

# RECEIVED

MAR 16 2017

**TWB VETERANS ORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**TSAILE/WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER**

**March 14, 2017**

Tsaile/Wheatfields  
Chapter BY: PSB

**MINUTES**

I. OPENING OF MEETING

- a. Meeting Call to Order by Commander Becenti at 4:17pm
- b. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation  
Pledge of Allegiance by Group  
Invocation by David Tsosie
- c. Roll Call  
Willis T. Becenti Present, Calvin Halwood Present, Devon Begay Present, David Tsosie Present, Irving Chee Present.
- d. Review/ Accept Agenda  
*Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Frank Begaye*  
*Votes: For: 8 Against: 0 Abstain: 1*
- e. Review/ Accept Last Meeting Minutes  
*Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Frank Begaye*  
Kerbie Henry read February Veterans meeting minutes  
*Votes: For: 11 Against: 0 Abstain: 1*
- f. Announcements
  1. Chapter Meeting 3-15-17 @1pm
  2. CNVO Meeting 3-31-17 @ 9am Chinle Chapter
  3. Advisor Council Meeting 3-17-17 @2pm
  4. Five Agency Commander Meeting 3-20-17 @ ?

II. REPORTS

- a. Willis T. Becenti
  - I attended a meeting in Ganado Arizona February 17<sup>th</sup> in regards to Increase of Navajo Nation Trust Fund, right now we get 4% but are working to increase to 10%. We currently have \$130 million in a New York City Bank and can only withdraw with a 2/3 vote by the Dine people. Eight percent of revenue generated by Navajo Nation is deposited into this Trust Fund, 4% of that is the funds dispersed to Navajo Nation Veterans currently. Last Fiscal year the five agency received \$1.3 million to dispersed to all veterans and another \$1.3 million for housing which is on hold due to lack of management experience. No one in Window Rock knows how to manage such a huge task of getting the Dine people housing.
  - During agency meetings, we discuss Trust Fund Budget, policies and procedures, and housing. We are currently reviewing all procedures due to mismanagement of funds by Veterans office in Chinle.
  - Reviewing POO for Trust Fund, eligibility criteria to receive funds are currently being discussed and will be enforced. Marriage License and DD-214 need to be updated. Common law status is being scrutinized and formal documents will be needed to
    - qualify for any Trust Fund monies.
- b. Calvin Halwood
  - My report will be on my continual efforts with VASH program. I was informed that there are other programs available per Ruth Hunter. The VASH program is something new and no one knows how to go about it. Most of these programs are temporary and nothing permanent to rely on for future assistance. We also have a

Mobile clinic available to veterans so make your appointment to be seen. I will report back next meeting on my progress.

c. Kerbie Henry

- My report will be about trip to Sacaton, Arizona for 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Iwo Jima flag raising. We had a unique experience and thank all for selecting me to go. I enjoyed the comradery being amongst fellow veterans. It was an honor to lead parade following fellow veteran Sophie Yazzie. It was a pleasure representing Tsaile Wheatfields Blackrock Chapter/ Veterans organization /Community.
- Veterans office in Chinle is asking for Voter registration verification letter from chapters for each individual veteran. Letter must have a letterhead from the chapter and signed by veteran.

d. David Tsosie

- My report will be also about my trip to Sacaton, Arizona. We attended banquet and enjoyed performance by Acoma Tribal dance group. We also were invited to a cookout by a fellow veteran (Lance Lewis) and original founder of the annual event in Sacaton, Arizona. I feel like we have received the exposure by representing Tsaile Wheatfields Blackrock Chapter and community. Next year for this same event we should go about funding our own way down via fundraising, etc. Other organization that were at the parade mention that they were not helped by their chapters therefore we should also do the same.

e. Irving Chee is present. No report.

f. Floor given to Frank Kedelty.

Mr. Kedelty spoke of his trip to Sacaton, Arizona. He's been there before and would like other fellow veterans to consider volunteering to travel there for next year.

g. Floor given to Roy Anagal.

Mr. Anagal spoke of his trip to Sacaton, Arizona. He enjoyed participating in the event would like to extend his gratitude to Chapter for traveling funds. He also gave a report on house progress, was able to hire an electrician and all is complete. He had to pay out of pocket for additional material and wanted to know about reimbursement. House pass inspection after electrician fixed some issues.

*Motion: Roy Anagal      2<sup>nd</sup>: Frank Begaye*

*Votes: For: 19*

*Against: 0*

*Abstain: 1*

### III. BUSINESS ITEMS

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

1. NO REQUEST

b. Requesting Veterans Financial Assistance from chapter veterans Funds

1. NO SUPPELMENTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

c. Increase to the Navajo Nation Trust Fund

- Had a meeting February 17<sup>th</sup> in Ganado Arizona. Seth Damon presented on this topic and had very useful information. We discussed the distribution of Trust Funds and also looking into increasing the percentage to 10%. 2% allocated for housing, 2% for renovation and 6% for Veteran use distribution. Right now, we are scrutinizing the percentage that is taken for administration use in Window Rock. The issue is why do we pay for service that is already paid by other percentage of the trust fund. We need 2/3 votes (17 votes) during spring session council vote to approve this plan in 2017. We can utilize this additional funds to help veterans with more funds. The projected amount would be \$8,790,822.50 if

this new percentage increase is approved. This increase would increase funds distributed to our organization to \$126,000. This would allow us to do a lot and our organization would be able to help veterans with housing instead of farming out jobs. This would also allow us to get 5013C which would allow us to distribute funds to veterans directly from within the organization.

- d. Use of the remaining Trust Budget FY 2017 Social Account
  - We have a remaining balance of \$10,000.00 and would like to prevent a carryover that could be distributed evenly like last year. We have \$1800.00 remaining for catering, do we want a cookout at the lake or have dinner here at the chapter house. Please think about this topic and will discuss next meeting.
- e. Veterans Budget FY 2018
  - In July we will know what the new budget will be and it's up to veterans organization to determine how to allocate funds. We will be developing our own form 4 which has a deadline of August. We can add medical trip and other at the request of the veterans. All allocated funds need to be specific and not a general specification.
- f. Dine College Posting of Colors for April / May Activities.
  - April 6<sup>th</sup> 2017 Sovereignty day (Time TBD)
  - April 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 Presidential inauguration (Time TBD)
  - May 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 Dine College graduation (Time TBD)

*Motion by: David Tsosie 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Frank Begaye*

*Votes For:17 Against:0 Abstain:1*

#### IV. NEXT MEETING

DATE: April 11, 2017 @ 5pm

*Motion: Kerbie Henry 2<sup>nd</sup>: Frank Begaye*

*Votes: For: 17 Against: 1 Abstain: 1*

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:15pm.

*Motion: Kerbie 2<sup>nd</sup>: Frank Begaye*

*Votes: For: 17 Against: 0 Abstain: 1*