



# 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

**Larry Rodgers**  
Vice-President

**Delphine Bitsilly**  
Recorder

**Fern Spencer**  
Member

**Byron Bitsoie, Sr.**  
Member

### AGENDA

**Tuesday May 21, 2024 @ 9am**  
**Tohatchi Chapter**

**Teleconference# 1+2532158782**

**ID: 4311314751**

**Passcode: 230694**

- I. Call to Order: Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Invocation: \_\_\_\_\_
- II. Introduction of Guests:
- III. Approval of Agenda:
- IV. Approval of Minutes: April 16, 2024
- V. Old Business:
  - A. Bike Trail Study Contract
  - B. Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan Assignment update/status; GPS Work
  - C. Tohatchi Cemetery land withdrawal approval update- Chapter President Sonny Moore
- VI. New Business:
  - A. Tohatchi Navajo Housing Authority Director- Valarie Wilson
  - B. Chuska School Principal- Mr. Chiapetti
  - C. Tohatchi EMT Staff Introduction/report of services for community.
  - D. SWCD- Southwest Conservation District- Mike Begay
  - E. Red Willow Farm Board- Project updates.
- VII. Resolutions: none
- VIII. Announcements:
  - A. Potential CLUPC Work Sessions Updates – June 11<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am
- IX. Next Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 @ 9am Tohatchi Chapter
- X. Adjournment/ Time:

MAY 24 PM 3:35





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### TOHATCHI COMMUNITY LAND USE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES May 21, 2024

- I. Call to Order: Time: 9:12 am Roll Call: 4 present, 1 absent Invocation: Delphine Bitsilly
- II. Introduction of Guests: Mike Begay, Hoskie Bryant, Sonny Moore, Valerie Wilson, Frank Chiapetti, Colleen Yazzie, Ansley Curley, Delegate Nathan Notah, Edwin Begay, Vivian and Sam Arviso
- III. Approval of Agenda: reading by Larry Rodgers  
Motion to accept: Delphine Bitsilly 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fern Spencer Vote: 3-0-1
- IV. Approval of Minutes: April 16, 2024  
Motion to approve: Larry Rodgers 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fern Spencer Vote: 3-0-1
- V. Old Business:
  - A. Bike Trail Study Contract  
\*Larry Rodgers – request to have CSC here – Maria Allison; \*Sonny Moore – CSC out of office this morning and be back this afternoon; \*Larry Rodgers – read the letter from Laura Johnson who worked for IMBA or Silver Stallion, I resign from this position, review of the conceptual plan, read 1 – 6 outline from email sent from Laura Johnson, there's a regulation states you need 3 bids on any contracts, do a letter to DOJ to consider a sole source contract, we can add what she wrote in there; \*Elvis Bitsilly – update on bike trail was added and we all received an email from DOJ regarding the updates on this bike trail; \*Sonny Moore – we wrote back to DOJ, requesting a sole source instead of getting 3 quotes, there isn't anyone else, Jean Crawford was assisting Maria with that, don't know how long we'll wait to get an response from them and we'll follow up on it this week and I'll talk to Jean and Maria, we're approaching it with caution due to the audit, we're hoping DOJ will treat it as a sole source; \*Elvis Bitsilly – go ahead with a sole source, this kind of project must go through these steps as stated by DOJ, chapter to follow through with this project; \*Larry Rodgers – Laura Johnson now working with the Navajo Nation President's office, she's open to communicate with her.
  - B. Tohatchi Community Land Use Plan Assignment update/status; GPS Work  
\*Elvis Bitsilly – CLUPC members are working on sections of the Community Land Use plan for Tohatchi community, which has been in place for several years, reviewing, revising and deleting some areas in the plan, hope to have it completed by December, plan is renewed every 5 years, my section 5 is statement and comments; \*Sonny Moore – I read notes there's a possibility there's a vendor to help assist, let me know with the information; \*Larry Rodgers – President Moore, based on your contact with the previous person who worked on the CLUPC booklet, you contacted her and she's busy, we didn't get a number as how much it will cost to assist this committee to update it, we as the committee decided to do the Plan ourselves, we held one work shop already on the matter, each member has a section assigned in the booklet, I'm working on my 3 sections, back ground information on the community, I extracted information from the 2020 census and from the 2010 ASC, extracted data from it, there's data for the chapter area for all 110 chapters, we're only



concentrating on Tohatchi, within the chapter geographic area there's what they call CDP – Community Designated Place, in the American system, you have a town, a county, and a state, Navajo Nation is setup the same way with the census bureau, they have census designated places, there are 64 places on the Navajo Nation and Tohatchi is one of them, Navajo Nation has 110 counties and 64 cities, Brimhall is part of Coyote Canyon chapter, bigger communities like Shiprock have their own CDP, on the American side, for example: Gamerco has its own CDP, a non-authorized city, they haven't establish as a city, they're like a village or community, no town government, municipality like Gallup has a boundary, city of Gallup, city of Milan, Grants, non-incorporated towns are CDP and the Navajo Nation is like that, census happens every 10 years, working on introduction and summary of the documents which is section 1, Community Assessment is section 3, I'm volunteering to put it together and email me your sections a week before June 11<sup>th</sup>, we should have a draft on June 11<sup>th</sup>, we stated September 30 to be completed;

**\*Sonny Moore** – as President of chapter, there are a few active members across Navajo and I'm thankful for the Tohatchi CLUPC members for your efforts; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – thank you Mr. Moore for the comments, move our community forward with other chapters in District 14, focus on the future which is now, encourage everyone to continue to help us and move forward with the community, what our people need, what's lacking?, what do we need to do?, appreciate everyone for coming;

**\*Larry Rodgers** – GPS Work – assigned the memo to President regarding the GPS work that's required, there are tracts of land we need to identify, get the location of those tracts and their dimensions as far as acreage and size, where they are and map them out, and we can put them in the new plan and describe what will go on those plots in terms of projects, there are already land withdrawals and need land withdrawals for the future usage, possible potential sites for housing, there's a lot of open land out there, every time we talk about land it's always a no, it's better to plan for it then go forward with it as much as we can, GPS work is important and getting the data from the Land Department, I might have to request the information through Mr. Halona at a chapter meeting and he has the yes or no regarding that information, reason we would like the GPS date points on all this, is to have accurate information, if we digitized it won't be accurate, we can digitized the map in the hallway, I want the actual data from Window Rock; **\*Ansley Curley** – how many flats are you looking at and is there a reason why they are denying the release of the information?; **\*Larry Rodgers** – I'm talking about two things - what's available is already in the database, in any geography points it makes up a polygon and it makes up the map, Land Administration has all this for the community and we have a map that shows that; **\*Ansley Curley** – why don't they release the data?; **\*Larry Rodgers** – Land Administration won't release the information due to personal information on homesites, my request is to leave out the data, all I want is the geography points, polygons, and what they are – is it a homesite lease, a business site lease, we need zoning information, where are the housing going to be, Mr. Bitsoie doesn't allow this because of personal information, we don't need the personal information, I can't imagine how a central government agency is not allowing local communities to access the information, with everybody doing these land use plans why are they not sharing the information, GIS is important for information to withdrawal land in the future; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – very important information and we will move forward.

**C. Tohatchi Cemetery land withdrawal approval update- Chapter President Sonny Moore**

**\*Sonny Moore** – email was sent out from Land Department saying everything is approved, papers were lost on the existing cemetery and we had to redo that part, we have added 1.5 acres now;

**\*Elvis Bitsilly** – ARPA money was added to the project; **\*Sonny Moore** – added money for fencing, \$74,000; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** - it was approved; **\*Mike Begay** – the previous CLUPC members worked on this, it's difficult to get a large tract of land here in Tohatchi area because we're already compacted, we have grazing permit holders, no one is willing to give up their grazing land, we were only able to



get 1.5 acres at the current site, question – when you start the burials, are you going to keep it in a tight fit?, we looked at the old map, when it first started it looked like all the burials were fitted tight, a few years later it got out of hand where burials were no longer in rows, lots of wasted space, people buried in stacks on top of each other, Navajo Nation at the time wanted 30 acres and that's too much; **\*Larry Rodgers** – not sure whose responsibility it is to have a policy ordinance in place, as Navajos it's something we don't talk about, we should discuss this and how it can be done, important for space saving, doing a map of who is where, Navajos are looking at cremation on top of burial sites; **\*Fern Spencer** – Peterson Yazzie's term there was a map where people were buried, there are people who have been cremated, at the new cemetery there will be a place for those who have been cremated, a lot of the chapters in District 14 don't have their own cemeteries, other members of communities are buried in Tohatchi, the cost to bury a loved one in Chinle included the backhoe is costly, what does it cost here in Tohatchi, if you're a community member or veteran there's no cost, the grazing – you have a new generation of kids who do not want to herd sheep or cattle, they move away from the reservation for work, which is good, unabandon houses just sitting there, no jobs here, no housing here, it's sad that no one will give up land, I'd like to see a map of grazing permit, do they actual have a place there, we do need a cemetery and 22 slots left in the old place, there has to be a policy in place on who gets buried there, be buried there if they're not from here, Tohatchi is like the hub, I'm glad we got the extension and now we work on a policy, who's responsible – CLUPC or chapter?; **\*Nathan Notah** – Coyote Canyon and Twin Lakes are working on their own cemetery within the year, the family that has the grazing permit where the cemetery is stated, don't ask for any more land; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – Chapter is responsible for the burial procedure policy, if there is a policy in place it needs to be revised or amended, Naschitti recently added more space to their cemetery; **\*Nathan Notah** – Naschitti used their LGA status to get additional land; **\*Hoskie Bryant** – family plots are popping up in different places, there's regulation they need to follow; **\*Mike Begay** – I was told by people in the higher places, let's not bury people close to our families, community members ask for infrastructure for improvement, you put plans together with a pipe line or electricity, you run into those places and it becomes problematic, you will run into burial sites; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – there are new amendments, revisions on Navajo Nation cemeteries to follow procedures; **\*Ansley Curley** – regulations on cemeteries passed this February of this year by RDC and the new regulations are out.

## VI. New Business:

### A. Tohatchi Navajo Housing Authority Director- Valarie Wilson

**\*Valerie Wilson** – NHA went through a reorganization and my title is different, I see you guys as my leaders, to hear the enthusiasm for housing in this area; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – we've been talking about housing in Tohatchi, no housing for many years and let's see what our local housing office can offer us or what we can offer to the community with our leadership, as well as Chuska housing, how can we get housing here, funding?, we recently had land withdrawn, we need development, we talked about economic development for Tohatchi, we need housing for businesses, for IHS, for schools and staff that come here, how can we get housing for these entities for jobs; **\*Valerie Wilson** – in 2010 NHA did a study of the 110 chapters of the Navajo Nation, they came up with an sustainable master planning for all the chapters, community members and officials participated in this activity that was carried out, in the activity they designed – what they wanted their community to look like, including economic development to bring in businesses to help sustained the housing that will be



developed, the families that move in need a type of income to pay for utilities, food, this was part of the sustainable master plan, June 18<sup>th</sup> I can bring a copy of the design for Tohatchi chapter, a booklet was presented to Tohatchi chapter officials, at that time Navajo Nation wide identified 34,000 houses to be built and it has increased, here in Tohatchi we have individuals who come to our office who are seeking housing who have an high income, we do have an essential policy that will help individuals with an high income but their services are needed in the community like teachers, nurses and we're able to assist them under that policy, we are limited to housing in this area, April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting with updates – identify two chapters per region or agency to revitalized the sustainable master plan, we weren't inform of which chapters to be selected, request a resolution from CLUPC to participate in this plan as one of the two for this area, if you can provide me with it I'll share it back up the chain of command and have them identify Tohatchi as part of that activity they are rolling out, update your master plan with what you're indicating to update your community master plan, right now is a good time to start planning for 2026, to identify planning and development for the area you are withdrawing for housing development, we can begin the process and start reaching out to the grants management division to get information on what is needed, complete by December 31, they start requesting proposals in January and February, make sure we have everything included in the plan to identify funding to go to the planning and development, need to look at the feasibility on the land withdrawal, we aren't able to do any development if the land withdrawal is within a flood plain zone, NHA has a land information management system, around 2010/2012 NHA did a grid over the whole Navajo Nation to indicate where there are flood plain zones, it will help Tohatchi to see what areas are good to develop and not put in a flood plain zone, Coyote Canyon is in a flood plain zone, our construction service department needs to do a feasibility, the NHA Board of Commissioners are looking at our current housing stock, doing extra maintenance, the 2020 Housing Plan is having our housing stock renovated and brought back up to standard, 2026 looking at new housing development, ribbon cutting in Rock Springs May 2nd for 10 units which are 2 bedroom, 8 standard units, 2 - 1 full ADA unit and 1 unit for visional and hearing impaired, May 30<sup>th</sup> it should be 100% occupied, the 8 standard 2 bedrooms, they do an offer and accepted by Friday, 2 families offer for the ADA and Visional Hearing Impaired, 3 phases with that plan and planning more development soon for Rock Springs, Two Grey Hills did work on land withdrawal, I would like to let construction services department know that Tohatchi has a plan, EMS has approached NHA in building a new facility, our management office is quite small, requesting Tohatchi to help us with a resolution to build a new housing management office, as far as the wait list, the 2 bedroom units at Rock Springs we have depleted our 2 bedroom wait list, we are in need of 2 and 3 bedrooms, families are not as large as they used to be, we don't have many people on our 4-5 bedroom wait list, we did house a veteran at Rock Springs, we have 2 units under construction for home ownership, one in Rock Springs and one in Two Grey Hills, homeownership – the scattered site developments are being constructed faster than a sub-division, maintenance department has a separate division, they take care of all the renovations for our public rentals and homeownership units, planning begins at the chapter level and I'll share information; \***Larry Rodgers** – thank you Ms. Wilson for your briefing, pre LGA, NHA had a hard time with getting land for housing, NHA through our HUD money, let's give a grant to the Navajo Nation, Navajo Nation can spread it among the 110 chapters for community land use planning for them to identify land tracts, NHA couldn't get the land on their own, let the chapters be responsible to get the land, it started in 1999 land use planning grants were provided to chapters, it's our responsibility as a community to say there's land over here we can use for housing, we need the technical things like the GPS, look at flood plain maps and avoid those areas and put in our plan, you have a deadline of December and our community land use plan we're looking at completing a draft by September, sub-divisions we talk about – Tohatchi Boarding School housing, there should be another sub-division elsewhere, cluster or pod housing, scattered housing



is an individual responsibility, cluster and sub-division housing is our responsibility to recommend where, identify land tracts to be utilized, for a 20 acre tract – how many homes can fit in there?, homesite lease is one acre, housing in the community you need smaller plots, how close are you to the infrastructure – how close are you to the sewer line, we'll keep them in mind when we do the maps, are the homes affordable?, is there land available for NHA housing at Chuska, adding another road to Chuska for emergency, how many people are on the waiting list for Tohatchi?; **\*Valerie Wilson** – we had to purge our wait list because individuals didn't update their applications, total of 15 on wait list for public rental minus the 8, 2 are on a public rental transfer, meaning if 2 people living in a 5 bedroom house and transfer them into a smaller unit, so we can utilize the 5 bedroom for a family who needs a 5 bedroom, homeownership are 16, at the end of December our wait list increases because they have to update their application on an annual basis, and they don't do this so we purge that information; **\*Larry Rodgers** – 31 on the waiting list, if we plan for a sub-division we should plan for 30 units; **\*Valerie Wilson** – when the word got out that we were going to house families at Rock Springs, a lot of families came into the office, we have 246 applications that were given out: **\*Larry Rodgers** – just for Tohatchi?; **\*Valerie Wilson** – 246 were for our service area – Two Grey Hills to Chilchiltah to Coyote Canyon to Iyanbito to Rock Springs to Mexican Springs, there are families who are interested and want to come back home, we have limited housing stock, there is a housing need; **\*Larry Rodgers** – do you have to be in your own chapter to ask for housing?; **\*Valerie Wilson** – no; public rental you can apply for any house in our management office, must be a chapter member if you apply for scattered site housing; **\*Larry Rodgers** – clustered housing is more for extended families, of the 246 how many are district 14 members?; **\*Valerie Wilson** – we are gathering data for which chapters these individuals are coming from, sometimes they complete the application, majority of the 246 applications do not come back, people fill out application when there are new housing development; **\*Larry Rodgers** – if there are 31 on the waiting list, we plan for 35-40 units, people will come whether they are built; **\*Valerie Wilson** – a apartment development has 96 apartment units with a playground and is west of Shiprock hospital; **\*Nathan Notah** – how many acres?; **\*Valerie Wilson** – 3-5 acres; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – thank you for the information, we can look at the map and we'll get you the numbers.

**B. Chuska School Principal- Mr. Chiapetti**

**\*Elvis Bitsilly** – what is the situation there, what are we able to do to work with the school regarding the housing?; **\*Frank Chiapetti** – greetings, currently we have 29 units occupied with staff, 10 – 1 bedroom, 12 – 2 bedrooms, 7 – 3 bedrooms for staff and area community members, about 3 years ago teachers from Gallup McKinley wanted to get housing and we didn't have any available at that time, during Covid time, central office had some employees living out here and commuting back and forth to Gallup, the teachers here didn't have housing and were struggling, we started the construction on the houses that are bad, 18 houses we can possibly occupy, slowly working on it and we have one dedicated person working on it, we put 3 people on it at beginning of the year with the demand, we backed off to do the maintenance on existing houses and school, 1 is ready to go and is promised to EMS – 3 bedroom 2 bath house and ready to go, homes were neglected and are in bad shape with bad floors, patched walls, replacing cabinets and bringing up to code, currently have 4 people on the waiting list – one employee and 3 community members, 31 houses the BIA has condemned, fully condemn or take them down, if they tear them down, a good opportunity if our board approves for NHA to come in and build, the only money we spend is what we collect in rent, BIA wants us to rent a 3 bedroom for \$1500 a month, 1 bedroom house for \$750 because we are within 30 miles of Gallup, rent is based on Gallup rates, I told the BIA no, we are a Grant school and according to federal law we answer to our board, our old board said we're



competing with Gallup McKinley County School teachers, \$20,000 sign on bonus and free housing, how do you compete with that?, State of New Mexico gave them money for increase wages and the federal government doesn't give us that but I still have to match those wages, board said we're a Grant school, we operate by our own policies and we lower the rent, we had to raise because we do pay for one maintenance person, materials, trash, 1 bedroom - \$200.00 a month, 2 bedroom - \$400.00, 3 bedroom - \$550.00 for employees, non-employees will pay \$50.00 more, we have a small waiting list, if can get those condemn houses with the asbestos removal is the worst, I can't afford to remediate the asbestos, BIA can come in and if you can work with BIA and do a resolution, whatever needs to be done and I'm sure our board will support it to tear down the existing homes and work with BIA for those vacant lots, NHA will come in to build and I wouldn't be oppose to that, the rest of the land is our baseball, softball fields, Wingate and Chilchiltah will be getting new stuff - school, teacherage and if we weren't tribally controlled and we were BIE we would get stuff, returned from Washington DC and took our issues to the Oversight Committees in Congress, they are working on a project on workorders on our school from 2002, we became a Grant school in 97, outstanding workorders from 2002, give us the money we can do it ourselves, we put in the HVAC ourselves - \$3.2 million, a contract to replace all windows, I paid for that with money I'm working on, BIE raised the threshold from \$5000 to \$10,000, any repairs under \$10,000 we could fix and anything over \$10,000 we have to ask for money and they put it in their system, 22-23 years later we might get the money, we're asking for fields, we do have different sports, in the inner loop I'd like to get that for students, anything outside of the loop by TAOS, we can ask the board or BIA to get the land, infrastructure already there - water, electricity, sewer, etc., Mr. Bryant School Board from District 14; **\*Hoskie Bryant** - how to make the road safer, keep students, parents and staff safe, the board made policy because of all the regulations from the federal government to the Navajo Nation for anyone on the compound needs a background check, working with other School Boards from Arizona which is hard, all schools are different, if we get our own board established again we will work better with District 14 chapters, there are policy and regulations we will look at, working across the Navajo Nation as a school board, one thing looking at a BIA or BIE school, buildings have been kept up, the regional level to the national level they lost their staff and papers stacked up, the Oversight Committee in Washington DC didn't know about it, push Congress to have funds for maintaining the houses; **\*Frank Chiapetti** - degauss and egress road and having to loop that way would be difficult, we do have an access road going down on the back and it's been washed out, if they rebuilt it and it's looped this way, looping back that way gets you to the damn and you get the steep canyon, coming off the mesa at a different point you would have to build a whole new road, the existing emergency exit, we don't want to maintain the lagoon road because of all the trash dumpers; **\*Larry Rodgers** - 79 units - 21 currently occupied, 19 being refurbished for occupation, 31 condemned; **\*Frank Chiapetti** - 79 - 29 occupied, 1 ready to be occupied, 18 to be refurbished, 31 homes to be condemn: **\*Larry Rodgers** - 31 that are condemned, are they structural okay?, it's mainly the asbestos you're worried about; **\*Frank Chiapetti** - BIA is the one who condemned them, not us, they told us they will condemn and we're not putting any money in to it, our facility manager, Stacie Mower, has some construction background, he said some of those proposed units can be saved, you need the BIA for their blessing before we could; **\*Larry Rodgers** - presumption that the Nation takes over the 31 units, Navajo Nation would have to get



funding somewhere get them remodeled and remediate the asbestos so they will be save to be used, perhaps IHS could be involved and Navajo Nation does have it own housing program and could be involved, if a non-school entity were to get them back in to shape, responsible to maintain them thereafter, a concern Mr. Bryant brought up about children safety, and trash, why should the tribe get involved, we go to Congress for funding and rehabilitate all those houses yourself, rent them out to whomever you want, more costly to build new structure than renovate; **\*Frank Chiapetti** – we're concentrating on the 18 now, we need to refurbish and occupy, our school comes first, with several people working it took 60 days to work on the EMS house and it's ready; **\*Larry Rodgers** – you're on the BIE side, property on the BIA side; **\*Frank Chiapetti** - the new structure they have given facility to BIE, BIE is taking over the BIA facilities, BIE doesn't have the capacity, they don't have the facility people, architects, engineers nor people who have knowledge to maintain their buildings, hiring contractors, working the 18 can a three year process to get them ready, the other 31 will take a long time; nice to have helipad in this area and I understand there's a airport strip, a good designated site and better communication with all entities.

**C. Tohatchi EMT Staff Introduction/report of services for community.**

**\*Colleen Yazzie** – I'm one of the supervisors, we do have a location, all staff does a background check, each entity has their own background check, this will be a third background check for our EMTs, \$40.00 per person and need funding, we have a couple local personnel from Tohatchi, we have people from Shiprock, Crownpoint, Tohajiilee to come in to provide 24 hour service, we have recruitment out, we have positions open and not getting people to apply for these positions, because we don't get enough people we can't fully staff the Tohatchi office, we have different people coming in from different areas to provide the 24 hour service, these guys have to come from a long distance and leave, it is a problem and we are working on it, we are still trying to provide 24 hour service for you guys to keep this office going, we're okay where we are at and will be moving out as soon as possible and it depends on the background checks, for the Navajo Nation it takes 3 months, I don't know what company they are working with or how they run it, they have to do the background check before we get our EMTs at Chuska and it's the only thing keeping us back is the background check; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – is the background check from the Navajo Nation, Department of Public Safety?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – I have two answers on that, I need to get a hold of Melissa at Chuska, they keeping saying it's the same as your background, if it's the same as my background I can go to public safety and do the same thing, everyone passed and that's how we get employed, they said no, it's a different process, because it's a different process I have to go with that process, and that's what I'm trying to figure out, where are we going, who are we going with and how long it will be, we do another process with our license with the state of New Mexico every 2 years, so we get background checks every 2 years with the same process to hold our license, can we use some of those to process us through quick, we can't use the Navajo Nation background to get our license, it's not acceptable, then we can't use our license background to get employed with Navajo Nation, it doesn't work that way; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – who do you guys report to?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – we go through Division of Public Safety, all our EMTs get background checks to get employed every 3-4 years to keep employment, it's not the same process the Chuska School has, we have to go through their process and not sure how often we have to go through this process, every new employee we get will have to go through the process, it will affect us a couple



of ways, I can do our local EMTs, the one's coming in from Shiprock, Tohajiilee and they have to get background checks to come up to Chuska and work, it will take a little longer to do; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – it's because you're all going to be up at Chuska School, you're still over here?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – yes we are still there until they tells us to go, Chuska doesn't have an open office, if someone has an emergency during off hours it will be closed off at Chuska, public just can't come up and say they need an ambulance and it will be up to the school to let them in or not, because it's a secure area; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – do you guys get a lot of requests?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – yes we do, we get a lot of people who come to the office who need an ambulance and we tend to them there, and if we need to take them to the hospital we take them from there; **\*Mike Begay** – are you still thinking about the place down by the road?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – by the store, my understanding is you guys are building a public safety building there and EMS is a part of it?; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** - yes; **\*Mike Begay** – you'll be operating out of this place for a while and when this is ready, you will move into the complex; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – if there is room for us, yes; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – yes that is the plan to house the EMTs; **\*Mike Begay** – the egress, to make it easier for you to come in and out during an emergency, did you guys consider that?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – for which area?, I understand you guys have a plan similar to Twin Arrows fire department, public safety which allows you to come in from the back and come back out; **\*Mike Begay** – what I meant is when you move up to Chuska the location, do you have difficulty coming in and out?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – yes, because it's a school zone we cannot go fast, where they have us is at a corner, inner circle, come around this way and meet the security, there are speed bumps; **\*Fern Spencer** – is the security guard there 24/7?, will he/she allow you to go through; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – it won't be a problem for us, the problem will be when the people need the ambulance and will be stopped at the security point; **\*Fern Spencer** - it needs to be announced to all chapters, communicating with the District 14 regarding the EMT and Chuska; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – I've been up there a few times and they take your name, your business, and they let you in, they won't let you go into the housing area, I told them I'm an official of CLUPC and he let me in, I don't think it will be a problem when there's an emergency, it needs to be worked out with Chuska and EMS; **\*Larry Rodgers** – it was mentioned of an emergency coordination plan, what would be your recommendation on that and who will start the draft, include the public safety and fire station personnel to be involved; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – years ago Tohatchi had a response team and there should have been a plan in place, EMS, PD and Fire all had their input; **\*Mike Begay** – the Response team we worked on with all chapters, we went to their chapter meetings, they were forming an Emergency Response plan, chapter president Julie Badonie was made the President and Navajo Nation officials came in to help and I don't think it was ever completed; **\*Elvis Bitsilly** – the chapter is initiating the chapter emergency management plan, Sonny has that information, they were only getting contact information like housing, schools, churches, the chapter does have to have an emergency management plan because it effects their emergency funding they get from the Nation which has been mandated to have, **\*Fern Spencer** – how far is your jurisdiction?; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – jurisdiction is open and go wherever we're needed; **\*Fern Spencer** – rural address is frustrating, let chapter know where they live, problems with the tribe and McKinley county and who's status will do what; **\*Mike Begay** – we all need a map when we do rural address, we were never able to get the maps of BIA, Navajo Nation, McKinley County, with that map you can find where the residents live, which road is their jurisdiction, when we got all this



data together we were going to give it to the emergency response team like state police and EMTs and the dispatchers will know exactly where they are, people didn't want people to know where they live; **\*Colleen Yazzie** – EMTs and 2 ambulances will park on the street, they did install the outlet to run the electricity to the ambulance, EMS week this week, tomorrow come by and meet the staff around 10 am.

**D. SWCD- Southwest Conservation District- Mike Begay**

**\*Mike Begay** – Dennis Becenti has a background in Natural Resources and BIA, he called me, what's the status of SWCD?, I'm the only one and I don't think it exist anymore, Fort Defiance needs the services, if we can get together and put it back together let's give it a try, Tohatchi is the only one with a member, Naschitti, Coyote Canyon and Mexican Springs doesn't have a member, Twin Lakes had a member who was President of the board, he is interested in rejoining the SWCD, there's another group in Houck, Arizona who are part of Fort Defiance agency SWCD, Dennis went to Coyote Canyon chapter and the grazing officer is interested in attending a meeting if the Tohatchi chapter house could give us a meeting hall, no response from Mexican Springs chapter for an interested person for SWCD, Naschitti - Scott House is interested and I will let him know when we can hold a meeting, Dennis gave me a time frame of 14 days, after 14 days it's no use, June 6-7 surpasses the 14 day time frame, if these guys I call up and say okay for June, I'll try and get those two days; **\*Larry Rodgers** – it pertains to land for this committee, invite CLUPC to attend meeting, **\*Mike Begay** - SWCD is a non-governmental entity which makes it difficult for us to put together plans and move it forward, we would need the help from the land use planning committee, if SWCD gets these plans on paper when would need CLUPC to move it for us to Window Rock and other areas, if there's no stipend they walk away, ask the chapter for stipends, I'm working on exploring this to happen or not, Dennis Becenti would setup an agenda and attend meeting with his background, SWCD origination; **\*Hoskie Bryant** – SWCD – I was part of the committee, Wallace Tsosie, they had funds for a stipend, Navajo Tribe, Department of Ag down grade these committees because they do more, Department of Ag needs helps; **\*Larry Rodgers** – your historical background is important, our committee would give you the support, get a grant to study the water shed and planning of the diversion water to the lake, we can add this to our plan; **\*Mike Begay** – Wallace Tsosie – asking chapter president for a resolution, producing an aerial map of this place, Dennis wants to get all the chapters into one unit including Houck, Arizona, if you get the chapters and members to can get access to federal funding, asked Donde Begay to write up a business plan and she said yes, it would go with resolution of the map he requested from Sonny Moore; **\*Larry Rodgers** – who is Wallace Tsosie?: **\*Mike Begay** – he works with INCA – Indian National Conservation Alliance; **\*Larry Rodgers** – will he attend the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting?; **\*Mike Begay** – Dennis said wait up on that, let's get this group back together and then get Wallace here; **\*Fern Spencer** – what about your grazing officers in the district?; **\*Mike Begay** – Coyote Canyon is interested and Gerald Moore; **\*Fern Spencer** – what time on June 6<sup>th</sup>?; **\*Mike Begay** – 9:00 am, confirm with other individuals.

**E. Red Willow Farm Board- Project updates.**

**Motion to accept Old and New Business and defer Red Willow Farm Board Updates**

**Motion: Larry Rodgers    2<sup>nd</sup>: Fern Spencer    Vote: 3-0-1**



VII. Resolutions: none

VIII. Announcements:

A. Potential CLUPC Work Sessions Updates – June 11<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am  
Changed to June 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

IX. Next Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 @ 9am Tohatchi Chapter

X. Adjournment/ Time: 12:20 pm

Delphine Bitsilly – Recorder

*Delphine Bitsilly*

VII. Rr

VII. Rr

VII. Rr

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