

**TsaileWheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
Sunday, November 6, 2016 @ 10 AM
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, October 16, 2016
- e. Announcements:

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Junk Food Sales Tax
- b. Lease Agreement between Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter & Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User
- c. Resolution – Lease Agreement

III. NEW BUSSINESS

- a. Land Use Permit- Transfer, Relinquish, Probate, etc
 - None at this time
- b. Financial Report
- c. Wheatfields Agriculture Project
 - Salary of Grant Writer & laborer
- d. Create Annual Plan – Farm Board
 - Strategic Plan with SWOT Analysis

IV. Reports

- a. Farm Board
- b. Water User
- c. Others

V. CONCLUSION

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

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MEETING MINUTES

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Meeting called to order at 10:53 pm.
- b. Invocation by Amelda Benally
- c. Adopt agenda
Agenda reviewed by Dorthea Litson. No amendments, questions, or comments.
Action: Agenda accepted as read.
Motioned by Teresa Chee
Seconded by Anelda Kedelty
Voting: 6 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained *Motion Carried*
- d. Reading Last Meeting Minutes, October 16, 2016
Dorthea Litson reviewed the last meeting minutes. No amendments, questions, or comments.
Action: The last meeting minutes accepted as read.
Motioned by Bennie Litson
Seconded by Teresa Chee
Voting: 6 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained *Motion Carried*
- e. Announcements:
 - Tuesday, November 8, 2016, Election Day
 - Friday, November 11, 2016, Veteran Day
 - Sunday, November 13, 2016, Tsaile / Wheatfields Community Land Use Planning Committee Meeting at 11 am Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ.
 - Tuesday, November 15, 2016, Navajo Nation Joint Farm Board Meeting @ 9 am Crystal Chapter House, Crystal, NM.
 - Wednesday, November 16, 2016, Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter Meeting @ 1pm Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Junk Food Sales Tax
Dorthea explained the Dine' College Land Grant will be helping us put a graph together from the survey collected from the people. They will need to the end to month of November due to many schedule project that the interns are assigned to do.
Action: No action, but to thank Land Grant Office for their help. Survey can still be collected and turned in.
- b. Lease Agreement between Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter & Tsaile / Wheatfields Dineh Water User
Lorena explained the Farm Board and Dineh Water User are seeking land to lease with the Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter Compound so a Warehouse Building can be built and equipment can be place on the site. The organization brought this request before the Tsaile / Wheatfields CLUPC meeting on October 16, 2016 with the idea to request for the expire lease that the Chapter has with the Apache County sublease. However, CLUPC request to keep the Apache County lease renewed, and the Farm Board and Dineh Water User can request for

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the second alternative that is a site that sits on the Southeast portion of the Chapter House including the metal building that currently sit on southeast side of chapter house.
 She created the following visual to help the people understand the difference of organization that the chapter and committees work with:

Community Land Use Planning Committee of Tsaile / Wheatfields Chapter	Chapter Officials of Tsaile / Wheatfields	Chapter Personnel of Tsaile / Wheatfields
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request of any land • The primary responsibilities are to develop land for infrastructure; for example, Chapter has no master plan or survey conducted, so CLUPC are to search for moneys to develop a Master Plan for the Wheatfields Chapter House. 	<p>Primarily works with resolutions</p>	<p>They are tribal employ who works to help the chapter managed the day to day operation.</p> <p>They ensure the lease are current, rents are paid, and Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding are in place.</p>

Dorthea explained she has been working on the lease agreement for the 100 years for the Dineh Water User and Farm Board. She post the lease agreement in the overhead projector, and read every section of it. She informed the people there are some legal terms stated, and she is not a lawyer. In addition, she needs help with some of the languages. Example, there needs to be a description of the land we are requesting.

Action: Assigned Aaron Begay to run the GPS on the area of land that is being requested. Dorthea will continue to complete the lease agreement.

Motioned by Merle Kedelty

Seconded by Amelda Benally

Voting: 7 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

c. Resolution – Lease Agreement

Action: Defer the Resolution of lease agreement to next meeting since the lease agreement is NOT Developed yet.

Motioned by Amelda Benally

Seconded by Julia Litson

Voting: 7 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

III. NEW BUSSINESS

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

- None at this time

Action: No Action Taken

b. Financial Report

Dorthea commented that the since her last financial report provided there has been No Expense nor Deposit. The balance remains the same.

**TsaileWheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
 Sunday, November 6, 2016 @ 10 AM
 Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ**

Action: The financial Report provided as it was provided.

Motioned by Teresa Chee

Seconded by Anelda Kedelty

Voting: 7 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

- c. Wheatfields Agriculture Project
 - Salary of Grant Writer & laborer

Lorena explained the following to the people about the money that is allocated to the Dineh Water User and Farm Board:

1. We are currently working the Navajo Nation Department of Justice with Ed McCooley. He is working on the Memorandum of Agreement between the Division of Natural Resource and Tsaile/ Wheatfeilds Dineh Water User and Farm Board. It might be set up as a draw down.
2. We are not sure who we will be working with either Water Management Branch of Navajo Nation or Department of Water Resource of the Navajo Nation.

Dorthea explained that Mr. Ed McCooley requested to update the proposal that we had written. She used an overhead projector to read the proposal she rewrote and sent to the attorney. One of the biggest change in the proposal is make the grant writers position to a part-time employee, but add 3 more laborers positions to irrigate farmland and 1 to work with equipment operator. However, she is have a heck of a time with the salary for the positions.

Questions, comments, or amendments:

The audience requested to keep the salary of the grant writer the way it is until for sure the funding is in your hands then the positions can be recreated for the laborers and salary for the grant writer can be reduced.

They also added more to timeline, and edit.

Action: Keep the original budget for the proposal and add other necessary justification for the timeline. The budget can be recreated for laborer positions until funding has come through.

Motioned by Amelda Benally

Seconded by Bennie Litson

Voting: 7yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

- d. Create Annual Plan – Farm Board
 - Strategic Plan with SWOT Analysis

During the meeting the following are what was filled out with the current farmers sitting at the meeting:

Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Thread
Secured Funding	Equipment P&P	Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> Community buy in
Personnel	Collaboration	Workshops:	<input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding account
Bylaws	Attend meeting	Personnel	receivable
501c status of IRS	Inactive Board	Learning of:	
Certificate of Business	Member	Equipment	

**Tsaile Wheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
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Elected Farm Board Fund Management Plan Accounting System Financial Manual Grant Tracker 1685 acres of Farmland Water Supply year round Community Plan	Inactive Farmers/Ranchers Technical Support onsite Prairie Dogs Farmers/ Ranger up an age Water supply year round	` Safety ` Irrigation Management: ` Farm ` Rangeland Financial Record Keeping Tax schedule F Non - Profit organization 501c. - purpose Functions Create an incentive for Board Create Earthen Dam	<input type="checkbox"/> Keep non- profit in good standing; <input type="checkbox"/> IRS <input type="checkbox"/> Navajo Nation Business Regulatory
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Action: At the next meeting, we will need to prioritize the SWOT Analysis, and will help us develop an annual plan for the Farm Board.

Motioned by Anelda Kedelty

Secoded by Julia Litson

Voting: 7 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

IV. Reports

a. Farm Board

President provide several important reports. First, October 19, 2016 Agriculture Expo by Dine' College Land Grant Office, second, payment process for Farm Board, Eastern Land Board, and Grazing Official, and third, Navajo Nation Council approved funds for the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture from the Sihastin Funds to revitalize the entire operation of farming and ranching on the Navajo Nation.

2016 Agriculture Expo sponsored by the Dine' College Land Grant staff:

Presenters were:

Bryan NezTsosie, Land Grant Staff

Leander Begay, Land Grant Staff

Mike ____, Shiprock. Topic was on creating drainage for farmland

Panelist were Lorena Eldridge, Farm Board of Tsaile / Wheatfields, Aaron Begay, Dineh Water User of Tsaile/ Wheatfields, Martin Duncan Water User of San Juan, Anna, Farm Board of Dennehotso

The biggest take away from the EXPO in the morning session were take care of health, exercise more, and stress relief through farming activities. Farming is important!

Payment process for Farm Board, Eastern Land Board, and Grazing Officials:

The Navajo Nation Accounts Payable have been working with the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture in streamlining the payment process for the Farm Board, Eastern Land Board, and Grazing officials. All payment will be on direct deposit base and electronic paper work process will be established. The reason is that it was direct as one of the project to complete before December 2016 by the Navajo Nation Council, and it will be cost effective to officials and employees.

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Currently, the officials are receiving these stipend:

- Farm Board receiving 107.86 in stipend
- Eastern Land Board receiving 290.00 in stipend
- Grazing District receiving 296.00 in stipend

Performance is only a recommending BIA
 Transfer; Dispute, Application

Navajo Nation Council approved funds for the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture from the Sihastin Funds to revitalize the entire operation of farming and ranching on the Navajo Nation

Lorena explained to the people that the last of week of October the Navajo Nation Council approved funding from the Sihastin Fund for the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture to spear head 70 million dollars for it major purpose to revitalize the entire farming and ranching operations, etc. laws for the people. It almost looks like there is going to be another round of John Collier Act of 1930 regarding Livestock reduction across the Navajo Nation. The 70 million is allocated – 50 million for insurance and 20 million for overhaul in operation of farming and ranching. They are using the water study from 1948 to present time to create their justification. I am not real sure what that will mean for Farm Board or Grazing Officials as well.

Currently, BIA, Navajo Nation, and NRCS- USDA are working on a project in the following way:

BIA	Navajo Nation	USDA
NEPA RMA	Council Delegate Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture (District #14 is using the \$70 millions)	Supported the 70 million

Vice President: Absent for the meeting
 Secretary – no report

- b. Water User
 - No Reports from President, Vice President, Secretary, & members

- c. Others

The reports provided by Lorena on the funds that has been allocated for the Department of Agriculture has created huge concern for the farmers and rancher sitting at the meeting.

Why are they meaning the Department or Navajo Nation Council not revealing their plan for how it will impact the current farmers and ranchers primarily use livestock and farming as their way of life? For some, this is the only operation of livestock and farming that they use to put food on the table for their children. There are Dine' People who actually do still MAKE A LIVING OF THE LAND!

Action: Reports were accepted as provided.

**TsaileWheatfields Farm Board and Dineh Water User Joint Meeting
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Motioned by Dorthea Litson

Seconded by Amelda Benally

Voting: 7 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried

V. CONCLUSION

A. Identify next agenda items

- Annual Plan from the SWOT Analysis
- Leasing Agreement between the Chapter and Dineh Water User/ Farm Board
- Resolution for the lease agreement
- Financial Report

B. Scheduled next meeting date, Sunday, November 20, 2016 at 12 pm, Wheatfields Chapter House, Wheatfields, AZ

C. Adjournment

Action: Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm

Motioned by Anelda Kedelty

Seconded by Bennie Litson

Voting: 7 yea; 0 no; 1 abstained

Motion Carried