

TSAILE – WHEATFIELDS – BLACKROCK CHAPTER

Regular Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

1:00 PM

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Meeting Called to Order:

B. Pledge of Allegiance:

C. Invocation:

D. Review/Accept Agenda:

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

E. Review/Accept Minutes: Tsaille-Wheatfields-Black Meeting Minutes on April 12, 2017

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

F. Announcements:

II. BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. New Expenditures:

1. Tsaille Rockies 12u Youth Baseball Team monetary request - \$50.

B. Ratifications:

1. \$100.00 – Viola A. Griffin of Tsaille (Burial Assistance)

2. \$100.00 – Mark Davis of Tsaille (Burial Assistance).

3. \$160.15 – Catering/Purchase Food for Chuska Regional Council Mtg. on 4/25/17

4. \$100.00 – Elizabeth M. Harvey of Tsaille (Burial Assistance)

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

C. Action Items:

1. Accepting and Approving Chinle Unified School District – Indian Education Committee Member Selection

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

2. Report on protocol for Sierra Service Project: Home Repair Work Request

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

3. Accepting and Approving Financial Reports March 2017, April 2017, and May 2017

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

4. Accepting and Approving Veterans accepting Kirby Henry as Veterans Secretary.

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

5. Accepting and Approving Tsaille-Wheatfields-Blackrock Chapter Housing Assistance Policy

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

6. Motion Donation: \$50.00 - Chinle Agency Veterans Memorial Event on May 29, 2017.

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

III. REPORTS:

1. Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani

IV. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: **Motion)**

Second)

Vote:

Adjournment at _____

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2017

11:45 AM

Tsaille/Wheatfields

Chapter

BY: ptb

TSAILE – WHEATFIELDS – BLACKROCK CHAPTER

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 24, 2017
1:00 PM**

RECEIVED

MAY 26 2017

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Meeting Called to Order: 1:37 pm
B. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani
C. Invocation: Led by President James
D. Review/Accept Agenda: Agenda read by Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani for approval.

**Tsaile/Wheatfields
Chapter** BY: pdb

Motion) Willis Becenti Second) Ray Redhouse Vote: 23-0-4

- E. Review/Accept Minutes: Tsaile-Wheatfields-Black Meeting Minutes on April 12, 2017, read by Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani for approval.

Motion) Willis Becenti Second) Bennie Litson Vote: 22-0-9

Max Benally: Request for reports from 2016 Home-site Lease Training attendees.

Adella Begaye: The report would be better held at a longer presentation that a short report session for today would not suffice.

David Kedelty: The need for thorough report is important to discussion for future home owners, specifically for the current and in-process home-site lease petitions that are not consistent with the needs of the people.

Adella Begaye: Does the chapter have a policy regarding the approval of two opposing chapter resolutions?

President James: the question on opposing policies and resolutions is a made evident for the community to be aware of an opposing policies and resolutions that are left for the community to determine the final action.

Motion by Charles Chee to add Home-site Lease Training Report and Navajo Election Administration to the Reports Section on the Agenda, Second by David Kedelty. Vote: 29-0-3

F. Announcements:

5/29/17 – Memorial Day Agenda Event, @ 6 pm

6/6/17 – Resource and Development Committee reviewed legislation for Tsaile-Wheatfields Chapter Corrective Action Plan, June 6, 2017 is the new date for Budget and Finance Committee consideration.

6/5/17 – Chuska Regional Council, Rock Point, @ 9 am

6/7/17 – NDOT Building, BIA, Forestry, NNEPA, Archeological and Historic

Preservation, for N12 road construction. Mountain West TTAP, Tod Macalady and Marco Sells.
6/10-11/17, - 1st Annual Veterans Summit at Dine' College, Tsaile
6/11/17 - Family Conference – Promoting Health Family Values, Community Center

Awareness: May 19, 2017, Horse Round-Up plans on the Navajo Nation – community awareness for future meetings.

II. BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. New Expenditures:

1. Tsaile Rockies 12u Youth Baseball Team monetary request - \$50.

President James: Read request letter and supporting documents submitted by Mr. Vale Adakai for the Tsaile Rockies 12u Youth Baseball Team.

Motion) David Kedelty Second) Willis Becenti Vote: 29-0-3

B. Ratifications:

1. \$100.00 – Viola A. Griffin of Tsaile (Burial Assistance)
2. \$100.00 – Mark Davis of Tsaile (Burial Assistance)
3. \$160.15 – Catering/Purchase Food for Chuska Regional Council Mtg on 4/25/17
4. \$100.00 – Elizabeth M. Harvey of Tsaile (Burial Assistance)

**Motion to Combine Ratifications) Willis Becenti Second) Angie Brown
Vote: 17-0-11**

Adella Begaye: Question, if the \$160.15 Catering/Purchase food for Chuska Regional Council Meeting on 4/25/17 is an allowable expense? And if it was approved by the community prior to expense?

Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani: Prior to Chuska Regional Meeting, I opposed the use of the chapter funds to be utilized towards catering expense, and directed that such an expense cannot be authorized, because Navajo Nation policies do not allow for catering expenses per the fund restrictions. Emails were exchanged prior to the meeting date, to notify the chapter administration and officials to not expense the funds.

The day of the meeting, the catering purchases were made for the meeting.

Vice President Begay: Per the Navajo Nation laws, fund descriptions, and Appendix M, the catering purchase was not an allowable expense. I support Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani's efforts to keep the chapter adherent and compliant when chapter funds are being expensed.

There is a loop-hole that exists in the expensing of chapter funds, where the expense is budgeted; however, for accountability and transparency, all expenses should be considered by the chapter community before any chapter funds are expensed.

The efforts to remain adherent and compliant to all accountability and transparency were part of my campaign, and the people voted to elect me to the position of Vice President to carry-out my duties and safeguard the peoples' monies and assets.

Paula S. Begay: Prior to the Chuska Regional Council Meeting, I was under the impression of prior administration to purchase for catering. During the time of the email exchanges, I was occupied with family funeral matters, and I did not view the emails till the day of the meeting. During the early morning of the meeting date, I purchased the food, and arrived to work for the meeting, it was then I read the emails.

My actions were in-line with Navajo customs of hospitality, that includes the offering of refreshments to guests, even if it just coffee. At the day of the meeting, I was asked if food would be available for the council, I replied that we are very 'stingy' here.

Directive within the Motion by Willis Becenti and Second by Angie Brown to include that all future outside chapter activities be approved before expenditures are completed for such expenditures. i.e. Agency Councils and Regional Councils.
Vote: 17-0-11

Marie White: Traditional hospitality is customary for meetings and other events that require a meal preparation for chapter guests, and we show our appreciation for our chapter guests. That I encourage the use and adherence to Navajo philosophies and customs over non-Navajo philosophies and customs.

I strongly encourage the use of Navajo language in our official meetings.

Charlotte Begay: Fundamental Law from the time of Navajo emergence and the policies of the Auditor General are both used in our current state. In the Navajo Government Development process, we are experiencing the same topics for discussion as to which laws take precedence.

Allow for the CSC to be part of the communication, and utilized 'team-work,' for all chapter personnel and incumbents.

Adella Begay: The concern I addressed is not to withhold food, rather the undeniable

adherence and compliance to fund restrictions and Navajo Nations laws. All governments have laws governing allowable and disallowable expenses.

President James: Summary of chapter's expensing practices.

C. Action Items:

1. Accepting and Approving Chinle Unified School District – Indian Education Committee Member Selection

******Move to June Planning Meeting 2017******

Motion)

Second)

Vote:

2. Report on protocol for Sierra Service Project: Home Repair Work Request

Motion) Willis Becenti

Second) Marie White

Vote: 25-0-1

Paula Begay: California High School Church Group, starting from 2009, every summer, the program comes to the chapter – for minor construction handicap ramps, porches, sheds, house painting (interior and exterior) for the community.

Sierra Service Project does not work on mobile homes, rather on permanent homes.

Explanation of the Sierra Service Project: Home Repair Work processes.

Sterling Kedelty: Question & Answers Session.

Willis Becenti: Questions & Answers.

President James: Working on extensive program development for the Navajo Nation to expand similar programs across the Navajo Nation.

3. Accepting and Approving Financial Reports March 2017 and April 2017.

Motion) David Kedelty Second) Charlotte Begay Vote: 23-0-7

Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani: Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani reported the Tsaille-Wheatfields-Blackrock Chapter Financial Reports for March 2017 and April 2017 for approval by the Chapter Community.

4. Accepting and Approving Resolution for Veterans Organization accepting Kirby Henry as Veterans Secretary/Treasurer.

Willis Becenti: Tsaille-Wheatfields Veteran's Organization accepted Kirby Henry as the Tsaille-Wheatfields Veterans Organization Secretary/Treasurer.

Motion) Max Benally Second) Willis Becenti Vote: 19-0-8

5. Accepting and Approving Resolution for the Tsaille-Wheatfields-Blackrock Chapter Housing Assistance Policy

Motion) Bennie Litson Second) Angie Brown Vote: 22-0-4

President James: Read revisions of the proposed, up-dated Tsaille-Wheatfields-Blackrock Chapter Housing Assistance policy, per the May 1, 2017 Planning Meeting work-session, for chapter community approval.

Willis Becenti: Are we able to use the funds for home-site lease clearance assistance?

Paula S Begay: Home-site Lease Clearance policy, if available in the chapter budget, modified budget for housing discretionary funds. We can create the funds.

President James: There are concerns for mixing separate funds and separate policies to expense chapter funds, that might border on disallowable expenses.

Paula Begay: Explanation of 2016 Home-site Lease information.

Charles Chee: Homestead explanation before the 1980s.

What was the reason for the creation of Home-site Leases? It was in regard to the marriages between Navajos and non-Navajos.

In 1969, I attended a meeting on Homestead, at this very chapter, I was the interpreter for my grandmother; 52 people agreed to the homestead.

I want to know the exact legality of the Homestead policy in regards to the 2016 Home-site Lease policy.

President James: Proposed Home-site Lease policy is amendable, and is able to consider all the suggestions from today's meeting.

Charles Chee: The funds for housing assistance must be regulated, to-date 72 home-site leases remain vacant since 2010.

Community members are constructing homes on areas that do not have any home-site lease.

Willis Becenti: Withdrew the addition for home-site lease clearance assistance in the chapter's proposed Housing Assistance policy.

Bennie Litson: Home-site Lease only allows you to have a home – without livestock or other construction. There are many unresolved issues in regards to the 2016 Home-site Lease.

President James: Reminds of the Housing Assistance Policy is amendable by the chapter community at any time, as the need arises for community members.

Max Benally: Policy needs to include the cap on minor (\$1.5k) and major repairs (\$3k).

President James: Cap on minor and major repairs will be added to the new Housing Assistance Policy.

6. Navajo Memorial Veterans Event donation - \$50

Motion) Angie Brown Second) Mildred Vote: 20-0-5

Willis Becenti: Request for Navajo Memorial Veterans Event donation.

7. Accepting and Approving Resolution for Chinle Nursing Home.

Motion) Willis Becenti Second) Angie brown Vote: 21-0-6

Wayne Claw: Supporting resolution to not allow any impediment in the construction of the Chinle senior citizen home, and to allow funds to continue for construction. The current politics of the Navajo Housing Authority is adversely affecting the pay-outs for the in-progress projects, i.e., architect fees are not being paid, and the vendor has discontinued further work on the project.

Willis Becenti: Supports the efforts of Wayne Claw.

President James: Modification of Resolution that Recommends to the new NHC Board to support the already allocated funds to the NNHI, Chinle, nursing home, where the resolution will not be hostile to Navajo Nation government offices.

******Lost Quorum at 4:44 pm, vote was conducted before Lost of Quorum******

President James: Assisted living programs are more beneficial to the Navajo people, where studies have shown that the overall health of our elderly citizens benefit greater autonomy, then our current arrangements for our elderly citizens.

Personal experience had a tremendous and emotional toll on the entire family.

Delegate Begay: At the end of May 2017, Navajo Nation government offices have started a process of discussions to address the needs of our elderly citizens to

December 22, 1993, Navajo Nation Council approved the Home-site Lease Policy, and Samuel Yazzie was the first motion for the 'then' Home-site Lease Policy.

Wayne Claw: Explained the process for current Navajo Nation elderly living homes.

8. Jason Corral – Gas Department from NTUA

Motion) Second) Vote:

******Move to June Planning Meeting 2017******

III. REPORTS:

1. Secretary/Treasurer Nata'ani
2. Community Health Representative
3. Home-site Lease Training.
4. NEA - Navajo Election Administration

IV. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: June 1, 2017 9:00 AM

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: Motion)
Adjournment at _____

Second)

Vote: