

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 CHAPTER MEETING

November 10, 2019 – 1:00 PM

AGENDA

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Invocation
- III. Review and Approval of Agenda
- IV. Review and Approval of Last Meeting Minutes
- V. Financial Report
- VI. Announcements:
 - a. Chinle Chapter will be closed Monday, November 11, 2019 in observance of Veterans Day Holiday.
 - b. Chinle Steering Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 9:00 AM.
 - c. Chinle Land Use Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 9:00 AM.
 - d. Chinle Chapter will be closed November 28 and November 29, 2019 (Thursday and Friday), in observance of Thanksgiving Day and Family Day Holidays.
 - e. The next Chinle Chapter Monthly Planning Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 02, 2019 at 5:30 PM.
- VII. Old Business: None
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. CHIN-NOV-19-070: Chinle Chapter voters hereby adopt the "*Chinle Chapter Local Sales Tax Ordinance*, Imposing an Additional 2.5% Tax on all sales of goods and services within the Boundaries of the Chinle Chapter" and Demands the Navajo Nation Board Of Elections Supervisors to honor and accept the Majority Cast Votes Per 11 N.N.C. § 406, Vote Required. *Sponsor, Myron McLaughlin*
 - b. CHIN-NOV-19-071: Approving and authorizing Chinle Chapter Administration Staff, Walton Yazzie (Chapter Manager) and Michael Dohi (Project Coordinator) to sell and manage permits for wood hauling through the Navajo Nation Forestry Department. *Sponsor, Walton Yazzie*
- IX. Reports
 - a. Peter Nez, National Jewish Health, Navajo Community Asthma Program Update
Stevick Jim, Community Asthma Program Coordinator
 - b. Herman Largo, Chinle Health Care
 - c. Eugene Tso, Council Delegate
 - d. Chapter Officials
 - e. Oscar Bia, Grazing Official
- X. Adjournment

VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



CHINLE CHAPTER MEETING
November 10, 2019– 1:00 PM
MINUTES

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** *by Chapter President, Myron McLaughlin at 1:09 PM*
- II. INVOCATION** *by Oscar Bia, Grazing Official*
- III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Motion to Accept Agenda by Betty Rose Draper, Second by Dorothy Smith
David Yazzie, in addition to announcements, today is the Marines birthday, Happy Birthday Marines HooRah.
VOTES: 39 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 1 Abstentions
- IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES** *by Myron McLaughlin*
Motion to Accept Last Meeting Minutes by Betty Rose Draper, Second by Pamela Bia
VOTES: 29 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 10 Abstentions
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT** *by Myron McLaughlin*
Motion to Accept Financial Report by Francis Draper, Second by Betty Rose Draper
VOTES: 39 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 5 Abstentions
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
Peter Nez, I am requesting to be moved to Announcements although we are listed under "Reports".
Myron McLaughlin, if that is ok with motioning parties, Betty Rose Draper and Dorothy Smith
Betty Rose Draper, yes
Dorothy Smith, yes
Myron McLaughlin, we will give you the floor after "f" in Announcements
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 - c. *Chinle Land Use Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 9:00 AM.*
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 - e. *The next Chinle Chapter Monthly Planning Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 02, 2019 at 5:30 PM.*
 - f. *The 244th Birthday for Marine Corps is today, Happy Birthday to the United States Marine Corps*
 - g. ***Peter Nez, Update on Community Asthma Program***
We work under the National Jewish Health from Denver, Colorado. We are interested in helping school age children from 7-17 year olds suffering from asthma. A year ago I mentioned we would open up an office, we are located next to Bashas for about three months and looking to be situated there for two years.
Stevick Jim, UofA student and project coordinator for the Asthma Program. We work with Tuba City, Chinle, Window Rock and Ft. Defiance recruiting kids between ages of 7-17.
Elvira Begay, Research Specialist. We are helping children with asthma, helping students and researching to help on how we can make things easier for students.
Peter Nez, we are working with schools and hospitals to identify students with asthma and how we can help. There are many students with Asthma we are currently researching how students suffer. If students are missing school because of asthma, we are helping to see how we can make things easier. It is not clear how asthma is contracted and what triggers it. The weather is getting colder, last Saturday there was an incident in Alamo where several people died during a ceremony so we really need to be careful what we burn. We as parents need to clear the fine dust in our homes and limit the use of chemicals around young children.
- VII. OLD BUSINESS:** *None*

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **CHIN-NOV-19-070: CHINLE CHAPTER VOTERS HEREBY ADOPT THE "CHINLE CHAPTER LOCAL SALES TAX ORDINANCE, IMPOSING AN ADDITIONAL 2.5% TAX ON ALL SALES OF GOODS AND SERVICES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CHINLE CHAPTER" AND DEMANDS THE NAVAJO NATION BOARD OF ELECTIONS SUPERVISORS TO HONOR AND ACCEPT THE MAJORITY CAST VOTES PER 11 N.N.C. § 406, VOTE REQUIRED.** Sponsor, Myron McLaughlin

Motion by Benita Yazzie, Second by Dorothy Smith

Myron McLaughlin, the election took place last Tuesday with 383 yes votes and 203 no votes. The resolution here is to be sent to the Board of Elections, we are demanding they honor and accept the majority cast votes written in the Navajo Nation Election Code Title 11. This is a historic event, we need to move forward like Kayenta Township and Tuba City who are flourishing and hoping Chinle Chapter gets there too.

VOTES: 46 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 4 Abstentions

- b. **CHIN-NOV-19-071: APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING CHINLE CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION STAFF, WALTON YAZZIE (CHAPTER MANAGER) AND MICHAEL DOHI (PROJECT COORDINATOR) TO SELL AND MANAGE PERMITS FOR WOOD HAULING THROUGH THE NAVAJO NATION FORESTRY DEPARTMENT.** Sponsor, Walton Yazzie

Motion by Benita Yazzie, Second by Marcus Begay

Myron McLaughlin, our constituents come here asking about wood hauling permits, Forestry Department only comes here once a week on Wednesdays to issue permits and some days people wait all day and Forestry personnel does not show up. The two named individuals will take a training to manage and issue the permits

Betty Rose Draper, why can't someone else do this instead of the two here at the chapter. Do they get paid? Last month there was a man sitting here handling these permits.

Myron McLaughlin, The two individuals will be volunteering, all permits sold will be recorded and money collected goes back to Forestry Department and none of the funds go to anyone else

Betty Rose Draper, why can't Forestry Department do that themselves?

Myron McLaughlin, They can but they can only be here once a week. It would be more convenient for people to come here to get the permit instead of traveling out of their way to Ft. Defiance. It takes gas to get to Ft. Defiance sometimes when the person that handles these permits does not show up here.

VOTES: 46 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 4 Abstentions

IX. REPORTS:

- a. *Peter Nez, National Jewish Health, Navajo Community Asthma Program Update*
Stevick Jim, Community Asthma Program Coordinator
(Moved to Announcements)
- b. *Herman Largo, Chinle Health Care - Absent*
- c. **Eugene Tso, Council Delegate:** *I have been having health and family issues since I took this office, it is good to have respect and prayers for one another.*
Nineteen (19) cadets graduated recently from the Police Academy and I also wanted to mention the loss of Sgt. Lemar Martin of the Crownpoint Police District last Monday
Thank you to the Military Veterans and well as Peace Time, Contact, Blue Star and Gold Star Mothers Meeting is scheduled Tuesday, November 12, 2019 with Mark Maryboy on Flood Management Plan for Chinle
There is also an announcement of a new Legislative Counsel
Meeting on November 19, 2019 with Dr. Fowler on amendments to the Navajo Nation Personnel Policy Manual to include rights of disabled persons
LOC Worksession is scheduled from November 20-22, 2019 on cross deputizing Coconino, Alamo and Apache Counties.
Parcel A and Parcel B of BIA Lands for relinquishment and clean up, Regional Director Stevens sent Charlotte Davis to meet with us

I traveled to Oklahoma to attend National Tribal Relations, Indian Nation Conservation Alliance (INCA) on conservation issues, water, funds to restore land. I am looking at all the drainages surrounding Chinle, how do we capture the flood waters for use?

Police Academy, we need a new building for the police academy I will submit this on Tuesday. There is talk to transform the Youth Detention Facility to an Academy but we have the plans and the land readily available to build a new academy, I will work to get this back on as a priority.

Disabled Navajos have three legislations and another approved recently by Kee Allen Begay's legislation that have not been looked into or used, legislations were passed and are just sitting there.

We need to care for and pray for one another. We have all turned against one another, we talk against one another. Students only learn certain things in school, they are missing their traditional teachings and values, missing a lot of teachings from their parents, they are smart and they are the ones to keep the family and nation together. If we don't change we will lose one another, let's change and help one another and change our ways for the better.

Myron McLaughlin, for Honorable Delegate, we just passed a resolution CHIN-19-NOV-070, if we get into issues with our cast votes we need your help and assistance. Election Supervisors tried to interfere with Shonto's AFOG but the cast votes were later approved. We do not want that to happen here so we need your assistance on this matter, we don't want them to say the votes do not count. Over 500 people showed up for the special election, which is more than we anticipated, we believe the votes count.

- d. ***Myron McLaughlin Chapter President,** I want to express my thank you for your support and votes at the Referendum Election. This historic event that took place is our community moving forward. Former Delegate, Leonard Pete always mentioned the shortfalls and that Chinle Chapter gets the same amount of tax revenue as a smaller chapters which is really not fair. We made a historic first step with this election, it means a lot for people to come out and vote.*

For the month of November, please make an effort to get together with your families and rebuild that bond, kinship (k'e) and enjoy your holidays this year. Remember your elders, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. we are all one family and come from the same generations past. Don't worry about what is going on in Washington, the State Level, the outside, let's focus on our family and community this year. I agree with what Mr. Tso, Council Delegate mentioned to have respect for one another. I have witnessed during the special election the negativity, the disrespect voiced by some community members, there were words that hurt and it was not a good feeling. All we want is for our community to strive forward.

I also want to say Happy Birthday to the Marine Corps, Happy Veterans Day and be with your families during the Holidays.

My grandma always said that after a meal we should bless ourselves with hozho, how many of us still practice that, and how many children are taught this? My son put me to the test, he had basketball practice at 5:00 AM, I was tired and wanted to sleep, he said come on Dad the Great Spirits are just passing you, let's go. This whole time I thought he didn't listen to me, so teach your children the traditional values. It makes me happy that a young student is relearning her Dine language, she joins us here - Hope, attending Dine College is learning the Navajo Language and is doing a great job relearning the Dine Language.

Love, respect and let's prosper here in Chinle, let's make Chinle what it use to be – the Heart of the Navajo Nation. Then let us recognize the Veterans here, thank you for your service and Happy Thanksgiving.

- e. ***Oscar Bia, Grazing Official:** It is nice to see everyone here, I hope to see you all at the next meeting. When resolutions get passed it is much stronger with more votes, I let people know my job and resolutions that get passed and there are people that say they don't know of what all get's approved.*

I took my oath of office about six months ago to serve as Grazing Official and since then I have been very busy.

My job pertains to grazing permits, land permits, water, livestock, wildlife and plants – I am still learning my position as Grazing Official. My job is to help you with permits, and recently I met with ADOT on their right of way, because of livestock getting onto the highways, they agreed to clean out the cattleguards and fix the fencing. After that I find there are many issues with land disputes and livestock brands, there are State Brands and Navajo Nation brands, people that don't have livestock complain, the people with livestock permits know one another and all support each other. There are such persons that have permits that tally up to 200 units, I have been conveying information on CFR and Navajo Nation Laws on permits.

I attend many meetings and conferences on a monthly basis, as well as get a lot of emails. I found there are people that brand their own cattle, when the cattle were rounded up I informed them that they are not allowed to do that and I let them know that I was supposed to do a tally count, so I found out they were branding with State Brands. They were given 30 days and if they do not obey the laws then the rangers and BIA will pick up the cattle that are not branded and take them to auction. I work with laws that are sensitive because some families do not get along because of land or livestock disputes. I have handled three family land disputes, two were settled outside of court and one settled in Peace Court. The Navajo Nation is 18M acres of Trust Land, this has not changed since Mr. Tso was a Grazing Official. It is wise to transfer permits or homesite leases to family members and keep it in the family that way disputes can be avoided. I helped six families settle homesite leases. There was an issue where a vehicle accident happened tearing down a portion of a fence, the person and their sibling were in a dispute where one sibling was putting up a fence and the other complaining about how much land was being fenced in. Windmills also have been locked up by families that live nearby so other people were not able to get water. I visited the windmill that had a lock on it, the person that put a lock on it lived nearby and showed me that the head was loose and wobbly, he had to place a lock on it due to safety issues, that is had already been reported to Water Resources. People that live near windmills need to please share the water. Horse Round-up took place, over 80 horses were corralled near the airport. I was approached by one person who accused me of taking the horses illegally, I showed him the resolution and documents from Department of Agriculture that allowed me to do horse round-up. I then suggested maybe I should let the persons horses out, the Ranger there then stated that as long as the horse was inside the corral that it was no longer the Grazing Officials business. The owner was then notified that he had five days to retrieve his horses but when he went to get his horse by the third day it was already taken away. So that is another issue, I did not break the laws but it was the Navajo Nation Rangers that did not keep the livestock for the five days that was mentioned.

Another incident where a person bought a vehicle, cattle were fighting near his vehicle and caused \$6,000-\$8,000 in damages, he wanted the owners to pay for the damages but the cattle were not branded.

Permit for hauling wood, that needs to be cared for, there is an incident where the fence was cut and firewoods taken from a family. Wood hauling for your own family is obvious it is different when people get wood for selling. Some wood haulers do not have permits in their possession, laws will have to get strict perhaps confiscate the chainsaw and vehicle, so we do ruin things for ourselves.

At the end of the day I will be headed home then I get more calls, there are many reports of livestock that are wandering about, so I turn around to investigate those again. It is a lot of work but I enjoy my job, I do not report this as a complaint. With your help this job does not have to be hard.

Down the canyon also has land disputes, that is Treaty land so the laws are somewhat different there. Many families extend their boundaries without notice to BIA or NPS, so this position is a lot of work. I use to complain about Window Rock but it seems that some of these issues do go that far for settlement.

NPL in Pinon area, many permits have been cancelled – some residents received their permits back with only 10 units. Because of this the NPL residents suggested to be fair across the Nation, cancel all permits and reissue with 10 units and let's see if these families will be satisfied with this change.

Please attend chapter meetings ask questions, if you attend these meetings you find out for yourself the changes and resolutions are stronger with more people voting.

- f. **Michael Dohi, Project Coordinator** – North American Bisti Coal can give free coal to the chapters, if anyone needs coal please talk to me or Walton, the priority is elderly and disabled persons.

Walton Yazzie, November 20, 2019 you have to have a vehicle and a ticket from here and are in need of coal. Coal mine is in Farmington past Northern Edge Casino on the right side. Certain days are available, first is 11/20/2019 then 11/25/2019, you have to have a drivers license, insurance and you cannot sell the coal. You can use a flat bed trailer, 2ft high and 8ft long enclosed. The coal is for your use, you are not allowed to sell and make profit off this coal the tickets will have your information so if you are found selling it you will be fined by the company not the Chapter. This is a test run and if we succeed we will be issued more tickets. If you have any questions, please ask. You are allowed one ton of coal, if you have a half ton vehicle you can make two trips.

Next Wednesday Chinle Chapter will have free coal for registered voters.

X. ADJOURNMENT at 2:57 PM

Adjournment Motioned by Dorothy Smith, Second by Benita Yazzie

VOTES: 46 in Favor, 0 Opposed and 2 Abstentions

*Chinle Chapter Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2019 respectfully recorded and submitted by
Chinle Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, Cynthia Hunter*

Cynthia Hunter
11/10/2019

Chinle Chapter Government
Sign-in Sheet

Date: 11/10/2019

☐ Planning Meeting

☒ Regular Meeting

☐ Special Meeting

1. President: Ignacio
2. Vice President: Walter
3. Secretary/Treasurer: Septimiano
4. Grazing Official: Cesar Bi
5. Council Delegate: Ignacio
6. Phillip Bea
7. Paula B
8. Ella Warren
9. Marvin Bahe
10. Aurelia Charles
11. Mary Ann
12. Ruth
13. John
14. Hazel Lynch
15. Melba Church
16. Rose Ann Tsosy
17. Leslie D Tsosy
18. Delphina Tsosy
19. Cayden Barlow
20. Nicole Deard

21. Ezekiel Wooly
22. Tom Jasin
23. Francis Draper
24. Ruth Clauschee
25. Beverly Ann
26. Karena Bia
27. Mary Becenti
28. Virginia Watchman
29. Lenny Bia
30. Lizzy
31. Samuel B
32. Carletta Skenderson
33. Dorothy L Smith
34. Benita Yazzie
35. Brendon D Yazzie
36. Wally Burbank
37. Catherine Brown
38. Betty Rose Draper
39. Lora Aguirre
40. Rosalie Brown

41. Elizabeth Tsosie
42. Christine Tsosie
43. Michael Doh
44. Josephine Redhouse
45. Leticia Tsosie
46. Antaguan Pajon
47. Marie B. Claw
48. ~~Meredith Dorscheeny~~
49. ~~St. Peter~~
50. Lanel Benallu
51. Betsy Yazzi
52. Nelly Begun
53. Emma Batty
54. Lorene & Yazzie
55. KARINNE DOHI
56. Kotten Bia
57. Cuahlemoc Trejo
58. Samantha Pahe
59. Liana Shorty
60. Tiethea Yazzie
61. Tierra Todecheenie
62. ~~Bm Bz~~
63. DWRA Berney

64. Stwickum
65. Pntg
66. ~~Stwickum~~
67. Regina Bahe
68. Rolynda Bahe
69. Wynemma Lewis
70. Reyna Dineken
71. Rudy Garri
72. Mann Bays
73. Stu Doh
74. Joellee Ado
75. Theresa B. Tso
76. Hope Whitehair
77. Polar Brown
78. Ryan Smith
79. Hannah Clark
80. Mayorie Kmetekoa
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