

TSAILE/WHEATFIELDS JOINT FARM BOARD AND WATER USER MEETING
Sunday May 19, 2019 @ 1:00 PM
WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER HOUSE, WHEATFIELDS, AZ

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 – 4/14/19, 5/3/19

RECEIVED

SEP 16 2019

Tsaile/Wheatfields
Chapter BY: psb

II. OLD BUSINESS

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

- A. Each FB will submit 12 crop inventory reports from their respective Agriculture Land Use Permittees (ALUP).

Goal Statement: Each FB will submit at least 3 respective crop inventory reports quarterly in table format (3CIR x 13 FBs).

1. Crop Inventory

- B. 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.

1. Wheatfields Agriculture Projects

- A. Project Update
- B.

- C. Provide training and assist farmers in updating or developing a conservation plan as required by BIA and the Navajo Nation.

Goal Statement: With farmer participation, implement conservation training and develop 2 or more plans per quarter per FB review.

1. Training

- D. 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.

1. Tri-Party Agreement

- E. Each FB member shell 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)

1. Evelyn/Clementine Alhedley
2. Lucinda Chee
3. Elfreda Begody

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. WUA

IV. RECEIVING REPORTS

- A. Reports
- B. Announcements
- C.

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Next Agenda Items
 1. Same items as before
 - 2.
 - 3.
- B. Next Meeting
- D. Adjournment

TSAILE/WHEATFIELDS JOINT FARM BOARD AND WATER USER MEETING
Monday May 19, 2019 @ 1:00 PM
WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER HOUSE, WHEATFIELDS, AZ

Minutes

1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Meeting called to order

Meeting was called to order at 1:45 pm by the President.

B. Invocation

Invocation was given by Emerson Chee

C. Roll Call

Lorena Eldridge, Lucinda Davis and Emerson Chee – Present,
Water Users Association – All Absent

D. Recognition of guest(s) and visiting officials

All local farmers

E. Review and adoption of agenda

Agenda read by Lucinda Davis

Motion to accept the agenda as is by: Emerson Chee

Second by: Lucinda Davis

Votes: 4 – 0 - 1

F. Review and adoption of last minutes of 4/14/2019, 5/3/2019

Minute for April 14, 2019 was read by Lucinda Davis

Emerson Chee motioned to accept the minutes and defer the minutes of May 3, 2019 as requested by Lucinda Davis

Second by: Lucinda Davis

Votes: 4 – 0 - 1

II. OLD BUSINESS

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

A. Each FB will submit 12 crop inventory reports from their respective Agriculture Land Use Permittees (ALUP).

Goal Statement: Each FB will submit at least 3 respective crop inventory reports quarterly in table format (3CIR x 13 FBs).

1. Crop Inventory

Next collection of crop inventory will be in June, 2019. Schedule a deadline for crop inventory will be on the June 26, 2019 in order for Lorena to put the quarterly report together and turn into Department of Agriculture. Lorena explained the crop inventory to new farmers that came to the meeting and what is on the form. The report will have April, May and June. The last quarterly report was March, 2019. She explained the Fiscal Year which is October to September. Reports are by quarters and explained what the quarters are. Crop inventory is submitted to the Navajo Nation every quarter, this outlines what the Farm Board has accomplished and this is a supporting document for the

next Fiscal Year Budget. The Nation has a Budget Form called Form 2 and this is what the Nation uses during budget season. From here the subject between Crop Inventory and the Wheatfields Agriculture Project started going back and forth. Lorena had to remind everyone that we are still on the Crop Inventory.

Emerson explained what kind of program we have, he explained the vegetable forage planting and he also said there was a training that the Farm Board can pay the tuition for the farmers to attend... He would like every farmer to come in to put their input comments in so we know where everyone stands.

Alfreda wanted to know what if you try planting but nothing grows, what can be done and reported. She explained that they have been trying to plant but nothing is growing and people cut fencing. Someone kept cutting the fencing and after a while they cut the fence post. What could they do about these kind of actions.

Lorena explained the 127 Land Use Permit that Wheatfields, Tsaille have. Alfreda needs to turn in the Land Use Permit to start the Lease Agreement and she explained that any lease needs to go through the Farm Board, not the WUA. The Crop Report go to the Farm Board not the WUA.

Alfreda said she gave the Land Use Permit to Fred of the Water Users Association.

Lorena asked Emerson if he has received anymore Crop Inventory.

Emerson has not gotten anymore reports, he visited Nelson James, James Becenti but he said it is up to Ivan Becenti, then he visited Danny John and he is talking against the Program. Justin Tsosie is supposed to turn one in. He also wants to sublease the farm because he is too busy.

Lorena asked for the reports and Emerson claims he gave some to Lorena but she does not have the ones he says was turned in.

Motion to accept the report: Lucinda Davis

Second: Emerson Chee

Vote: 4 – 0 - 1

B. 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.

1. Wheatfields Agriculture Projects

A. Project Status Update

Alfreda came in 2 years ago and she had talked to Dortha Litson about her farm.

Lorena asked Alfreda if she knew what the Agriculture Project was and how much she know. Alfreda did not know much about the project so Lorena explained the project to her. How Wheatfields Farm Board received the Permanent Trust Fund Income. It started with a proposal that the Farm Board worked on along with the Water Users. At that time WUA and Farm Board were a team, but once the funds were received the WUA decided to go off on their own. There was a proposal submitted and it was presented to various program and Nelson Begaye, Delegate help and it was approved for a 5 year term of 5 million dollars approved by the Tribal Council. Budget & Finance is the one that had to approve first. The WUA was formed by the Farm Board and

back in the 90's there was only 3 WUA were formed. Here the WUA was almost dissolved, then it was approved again. In the PTF there were only 3 agriculture approved. TWB was the only ones that got the most. Once we go the money, then every penny had to be accounted for. All the equipment were purchased aby the Navajo Nation PTF. This came into the WUA account and this is how the equipment was purchased and it has a SOW. The idea was of using the USDA funds but it has to be in production for two years so this is how the proposal came to. She explained the options, and at this time we are trying to make sure all the money is used for this project. We still need to come back together somehow in order to complete this project. She also went over how the lease steps are and all the quit title works. Emerson said the SOD has to pay 25.00 fee in order to use the Wheatfields Lake. Lorena said that there will be a meeting with B & F on the status of projects. They will be asking how much has been used and if they are behind.

M-Emerson

S-Cindy

V- 4 – 0 -1

Farmer participation, Implement conservation training and develop 2 or more plans per quarter per FB review.

1. Training

Training for all farmers, there is a schedule of training that the Dine College Land Grand Office is conducting, and it is for all the farmers. If you take these training you can be fit into a category that was explained earlier. Going by how your soil is then you can determine what type of soil you have and plant what you want. There is also training for Prairie dogs but I involves chemicals.

Email from Roxie June said the Farm Board are required to attend the Summit.

M – Emerson

S – Cindy

V - 4 0 - 1

- C. 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.

1.

- D. Each FB member shell 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)

1. Tri-Party Agreement

Farmers are asking when and how the best interest of the Farmers to come up with something to where we can make this project successful. We were working really good and now after getting the money there is a separation. Farm Board are told that the money is used and how can the Farm Board be on the same page with the WUA to work

together. Farmers asked if we can work together which is to come up with an agreement. If there is an issue, then we need to have something in place for correction should anything comes up. She went over the Executive Director and last Director was ok with the Tri-Party agreement. Gilbert Harrison said he is busy and Traci Raymond said the tri party agreement is not working, it is just on the shelf, so there were two different sides to the agreement.

Jimmy Wilson is asking when the irrigation water will be turned on. They are planning to plant even with the weather the way it is.

According to the Green House, the green house was approve to put up but not the fence. Emerson has not seen anyone out in the field even though he is out there every day. There was no action on the tri-party agreement so it will be forwarded to the next meeting, we need an overhead projector, the one the Chapter has is an old one that does not work with our laptop.

- E. Evelyn Alhedley did not show, so don't put her on the agenda until she comes back. Lucinda Chee did not come back either, she is reducing the farm land. She is supposed to come back with the Conservation Plan.

Alfreda Begody –

Alfreda, Winnifred, David, and Norma

Permit# 11-3-375, 4.99 acres, 1.4 miles north of Wheatfields Lake. She is the only one that worked on the farm. She did received some seeds and t-post from BIA assisted with. Lorena is not sure why BIA allowed 4 names on a permit with 4.99 acres. They also need a conservation plan which consist of the history, what your plan is for the farm land. 70 hay, 20-vegetable and 10 will be native plant. This will be tabled until we get this taken.

M-Emerson Chee

S-Lucinda Davis

V 4 – 0 - 1

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. WUA Report

IV. RECEIVING REPORTS

A. Reports

1. Complaint from farmers is:

- a. Same farmers are getting assistance that got the services and why was Emerson plowing at midnight.
- b. Fencing are being cutting by WUA which was reported by Don Jones's family. Emerson did say he did that but was repaired already, then someone else cut the fence again.

B. Announcements

- 1. Chapter Meeting 5/20/19 at 1pm
- 2. Permittee Meeting on 6/18/19 at 2:00pm

V. CONCLUSION

A. Next Agenda Items

The same one and keep the Tri-Party Agreement on there.

Next Meeting

June 9, 2019 at 1:00 pm

Adjourned

Adjourned at 4:45 pm by the President