



April 1, 2024 10:00 A.M.

PLANNING MEETING AGENDA

TELECONFERENCE: 1-219-803-8769 PIN# 160 108 500#

Video call link: meet.google.com/ahs-epsf-aep

- I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. INVOCATION
- IV. REVIEW-OF THE AGENDA
- V. COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTERS:

1. Sherylene Yazzie – Candidate for NM Senator

VI. REPORTS:

***Council Delegate Report:**

- 1. NM State Legislation Update--
- 2. Update on Safety Complex and available funding – Need an assigned Project Coordinator from DCD
- 3. Meet with DCD on Project Coordinator on State funds--\$80,000 and \$100,000 Septic and Leach Field Replacements
- 4. Update on \$17,000 for Flatbed –possible substitute for Dump Trailer
- 5. Update on Trip to Seattle and Washington concerning funding for Proposed Safety Complexes on Navajo
- 6. Conservation Issues for District 14—take away from conservation workshop

***Community Service Coordinator/Officials' /CLUPC Report:**

- 1. Update on the distribution on Emergency Funds in amount of \$35,000 -
- 2. Update water break in Chapter Compound – water line repaired
- 3. East Flats Water Drilling-Stewart Bros. started drilling—M. Todachinii—revised Expenditure Plan submitted
- 4. ARPA—Status of Assessments with LAM and 6-30-2024 Encumbrance Deadline - on-going—need to meet with Dennis Murphy and NTUA on revised Expenditure Plan
- 5. Cemetery Expansion – Update on the processing of documents to Land Department -
- 6. Bike Trail Documents to DOJ -
- 7. Status of Senior Center discrepancies -
- 8. Update on meeting with Division of Economic Development –
- 9. CLUPC on Land Use Recertification Update – documents submitted to Land Department
- 10. Discussion to purchase New Router (Wireless) –working with NTUA
- 11. Need Vendors for Commercial Development along 491 Land Designation

***Red Willow Farm's Report –**

- 1. Update on the Conservation Planning session -

***Grazing Officer Moore's Report -**

VII. RESOLUTIONS

- 1.
- 2.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

IX. NEXT CHAPTER MEETING DATE: April 17, 2024 (Chapter Meeting)

X. ADJOURNMENT:



April 01, 2024 10:00 A.M.

PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

TELECONFERENCE: 219-803-8769 PIN: 160 108 500#

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ahs-epsf-aep>

- I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 10:21am**
- II. **ROLL CALL:** President Sonny Moore, Vice President Mike Halona, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Officer, Gerald Moore.
- III. **INVOCATION:** Jean Crawford
- IV. **REVIEW OF THE AGENDA/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- V. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 20, 2024 CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**
- VI. **COMMUNITY REQUESTS AND PRESENTERS:**
 - Sherylene Yazzie – Not available**
 - Phyllis Dawson – Mckinley Bureau of Election Office:** Primary election will happen on June 4th for the senators, county commissioner, county clerk and I can elaborate more on the election at your next Chapter meeting on April 17th. I'm also here with my co-worker, Dylan and he takes care of the Eastern Agency area. Early voting will start on May 8th at alternate sites I left some pamphlets here at the Chapter which will be available
 - Gabriel Bylilly – Capacity Builders, a nonprofit organization from Farmington:** Our coalition is to protect our tribal relative from sexual and domestic abuse. We currently are working to apply for a grant with the CDC (Centers for Disease Control). We would like the community of Tohatchi be a part of this coalition by supporting our request for this particular grant with the CDC. If the community is willing to support our efforts, we would like to request to get the support letter back to us before April 15th. The deadline to apply for this grant is on April 16th. If you would like more information on this grant and how Capacity Builders will be using these funds.
 - Secretary/Treasurer Crawford –** I would like to know how this grant will be used to assist our community if you are approved?
 - Gabriel Bylilly –** We would be giving more information about the different kinds of abuse and the resources that are available out there. We would like to know what your community would like as far as sexual and domestic abuse is concerned to address these issues.
 - Marjorie Francisco –** requesting for a wheelchair ramp to be built for her sister, Cecelia Hardy.
 - Maria, CSC –** Cecelia submitted a Housing Discretionary application to have a wheelchair ramp build at her house. We did the assessments of the house and took pictures and she is also a recipient under the Emergency Fund (\$35,000) but since she already has a ramp on the backside of her house, she will be considered 2nd priority. I have the PEP workers scheduled out with the 3 wheelchair ramps that have been approved after assessments. We also have Theresa Bryant and Winifred Muskett's houses scheduled for repair. I believe we can get to Cecelia Hardy's wheelchair by May 2024.
 - Marjorie Francisco –** The wheelchair ramp that is in place now in back of Cecelia's house was built by my brother and nephew. I purchased the lumber and materials in the amount of \$530 to complete the ramp.
 - President Moore –** Maria, is it possible to purchase the supplies needed to build another ramp in from of Cecelia's house? Her family can build the ramp for her again with the supplies the Chapter can provide.
 - Maria, CSC –** Yes, I will need a letter of request from the family and in the letter, it needs to state a time-frame as to when the project will be completed. This will be my documentation for the Emergency Funds.
 - Marjorie Francisco –** I am also requesting for assistance to have a home built for myself. I am currently living in Rock Springs because my old mobile home needs some many repairs and it's not safe to live in. I want to move back so I can live closer to my sister Cecelia.

Maria, CSC – I have 2 requests for Housing Discretionary, one is David Miller who is requesting for a metal roof for \$2000. The other request is from Lorena Burbank, and she is requesting for skirting on her mobile home, new steps that lead into her home, and some pipe work underneath her mobile home.

Wallace Tsosie – (Steamboat Chapter): Conservation on the Navajo Nation – Mike Begay is our Soil and Water Conservation district 14 member, before Mr. Begay the district had Dennis Becenti who had providing some workshops with Tohatchi Chapter including a youth camp here at the schools, and a 6-day conservation training on rangeland. He also introduced the concept of “why can’t we do an area wide conservation and get into the area watershed planning for the district 14.” Back in February of 1980, it was decided that 5 areas across Navajo would be for conservation district and they provided a map which the Chapters agreed with. The topic of discussions was “how do we protect and promote the natural resources of the Navajo Nation and how do we protect the land, water, wildlife, and air so our future generation can also benefit from the beautiful land of the Navajo Nation. We worked on many projects under the Water and Soil Conservation in Ft Defiance, Tsaille lake, Ganado where irrigation water canals were placed. Even in Naschitti, several 1000 acres of range management was selected. So, it is very important that you have representatives that can participate and promote projects especially here in Tohatchi. On October 1st 2018, the Resource Development Committee revised the bylaws for SWCD on Navajo. In the bylaws it states you have to be a registered voter with a Chapter and you will need a current resolution from your Chapter to become a member of SWCD. The Chapter recently had a 3-day conservation plan training using the USDA Natural Resource Conservation service 9-step conservation plan. President Moore asked what do we do now after we’ve taken the conservation planning course? What I would like to do is to improve on what we learned because a 3-day course on conservation is not enough. If the Chapter wants to do a conservation plan for Tohatchi, we can provide the resolution template. So, you can request either US Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation service or the BIA or other entity that has knowledge on doing a conservation plan. If the Chapter is interested, I am available. I will send over the template and maybe the Chapter can pass a resolution n for this project. We have opportunities to make changes at the local level, you have your LGA, Local Governance Act, in this Act you have a lot of opportunities like the business master plan, AFOG, your land use plan, and you have the option to re-district the boundaries. There are changes that the Department of Agriculture is proposing, they are wanting to overhaul the grazing permits. When you make changes to the grazing permit system, what does that do to the land? If we want to conserve our land it’s going to depend on how we govern ourselves into the future which will dictate how our land is going to look. I believe some of the topics for discussion were not presented during the 3-day course that was provided; for instance, “what is wrong with the land, water, air, plants, and wildlife.” You have to know what is wrong with the land first and so I would recommend going out into the field to look at the land first hand.

Mike Begay – In 2013, while listening to the radio I heard our Chooshgai mountain was in dire need of help as fair as conservation is concerned. There was a recommendation made by Bureau of Indian Affairs to fence off the whole mountain. Our grandparents used the land on the mountain for farming and grazing their livestock. Later I made a trip to the mountain and it was true, the land has become dry, water has disappeared, vegetation has become scarce. This made me realize why the BIA wants to fence off the mountain. I also noticed how my neighbors looked at the land which was how many more livestock can I put on this land with no thought as to what that would do to the land (overgrazing). Our grandparents raised many livestock annually but they knew instinctively how to care for the land. They did not attend conservation plan courses but they understood the land. All the teaching from them have vanished and all we want to do now is overgraze the land without protecting the land, water, air, and vegetation. We’ve practically destroyed the land we live on through the generations. Now, it’s difficult to begin looking at the land differently, where do we begin to start anew to protect our natural resources like the water, air, livestock, and vegetations. When the Chapter is doing workshops or trainings on conservation, please contact us. Let’s look into the future and improve our land so all can benefit. Let’s educate ourselves.

VII. REPORTS:

***Council Delegate’s Report:**

1. NM State Legislation Update -
2. Update on Safety Complex and available funding – Need to assign Project Coordinator from DCD.
3. Meet with DCD on Project Coordinator on State funds - \$80,000 and \$100,000 septic and leach field

replacement.

4. Update on \$17,000 for flatbed, possible to substitute for Dump truck -
5. Update on trip to Seattle and Washington concerning funding for proposed Safety Complex on Navajo -
6. Conservation issues for District 14 and take away from the conservation workshop -

Ansley Curley, LDA – Our Council Delegate Notah is away in Santa Fe meeting with the caucus on the NM side and he apologize for not being here. He is attempting to gets some funding as well some other priorities necessary for the completion and progress for some of these projects. There are several things he specifically wants me to point out which are the balance of the FRF in ARPA funds is undergoing review. Each of the departments and each of the entities who received funding through ARPA includes NTUA, NECA, and any number of departments have been ongoing with their projects. They are trying to spend this money. Most recently there was discussion on what would happen if that balance came back to the council. They were faced with some very strict timelines according to the Federal Government's regulations that were put forward based how much money was received as well as our capability. The one thing with these balances is the Chapter received \$1.7million to fund varies projects like: bathroom addition, water, house wiring, powerlines, septic and leach field replacements. That is part of the expenditure plan that was put forward and passed by council and signed into law by the President. The Chapter did make some changes by adjusting the balances across the board because we found that according to the assessments that were completed by the LAM (Loren A. Miller) corporation which is a project management firm that the Nation hired in addition to 3 others. They found that upon completion of their assessments for these projects, projects were over funded and some projects were under funded and so to balance out what that cost is going to be some expenditure plan changes were submitted to the FRF (Fiscal Recovery Fund) office. Once the approvals are met by the Department of Justice, DCD, and everybody else in between it will be introduced for legislation to amend the enabling it legislation, the 1st legislation that allocated that money to these projects. A side note, in talking with the Budget and Finance Committee and in listening to those hearings of that committee. It's indeterminate amount of time it's going to take to adjust those balances beyond what's it taking for the approval itself. Once it gets legislated and amended, we not too sure how long it will take to make the adjustments. This was a cautionary note that was given to each of the Chapters that decided to change their expenditure plans. Beside this Chapter, there were two other Chapters who decided to change their expenditure plans. So going forward, it could be that some of these projects will be put on hold until those balances are adjusted. Again, I'm not sure how long this process will take, but it could potentially impact these projects' progress moving forward. LAM corporation is aware of this as well as all the other 109 Chapters as they adjust and move forward with their projects. So everybody is sort of bottleneck at the OMB office of management, budget, as well as the office of the controller. These two departments handle the money itself for the Nation either in paying out or finalizing contracts with vendors. With the limited number of staff across the board not only in those two departments but across all the departments on the Navajo Nation, we have encountered some significant delays. That does not mean we will continue to push for progress, but just be aware of that. Because the \$1.7million that was allocated to this Chapter has already been figured out as far as the projects go, that does not mean this Chapter cannot put in an additional Appendix A request. In one of the earlier reports by Maria, CSC she did state there are some infrastructure upgrades to your IT system that maybe needed for faster speeds within the Chapter. Those purchases whatever they may be, if they're off the shelve type purchases, those are the types of purchases that are recommended for including in the expenditure plans. Now, it's not guarantee these will go through, but base off the conversation within the varies committee, NABI, and Council itself, they are recommending to the Chapters to put in additional Appendix A packets. Again, things that don't require clearances, a whole lot of contracts, things that will be fairly easy to buy or procure. Those are the type of things that the Delegate is recommending not only to this Chapter but all the other Chapters. One Chapter has already put in an additional Appendix A and document for \$800,000. Now, whether or not they do get the \$800,000 it is up to Council.

Another big issue that has come to the forefront is the grazing and land boundaries between neighbors to the north, Naschitti, here in Tohatchi, and Mexican Springs. On Wednesday at 3pm, Delegate Notah is conducting a meeting with BIA and Navajo Nation Department of Natural Resources. The sub departments under the Department of Natural Resources includes the Forestry Department, Fish and Wildlife, Land

Department, and the Agricultural Department. What they are going to discuss is the regulations, laws, policy, and any other associated citations that will allow any changes to the land boundaries. Of course, our Grazing Officer and the other grazing officers in District 14 have been invited to this meeting. Beyond Navajo Nation, the BIA Dr. Calvert Curley, Jermon Willie and the acting Regional Director Debra Shirley will be present at the meeting. It's a sequence of meetings that will occur to determine all these facts. The 1st meeting will occur with NN and BIA to understand what those citations are as far as the laws and any processes associated with potentially changing that boundary wide for Mexican Springs to include Naschitti and Tohatchi. After that, the Chapter officials will be invited to discuss your thoughts on that process and anything that you think or recommend to the delegate on how things should proceed. Following that, everyone in the room is invited. It is not exclusionary, meaning my boss is not excluding anyone from this process in speaking their mind. It's only setup this way, so that not everybody is trying to speak at the same time and wants to say their piece. You will all have that opportunity as well as the officials. This is a fact-finding process for Delegate Notah to understand all sides including the policy side with the departments that make these policies and laws with the officer and officials of each Chapter to understand what their request are and ultimately will impact you all as grazing permittees. Currently, there are a number of considerations that have to be made, one of them being the moratorium that was place because of the fire some years back as well as homesite leases, trespassing and I use this word very loosely which has been brought up multiple times in varies meetings both here at the Chapter level and at grazing meetings. The hope and the end results from these meetings is that the grazing boundary lines maybe changed. It's going to take a process and speaking with various officers both in BIA and NN, they think it's a daunting task to achieve this. Almost an act of congress, but we will find that out here shortly what it's going to take. The meeting on Wednesday is very important, not only will it affect this district but it could potentially affect the rest of the Nation. I'm sure Mr. Halona is well aware of the facts of the matter as well as his opinions and thoughts on that process as well. So, we are thankful we have a subject matter expert within the Chapter itself like Mr. Halona and Grazing Officer Moore.

Additional, Delegate Notah is continuing to press the issue on the Safety Complex. The last meeting I reported that the legislation for the priority list of these safety complexes were tabled the 2nd time at the Law-and-Order Committee meeting by Chairwoman Eugenia Charles-Newton. She was the sponsor of that legislation. Tohatchi Safety Complex was not included in the priority list. In order to change the priority list, she wanted to listen to two other delegates, Mr. Steven Arviso and Mr. Herman Daniels who also sit on the Law-and-Order Committee. Based off of their input, what they are asking for is to be included in the priority list. Their communities also want safety complexes or a substation included in the priority list. One thing that was pointed out in the Law-and-Order Committee meeting was that according to and Budget and Finance Committee resolution, the Law-and-Order Committee had to choose the top 5. So the push for Delegate Notah currently, is to push to have our safety complex as the top 5 on the priority list. Now, there are some issues associated with getting it in the top 5. One of the issues is to our understanding a report that was given by DCD (Division of Community Development) they handle for or the pass through with which the State pays out invoices. The project itself is under the Department of Corrections, Dr. Delores Greyeyes. She is the lead person and all of these substations, a total of 17 across the NN that need to be funded. So, her push is to try to get funding for each one of them which is a difficult task. The cost of the new safety complex for Tohatchi is estimated at \$16 million. According to DCD, the Chapter has \$1.93 million toward the building of safety complex. A large part of the money according to discussion with meetings with Parsons who is the project management firm under taking this task for the Department of Corrections and this community. They have stated "plans and design" could cost \$1 million so it's not an expensive thing to try to build but something that's absolutely necessary for this community as well as for the district. This Safety Complex will house 3 services, fire, EMS, and police departments with a holding cell. Now, there are some creative solutions that the Law-and-Order Committee has come forward with including procuring a loan from Key Bank. Two weeks ago, Law-and-Committee, along with Speaker Curley, and President Nygren went to Seattle, WA to discuss the possibility of a loan from Key Bank. At that time, Key Bank did say they would consider the loan, but there are a number of other questions that have to be answered on the Nation's side. Going forward, Delegate Notah will continue to push this project as well as the other many projects for this community and the other Chapters in our district.

Update on Parsons: back in September/October RFQ (request for qualifications) were sent out for advertise both in print in the newspapers, radio, and media in Farmington, Gallup, and other news prints. Only 1 response was received at that time, but to get a better pool of applicants another RFQ was sent out. The 2nd RFQ was put out in January 2024 and that RFQ came back with more responses so the hope is that these responses once they are finalized and graded based off comparison among them and depending on the requirements that were put forth by this Chapter one will be chosen. In discussing this with Dr. Greyeyes with the Department of Correction, she hopes this will result in further process of this project. Parsons is the project management firm which is undertaking all of the 17 safety complexes across the Navajo Nation. Parsons is operating currently on a budget solely and only that of the Department of Corrections. So, no other money is coming into this fund that will pay for these services provided by Parsons. Until that fund is replenished or more money is put into that fund, we are expending those dollars currently. The question then became whether or not that \$1.931million will be able to be used toward project management in paying for Parsons. The response back from Dr. Greyeyes was unfortunately, NO. The State of NM, who has given that money (\$1.93million) has stated that they will not allow that expenditure for "professional services" and this is a professional service that Parsons is providing. They are considered professional based off of credentials and training. Unfortunately, these kinds of services cannot be paid for using these funds. However, apparently some of the other tribes within NM have used professional services for project management. In the IGA (Intragovernmental Agreement) between the Navajo Nation and State of NM, that IGA spells out how exactly how this money is supposed to be used. Included in the language of the IGA it says, plan, design, and construct so you can interrupt this in a number of ways. Even though planning is part of project management, that is not an expense which is allowed using this money. Now, even it is known that other tribes have done this in the past, we are curious how that process works, who was involved, what documents were submitted, and what arguments were made to make the case that expenditure could occur. Going forward, Parsons is still on with working on this project for us. However, with the budget consideration and budget constraints that currently exist, it looks like that money will be running out soon. But every effort is made to retain them and to keep them on aboard to continue with the safety complex project. The action plans are in plan by the Department of Corrections as well as the Law-and-Order Committee, Budget and Finance Committee including the Speaker and the President are aware of this issue which has arisen so they are working toward resolving it. There was a question poised if Parsons would do this work for free? But the response back from Parsons was no, we still would like to get paid for our services.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Going back to the IGA's, I spoke with Mr. Lawrence John who oversees the Department of Indian Affairs regarding a couple of IGA's that President Moore shared with me. Because we don't have previous IGAs here at the Chapter it makes it difficult to know what the Scope of Work and Budget is for each IGAs. When I spoke with Mr. John, he stated on the IGA's it states plan and design which can be used for hiring an architect or professional services. I'm not sure who is telling Dr. Greyeyes professional services are not a covered expense by the State.

Ansley Curley, LDA – I will forward you an email that I received last week regarding this issue. It was pointed out specifically in the two IGAs, again plan, design, and construct is included in the language. In the response from Dr. Greyeyes, I want to say, Lawrence John told her in a meeting in October of last year that we cannot spend that money on project management including Parsons. There must be some miscommunication.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I can share my email on this with you, Ansley. It seems there is a lot of who said this and or who said that when we should be working with Mr. John on this issue so he can give us a true answer on the language of the IGAs.

My 2nd question, you mention the Tohatchi Safety Complex is not on the priority list, correct? I thought we made a request to be put back on the priority list?

Ansley Curley, LDA – yes, we are not on the priority list currently, and yes, we did make the request to be put back on the list. Because of the two requests by Delegates Daniel and Arviso, the legislation was tabled. The committee rules for Law-and-Order Committee entails, if a legislation whatever it may be, if tabled twice just as here at a Chapter, it's no longer valid. No action can be taken on it. Because of the request from the two delegates, Chair Newton said we'll have a work session to discuss your issues and concerns

with the priority list. Once those are flushed out, I will resubmit that legislation to include potentially those 2 other delegates communities as well as Tohatchi. Again, the push is to get Tohatchi in the top 5 on the priority listing. Previously, there was a building standing on the ground there which means the land has been disturbed, environmental consideration, all that has been disturbed, biological animals and such, those of have been impacted as well. So, all of those clearances have been procured. We are looking toward creating the design of the safety complex using \$1million which will be a one-of-a-kind design. Some of the talk within the Law-and-Order committee is if they are able to obtain this loan from Key bank, it could be that any design that comes forward, all the safety complexes will be cookie cutters, meaning the same across Navajo. Some of the concerns is the cost of maintaining and operating these buildings, how much is it going to cost to keep the lights, heat, cool on and how much is it going to cost for water to run? Another piece of information I want to share is that if the substation the safety complex receives a holding cell, then potentially some of the cost for operation/maintenance maybe offset with the contract by the Federal government, this would be minimal compared to the total cost of the building.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Just to be clear, the meeting on the boundaries scheduled for Wednesday is only for Council Delegate Notah, Grazing Officers in District 14, and other entities like, BIA, Department of Agriculture, Department of Forestry, and Land Department. The public is not invited, correct?

Ansley Curley, LDA – No, not yet until later. And we'll put out that information once we continue to gather more facts on what it's going to take. There is no disputing the facts the folks of Naschitti, Tohatchi, and Mexican Springs all use the mountain for grazing and forage for their livestock. What is being disputed is the boundary itself and whether or not people are considered trespassers so to resolve that, it's going to take quite a bit of work.

President Moore – On April 15th, the bidding on the RFQ (Request for Qualification) on the Safety Complex will be closed. We as officials are on the selection team and we'll have input into who will be selected. The funds over at DCD is going to come back up again. Can we use funds to pay for an architect? We (Chapter) also applied for TIF Funds (Tribal Infrastructure Fund) and TIF only allows 15% of total construction cost and we'll be working with \$15 million for estimated cost of Safety Complex. Even if we are approved for TIF, we will only get \$2.3 million. I don't why we are not in the top 5 on the priority list. The land is ready for development and we have some money at DCD for plan and design. I think it might require the officials, Council Delegate, and Dr. Greyeyes to go to Santa Fe to push the project and get this issue resolved.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Mr. Curley, is it possible to get all the copies of the IGAs that has to do with the Safety Complex? I believe that's where we need to start. We have to know what the IGAs state under Scope of Work and the Budget.

Ansley Curley, LDA – Senate Bill 309 from the 2023 legislative session of NM allocated some money and House Bill 505 put forward money as well. The difference between these two is House Bill 505, it states that whatever the remaining balances from the Warehouse project that was allocated before, that balance is being moved to the Tohatchi Safety Complex. DCD has not received that IGA as of yet. They do have the former SB309 in writing. So once they process that, the money is essentially there.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – I think that is one of the biggest problems we have here at the Tohatchi, these IGAs which we don't see. They are sent to W/R and the funds go to W/R and we have no idea what the language is in the IGA nor the balances on the IGAs. We spend all this time guessing the amounts we think we have in W/R and come to find out they have a whole different amount. This makes it difficult to get a true amount from W/R. Now, if we had the IGAs here at the Chapter, we would know our balances on all our projects. So, how do we change this process so the Chapter is involved at every level of the IGAs?

Ansley Curley, LDA – I did meet with Regina Tsosie with DCD and requested this information in spreadsheet form to see what those balances were, but she did not provide that. I included that information in an email to Dr. Greyeyes. One request that came from that email was to meet with you the Chapter officials, Delegate Notah, Regina L Tsosie, and Dr. Greyeyes to flush out or sort out what those balances currently are to the penny. If we can work out a date that is agreeable with everyone, let's try to get that meeting to discuss these balances.

President Moore – I believe the IGAs in W/R are readily available, because I received the request from

W/R to Santa Fe on the Warehouse and the IGA was attached. I have those documents here. The sad news about our Warehouse, the IGA that was prepared to build the Warehouse in back of Chapter is only for \$890,000. These funds will not expire until 2025 but the \$297,000 is not on the IGA. I don't understand Mr. Leonard Hardy's explanation on this. The \$297,000 will expire on June 2024 and I still don't know where these funds went because we will need these funds to build the Warehouse. I want to call Mr. Loren Miller to see how he understands this. Mr. Hardy apparently spoke with Mr. Miller about a project where Mr. Miller did not want to do something and this held up the project. If we only have \$890,000 available, does this mean we have to build a smaller Warehouse?

Ansley Curley, LDA – I can look into this for the Chapter.

***Community Service Coordinator/Officials' Report:**

1. Update on the distribution on Emergency Funds in the amount of \$35,000 –

Maria CSC – We did receive the Emergency Funds in the amount of \$35,000 and the funds were dispersed. It went to Operating Supplies, Diesel Fuel, Pellets, Wood, Hay, and Professional Fees. I spoke to President Moore, and he suggested we do a memorandum regarding the Emergency funds to the AMS to put some funds into several accounts which are to purchase hay for \$6,400 for permittees who have updated tally counts. We also want to do Natural Gas Propane for \$4,000 for those that have 250-gallon tanks, and the other is the Propane Drive for \$8,000 where the propane company will come out to distribute propane for 20lbs and 100lbs tanks for our community members. We also set aside funds for electricity for \$4,000 for community members who have disconnection notices and need assistance paying for their electricity and \$5,700 for building materials to build wheelchair ramps, but this will require a doctor's statement, also \$3,000 diesel fuel for heavy equipment, and \$2,500 for wood and \$1,400 for pellets.

2. Update water break in Chapter Compound and water line repair –

Maria, CSC – We had a water break right outside the Chapter and NTUA came out to do the repair. They also informed us the main water line connection is behind the Senior Center and it goes under the Senior Center to the Chapter. We then requested from a NTUA a map of all the water lines around the Chapter. The \$80,000 fund from State for septic and leach field replacement, we did meet with Mr. Waseta at the CPMD office but it was a brief meeting. In the meeting he did state the individuals who will be receiving the new septic and leach field will need to get their septic cleaned before they can have it replaced. So, to do this we will be using some of the \$80,000 for the cleaning of the septic tanks. I will be getting price quotes from vendors and sharing the information with Mr. Waseta.

3. East flats Water Drilling project with Steward Bros start with M. Todacheenie. Revised expenditure plan submitted.

4. ARPA, status of assessments with LAM and 06-30-24 encumbrance deadline. Need to meet with Dennis Murphy and NTUA on revised expenditure plan.

5. Cemetery Expansion – update on the processing of documents to Land Department –

Maria, CSC – we did get the resolution passed for the updated documents/survey and I'll be forwarding these to the Land Department.

6. Bike Trail Documents to DOJ –

Maria, CSC – per Mr. Rod Begay with DOJ, this request was assigned to another attorney. He gave me her name and number along with email address but I have not received a respond back after sending her emails and leaving messages. In the emails I "cc" Mr. Begay and I hope he will respond back to me.

7. Status of Senior Center discrepancies –

Maria, CSC – we did do some repairs and now we are waiting on the HVAC to be assessed. According to Jared, supervisor of the Center states he filed with NN insurance to get this issue with HVAC covered. This is all we are waiting on with the Senior Center.

8. Update on meeting with Division of Economic Development -

9. CLUPC on Land Use Recertification Update, documents submitted to Land Department.

10. Discussion to purchase new Router (Wireless) with NTUA –

Maria – we met with NTUA on the new router for the Chapter last week and they recommended the Chapter upgrade their megabytes to 50. We are currently at 25 megabytes. I have a meeting with them this Friday in Ft Defiance to see what we need to do to prepare for the new router and upgrade.

President Moore – what is the current status of our PEP fund 15? Will we have funding for PEP all the way

to the end of the fiscal year.

Maria, CSC – we will be lacking labor funding so I had to cut their hours to hopefully carry us to the end of the fiscal year. The heavy equipment operator will have funding to the end of the fiscal year. I was able to schedule training for him with Frank Sandoval will be providing the training on April 2-4th. He will be learning how to level, grading roads, making diversions, and rebuilding roads. The office specialist position will have funding to the end of the fiscal year. The receptionist position has been open up again, deadline to apply was on Friday. The current receptionist, Rhonda will be ending her time with the Chapter soon. I will be interview for the receptionist position this week. This position will be for 32 hours a week to assist with phone calls and community members' requests. I did share the shortfall of funding for PEP workers with Ansley, LDA and also with the ASC, Patricia. I emailed our budget to actual to her so she can tell from which account funds I can move money from for PEP workers.

President Moore – I want to mention Maria, CSC is on teleconference ICIP training currently and I also want to say going from 20 to 50 megabytes will cost us a bit more for internet services. Maybe we can think about staying at 20 if the new router and phone service can handle the megabytes.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – When is the Emergency Fund going to be available for the community members?

President Moore – I think we can finalize it this week and start advertising soon, unless she gets other instructions from ASC.

Elvis Bitsilly – the legislation says the Chapter has to have an Emergency Expenditure Plan. This is supposed to be completed with the assistance of the ASC from Ft. Defiance Agency before we can start dispersing these funds. It needs to be forwarded to the ASC per the legislation because they put some restriction on it. I believe our Council Delegate is aware of this since they passed this legislation. Also, weather is over, and wood and pellets may not be needed. The farmers and ranchers could use some of the funding for hay and feed, this something to think about.

11. Need Vendors for Commercial Development along 491 Land Designation -

***Red Will Farm's Report/CLUPC**

1. Update on the Conservation Planning session –

Elvis Bitsilly: President – I would like to request CLUPC be invited to the boundary meeting that's going to be held this Wednesday. Tomorrow we will be having a work session on Land Use Plan for our community. It will start at 8:30am to 12pm and the community is invited. We will be making edits and amendments on the plan itself. We are focusing on plans today and moving forward to bring our Land Use up to date. Our official meeting is on April 16th and we will be continuing with the Land Use Plan. We have also been working with Economy Development and they have been very supportive in our initiatives. The Chapter has been talking about becoming a certified chapter so in order for that to happen, the Chapter needs an updated Land Use Plan. The CLUPC has finalized the 5-year land withdrawal documents and submitted to Land Department and awaiting signatures.

We have homes up at Choochai, and 50 units which are not being used. Some have been broken windows and doors and majority are just boarded up. But there are families who live in some of these homes who work with the Chooshgai School. These homes need to be redeveloped and it can be a project for the Chapter to work with BIA to look into these vacant homes.

***Grazing Officer Moore's Report:**

Grazing Officer Moore – My report will cover hay distribution, and the emergency fund. Last week we had a good turn out with the district 14 conservation plan training and we hoping to do another one in May, part 2-3 and we'll so some things with farming at the same time. According to the 2023 tally count, with 131 permittees who are assigned to 14-2 which is Tohatchi, I only counted 29 who have turned in their tally count so what happen to the other 100 permittees. The 29 who have their tally count for 2023 are the same individuals who are in compliance every year. So, what Vice President Halona stated is correct, NN may start canceling grazing permits. The people who have turned in their tally counts for 2023. BIA is doing a permittee verification and want to know who have permits that are active and right now for the other permittees who do not have active permits is still up in the air. I want to share the 29 individuals who have an active permit for year 2023. These are the only permittees who have been getting tally counts annually.

Allen Burbank	Charlene Roanhorse	Theresa Denetdale	Cecelia Yazzie	Arlene Crawford
Winona Bitsie	Johnny Willeto Jr.	Kevin Mitchell	Jessie R. Begay	Dave Tso
Angela Barney-Nez	Ethel Mae Manuelito	Eleanor Begay	Rose Alice Nez	Henry Begay Jr.
LaVern Waco	Mary Begay	Manuel Shirleson	Chris Natonabah	Art Norton
Vivan Arviso	Laura Ann Lowe	Alfred Halona	Bonnie Natonabah	Bertha Deste
Angelena Bitsie	Wilhelmina Bedonie	Lucinda Barney	Robert Natonabah	

So, when the emergency funds become available, each permittee will be getting 10 bales each. I will be working with T&R again this year. The cost of a bale of hay is currently at \$18 per bale and going up to \$19. There are a couple of people requesting for grass hay which cost \$21 per bale. The tally count for 2024 may be a little higher because I've been receiving more request.

Equine Rewards Program – The NN will pay for bringing in feral horses, if it is branded, you'll have to bring in proof of ownership. This is scheduled for March 12th, 19th, 26th at the NN Fair grounds from 9am-4pm. Stallion will be worth \$250, stallion 1-3 years old, \$100. Mare with a foal \$200, mares and geldings \$100. Donkeys and mules \$100 and foals \$50. I'm pretty sure, they will continue with this program because it helps everyone out. This also gives people the opportunity to do their own roundups or entrapments.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution to Approve 2nd quarter revenue (Jan-Mar) in amount of \$3,134.99 as Chapter revenue.
2. Resolution to Approve 6 sessions in April and May for traditional and cultural stories provided by Mr. Paul Long.
3. Resolution to Approve Budget transfer from Fund 03 for diesel fuel for heavy equipment.
4. Resolution to Approve utility payment for Red Willow using Unhealthy Food Tax fund or Sales Tax.
5. Resolution to Approve to obtain a Right-of-way, Archaeological Clearances for roads 9653, 9955, and Halona Canyon.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next Chapter Meeting, April 17th @ 10am. District Grazing Committee Meeting on April 3rd @ Naschitti Chapter at 9am. Ft Defiance Agency Meeting, April 13th. District 14 Council, April 3rd @ 5:30pm. Red Willow Farm meeting, April 2nd @ 1pm. NMSU Indian Livestock Days, May 15-17th.

Maria, CSC – I am requesting for information on CPR classes or Zumba classes that can be offered here at the Chapter. If you know of anyone who are providing these classes, please let me know.

IX. NEXT CHAPTER MEETING DATE: April 17, 2024 @ 10am

X. AJOURNMENT: 1:27pm

Submitted by;



Jean Crawford, Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter – April 15, 2024

cc: Mr. Sonny Moore, President

Mr. Mike Halona, Vice-President

Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer

Ms. Maria Allison, CSC

Mr. Nathan Notah, Council Delegate