

Chinle Chapter Government

THE NAVAJO NATION

Myron McLaughlin
PRESIDENT

David Yazzie, Jr.
VICE PRESIDENT

Cynthia Hunter
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Eugene Tso
COUNCIL DELEGATE

Oscar Bia
GRAZING COMMITTEE MEMBER

REGULAR PLANNING MEETING

Monday, August 03, 2020 – 5:30 PM

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call
- II. Invocation
- III. Review and Approval of Agenda
- IV. Announcements:
 - a. Executive Order No. 008-20: Fifth Executive Order Related to Extending the Declaration of the State of Emergency Due to the Covid-19 Virus on the Navajo Nation; Further Extending the Closure of Navajo Nation Government offices and Related Entities to August 16, 2020.
 - b. Chinle Chapter's next Regular Monthly Meeting is scheduled for August ____, 2020 at 1:00 PM.
- V. Community Concerns:

Shannon Davis, requesting continued support of employee payroll through CARES Act funding.
- VI. Reports:
 - a. Walton Yazzie, Chapter Manager
 - b. Eugene Tso, Council Delegate
 - c. Oscar Bia, Grazing Official
 - d. Myron McLaughlin, Chapter President
 - e. David Yazzie, Chapter Vice-President
 - f. Cynthia Hunter, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer
- VII. Old Business:
 - a. CHIN-JUL-20-027: Rescinding Resolution CHIN-AUG-19-053 and Requesting NTUA Wireless to Install a Cellular Tower to Provide wireless Network For The Spider Rock Community, on the Existing Withdrawn Gravel Site Area For A 100' X 100' Lease Area. *Sponsor, David Yazzie*
- VIII. New Business:
 - a.
- IX. Adjournment

CHINLE CHAPTER PLANNING MEETING (TELECONFERENCE)

August 03, 2020 – 5:30 PM

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER by Chapter President, Myron McLaughlin at 5:37 PM

| ROLL CALL: | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Eugene Tso, Council Delegate | XX | |
| Myron McLaughlin, Chapter President | XX | |
| David Yazzie, Chapter Vice President | XX | |
| Cynthia Hunter, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer | XX | |
| Oscar Bia, Grazing Official | XX | |
| Walton Yazzie, Chapter Manager | XX | |
| Tyrone Begay, Planner | XX | |
| Tamra Brown, AA | XX | |
| Joann Dedman, LDA | XX | |

II. INVOCATION by Oscar Bia, Chinle Chapter Grazing Official

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to Accept Agenda by David Yazzie, Second by Oscar Bia

David Yazzie, requesting to reaffirm CHIN-AUG-19-053 for CellOne

Myron McLaughlin, so you would like to reaffirm the resolution for CellOne, what about Choice Wireless? CellOne Resolution is still legitimate for another year.

David Yazzie, We can reaffirm the resolution and what Deswood wants is to have the Covid language put into the resolution since they are looking to use the CARES Act funds.

Cynthia Hunter, I'm confused, why can't CellOne just use the Resolution as is since it is close to a year old. Also, we need CellOne at the table, before the pandemic we would have the sponsors explain what they wanted at the Planning Meeting so we know what they are talking about before it goes to the Regular Chapter Meeting. We need to be organized here, first we were told the resolution was to be for Choice Wireless then to reaffirm for CellOne but to add language, I'm confused.

Myron McLaughlin, we cannot reaffirm a resolution and then add language, if we reaffirm then we do so with the wording still the same but since the resolution is still good then my recommendation would be to have a conference call set up with Deswood Begay (CellOne) so he can let us know of his intentions and draft a new resolution with the language needed for the CARES Act funding.

David Yazzie, this resolution is for a temporary tower that CellOne will build for the Spider Rock area, we picked a site for the DelMuerto area near a watertank and that one will be through Choice Wireless. I already talked to the head honchos with Choice Wireless and they have funds to build a tower up there.

Myron McLaughlin, who did you speak with, I will need names. We need to set up teleconference meetings to make sure the language on the resolutions are correct as well as get information as to what their intentions are. Once we get the names, Tamra can set up the teleconference and speak with both CellOne and Choice Wireless.

Cynthia Hunter, because of the recommendations for new resolutions *I motion to strike Old Business Item "a", Second by Oscar Bia*

VOTES TO REMOVE OLD BUSINESS ITEM "a": 4 in Favor and 0 Opposed

Tyrone Begay, I would like to request to add to Announcements, the Americorps Program's three year grant approval of \$247,662 beginning August 12, 2020. Chinle Chapter was awarded the funds for another three year cycle which can go into 2023.

David Yazzie, I would also like to request to add the Navajo Nation Code Talker Day on August 14, 2020, Navajo Nation entities will be closed that day.

Myron McLaughlin, we can add the two request to announcements

Votes to Approve Agenda: 4 in Favor and 0 Opposed

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Executive Order No. 008-20: Fifth Executive Order Related to Extending the Declaration of the State of Emergency Due to the Covid-19 Virus on the Navajo Nation; Further Extending the Closure of Navajo Nation Government offices and Related Entities to August 16, 2020.
- b. Chinle Chapter's next Regular Monthly Meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM.
- c. Chinle Chapter Americorps Program has been awarded \$247,662 for another three year grant to begin August 12, 2020
- d. Navajo Nation Code Talker Day is August 14, 2020, most Navajo Nation entities will be closed that day.

V. Community Concerns:

- a. **Shannon Davis**, requesting continued support of Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise employee payroll through CARES Act funding.

Cynthia Hunter, this is in reference to the email we received. Shannon Davis is employed by the Twin Arrows Casino and there is talk of lay-off, if the CARES Act is approved the Navajo Nation Gaming employees can still receive their income until they can return to work. If Council Delegate Tso has any information to give in reference to this it would be appreciated, I keep hearing KTNN announce that there will be layoffs.

Myron McLaughlin, since the casinos were closed the employees have been receiving their pay, now that funds are running low they have options to lay-off creating hardship for families. Honorable Delegate Tso, can you tell us what is being planned for the Navajo Nation Gaming employees?

Delegate Eugene Tso, the legislation was brought up at the Council, funds in the amount of \$2.4M was approved however, it is up to the President to approve the budgets. It is hard to say what he will line-item veto.

Cynthia Hunter, are we still able to comment on this or can we support the Navajo Nation Gaming employees through a letter to the President?

JoAnn Dedman, Legislation 144-20 was amended and budgets were created and approved by the Navajo Nation Council, I believe it is now up to the President of the Navajo Nation, he has 10 days to sign this legislation. You can still write to the President and let him that you support the employees and to NOT line-item veto this legislation.

Myron McLaughlin, I will draft a letter to the Navajo Nation President, I can send the draft to Tyrone. After the letter is finalized Tamra can print on letterhead and we can send it to the Navajo Nation President, I will stop by tomorrow.

JoAnn Dedman, the Grazing Official Oscar Bia has approached me about some of the local farmers concerns of the irrigation canal, perhaps he can bring this up as a community concern?

Oscar Bia, I can wait until I give my report

VI. REPORTS

- a. **Walton Yazzie, Chapter Manager**: I have no report at this time just updates:
Transfer Station, a small building has been constructed at the transfer station so that payments can be taken there. We are just waiting on NTUA to run the electricity to the site.
Michael Dohi, I was at NTUA this morning but the Engineer was not in, I will continue to meet with NTUA to get this completed as soon as possible
David Yazzie, Michael was told that the three phase line had to be brought down to a single phase in order to operate the site.

Myron McLaughlin, the place will need an AC for summertime and heater for winter, it is too hot to be sitting inside during the summer.

Walton Yazzie, yes, we have planned for those items and a bathroom as well. We are still working on the building which will be a convenience for the community to go directly to the transfer station instead of paying at the chapter first.

b. **Eugene Tso, Council Delegate:**

I have been attending the council sessions late into the night and now that the budget is situated we wait for the Navajo Nation President to sign the legislation.

I will present the Committee of One to the Title 2 Task Team, I bring this up because it is unfair to the Dine People that have voted us in. Some of the Committees have final authority and most times we cannot attend all the meeting especially when it pertains to our own areas. There is a concern that some Council Delegates have more authority than others.

JoAnn Dedman, Council Delegates have worked very hard on the CARES Act Budget, meeting and working for up to twelve hours on most days. This is impressive and has been a lot of work for all involved, now it is up to the Navajo Nation President to sign the legislation. Also, a written report will be available at the chapter meeting.

With Legislation 0144-20, \$32.8M was budgeted for Broadband with \$24M for Navajo Nation Enterprises and there are funds for non-tribal entities as well

c. **Oscar Bia, Grazing Official:**

Irrigation Canal, some families that live north of the green river approached me and they have expressed their concerns and plans of rebuilding the irrigation canals. They need help with funds, they say they have tried to ask Apache County and other entities for assistance to clean the canals and rebuild in some places. I suggested they create a farm/land board and have one person speak for them, they chose me but I declined because I already have a lot of work to do. I also referred them to speak with Delegate Tso.

Branding, I have branded for several families even though we are told not to. Some families express their urgency of branding their calves because of cattle rustlers stealing livestock that are not branded. I get help from a couple family members and I get two assigned by the chapter, we do practice safety. The family members wear masks and the chapter staff already know the safety protocols so we have been helping with branding for the families that do practice the CDC guidelines, the ones that I know that do a lot of traveling are not assisted because we do not want to get ourselves into a situation with Covid-19. I had requested the Chapter Manager to purchase a squeeze chute for branding, he was in favor, hopefully that is still the case because this equipment is needed during branding season.

Windmills, There are more broken windmills this happens because of the high winds. I keep stopping by Water Development to request for windmill repairs but they are not there most of the time. I don't know if it is possible to request funds from them so that we (the chapter) can repair these windmills with chapter staff, one windmill has water flowing but it is wasting away most likely because the pipe is broken in the ground and water is seeping into the ground. I wanted to see if the Chapter backhoe can be used to dig up the pipe and repair it.

Feral horses, I receive complaints from several homeowners of feral horses getting into fields and eating their crop, horses drinking their pets water. Because of the shut-down it has been hard to get a hold of the Rangers. I told the homeowners to corral the horses and I can try and contact the rangers to have them picked up.

Drought, we did get some rain creating puddles and filling certain areas but are now all dried up again. Hopefully we get more rain soon.

Fluted Rock Fire, I traveled to the areas assessing the fire damages, some homes were scorched and the families will need assistance rebuilding out there. Trees that burnt down need to be removed and the area needs reseeded, I contacted Department of Ag to see what can be done. Recommendations were to meet with Irvin Shirley and assess the burnt areas.

d. **Myron McLaughlin**, Chapter President – I have no report at this time

- e. **David Yazzie**, Chapter Vice-President – I have no report but keep safe, wear your masks, practice social distancing.
- f. **Cynthia Hunter**, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer – I also have no report but I am thankful the Covid-positive numbers are down to the double digits and sometimes get down into the teens. We have come a long way and I hope we do not get a surge again. Also, today is the first day of school for our students, I am very thankful to CUSD#24, if you see Quincy Natay pass along a thank you to him and his staff, students received Under Armor backpacks along with laptops, I hear some buses are equipped with hotspots as well as hotspots for students to use along with laptops.
Myron McLaughlin, thank you for bringing that up for the Schools, this is more the reason to get the broadband, cell towers up for the students. This is something they really need at this point to continue their virtual learning.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CHIN-JUL-20-027: Rescinding Resolution CHIN-AUG-19-053 and Requesting NTUA Wireless to Install a Cellular Tower to Provide wireless Network For The Spider Rock Community, on the Existing Withdrawn Gravel Site Area For A 100' X 100' Lease Area. *Sponsor, David Yazzie*
(At the Approval of the Agenda, this item has been removed, Motioned by Cynthia Hunter, Second by Oscar Bia)

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Support Resolution for Cell One for Spider Rock**
- b. **Support Resolution for Choice Wireless for Del Muerto**
Myron McLaughlin, the resolutions will be finalized after the meeting with both companies. We will see what the outcome of the meeting will be.
VOTES to move New Business Items "a" and "b" to the Regular Chapter Meeting pending the outcome of the conference with CellOne and Choice Wireless – **4 in Favor and 0 Opposed**

IX. ADJOURNMENT at 7:02 PM

Adjournment Motioned by Oscar Bia, Second by Cynthia Hunter
VOTES: 4 in Favor, 0 Opposed

Chinle Chapter Planning Meeting Minutes completed and submitted by Cynthia Hunter, Chinle Chapter Secretary/Treasurer on Wednesday, August 05, 2020

Cynthia Hunter
08/05/2020

Chinle Chapter Government
Sign-in Sheet

Date: 08/03/2020 ☒ Planning Meeting ☐ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. President: | <i>By Myself</i> | 21. |
| 2. Vice President: | <i>[Signature]</i> | 22. |
| 3. Secretary/Treasurer: | <i>Deborah Reuter</i> | 23. |
| 4. Grazing Official: | <i>Don Bi</i> | 24. |
| 5. Council Delegate: | | 25. |
| 6. | <i>Jamia Brown</i> | 26. |
| 7. | <i>Dan & JS</i> | 27. |
| 8. | <i>Liana Shorty</i> | 28. |
| 9. | <i>Allen Ri</i> | 29. |
| 10. | <i>Ashe Sime</i> | 30. |
| 11. | | 31. |
| 12. | | 32. |
| 13. | | 33. |
| 14. | | 34. |
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