopefully we can get things done efficiently.
   President Moore - We have families in the east flats area waiting to complete their homestite leases which is required to get their water well drilled. We have written letters to the families to ask them to come to the chapter so we can assist them with their homestite lease process.