

**Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting**  
**Monday, January 18, 2016 @ 10am**  
**Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ**

AGENDA

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting call to order
- b. Invocation
- c. Adopt agenda
- d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2015 & December 9, 2015
- e. Announcements:

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a.

III. NEW BUSSINESS

- a. Land Use Permit- Transfer, Relinquish, Probate, etc.
- b. Revitalization Project
  - Report of Collect Assessment from Field Visit
- c. Water User
  - Annual Report to submit to Navajo Nation Business Regulatory
  - Resolution to Business Regulatory
- d. 2016 Annual Plan

IV. Reports

- a. Farm Board
- b. Water User
- c. Others

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Identify next agenda items
- B. Scheduled next meeting date
- C. Adjournment

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MEETING MINUTES

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting called to order at 12:20pm
- b. Invocation conducted by Lorena Eldridge
- c. Adopt agenda  
Dorthea reviewed the agenda. No amendments or questions.

*Action: The agenda accepted as reviewed.*

*Motioned by Lucinda Davis*

*Seconded by Aaron Begay*

*Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried*

- d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2015 & December 9, 2015  
Dorthea read the meeting minutes from both, November 15, and December 9, 2015.  
No amendments or questions to the meeting minutes read.

*Action: The meeting minutes were accepted as read.*

*Motioned by Lucinda Davis*

*Seconded by Aaron Begay*

*Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried*

- e. Announcements:  
The follow were the announcements:  
Title: Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter Meeting  
Location: Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ  
Time: 1pm or 3pm  
Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2016

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. No old business item listed.

III. NEW BUSSINESS

- a. Land Use Permit- Transfer, Relinquish, Probate, etc.

*No action. No one submitted for the Land Use Permit.*

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- b. Revitalization Project
- Report of Collect Assessment from Field Visit

As Farm Board members were able to visit Angela Kedelty's Farmland; from there Lorena and Lucinda visited the late Louise Begay's farmland in Lower Wheatfields, and Aaron and Dorthea visited Arthur Allen's farmland. The following are the assessments:

Farmland and Location	Acres	Assessments
Angela Kedelty Farmland, Tsaile area	16	Fencing needs to be repaired; weeds; but good soil.
Louise Begay's farmland, Lower Wheatfields	2	Gate Entrance, but three option; boundary fence need repaired; weeds and prairie dogs; but soil is good.
Arthur Allen's farmland, Tsaile area.	13	Fencing needs to be repaired, erosion problem; and clay soil

Analysis of Assessment:

- Fence Repair are need in all area.

Solutions:

- Letters need to be written to Gale Davis, Lloyd James, and Albert Allen to resolve the issue of created an entrance for Late Louise Begay's farmland.
- Create an estimation for fence materials needed and cost.

Background information: Farm Board subleased 18 acres and Arthur Allen is the one that fall under the Revitalization Project.

Other suggestion:

Write letters to additional farmers who might be interested in the Revitalization Project.

*Action: Dorthea writes letters to Gale Davis, Lloyd James, and Albert Allen to resolve the issue of created an entrance for Late Louise Begay's farmland. Lucinda creates an estimation for fence materials needed and cost for the sublease farmland. At the next meeting identify more farmers to write too for Revitalization Project.*

*Motioned by Aaron Begay  
Seconded by Lucinda Davis  
Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried*

# Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting

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### Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

- c. Water User (Please note: The meeting was turned over to Aaron Begay, Water User President.)
- Annual Report to submit to Navajo Nation Business Regulatory
  - Resolution to Business Regulatory

Dorthea reviewed the annual report and resolution that the Tsaile / Wheatfields Water User submits to Navajo Nation Business Regulatory on an annual base in order to conduct business as a nonprofit organization. Once the approval is completed then the organization can submit is paper to Internal Revenue Services.

*Action: To accept the Annual Report and Resolution to be submitted to Navajo Nation Business Regulatory.*

*Motioned by Lucinda Davis*

*Seconded by Lorena Eldridge*

*Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried*

- d. 2016 Annual Plan

What are types of grants available: First Nation has two for food security and seeds savings.

What is met by Chapters not receiving revenue from Navajo gaming? Lorena explained that the hosting chapter is give \$75,000 and all other chapters are given \$25, 000. The money has to be allocated to shovel ready projects.

At this point, it seems like the Farm Board has to submit proposal to outside funders. The Navajo Nation funding is very political and the priorities all different.

Projects	January 2016	February 2016	March 2016	April 2016	May 2016
Diversions Dam Repair			End of March, need to start the repair.		Deadline to finish the project is the first weekend of May.
Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sii hasin Funds</li> </ul>					
First Nation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Security</li> <li>• Seeds Savings</li> </ul>	Deadline for Food Security is Jan. 25, 2016	Deadline for Seeds Saving is Feb. 2016			
Risk Management					
Keep-seagle Settlement					

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Annual Water User Meeting	Prepare	Prepare	Annual Meeting is March 19, 2016		
Revitalization Farmland Project					
Workshops			Irrigation and Soil March 26, 2016 by Land Grant  <u>Teaching / Learning</u> Fencing Planning Planting	NEPA by BIA	Irrigation and Soil May 7, 2016 by Land Grant

*Action: Accepted the Annual Planning*

*Motioned by Aaron Begay*

*Seconded by Lucinda Davis*

*Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried*

**IV. Reports**

a. Farm Board

**President:** She reported she attended the tail end of the Joint Navajo Nation Farm Board meeting in December 2015. At the time, the group were discussing their Stipend. She also noticed that Tsaile / Wheatfield Farm Board Vice President was selected as a secretary to the Joint Navajo Nation Farm Board.

**Vice President:** She reported she attended the Joint Navajo Nation Farm Board meeting in December 2015. At the meeting, making quorum was difficult, and it the officers a long time to approve the agenda. One item was added to the agenda and that was selecting new officers. New officer were selected, and she was nominated at secretary. The following are new officers:

- Olin Kayma, President
- Donde Begay, Vice President
- Lucinda Davis, Secretary

The topics covered were BIA’s NEPA; NRCS Report; and Stipend.

BIA Natural Resource staff reported that they need to conduct the environmental assessment as National Environmental Protection Act spells out. Calbert Curley from the Fort Defiance Agency stated, “They are looking at Fish and Wildlife to collect the data.” At this point it’s unclear how the assessment will be completed, and it has not started. The people have not settle if one conservation needs to be written or several conservations to be written.

NRCS staff, Mr. Richard Begay, reported that last year, million dollars had to be returned to the government due to lack of proposal that the Navajo Nation submitted.

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Stipend are being cut for the Farm Board to \$108.00 per meeting. However, going forward from here the Farm Board has requested Mr. Otto Tso, Council Delegate to sponsor a legislation during the Winter Session to have the Council Delegate to at least request to see if Farm Board can receive stipend for attending Chapter meeting. Current request to have it at \$500 per month for attending Chapter Meeting.

Secretary: No report.

- b. Water User  
The officers had no report.
- c. Others  
No item listed.

Action: No action taken on the reports provided.

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Identify next agenda items
  - Financial Report – Account Receivable included
  - Identify Farmers to write too.
  - Update on Proposal
  - Annual Plan – Categories the annual plan.
  - Plan Annual Water User meeting March 2016.
- B. Scheduled next meeting date to Saturday, January 23, 2016 @ 10 am, but @ 12pm if it is snowing, Wheatfields Chapter House.
- C. Adjournment

*Action: Accepted meeting adjournment at 2:55 pm*

*Motioned by Lucinda Davis*

*Seconded by Aaron Begay*

*Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained*

*Motion Carried.*