

AGENDA

I ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting Called to Order
- b. Invocation
- c. Roll Call
- d. Recognition of guest(s) and visiting officials
- e. Review and adoption of agenda
- f. Review and adoption of last meeting minutes, March 5, 2017

II. OLD BUSINESS

NNFB 2017 goals (*Below are the Program Performance Criteria (PPC) and Goal Statements for all Farm Boards.*) The Out-of-this-World Farm Board elected officials will be assigned 1 or 2 PPC see below.

1. Each FB will submit 12 crop inventory reports from their respective Agriculture Land Use Permitees (ALUP). **Goal Statement:** Each FB will submit at least 3 respective crop inventory reports quarterly in table format (3CIR x 13 FBs). Assigned to _____.
2. Facilitate farm improvement/outreach activities for farmers in collaboration with tribal, state and private sectors. **Goal Statement:** Conduct 2 agricultural educational outreach/workshops for farmers per quarter per 13 FBs. Assigned to _____.
3. Provide training and assist farmers in updating or developing a conservation plan as required by BIA and the NN. **Goal Statement:** With farmer participation, implement conservation training and develop 2 or more plans per quarter per FB review. Assigned to _____.
4. Assist with farm area improvements such as land leveling, erosion control; with funding sources such as USDA. **Goal Statement:** With farmer participation, each FB will implement 1 improvement per quarter according to conservation plan. Assigned to _____.
5. Each FB member shall inventory at least 3 ALUP/Farm Permit within respective FB area. **Goal Statement:** With BIA and Farmer participation, reconcile and inventory as to the status of each ALUP or Farm Permit. (3ALUP x each 13 FB member) Assigned to _____.
6. SWOT Analysis
7. Wheatfields Agriculture Project
 - Farmer participating in the Revitalization Project
 - Report from Brycson Pinto:
 - o Employer Policy and Procedure
 - o Grant Tracker
 - Next steps to the project
8. Request for presentation at Food Summit Conference by Navajo Nation

New Business

- a. Agricultural Land Use Permit
 - Transfers
 - Probates

TSAILE / WHEATFIELDS JOINT FARM BOARD AND WATER USER MEETING
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017 @ 10 AM
WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER HOUSE, WHEATFIELDS, AZ

Disputes

Receiving Reports

Announcement

Conclusion

- a. Next Agenda Item
- b. Schedule next meeting date
- c. Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES

I ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting called to order at 10:31am
- b. Invocation by Sadie Neztosie
- c. Roll Call: Lorena Eldridge and Dorthea Litson present.
- d. Recognition of guest(s) and visiting officials
Lorena Eldridge introduced Brycson Pinto.
- e. Review and adoption of agenda
Dorthea reviewed the agenda. No amendments, comments, or questions.
Dorthea explained that this agenda is a new format the Farm Board are required to use.

Action: The agenda accepted as read with no amendments.

Motioned by David M. Tsosie

Seconded by Anelda Kedelty

Voting: 15 yes; 0 no; 5 abstained

Motion Carried

- f. Review and adoption of last meeting minutes, March 5, 2017
Lorena reviewed the last meeting minutes. No amendments, comments, or questions.

Action: The last meeting minutes read accepted as read.

Motioned by Anelda Kedelty

Seconded by Teresa Chee

Voting: 17 yes; 0 no; 5 abstained

Motion Carried

II. OLD BUSINESS

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Lorena Eldridge explained the Form 2.

Action: To accept the form 2 that was reviewed by Lorena.

Motioned by Merle Kedelty

Seconded by Anelda Kedelty

Voting: 19 yes; 0 no; 8 abstained

Motion Carried

6. SWOT Analysis

Dorthea explained the SWOT, Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, & Threats, were identified back in November 2016 and they were as follow:

Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Elected Farm Board Personnel 1, 865 acres of farmland Policy (some in place): Funding Management Financial Policy Non - Profit organization	Equipment Inactive Board Farmers and Ranchers Collaboration • Partner ship Technical Support on – site Water Supply year round Policy for following: • Food Policy • Water Supply (including Community; not only for irrigation or ranching) • Water Plan • Prairie Dog Communication	Workshop Create / Rehabilitate earthen dam Revenue Management Practice Financial Incentive for Board (Water User) Community Buy in	Community Buy in Outstanding Account in regards to Operation & Maintenance Fee - Very important for people to pay their outstanding bill because that is the only way for Water User Organization Stability. Keep non-profit in good standing status: • IRS • NN Business Regulatory

Please note: what is in this text was added on April 2, 2017 at this Farm Board meeting.

Comments, questions, & suggestions:

Brycson Pinto added these ideas can be interchangeable.

James Becenti commented, “Communication is a weakness with some partnership. Advertisement for some people only.”

Lorena explained that there is a strategic plan that the Dineh Water User created and some of those plan we accomplished. In there, we indicated that the Facebook would be created, but has not to date.

Brycson asked, “Where are you going with this SWOT Analysis?”

Lorena explained the next step to the SWOT Analysis. The idea is to prioritize the list then look to combine the current strategic plan that is in place, and create a strategic plan for this year.

In addition, the organization needs to create a property policy.

Other thing mentioned by Lorena:

- Map is a problem.
- Invoice will be going out to all Farmers this coming April 19, 2017 to pay the annual Operation and Maintenance Fee. Many farmers have outstanding Operation and Maintenance Fee, but they need to find a way to pay that off. They can contribute with Sweat Equity to off their O&M fee.

Bycson explained, "It is very important to address the OUTSTANDING OPERATION & MAINTENACE FEE because that is what is going to help in stabilizing the organization." This should always be in the forefront of the members and boards.

Dorthea indicated the questions are, "Really, what is the next steps? Does the boards of Water User and Farm Board meet separately to create the strategic plan, and present to the farmers of the process and the strategic plan. OR do work with all farmers to create the Strategic Plan."

Joelee Benally Sr. explained that Farmlands were create by our elders with agreement they made among each other, and it was based on collaborative work they have conducted together. They truly helped one another over the years. They never said to each other, "pay me first before I work for you." "Now, I understand people are talking about the farmland, but I know the Land Use Permit today creates many dispute."

Lorena replied, "Currently, we are planning for the Wheatfields Agriculture Project."

David M. Tsose, "I am going to motion that we all meet on the strategic plan with all farmers included."

Bennie Litson, "I am going to second the motion that we all meet, but have a homework given to us."

Lorena indicated we will need to find and have someone facilitate this session for us, and only have this on our agenda.

Action: To use the current SWOT Analysis and the present Water User Strategic Plan to create a revise Strategic Plan with all the farmers present with a given homework assignment, and find an outside person to facilitate this session. This would be the only item on the agenda.

Motioned by Davie M. Tsosie

Seconded by Bennie Litson

Voting: 19 yes; 0 no; 7 abstained

Motion Carried

7. Wheatfields Agriculture Project

- Farmer participating in the Revitalization Project

Dorthea explained we have been talking about the Wheatfields Agriculture Project, and there is many work ahead of us. To date there are some decision we made and they are as follow;

1. For all farmers to participate in this Wheatfields Agriculture Project
2. Outside perimeter of fence will be fixed for all three Farmland area.
3. Seeds will be disturbed based on soil condition. No alfalfa will be part of the seed.

Now, today we set aside to talk about the incentive; what percentage the T/W Dineh Water User will take in terms of what is produce on the land of the farmer who is participating. The participation is going to be all different. Here are some scenarios:

TSAILE / WHEATFIELDS JOINT FARM BOARD AND WATER USER MEETING
 SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017 @ 10 AM
 WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER HOUSE, WHEATFIELDS, AZ

Scenario ONE:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	Farmer sublease farmland to Farm Board.

Scenario TWO:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	Farmer is currently farming their own farmland.

Scenario THREE:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	The farmer is involved with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing

Scenario FOUR:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	The farmer is involved with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating 1 to 2 times <input type="checkbox"/> NOT Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Not Attending Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> Attempt Fencing

Scenario FIVE:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment	The farmer is involved with:

TSAILE / WHEATFIELDS JOINT FARM BOARD AND WATER USER MEETING
 SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017 @ 10 AM
 WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER HOUSE, WHEATFIELDS, AZ

<input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Not Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Not Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Workshop or Not attending Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> No Fencing
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Scenario SIX:

Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User	Farmer
<input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preparation <input type="checkbox"/> Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	The farmer is involved with: <input type="checkbox"/> NOT Planning <input type="checkbox"/> NOT Planting <input type="checkbox"/> Not Irrigating <input type="checkbox"/> Not Harvesting <input type="checkbox"/> Not Attending Workshop <input type="checkbox"/> No Fencing

Dorthea reminded the farmers that we want this to be a WIN / WIN situations. For the Water User collecting a percentage of what is produced at the end of the harvest season will be used for Marketing so we are able to sustainable Organization so we can continue to support the farmers.

Comments, Questions, and Suggestions:

Emmerson Chee: “Fencing some will need.” “I am interesting in doing the work myself; I’ll need help with seed.”

Lorena Eldridge: “We came into office several years ago, and we collected survey of why farmers are NOT farming. The result stated 1. No Equipment 2. Financial stability & 3. No one to help me with farming. As a result, we wrote a proposal, and now is funded. The opportunity is here.”

Bennie Litson: “Our thoughts are all different, but the task before us now is to decide and agree on the percentage of what is produced. Currently, I am not a farmer, but I am encourage and supportive of what needs to happen for this project to be successful. I am aware of the all the small farm acres we all are given to us, but if one has land that should make you feel strong. Yes, our elders work on their farmland even the little acres they had they were able to raise us on that land. Currently, healthy food we eat is very important. Finally, he suggest for those who are now elders to sublease their land to organization or give to family member who is willing to work the land. With this project we are able to work with rancher in terms of create more water development or revitalizing current earth dam.”

Merle Kedelty: “I am in option 2. I am a current farmer, but I need to land level two acres so if you help me with the two acres then what percentage will you collect?”

Lorena: “Yes, that is what we are trying to decide, then What do you think the percentage be for option 2, Merle?”

Merle did not answer.

Sadie Neztosie: “I am a current farmer and I work on my land. I am subleasing a farmland where I planted grass for my cattle, but I can plant vegetable on the other half. My wish is have all farmers’ plant and be productive. I need to work with someone that can recommend me what vegetable to plants. Finally, I still have questions about the perimeter fence, what are we going to do with the road that exist between the farmland; are we going to close those sections off?”

Lorena explained for Lower Wheatfields we indicated that at the entrance we would put gates. However, this is just an idea. We need to revisit to make decision.

Aaron Begay, president of the Dineh Water User: He suggested, current farmer can still take advantage of the program. I say this because those of us that are currently farming are struggling with Land leveling. Those that are not able to farm or have no helper can sublease for 10 years. Importantly, the funders want to see Farmers Market. Furthermore, the staff will use some sort of evaluation form to evaluate the farmer’s participation and an agreement will be made.”

Danny John Sr.: “I am thankful for to the project and funding, but there are many things to think about in this project such as:

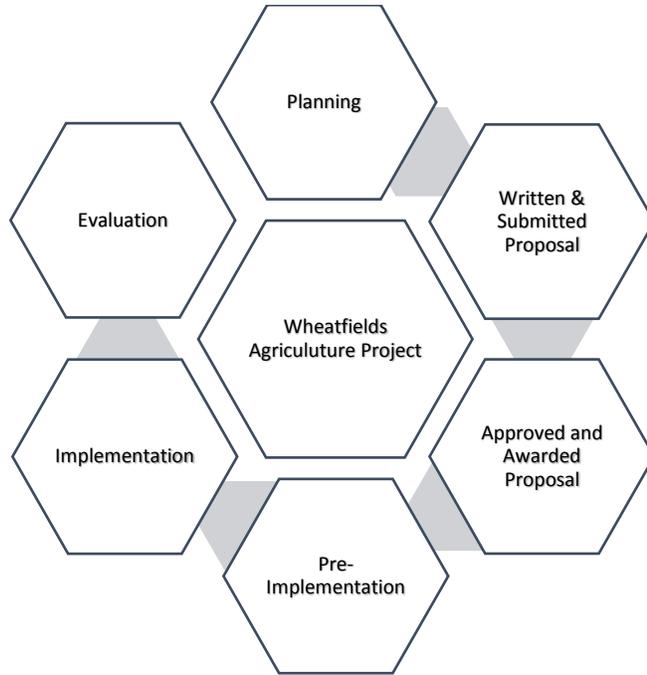
- Some of us have outstanding O&M fee Bills
- Current ecosystem
- Farming and planting is “ ___ ”
- All is not a guarantee, it depends on nature
- What about the Water? What is the alternative for Lower Wheatfields? There is only limited water we can use from the Wheatfields Lake. Upper Wheatfields and Tsaile only get there water from the Stream.
- Are we all going organic?
- What is met by ranchers? How about Dry land?
- My biggest worry is the sustainability? There is need to have soil sampling to be conducted.
- Are going to have the Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User collect 50% of what the farmers will produce?
- At the Chapter it was explained the Fence for the Farmland will be enclosed; and the person who reported that needs to be careful with their word because people take is personal.”

Lorena: “Mr. John, thanks for sharing you understanding and concern. You know the laws and policies and procedures that the Farm Board have to follow because you were a Farm Board once. Dry land is not really in the area of Farm Board, but this project can allow for dryland someday down the road. Water is an issue, but how can we be proactive to solve the problem.”

Emerson Chee: “Stay with the fencing.”

Brycson Pinto: He shared with the farmers in a summary format of what the Boards were trying to have the farmer make a decision around. He indicate that Option 3 is a 100% buy in farmer and Option 6 is a 0% NO buy in from the farmer.

Furthermore, Mr. Pinto explained to the people that that they are in pre-implementation stage of the Revitalization Plan. He use the following graphic organizer with the people to help them understand.



He told the farmers, “What you are all doing today is all in Pre –Implementation Stages.”

The following chart is that the Farmers agreed to use for percentage of disturbing to use while farmers participate in the Wheatfields Agriculture Project, and it’s important for this to be reviewed annually:

Distribution Plan- (see the different criteria options.)

Farm Participation Options	Water User	Farmer
Option 1	70 %	30%
Option 2	10%	90%
Option 3	20%	80%
Option 4	40%	60%
Option 5	60%	40%
Option 6	90%	10%

Action: *To approve the distribution plan to be used with Farmers as they participate in the Wheatfields Agriculture Project. This distribution plan is to be reviewed on an annually.*

Motioned by Lorenzita Jones

Seconded by James Becenti

Voting: 21 yes; 0 no; 3 abstained

Motion Carried

- Lorena explained how the money will be funnel to Water User. The money will be drawn down by quarterly to the Water Use from the NN Division of Nurture Resource. Once the money is drawn down, the Water User will need to immediate write a report for how that money was spent.
- Lorena indicated the organization will need a statutory deduction for medicate.
- David M. Tsosie asked, “Whose EIN number will be used?”
- Lorena asked, “Does the organization use AZ state Minimum wage law or Navajo Nation minimum wage law?”

Brycson answered the questions:

- The Tsaille / Wheatfields Dineh Water User EIN will be used.
- The organization will need to stay with the Navajo Nation Minimum wages law.

The people agreed to have Bycson use his knowledge around the leave, and other employment policy requirement to complete the Tsaille / Wheatfields Dineh Water User employment policy and procedure.

Action: To allow Brycson to complete the Employment Policy and Procedure base on his knowledge and the laws he is aware of, and submit to Water User Board.

o Grant Tracker

Brycson explained to the people that the grant tracker is there to keep track of all activities conducted by the organization. The Navajo Nation Budget & Finance Committee requested that two program office must have access view to this software. However, this is going to cause problem – the organization will need to find a way to host remote access.

To over the problem are as follow:

1. Put the Grant Tracker software on the Navajo Nation web network.
2. Create to have the own server on site, and this will allow the organization to have control over it. This software will open up more doors for the organization as well such running their own email, website design, and faster web network connections.
3. It will be slow viewing access, but the Navajo Nation Program can see the view through web network.

Lorena explained the Navajo Nation programs to have access view are Office of the Auditor General and Office of the Controller. Currently, the Office of the Controller has access to view the Chapters account within Wells Fargo.

Her question to Byrceson, “If the organization will have its own server than will the organization have to hire an IT person?”

Byrcson responded to Lorena’s questions, “To have a Server will allow the organization to have an IT person, but not for an everyday employment. It is to find someone that can conduct periodic management.” “He can search for a Server that will meet the organization need, and for the time being will to take care of the server.”

Dorthea stated, “The T/W Dineh Water User will need to have its own server, so they can control it themselves, but asked Bycson to search for Server that will best fit the Organization need.”

Action: To have the Tsaille / Wheatfields Dineh Water User have its own Server; Brycson is assigned to find a server that will work for the organization; and for him to complete the Employee Policies and Procedures base his knowledge and law of creating a policies and procedures.

Motioned by Merle Kedelty

Seconded by Teresa Chee

Voting: 13 yes; 0 no; 7 abstained

Motion Carried

- Next steps to the project

Lorena explained on March 7, 2017, Aaron Begay signed and submitted the MOA that was signed by the Navajo Nation President on March 6, 2017. On March 20, 2017, Aaron signed the Navajo Nation Budget transfer that the organization had to use, and the submitted on this day too. Two days ago, meaning Friday, March 31, 2017, the Office of Budget and Management emailed Lorena stated this budget was seen twice by office. This paper work will need a Project Number and Unit Number assigned. Leonard Chee from the Office of the Navajo Nation President indicated that he will put a Project Number and Unit Number.

Dorthea stated, “The money will be coming any time, so what do we need to do to prepare? Do we start the Advertisement now?”

Lorena stated, “Yes, we will need to start advertising for the position, but Brycson will need to complete the Employee Policies and Procedures and the Water User Board will need to accept it first too.”

Dorthea stated, “The Farmers are asking about soil conditions. I know the Navajo Nation policy indicates the procurement law must be obeyed, but for the two consultants listed on the Wheatfields Agricultures should be entitle to a Sole Source. As result, can I write a Sole Source to state the reasons for consultants to help the organization – Both Brycson Pinto and Michael Isaacson, KB – Walkoma, LLC is already written into the proposed budget, and they are knowledge about our organizations?”

Action: To approve Dorthea to write a Sole Source for choosing both Brycson Pinto and Mike Isaacson to be consultants.

Motioned by Bennie Litson

Seconded by Sadie NezTsosie

Voting: 18 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

8. Request for presentation at Food Summit Conference by Navajo Nation

Dorthea explained there is a Diné Food Summit Conference sponsored by Navajo Nation with the help of other entities. This is going to be held at Diné College Student Union Building in Tsaile, AZ on April 6, 7, & 8, 2017.

We were asked to conduct a presentation at this conference to talk about Wheatfields Agriculture Project on April 8, 2017. I told them I put on the agenda and figure out who will present.

David M. Tsosie indicated that Dorthea will presentation. Bennie asked that we have Aaron, Dorthea, and Lorena do the presentation.

Action: Farm Board and Water User Board are to both conduct the presentation.

Motioned by David M. Tsosie

Seconded by Lorenzita Jones

Voting: 18 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

III. New Business

a. Agricultural Land Use Permit

- Transfers
- Probates
- Disputes

Lorena explained Vernon Burbank and Tracy Begay will be added to the agenda. There is need to research with BIA on Vernon Burbank Land Use Permit. His paper work was submitted when Paraphilia Fowler was a secretary.

Action: Currently, there is no Land User Permit, but Vernon Burbank and Tracy Begay will be added to the agenda.

IV. Receiving Reports

Action: No action taken

Announcement

- ✚ District 11 Grazing Meeting, Monday, April 3, 2017 at Lukachukai Chapter House at 9am
Lukakachukai, AZ
- ✚ Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter Planning Meeting, Monday April 3, 2017 at Wheatfields Chapter House
at 1pm, Wheatfields, AZ
- ✚ Navajo Nation Budget & Finance Committee Meeting, Monday, April 10, 2017 at Window Rock,
AZ
- ✚ Navajo Nation Joint Farm Board Meeting, Thursday, April 13, 2017 at Navajo Nation Forestry
Office at 10am, Fort Defiance, AZ (Potluck will take place.)
- ✚ Tsaile / Wheatfields / Blackrock Azee Bee Nahaghá of Diné Nation plan to have a Community
Prayer Service on Saturday, April 29, 2017 in Wheatfields, AZ at Nidiche Yah Hozhoni, where the
Late Phillip Sandavol's family and children home place. Mr. Earl Morris will be conducting the
prayer service. This prayer service is an Appreciation Meeting for Life, Nature, and Great work
happening in Community. (People are willing to help with food, and requested that the ABNDN
officer to let them know what food they need help with.). Plus, Bennie Litson stated, "this is where
the first Teepee that came to the Navajo Nation, and made by Late Joe Serra for Leo Harvey was
dedicated.

V. Conclusion

d. Next Agenda Item

- SWOT Analysis and Wheatfields Agriculture Project to merge to create a strategic plan.
- Fencing
- Policy for Employer
- Land User Permit – Vernon Burbank and Tracy Begay

Please note: Additional questions people commented:

- Data Soil Sample
- Engineering help by Mike Isaacson
- Dishonesty
- Spray of Prairie Dog
- What does it mean by Ranchers?

e. Schedule next meeting date, Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 10am Wheatfields, AZ

f. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 3:52pm

Motioned by Bennie Litson

Seconded by Teresa Chee

Voting: All in favor.