

Tsaile/Wheatfields Chapter Planning Meeting
Tuesday, May 3, 2016

I. Order of Business

- a. Call meeting to order @ 3:23 pm
- b. Pledge of Allegiance – David Kedelty
- c. Invocation – David Tsosie
- d. Review/Accept Agenda
 - i. Motion by Sarah James 2nd David Tsosie
 - 1. 14 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.
- e. Announcements

II. Business Items

a. Ratification

- i. Burial Assistance
 - 1. Motion by David Tsosie and 2nd by Nelson James
 - 2. 11 in favor, 0 against and 4 abstained

b. Resolutions

- i. Supporting the Health Service to establish a Chuska Health Council with a volunteer representative and an alternate: Motion by Sarah James and 2nd by Catherine Benally
 - 1. Vote 12 in favor, 0 opposed and 4 abstained
- ii. Approving to purchase a cement mixer for all projects: Motion by Marie White and 2nd by David Tsosie / Vote 12 in favor, 1 against and 4 abstained.
 - 1. Dorthea Litson – Farm board met last night and they asked to purchase a cement mixer for project. Paula Begay was directed to look into the price quote. 9 cubic yard, gas driven are what the men in the meeting requested. The main purpose is it would be for the chapter and other projects and irrigation. It wouldn't really belong to the Farm Board but utilized for all community members.
 - 2. Paula Begay – This morning Lorena Eldridge was telling me that I am suppose to get a quote.
 - 3. Zane James – is there a timeline for this?
 - 4. Marie White – Where is the cement going to be dumped?
- iii. Approving the Water Masters employment
 - 1. Motion by Sarah James, 2nd by David Tsosie / Vote 12 in favor, 0 opposed and 4 abstained.
 - 2. Dorthea Litson – The chapter always assist with this, last year you approved \$45,000. \$15,000 is what was allocated to fix upper wheatfields. \$15,000 was for the Tsaile area. \$15,000 was for water masters to work on the two areas. However, this additional request is for the water masters to continue working through out the summer.
 - 3. Verna Jim – Why are we advocating for farming and yet no one seems to farm? Where in the Tsaile area are we talking about?
 - a. Dorthea Litson – you are right, I don't know why people don't plant. When in came in there was 98% of

farm land that was 8 years ago, today there is 88% available. The number has decreased by 10%. We looked at various ways to get the land into farming. One option was for subleasing the farmland. Option 1 was to the family of the farm owners. Option 2 was to the farm board and or institution. We asked why farmers were not planting, they gave various reasons. One was we don't have the equipment, 2 was we don't have the man power.

- iv. Requesting monetary donation by Marie Carrol
 - 1. Motion by Sarah James and 2nd by Catherine Benally / VOTE 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstained.
 - 2. Marie Carrol – end of the school year and children are graduating. My grandkids are graduating and I have children. My children are living off reservation and my youngest grandchild is graduating and other graduations coming up. They are asking for me to come down for support and I am asking for funding to assist with my travel expenses.
- v. Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife presentation.
 - 1. Motion by Nelson James and 2nd by David Tsosie / VOTE 14 in favor, 0 opposed and 4 abstained.
 - 2. Mariah Tsosie – Climate change initiative
 - a. Do you all know what Climate Change is?
 - b. It is unexpected weather changes like air pollution from vehicles, manufacturing plants. Another example is change in rainfall patters. It is different from Global Warming such as increase in temperature since. Climate change related events in your power point presentation slides. Another example is the Enterprise Bridget from California.
 - 3. Stephanie Shirley – I am from Sawmill, Arizona. To many parts of farming deal with agriculture. Production of crops is affiliated with climate change. Local example is Red Lake. Poor grazing management is what effects. Dry conditions decreases profit margin for livestock owners. Animals are products of their environment. Changing climate will contribute to erosions. Impact on livestock, feed production and their prices. More moisture in the air increases diseases such as plague. Impact on wildlife, leading threat on wildlife. Depletion of water sources encourages competition between domestic and wildlife competition. Hydroponics –
 - a. Compost – manure from chicken and put into your field.
 - b. Range management – reliable fencing and control feed intake. Good pasture rotation. Graze an animal for 5 to 7 days and then let that plot recover for up to 2 weeks.
 - 4. It is our mission to aide the community.

5. DIRECTIVE – Have the chapter work with the Summer Youth employees to set up a garden and also the Senior Center to work with Navajo Fish and Wildlife as well.

III. Reports

- a. Senior Center Supervisors
- b. Indian Education Policy Representatives
- c. Apache County District II
- d. CHR
- e. CLUPC
- f. Farm Board
- g. Council Delegate
 - i. Yesterday Speaker Bates LDA is the young child that was kidnapped. The young child and her brother were picked up and the young boy was dropped back off. This morning the young child's body was found.
 - ii. Peabody area, one is Black Mesa mine that gives coal to Laughlin, we closed that some time ago. Now the Kayenta mine is the only one still open and supplies Page area. Just recently we were told that Chapter 11 bankruptcy was filed for reorganization purposes. It is one of our main sources of revenues and if it should close, how many jobs will it lose in the mine and also the Page area. Some will support the closure due to environmental reasons. The reason I'm telling you is that the fiscal year revenue is what it will affect.
 - iii. Some good news is that funds were allocated for the Farm Board for the Tsaile/Wheatfields in the amount of \$5 million dollars. \$3 million will be allocated in 3 years and the rest of \$2 million in 5 years. We are known for planting in this area and we need to get back to that concept.
 - iv. Navajo DOT has resubmitted for TIGER grant again this year. We asked for Navajo Route 12 to be priority one in this grant.
- h. Chapter Officials
 - i. Zane James -
- i. CSC

IV. Date and Time of Next Meeting: May 18, 2016 @ 1:00 pm

V. Adjournment