

# **TSAILE – WHEATFIELDS – BLACKROCK CHAPTER**

## **Meeting Agenda**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2017**

**1:00 PM**

### **I. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. Meeting Called to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Invocation
- D. Review/Accept Agenda
- E. Announcements

### **II. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Ratifications
- B. Action Items:
  - 1. Removing the names of the former Chapter Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer from all Chapter Bank Accounts, and Adding the names of the Current Chapter Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer onto all Chapter Bank Accounts.
  - 2. Anti-Fracking
  - 3. Many Farms Chapter Supporting Resolution
  - 4. CLUPC Supporting Resolution for Amending Community Cemetery POO

### **III. REPORTS**

- A. Chinle Unified School District
- B. Council Delegate
- C. Chapter Officials
- D. CHR
- E. Farm Board
- F. CLUPC
- G. Senior Center

### **IV. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 17 2017**

**8:25 AM**

**Tsaile/Wheatfields**

**Chapter**

**BY: DDb**

**TSAILE – WHEATFIELDS – BLACKROCK CHAPTER**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2017**

**1:00 PM**

**RECEIVED**

**I. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. Meeting Called to Order: 1:18 PM
- B. Pledge of Allegiance: Conducted by Secretary/Treasurer K.E.N. Nata'ani
- C. Invocation: Provided by President Zane James
- D. Review/Accept Agenda: Read by Secretary/Treasurer K.E.N. Nata'ani  
**Motion) Louise Tso Second) Willis Becenti Vote 24-0-5**

**JAN 20 2017**

*4:35 pm*

**Tsaile/Wheatfields**

**Chapter**

**By: *DSB***

Additions to Agenda:

1. Jaime Yazzie: Permission to conduct a study/research on the community – IIRB (Action Item)
2. Mr. Claw: Indian Education Committee to re-appoint the IEC member from the Tsaile – Wheatfields – Blackrock Chapter. (Action item)
3. Willis Becenti: Request for Status on Chapter Audit and CAP Reports.

President James: Chapter Officials and Staff will be meeting with the Auditor General tomorrow, 1/18/17, and Audit and CAP Report will be placed on the February 2017 agenda.

4. Lucinda Campbell: Extended Welcome to the chapter officials; inquiry on the vacancy of the open position, expressed interest in running for the School Board Member vacancy.

President James: Will provide a brief announcement during Announcement section of the Agenda.

- E. Review/Accept Minutes: Chapter Planning Meeting January 4, 2017  
**Motion) Orlando Charley Second) Willis Becenti Vote 39-0-8**

- Chapter Planning Meeting Minutes January 4, 2017 was read verbatim in the English language
- Chapter Planning Meeting Minutes January 4, 2017 was paraphrased in the Navajo language at community members request.

Angie Brown: Extensive verbatim review of Minutes comprises the flow in completing the agenda.

President James: The Chapter would benefit from the presence of an interpreter of the Navajo language for our non-Navajo speakers.

Louise Tso: Speaking from prior experience, the reading of minutes is cumbersome; particularly when the minutes were not recorded by the current reader. Additionally, our Secretary is able to forward completed minutes via email for review before the next meeting, provided we submit our email.

Adella Begay: Recommend the utilization a projector to show the meeting agenda and minutes.

Sara James: Our elders comment that the Navajo people are not fully preserving nor fluently speaking the Navajo language. We are able to speak the Navajo Nation, in the reading of the Minutes. Respectfully request for the chapter to provide copies of Meeting Minutes before the start of the meeting.

Our community can follow principles that are within the paradigm of peaceful and productive measure.

Recommending Last Minutes of the Duly Called Meeting to be made available for the membership before the start of the meeting.

Leonard Chee: Following the Minutes of the Last Duly called meeting to have copies available for community

President James: We will set the pace in organizing our administration to run the effective chapter meetings within the coming months.

F. Announcements:

- Council Delegate: Meeting in Albuquerque, NM; the 12<sup>th</sup>
- Vice-President Devon Begay: Self-Introduction.
- Secretary/Treasurer K.E.N. Nata'ani: Self-Introduction.
- President Zane James: Self-Introduction.

Lukachukai Community School Board Member: Navajo Election Office is accepting applications for the school board vacancy for the next two weeks; all interested parties are encouraged to submit the \$200 application fee to run in the special election.

## II. BUSINESS ITEMS:

### A. Ratifications:

1. Burial Assistance: Jasper Joe & Harold J. Notah

**Motion 1) Sara James 2) Louise Tso Vote: 41-0-5**

### B. Action Items:

1. (Resolution) Authorizing Deletion of David Kedelty and Margie R.S. Begay from Chapter Account and Adding Devon Begay and Kuhyonre E. Nata'ani to be Signers on Tsaille/Wheatfields Chapter Account and Checks, Effective January 17, 2017.

**Motion 1) Orlando Charley 2) Lucita Bahe Vote: 43-0-5**

2. (Resolution) Resolution Supporting Navajo Nation Eastern Agency areas and Communities in Opposition of further approval of Federal Mineral Leasing and Federal Oil and Gas Related Projects, and Environmental Analysis by Bureau of Land Management

**Motion 1) David Kedelty 2) David Tsosie Vote: 36-0-4**

Adella Begay: The Federal, State, and Non-Navajo agencies are generating vast amounts of revenue, on average between \$18 and \$19 million, that are extracted from Navajo lands – Eastern Agency. The Navajo Nation never received significant sums of money from the extraction of Navajo resources.

Winnie Henry: The Navajo Language is significant in every facet of our lives. Equally significant is our environment; Navajo resources need to be protected.

Willis Becenti: I recall the significance of a map located at Diné College mapping-out particular points of resource locations. Later, the points of resource locations were matched with pockets of oil on Navajo Nation Eastern Agency.

It is true that the revenue generated from resource extraction is not a significant sum that never exceeded 18 cents, far below the market value.

Delegate N. BeGaye: Explanation of the Fracking. The nature of our current state of Navajo reverence for nature and social awareness is not fully appreciated or observed by the majority of the Navajo people.



3. (Resolution) Amending Tsaile/Wheatfields Chapter Resolution No: TWFY16-022 in Supporting and Approving Many Farms' Requesting in the Amount of \$19,620.00 from Navajo Division of Transportation to Purchase Materials, Freight/Delivery and Fuel Costs to Complete the 3.5 Miles Ram Pasture Road Improvement Project.

**Motion 1) Sarah James 2) Orlando Charley      Vote: 35-0-9**

Charlotte Begay: I am from the Many Farms area near the Ram Pasture Area, where the Green Sage Meadow area. I am seeking support for the Ram Pasture Road Improvement

In 2015, as motioned by David Tsosie and Lucinda Davis, to place culverts on the roads; school buses were chronically stuck on RT 8084.

Articulated concrete systems were reduced from eight to five culverts.

Tomorrow, 1/18/17, there is a meeting in Tse Bonito, NM, to ensure a successful gathering of funds for the Ram Pasture Road Improvement Project.

Herbert Clark: There were individuals who stopped the formation of a paved road construction. There were community members who did not wish for the paved road.

4. CLUPC Supporting Resolution for Amending Community Cemetery POO

Deferred to February 2017 Meeting.

**Motion 1) Willis Becenti      2) VP Devon Begay      Vote: 37-0-5**

5. (Approval) Mandatory Travel - Mandatory Navajo Governance travel for newly elected chapter officials and chapter staff. Tsaile/Wheatfields Chapter 2017 Navajo Nation Governance Conference, February 27 to March 3, 2017, Sheraton Airport, Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Motion 1) Mildred Silversmith      2) Louise Tso      Vote: 36-0-5**

President James: Chapter Officials and staff are required by a mandatory attendance to participate in the Navajo Nation Governance Conference to aid in the fulfillment of the government responsibilities and duties.

Tsaile – Wheatfields – Blackrock Chapter continues to practice a process of asking the community before any official travel.

6. (Resolution) Supporting Northern Arizona University School of Forestry to Request the Navajo Nation Institutional Review Board to Support and Authorize the Research Study "Navajo Perceptions and Concerns of Ecosystem Services Under Climate Change" to be Conducted by Jaime Yazzie.

**Motion 1) Winnie Henry 2) David Tsosie      Vote: 38-0-4**

Jaime Yazzie: Requesting for support to conduct Forest Study, and to solicit study of interest from community members from the study to be conducted, for current and future projects.

President James: Navajo interpretation of speaker presentation

Herbert Clark: Explanation of the historical presence of the Navajo Forestry Industry.

Abuse of overcutting, slash cleaning, no clean-up after; I opposed the left-over work that did not include cleanup, and plenty of support from local and outside agencies intervened to conduct a clean-up.

The rarity of the Red-pine, elderly trees, considerable age of 300 years; no many of the red-pine reached old-age in our chapter after the deforestation.

Mr. Herbert Clark served on prior Chapter Official positions, started with the Grazing Official position.

- 1) 8087 BIA Roads in the Blackrock Community; Apache County Road where the operators are reporting that they are completing the work.
- 2) Ram Pasture road area.

Michelly Jackson: Self-Introduction. I grew up in the high mountain area of Wheatfields, and the natural environment was very pristine. The pine forestry had a deep canopy of dark shade; after returning home from the logging activity, the deep canopy was no longer available. The environmental shock continues to affect my being.

I am very interested in the results of the Research when completed.

Adella Begaye: The cultural heritage of our environment is unknowingly supporting carbon credit for outside interest that do not support our local chapter nor the Navajo Nation, for example, similar situations exist within the Indigenous Peoples of South America that disrupted their livelihood. Coconino County is selling their carbon credit to industry companies.

Rita Bahe: Commercial business opportunity to sell the pine needles, the control of forest logs.

Jaime Yazzie: Will hold a meeting to have a discussion on March and May 2017, will distribute flyer beforehand.

7) (Resolution) Indian Community School ICE

**Motion to Table 1) Winnie Henry 2) Sara James Vote: 33-0-4**

### III. REPORTS

A. Chinle Unified School District (Deferred to next meeting)

B. Council Delegate:

- The focus of money is now a major issue. Council is reviewing Fiscal Year 2017, and the neglect of funds by chapters is gaining support to potentially remove funds from the chapters.
- Plans for future financial stability are important, and the economic health of the Navajo Nation needs to be addressed. In the Dził Ijiiin area, the Black Mesa Mine provided the Mojave Generating Station with coal via the slurry line; after much protest, the slurry line ended. The revenue generated and workforce has evaporated which impacts Navajo economy.
- Water is the most precious resource in the coming years for the Navajo Nation to maintain a viable and healthy economy.
- Kayenta Mine railroad to Page, AZ, is another economic impact similar to the Black Mesa Mine and Mojave Generating Station.
- December 22, 2017, Lease is Ending with Peabody and Salt River Project. Outside interest see to allow the lease to be extended to the year 2030; Ben Shelly never signed. Page Generating Station is closing down.
- Navajo Nation Stimulus Bill: Navajo Nation vs. Kerr McGee Settlement started the seed money for the Permanent Trust Fund; where the people will decide to access the Permanent Trust Fund. The entire 216 million is not one complete withdrawal, withdrawals will be in yearly increments at \$36 million. One area of the Stimulus Bill allows for 20 miles of road development for each delegate. The example would be Chinle Chapter will have 20 miles, while delegates with multiple chapters will have to be distributed among multiple chapters.
- Navajo Nation Controller: Jim Parris interviewed before the Navajo Nation Council. Jim Parris created a plan to work a few days a week for one year, and is salaried \$140K plus a \$10K bonus every quarter – to create a mentorship for the Navajo Nation Controller position, and Mr. Parris concluded multiple resignations. The President utilized the Personnel Lapse fund for Mr. Parris' compensation, being reviewed for litigation, bonus is also taken from there. He closed the usage to delegates, 17 to go verse 5 to stay. Chief Manuelito students are many, we can use them. Russell Begay was not happy that the Funds Manager is gone. Rebutal, only works two days so who takes care of it the other 3 days. There are many policies.



Adella Begaye: Energy Resource Companies have been exploiting the Navajo Nation since the discovery of natural resources. Wells Fargo is exploiting the Navajo Nation, strongly urge to move Navajo money into another banking institution, a complete divesting,

Angie Brown: Through the radio and mass-communication; since the chapter has a lot of money, why are the roads not completed. Audit has not been fully accepted. Have the exact assistance to know where the chapter's money – the people's money.

Willis Becenti: Leave the Permanent Trust Fund alone, utilize the interest to pay for the Navajo Nation Stimulus.

- Winnie Henry: Thank you for the remaining 25 individuals. The Audit is of great interest, and the audit must be cleared before the new administration is able to lead a clean administration. Encouraged the chapter officials to lead a clean administration for their safety. NHA housing is another critical issue, a large mess, needs a back-up plan.
- Blackrock Community members: Please assist in completing the road, we have many heart patients to oversee. We have a cistern system, and we worry during the freezing weather conditions. The true issues need to be addressed before the administrative matters are reached. Please help us. Water is a necessary need, second major issue. Senior citizen issues is a major concern. The major heavy equipment to grade the road does not completely grade the entire road.

President James: \$25K was put aside for the Biological and Archeological Clearance for the Blackrock Community road, to-date, the clearance finds of no impact, the matter now lies in finding the funds to complete the road project.

Response by Council Delegate: By law 12% must be deposited from Permanent Trust Fund, similar to the Veterans Trust Fund of 4%.

\*\*\*\*\*LOST QUORUM at 5:40 PM\*\*\*\*\*

#### C. Chapter Officials

Secretary/Treasurer: Brief summary of the recent Chinle Agency Council Meeting, Saturday, 1/14/17; the Trump Administration is looking at domestic budget cuts and two Navajos will be on the Trump Administration – Carlyle Begay and Sharon Clahchischilliage.

Vice-President: Thank you for staying into the late hour for the meeting; and we will continue to strive for accountability and transparency. At the Central Agency Inauguration, I distinctively remember the words of Percy Deal in regards to the chapter leadership for ethical leadership, (paraphrased) "I went in clean, and I left clean."



President: We will continue to review the upcoming actions for the year, and will continue to act in the best interest of the chapter community.

- D. CHR
- E. Farm Board
- F. CLUPc
- G. Senior Center

**Motion 1)            2)            Vote:    \*\*\*No motion to accept all Reports – No Quorum\*\*\***

#### **IV. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**February 7, 2017, 9 am**

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to Adjourn 1) Willis Becenti 2) Daniel Staley    Vote: All Vote Yes.  
Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.**

Chapter Meetings electronically processed and submitted by Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Kuhyonre E. Nata'ani