Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting  
Sunday, December 18, 2016 @ 12pm  
Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

AGENDA

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS
   a. Meeting call to order
   b. Invocation
   c. Adopt agenda
   d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, Nov. 20, 2016
   e. Announcements:

II. OLD BUSINESS
   a. Wheatfields Agriculture Project

III. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Financial Report
      • Expenditure Plan

IV. Reports
   a. Farm Board
   b. Water User
   c. Others

V. CONCLUSION
   A. Identify next agenda items
      a. Lease Agreement between Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter & Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User
      b. Resolution – Lease Agreement
      c. Create Annual Plan – Farm Board
         i. Strategic Plan with SWOT Analysis
   B. Scheduled next meeting date
   C. Adjournment
MEETING MINUTES

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS
   a. Meeting called to order at 12:57 pm
   b. Invocation by Frank Kedelty
   c. Adopt agenda
      Dorthia Litson reviewed the agenda. No amendments. Only comments made. Lorena explained the Farm cardi
     and Dineh Water User meeting in terms of how the voting process is run and what each organization
     roles and responsibilities are due to new participants.

     Action: To adopt the agenda as read with no amendments.
     Motioned by Bennie Litson
     Seconded by Amelda Benally
     Voting: 14 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained  
     Motion Carried

   d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, Nov. 20, 2016
      Dorthia read the last meeting minutes from November 20, 2016. No amendments, comments, or questions.

     Action: The meeting minutes read accepted as read.
     Motioned by Aaron Begay
     Seconded by Thomas Litson
     Voting:  16 yes;  0 no;  1 abstained  
     Motion Carried

   e. Announcements:
      The following information were the announcements:
      Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter Planning Meeting
      Wednesday, January 4, 2017
      1pm
      Wheatfields Chapter House

      District 11 Grazing Meeting
      Friday, January 6, 2017
      10am
      Lukachukai Chapter House

      Tsaile / Wheatfields Permittee Meeting
      Monday, January 9, 2017
      10am
      Wheatfields Chapter House

      Chinle Agency Grazing Meeting
      Tuesday, January 10, 2017
      Dine College, Tsaile, AZ

      Tribal Water Right Conference
      Feb 9 & 10, 2017
II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Wheatfields Agriculture Project

Lorena provided an update of the Wheatfields Agriculture Project to the people. She visited with the Navajo Nation Vice President on November 28, 2016 to answer some of the questions he had. The following date we, Farm Board and Dineh Water User, met with the Navajo Nation Budget & Finance Committee. Year one of the money has not been allotted, and year two supposed to have started on October 1, 2016, but the funding has not been issued. Here Ed McCool, Navajo Nation Lawyer assigned to write the MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) presented that he has developed the agreement. The committee chair, Seth Damen, requested for a separate meeting on December 5, 2016 where Dianne Barbef, Ed McCool, and Bitah Becker are to be present. The biggest question they, Budget & Finance committee had was, “Why is there a MOA being established for Wheatfields Agriculture Project when we have decided NOT to do this with others?” The meeting has been rescheduled to December 5, 2016 at 1pm in Window Rock.

On December 5, 2016, the meeting with the Navajo Nation Budget & Finance Committee had various comments about the project, but majority are in support of the project. At this meeting, Dianne Barbef, Ed McCool, and Bitah Becker were present. The chair of the Budget & Finance commented that they do not want an MOA or a Fund Management Plan. Now, they are requesting for Quarterly Expenditure Plan.

On December 7, 2016, Lorena was asked to attend a meeting with the Navajo Nation Vice President again where he asked several questions such as:

How many farmers? Lorena replied 127
How many acres? Lorena replied estimate 1,700 acres
How much money is the agriculture going to bring back to the Navajo Nation? Lorena replied, 60% hay production; 30% vegetables; 10% native food.
How are you going to sell the product? Lorena replied, Farmer market is being conducted already
Are what is being produce be sold to local store? Lorena replied, Reservation Wide, C-stores, groceries stores, Farm to School.

Lorena replied, “The biggest focus of the project is to create self-reliance for people.”

Dorthea explained that she met with some of the Water User Officer to start working on the quarterly budget. She explained what they have put together to the people, and requested for the people to think of things they have missed, to ask questions, to make comments or suggestions. While reviewing the budget, she explained there is currently a difference.

As result, the review of the quarterly budget the people made the following suggestion:

Silage maker - chopper
Dump truck
Hay Squeezer
ATV
Green house
Orchard
Water Harvesting
Software/ laptop
Road construction of Navajo Rt 12 – 3 irrigation lines
Security Guard
KBWalkomer – Mike Isaccson, consultant
Labeling
Production
Test for Heirloom seeds
Seed Bank house – purchase heirloom seed
Grinder used for wheat and corn

Action: To accept the quarterly expenditure plan to get it ready for January 3, 2017 Budget & Finance meeting; To revisit the budget see if the suggestion can be written into the expenditure; and to schedule a meeting with Bitah Bechker and Ed McCool.
Motioned by Thomas Litson
Seconded by Amelda Kedelty
Voting: 10 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained
Motion Carried

III. NEW BUSINESS
a. Financial Report
   • Expenditure Plan

Dorthea reported there has been no expense or deposit made into the Dineh Water User’s account since last reported on November 20, 2016. The balance continues to be the same, $25,732.18.

Action: To accept the financial report provided.
Motioned by Bennie Litson
Seconded by Amelda Benally
Voting: 10 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained
Motion Carried

IV. Reports
a. Farm Board
b. Water User
c. Others

Action: No reports were provided. All reports were deferred to next meeting.

V. CONCLUSION
A. Identify next agenda items
   a. Lease Agreement between Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter & Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User
   b. Resolution – Lease Agreement
   c. Create Annual Plan – Farm Board
      i. Strategic Plan with SWOT Analysis

B. Scheduled next meeting date to Sunday, January 8, 2016 at 12pm.

C. Adjournment
   Action: Meeting adjourned at 5: pm
   Motioned Bennie Litson
   Seconded by Amelda Kedelty

Prepared and Submitted by Dorthea Litson
Voting:  12 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained    Motion Carried