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TWB VETERANS ORGANIZATION MEETING
TSAILE/WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER
February 14, 2017

Tsaile/Wheatfields
Chapter **BY: psb**

MINUTES

I. OPENING OF MEETING

- a. Meeting Call to Order by Commander Becenti at 4:10pm
- b. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation
Invocation by Devon Begay
- c. Roll Call
Willis T. Becenti Present, Calvin Halwood Present, Devon Begay Present, David Tsosie Present, Irving Chee Absent.
- d. Review/ Accept Agenda
Motion: Kerbie Henry 2nd: John McClanahan
Votes: For: 12 Against: 1 Abstain: 4
Agenda Amended. In announcements, Secretary/Treasurer Devon Begay submitting resignation added.
- e. Review/ Accept Last Meeting Minutes
Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: William Begay
Devon Begay read January Veterans meeting minutes
Votes: For: 15 Against: 0 Abstain: 1
- f. Announcements
 1. Resignation of Secretary/Treasurer Devon Begay.
Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Kerbie Henry
Commander Becenti read resignation letter. Devon Begay elaborated further to state that due to bilateral injury and duties of Vice President of Chapter. Devon's resignation was accepted and Kerbie Henry volunteered to be Secretary / Treasurer.
Votes: For: 15 Against: 0 Abstain: 1
 2. Agency meeting Feb. 24, 2017 @ 9am , Chinle Chapter
 3. Ira Hayes Parade Feb. 25, 2017 @ 8am and Banquet Feb. 24 @ 6pm
 4. Chapter meeting Feb. 15, 2017 @ 10am

II. REPORTS

- Motion: Roy Anagal 2nd: Julia Yazzie*
- a. Willis T. Becenti
 - Today I was in Chinle @ 10am at Nursing Home. Working on Veteran senior/Assisted living for 80 beds. Focus on bringing home all elderly veterans to this new facility so they are located central on the Navajo Reservation. Working with Wayne Claw the director. Completion of New senior living center with 110 beds will be September 2018. Once new facility is occupied the current building will be demolished to make way for the new Veterans assisted living facility. Design/Plans are complete and total cost is projected @ \$1.3 million dollars. This new facility meets medical, state and federal standards. VA, Medi-cal, Medicare and access insurance will cover the Veterans that will be living there. On February 24, 2017, we will be selecting new officers for All Veterans Auxiliary (AVA). AVA is an organization that supports the veterans group. In 2016 AVA helped Chinle Agency deliver \$2000.00 worth of firewood to Veterans in need. CHR selected veterans in need and each one received a truck load of firewood and \$100 in grocery. In 2016 we we're also able to raise nearly \$5000.00, hosting three nights of dances @ Apache County Yard in Chinle. The funds we're used to help the Veterans community. AVA is a non-profit organization supporting Veterans. We are currently working with AVA on the New Veterans Home. On

February 23, 2017, we will be looking for new board of directors for a new organization that will be looking into the veterans living. This organization will be advising Wayne Claw on the construction efforts of the New Veterans Home, reviewing bids and ensuring that construction follows what the Veterans want. The new facility will be named "Nazba'ii Bighaan" (Veterans Home). Design details to follow.

- We are working on Audit for Veterans Home funds. Reviewing loss of \$3 million dollars. Misuse of funds, misappropriation of funds and misuse of material. Audit information is available to the public @ auditor General office in Window Rock.
- Another Audit in the works for \$8 million dollars of Supplemental funds distributed evenly to all chapters in 2008 (\$87,000 per Chapter). Some chapters use the funds properly and most didn't. Policies and procedures are currently being worked on and we have a year to submit corrective Action Plan (CAP) for all future supplemental fund distribution.
- 50/50 cost sharing with Chapter for purchasing of Stove, water heater, home repair, leach line repair, septic pump out, electrical and water line. The evenly distribution of \$3 million dollar supplemental funds to each chapter (\$27000.00) will assist in having these repairs or purchases possible but President Begay keeps vetoing the bill. This bill will be back on the spring session.
- We know have a real veteran, Hubert Smith (US Marine) as an interim executive director for Veteran Administration. They are still looking for a qualified individual.
- We are working on getting President Begaye to honor the Veterans Act. Additionally, we are working on getting 6% allocated instead of 4%.

b. Calvin Halwood

- My report will be on my continual efforts with VASH program. I turned in another application in Navajo, NM and spoke with Alysa Slew. The whole process is not defined and a lot of unnecessary trip to different location but no one seems to know the process. Need assessment on needs and first to qualify will be homeless Veterans or the ones that are on the verge of going homeless. There's also Medical assessment and background check on the whole process. Very frustrating process but I have learned a lot. I will report back next meeting on my progress.

c. Kerbie Henry

- Self-Introduction to the Veterans and accepted secretary/treasurer position.

d. David Tsosie present. No report.

e. Irving Chee is absent. No report.

Votes: For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Requesting Veteran Financial Assistance from veterans Permanent Trust Funds.

1. Randy Begay \$300.00 for food / \$300.00 for firewood

2. Ernest Yazzie \$300.00 for food / \$300.00 for firewood

3. Andrick J Bahe \$300.00 for firewood

Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Julia Yazzie

Votes: For: 20

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

b. Requesting Veterans Financial Assistance from chapter veterans Funds

1. NO SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

c. Jackets Update

- We ordered 45 jackets, 9 remaining on order that will be completed soon.

d. Ira Hayes Parade and Banquet

- Application was faxed in today.
- Banquet on the Feb. 24th 6-9pm, program and dinner included.
- Parade on the Feb. 25th, muster @ 6am for roll call.
- All flags and banners will be transported by Willis Becenti.
- The Chapter will be approached Feb. 15th at chapter meeting to fund the annual Ira Hayes Parade trip. We'll ask for checks to be available by the Feb. 23rd if approved.

The following Veterans are to participate and their expense requests are as follows.

1. David Tsosie; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 2. Frank Begaye; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 3. Kerbie Henry; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 4. Roy Anagal; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 5. Frank Kedelty; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 6. Willis Becenti; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 7. Elwood Begay; Gas, Lodging and Meals.
 8. Kerrill Spencer; \$50.00
 9. 2 Banner Bearers @ \$50.00 each, 2 x \$50.00 = \$100.00
- Floor given to Harry Anderson Bia, gave introduction and asked to catch a ride (2 comrades from Round Rock Chapter) from any of the veterans driving down to Sacaton, Az for parade. *Action: Willis to respond back to him by Feb. 19th, 2017.*

e. POO and Trust Fund Revision and supporting resolution HEHSCF-002-12

Motion by: David Tsosie 2nd by: Ernest Yazzie

- The Plan of Operation first draft available. Copies distributed to veterans who are present. Read and reviewed Article 4, Article 5, Article 6, Article 7, Article 8, Article 9, Article 10b., Article 11, Article 10b. and Article 15.
- Read and reviewed Trust Fund Policies and Procedures first draft Section IV thru VI.
- Please read through both package and submit correction before Chinle Agency meeting Feb. 23rd. Willis will bring corrected and signed off copy for all as soon as its available.

Votes For:17 Against:0 Abstain:1

f. Community Cemetery / Veterans corner

- Tsale Wheatfields CLUPC designated ten acres for the community cemetery, in their plan of operations. Two acres of the ten is allocated for honorably discharged veterans. The cemetery will have iron rod fencing. Solar powered lights for flag poles will be maintained by the veterans. The chapter will maintain the cleanup and monitoring of the cemetery. Approval will be tomorrow Feb. 15, 2017.

IV. NEXT MEETING

DATE: March 14, 2017 at 4pm

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:15pm.

Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Julia Yazzie

Votes: For: 17

Against: 0

Abstain: 1