

Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
Sunday, June 5, 2016 @ 2pm
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, May 17, 2016
- e. Announcements:

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Junk Food Sales Tax
- b. Fund Management Plan
 - To receive money from Navajo Nation Permanent Trust Fund

III. NEW BUSSINESS

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

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 2:25 pm

b. Invocation by Kathy Johns

c. Adopt agenda

Dorthea reviewed the agenda. No amendments, comments, or questions

Action: The agenda accepted as read.

Motioned by Willis Becenti

Seconded by Kathy Johns

Voting: 5 yes; 0 no; 2 abstained

Motion Carried

d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2016

Dorthea read last meeting minutes from the May 17, 2016 meeting. No amendments, comments, or questions.

Action: The meeting minutes accepted as read.

Motioned by Lucinda Davis

Seconded by Kathy Johns

Voting: 8 yes; 0 no; 2 abstained

Motion Carried

e. Announcements:

The following were the announcements:

- Reservation Wide Joint Farm Board Meeting, Ganado Chapter House, Thursday, June 16, 2016, at 10am
- Reservation Wide Farm Board and Grazing Meeting & Workshop, June 27 & 28, 2016 in Farmington, NM
- Tsaile / Wheatfields Farm Board Permittee Meeting, Friday, June 24, 2016 at 10am Wheatfields Chapter House.
- Tsaile / Wheatfields Veterans Meeting, Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 5pm at Wheatfields Chapter House.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Junk Food Sales Tax

Lorena explained the Navajo Nation Junk Food Sales Tax was assigned to Farm Board in March 2016 chapter planning and chapter meeting per requested by Dorthea Litson. The Farm Board and Water User has been talking about this since then.

The entire time the Community Development has NOT developed a guideline of how or what the funds will be used. However, as of May 16, 2016 the Navajo Nation Legislative branch finally approved the legislation with a guideline.

Lorena read the legislation of how 2 % sale tax can be use:

Fitness class

Tradition/ contemporary preparation class

Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting

Sunday, June 5, 2016 @ 2pm

Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

And many other more.

Finally, we don't know how much money the Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter will be receiving. The 50/50 formula will be use to divide the funding amount to each chapter.

Dorthea indicated that the questions are develop and will be distribute for the people from youth to elder to fill out. Based on the compiled data, the Farm Board and Water User will be developing a proposal.

Action: No action taken, but the questioners will be distributed.

b. Fund Management Plan

- To receive money from Navajo Nation Permanent Trust Fund

Lorena explained that the Farm Board and Water User has been planning for funding for some time now. The following took place:

- The Farm Board and Water User wrote a proposal for the Narbona Growth fund in 2014.
- The Navajo Nation received 554 million now known as the Sihasin Fund.
- They updated the proposal by December 2014, and conducted a presentation to the Navajo Nation Budget and Finance Committee in December 2014.
- The Farm Board and Water User submitted their proposal to the Sihasin Fund Committee where they were requested for purchase of equipment, personnel, and warehouse. At that time, the funding amount was 2.9 million.
- The Farm Board and Water User updated the proposal again in March 2016. The funding amount increased to 3.9 million.
- The Farm Board and Water User conducted another presentation before the Sihasin Fund Committee at Twin Arrow in Flagstaff, April 2016.
- In the meantime, the Navajo Nation Council created a plan for economic development, so they can use the Permanent Trust Fund. By that time, our presentation was accepted, and put into the plan where the Tsaile / Wheatfields Farm Board and Water User were approved \$5 million.
- Now, the \$ 5million is spread 5 years in the following ways for us; we will receive 3 million in year 2 which is January 1, 2017 and \$2 million in year 5.

The Navajo Nation Water Management Branch has already receive funding through the Sihasin Fund where they had to create a fund management plan, so they can receive the money. This Department is different.

However, we, meaning the Tsaile / Wheatfeilds Farm Board and Water User can receive funding in several ways: a. Water User nonprofit 501 c status; Chapter; or Navajo Nation with assigned agent; or as an enterprise.

Comments / Suggestions / Questions:

Honorable Nelson Begaye explained that the Navajo Nation has two funding sources where the Tsaile / Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User submitted a proposal for one, then another funding source also picked up the project. The Permanent Trust Fund is a five year plan

Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting

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Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

were the money will be common January 1, 2017 at 3 million; and 2 million in last year. He noted that the Farm Board can continue to seek funding from Sisiin fund requesting for a processing center and partner with Dine' College. More importantly, the Farm Board and Water User need to develop a fund management plan, so the money can be accepted through the Water User Non-profit status. This Board already has success story where they were able to complete a 1.2 million dollar underground irrigation project. There are people in Window Rock Office trying to figure out how the money can be moved around.

Bryceson explained his background experience of creating accounting software and establishing financial program and operation as he worked with many Native American Tribes over the years. Furthermore, he explained to build a fund management plan the organization must have a written history to indicate the type of project it has handle over the year to make a case of what they can handle. It includes the fund accounting system. The accounting system that he has establish with the Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User is a system that can hold separate accounts. In addition, he is able to build different accounting programs. There is one that he has built which is call a Grant Tracker. The Grant Tracker is currently used by the Fallen Piute Shosoni Tribe out of Fallen, NV. The trackers track all goal and objective of the project and more other capabilities.

Bryceson's questions:

- What is the timeline?
- Who are the stakeholders?
- Who are the partners?

Finally, honorable Nelson Begaye stated, "The funding needs to be directly funded with question? The Farm Board is going to sublease the land, and money will be house in Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User account.

Lorena noted, "The Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User and Farm Board has already worked with Bryceson".

Action: To create a Fund Management Plan by July 15, 2016. Bryceson Pinto has already help us in developing the Tsaile / Wheatfield Dineh Water User financial accounting system. We will have him develop the fund management system again. Bryceson is to provide us a price quote, and in return the Farm Board will request funding for the \$ 5000.00 from the Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter. This will be present at the Chapter Planning meeting, and present at Chapter meeting if approved to move forward to chapter meeting.

Motioned by Lucinda Davis

Seconded by Kathy Johns

Voting: 8 yes; 0 no; 3 abstained

Motion Carried

III. NEW BUSINESS

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

Action: No request at this time. No action taken.

IV. Reports

- a. Farm Board
President – no reports

Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
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Vice President: -No Reports
Secretary: No Reports

- b. Water User
Secretary / Treasurer: She provided an update on the irrigation project in Upper Wheatfields. The Water Masters have replace all pipes that needed attention, and they are now backfilling the dirt over the install irrigation pipes.
- c. Others

Action: The reports were accepted as provided.

Motioned by Kathy John

Seconded by Dorthea Litson

Voting: 10 yes; 0 no; 2 abstained

Motion Carried

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Identify next agenda items
- Fund Management Plan
 - Survey Question for Junk Food Sales Tax
- B. Scheduled next meeting date, Thursday, June 23, 2015 5pm at Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ.
- C. Adjournment
Action: Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm
Motioned by Willis Becenti
Seconded by Dorthea Litson
Voting: 9 yes; 0 no; 2 abstained

Motion Carried