

Tsaile –Wheatfields Farm Board and Water Users Joint Meeting
Sunday, November 9, 2014
Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

AGENDA

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting call to order
- b. Roll call
- c. Invocation
- d. Adopt agenda
- e. Reading and adopt last meeting minutes, October 19, 2014
- f. Announcements:
 - Chapter Meeting, November 17, 2014
 - Water User Meeting with Navajo Nation Water Project, November 12, 2014 @ 10 am to 3:30pm
 - Reservation Wide Workshop – November 17, 2014, Dine College

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Reservation Wide Farm Board Workshop
- b. Financial Report – Water Users
- c. Community Water Plan
- d. Proposal
- e. Planning for Annual Water Users Plan

III. NEW BUSSINESS

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

IV. Reports

- A. Farm Board
- B. Water User

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Identify next agenda items
- B. Schedule next meeting date
- C. Adjournment

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MEETING MINUTES

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting call to order at 11:02 am.
- b. Roll call
Farm Board: Lorena Eldridge and Dorthea Litson present. Lucinda Davis absent.
Water Users: Dorthea Litson present. Aaron Begay and Kathy John absent.
- c. Invocation conducted by Lorena Eldridge.
- d. Adopt agenda
The agenda reviewed by Dorthea Litson. No comments, questions, or amendments.
Action: The agenda was adopted as it was read.
Motioned by Noel Bikeddy
Seconded by James Becenti
Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained *Motion Carried*
- e. Reading and adopt last meeting minutes, November 9, 2014
Dorthea read the last meeting minutes from October 19, 2014. Only one amendments made to the agenda; Equipment Operator – developing the roles and responsibilities needs to be added.
Action: Accept the last meeting minutes with an understanding of amending Equipment Operators.
Motioned by Noel Bikeddy
Seconded by James Becenti
Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained *Motion Carried.*
- f. Announcements:
 - Chapter Meeting, November 17, 2014
 - Water User Meeting with Navajo Nation Water Project, November 12, 2014 @ 10 am to 3:30pm
 - Reservation Wide Workshop – November 17, 2014, Dine College

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Reservation Wide Farm Board Workshop
Lorena explained that the Tsaile – Wheatfields Farm Board took the lead to planning the Reservation Wide Farm Board meeting workshop for the farm board members plus it open to the public.

Dorthea explained the purpose of the workshop is to build the Farm Board members capacity so they can better help and support their producers in their community.

Questions, comments, suggestions, and concerns:

There was a concern about building the farm board members capacity. How will this work if the farm board has 2 years of office to serve?

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What is it going to take for the farmers to become interested?

No sure.

Action: Lorena will create a commit box, and put up at workshops and meetings. This item is really informational, so it will not be put to motion.

b. Financial Report – Water Users

Dorthea reported for the month of October 2014, the deposit made is amount of 256.00 and no expenses made; current balance is \$30,353.94

Questions, comments, and suggestions:

James asked if more irrigation pipes can be purchase.

Lorena replied, we need a plan of how to spend that money. Besides the current irrigation pipes were purchase to be used for learning purposes. The farmers are to purchase their own irrigation pipes.

Action: Accept the financial report.

Motioned by James Becenti

Seconded by Noel Bikeddy

Voting 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

c. Community Water Plan

Dorthea explained the Tsaile – Wheatfields Diné Water Users, Farm Board, Community Land Use Planners, and Grazing Representative have been meeting about how they can work together develop a community water plan for our Tsaile – Wheatfields – Blackrock community. The plan will have data about the water resources and identify needs for domestic use, Farming and Ranching use, and Economic development. Also, identify ways we can conserve water for future use; and bring about water shed and water restoration project.

Questions, comments, and suggestions:

James explained that when he traveled to the workshop in August 2014, he learned that Navajo Nation’s Land Administration already has map for the Navajo Nation. The chapter staff needs to create a hub to received maps of their community area, and other resources that different Navajo Nation programs or departments have to offer.

Lorena explained that the chapter officials, office staff, and committees have talked about purchasing equipment such as computer, software, and printers that can create maps. Also need GPS device. The computer program really needs to be identified.

Dorthea commented, one of the biggest problem she has witness with the community people and committees is that they have no supporting documentation to request for resources from the chapter. For example, people complain about the chairs at the Chapter meeting, but one of them can actually sit down to do the research on what chairs to purchase and the receive 3 prices for it. Once this is conducted the person can make justification for purchasing new chairs and attach the supporting

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research with price. Once completed, the person can take to the planning meeting to request. As a result, we need to maybe conduct the research on equipment and prices. Once that is completed we can write a resolution to submit to chapter meeting. Maybe the purchase can be made.

Action: Request Lorena to conduct the research on software, computer, printer, and price. She gave herself a deadline to work on this by November 18, 2014.

Motioned by Noel Bikeddy

Seconded by James Becenti

Voting: 3 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

d. Proposal

Lorena explained several proposals that were identified by Farm Board and Water Users. Currently, there is one that we are working on regarding a request for farm equipment and personnel. The following are the personnel positions be requested:

1. Farm Manager
2. Irrigation Technician
3. Accountant
4. Office Specialist
5. Grant Writer
6. Equipment Operator

Dorthea shared, she send out the proposal to others for their review of the proposal. The questions is, “what is the protocol that the Navajo Nation Delegates use for proposal writing?”

Lorena suggested to work with Amber Crotty to check the Delegates have a proposal outline to follow.

Action: Created a new deadline to work on this proposal at Chapter House on November 18, 2014 all day. Create tabs for the proposal. Also add how the equipment be maintained.

Motioned by Noel Bikeddy

Seconded by James Becenti

Voting: 5 yes; 0no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

e. Planning for Annual Water Users Meeting

Lorena explained the Tsaile – Wheatfields Water Users meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 10am. The purpose is to re-elect for a Vice President Position. She asked the members, “Do you understand the purpose of having a Water Users and work they do?”

The people present commented that they have no idea.

Action: The agenda for the meeting are 1. Provide history of the organization, 2. Explain what a Non-profit organization is and 3. Identify and nominate Vice President.

Motioned by James Becenti

Seconded by Noel Bikeddy

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Voting: 4 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

III. NEW BUSSINESS

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No request.

IV. Reports

- A. Farm Board

No reports by any of the officers.

- B. Water User

No reports by any of the officers.

Action: No action

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Identify next agenda items

The next agenda are as follow:

- Financial Report
- Community Water Plan
- Proposal
- Workshop (Report of outcome)

- B. Schedule next meeting date

The next meeting date, November 30, 2014 @ 10 am Wheatfields Chapter House.

- C. Adjournment

Action: Meeting adjourned at 1:51pm

Motioned by Noel Bikeddy

Seconded by James Becenti

Voting: 5 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried