

Black Mesa Chapter
Regular Meeting Agenda
February 17, 2017

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Marvin Yellowhair at 8:05 pm
 - A. Invocation provided by Dorothy R Yazzie.
 - B. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2017 – Motioned by Dorothy R Yazzie and seconded by Annie Remiro. VOTE: 15-00-00
 - C. Adoption of Agenda – Motioned by Priscilla Yellowhair and seconded by Annie Remiro. VOTE: 15-00-00
Motioned to Suspend the Rules by Dorothy R Yazzie and seconded by Annie Remiro to move the Resolutions before Announcements. VOTE: 15-00-00
 - D. Announcements
 - 1. 2/21/17 – BM Head Start Update Project Meeting @ BM Chapter, 11am
 - 2. 2/27-3/1/17 – NN Grazing Committee Orientation/Training at Albuquerque NM
 - 3. 2/27-3/2/17 – NN Chapter Officers/CSC/AMS Orientation at Albuquerque NM
 - 4. 3/6/17 – Dist. 4 GCM Meeting at Pinon, 9am
 - 5. 3/13/17 – N8066 Road Construction Update Meeting at BM Chapter, 10am
 - 6. 3/13/17 – Home site Lease Meeting at Albuquerque NM
 - 7. 3/13/17 – RDC Meeting with GCM at Twin Arrows on NPL grazing permits/sheep units
 - 8. 3/14/17 – Inspection Meeting for GCM in Window Rock
 - 9. 3/17/17 – Dist. 4 GCM Meeting on Modification on Boundary Lines in Range Unit 305 in Hardrock

- II. Brief Reports/Introduction of Resolutions:
 - A. Council Delegate, Dwight Witherspoon (Absent). LDA, Nicole Horseherder made a brief reports and distributed Mr. Witherspoon's monthly reports and Legislative Branch Newsletter.
 - 1. NGS and SRP are discussing to close the plant. Nevada Electric and 2 California companies have pulled out of the business.
 - a. NN renewed the contract four years ago.
 - b. SRP decided to close NGS because SRP wants to change its operation.
 - c. From 2017 to 2019, the land will be recovered by SRP.
 - 2. There are new commissioners selected for LCR Water Rights.
 - 3. NN Transportation Stimulus Plan using Permanent Trust Fund
 - a. Referendum voting on whether to use or not to use the Permanent Trust Fund will take place
 - b. Discussions by Council Delegates still on-going.

Comments:

- 1. DRYazzie asked if there are any alternative plans for closing the NGS. Kayenta is planning solar energy and Mr. Witherspoon was talking about wind turbines at Peabody. 51% is needed to pass the referendum for NN Transportation Stimulus Plan.
- 2. CBemore talked briefly about reading on lawsuit against council delegate's stipend. She likes to know if N8065 Low Water Crossing project is still on the NN Transportation Stimulus Plan. It was not before but recently she was told it has been put back on the list.
- 3. MYellowhair asked about the dam at Page.
- 4. DRYazzie asked about what website can she located the copy of NN Transportation Stimulus Plan. It should be on NDOT website for public review.

Responses by N. Horseherder:

1. The dam is not associated with NGS. NN waived its rights to the water for NGS, so no revenues are being received.
2. She said the recent project list is still current for NN Transportation Stimulus Plan. If N8065 Low Water Crossing is the list, then it is on the list.
3. She told DRYazzie she will assist her finding the website for NN Transportation Stimulus Plan and forward it to her for her information.

B. Grazing Committee Member, Francis Honie

1. Cancelled Grazing Permits
 - NN supposed to develop the policies but procrastinating
 - Redistributions of permits will start in April 2017.
 - Living permittees will receive their permits first before anyone, whether they are in nursing homes or at home. Then approved assigned individual of deceased permittee will be next.
2. There are 14 chapters in NPL; out of those, 6 chapters are in District 4. There were 1158 cancelled grazing permits in NPL area. There are 63 permits within Black Mesa Chapter area.
3. BIA NPL Office was directed to give 25 CFR 161 to NN so they can start the implementation. BIA of Washington DC wants NN to start working with it.
4. 1940-1941, BIA issued 7453 grazing permits but currently there are about 31,000. This is too much for carrying capacity and need to reduce the permits. Because of this, only 10 sheep units per permits are being discussed. Based on Range Management Plans, it will be determined how many people will receive their permits.
5. Grazing officials were not invited to a recent meeting held at Twin Arrows by Dept. of Agriculture and BIA. He attended with other three grazing officials. Topics that were on agenda are:
 - History of NPL and timelines
 - Impacted Legislation Report
 - Government of Range Management Plans by BIA
 - More studies on grazing permits for Precinct two this summer, then Range Management Plan to be developed
 - Recommended Sheep Units per grazing permit
6. Another meeting is scheduled on Monday at Many Farms Chapter.

C. CSC, Albert Lee – Absent.

D. CLUPC, Dorothy R Yazzie

1. No meetings due to no quorum; only two committee members and waiting for Larry Biltah's appointment to be approved.
2. The Committee needs to finalize the CLUP manual and conduct two public hearings; then have it approved by the chapter and forward it to RDC for their approval.
3. A CLUPC meeting with Navajo County on February 24th at 9am.
4. Rural Addressing is almost completed. Updating addresses of people still needs to be conducted. The next meeting is on February 22nd at Window Rock with MC Baldwin. When it's finalized, it will also be presented to the public.

E. CHR, Tammy Rock – Absent.

F. BM Veterans Organization, Richard Claw

1. A moment of silence for the Late Fred Joe Benally was held.
2. He explained that BM Veterans Organization assisted with Honor Guard and Fold of Flag. They are still learning since Chinle Agency Veterans Office directed them to start conducting these events for Black Mesa veterans.
3. There are, currently, 33 veterans.
4. As usual, they are problems with using the chapter house for their meetings; sometimes, they have outside even its cold. He has been requesting for extra key to the chapter house but to no avail.
5. There are discussions on unifying the policies and procedures for NN veterans organizations and will be known as Veterans Act.
6. He is a member of Pinon CERT and assisted the chapter during declaration of emergency. He was on call 24/7.

Comments and Concerns:

1. DRYazzie expressed her deep concerns that are no funds for veteran burial assistances, especially when she was told by Fred J Benally's family on Monday. The family and relatives donated enough to cover the burial expenses. Fred J Benally was a decorated veteran who served during Korean War.
2. MBiltah made a request to Mr. Claw if burial assistances are allowable under veterans funds allocated to the Chapter. If it is, the organization should consider budgeting for it.
3. LYellowhair expressed her disappointment the NN Council Delegates do not support the Navajo veterans with burial expenses. But they get paid stipends for attending meeting, maybe for short time of attendance.
4. PYellowhair talked about Mr. Witherspoon not attending the chapter meetings and missed by community members. He should give his full support to Black Mesa Chapter projects and other community developments. Or he should be recalled.
5. Relating to Declaration of Emergency, DRYazzie talked about how NDOT's 1st priority is clearing the snow on Route N4 and N41. She was so disappointed that isolated roads are the last the list.
6. FHonie said everyone should pay their highest respect for all veterans. They have given their life so we can have freedom of speech, freedom religion, and do whatever we want to do. They do not need to be treated unfair and disgrace them. BM Veterans Organization need to develop Color Guard, taps, and 21 salutes with honor for deceased veterans.
7. DRYazzie suggested to the Organization to plan to purchase guns and blanks for 21 salutes and be available.
8. EYellowhair suggested using JROTC for these activities and events, even train them to assist.
9. MYellowhair recommended the Organization to get a list for items needed for burial events, and plan in the budget. He also recommended to plan for fundraising activities such as raffling items, song & dance, and benefit pow-wows.

G. BM Review Board, Andrew Benallie – Absent.

H. Caroline Bemore, Chapter Vice President

1. She attended First Things First meeting and was told the FY 2017 funds have been already allocated. The program will keep in touch for any updates on the funds. The purpose is to request for funds for Black Mesa Head Start Building project. There is shortfall of funds for solar and other items.

- I. Marlene Biltah, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer
 - 1. She attended the last updated meeting on the Black Mesa Head Start Building project. There are two classrooms which one room will be for 6-months old to two years olds (early childhood education) and the 2nd classroom will be for 3-4 years old. Restrooms for early childhood had to be changed (change of work order).
 - 2. Red Dog Gravel Project - BIA Force Account and Navajo County are on winter shutdown and will resume beginning next month.
- J. Marvin Yellowhair, Chapter President
 - 1. A brief report on declaration of emergency for BM Chapter.
 - 2. He met with BM Veterans Organization at their last month's meeting and gave his support on their effort for proposed veteran building. A cost estimated has been shown to him.
- K. LCRWCA – None.
- L. BMCS and RRCS School Board Members – None.
- M. Others – None.

III. Updates on Chapter On-going Projects:

- A. N8066 Road Construction Phase III & Permanent Bridges
 - 1. Update meeting with Delegate Pete and Sharon Yazzie on March 13, 2017
- B. N8065 Low Water Crossing Project
- C. North Valley Power Line Extension Project
- D. Black Mesa Head Start Building
 - 1. CBemore checked with First Things First program about funding the solar for the head start. She was told that all funds are already allocated for this fiscal year.
 - 2. The update project meeting is on February 21, 2017 at BM Chapter at 11:00 am.
- E. Frontier Telecommunications
 - 1. Installation of towers at BMCS and Hole-in-the-Rock are completed.
 - 2. Frontier is waiting on NTUA to change the pole at School and complete the connection.
 - 3. Landline telephones and internet services will be available within four miles radius of the School. First priorities are BMCS and chapter house.

IV. Resolutions: Motioned by Annie Remiro and seconded by Dorothy R Yazzie to combined and approve all resolutions. VOTE: 16-00-00

- A. BMC-17-02-046: Approve Travel Authorization for Francis Honie to attend Dept. of Agriculture Orientation for GC Members, Land Board Members and Farm Board Members on February 27-March 01, 2017 at Albuquerque NM
- B. BMC-17-02-047: Approve FY 2017 Unhealthy Food Tax Budget
- C. BMC-17-02-048: Accept and Authorize FY 2016 Carry Forward Gaming Fund of \$16,462.92
- D. BMC-17-02-049: Supporting Pinon Community School for Reauthorization
- E. BMC-17-02-050: Approve Housing Discretionary Assistance for Peter Nez and Marie Lee

- F. BMC-17-02-051: Request to Dept. of Community Development, NN Budget/Finance Committee and NN Council to Direct the Office of Accounts Payable to be consistent on payment for chapter's utility invoices
 - G. BMC-17-02-052: Approve Medical Assistance for Nona Yazzie and Priscilla Yellowhair
 - H. BMC-17-02-053: Request to Chinle Agency Veterans to assist Roger Honie with Stove Purchase
 - I. BMC-17-02-054: Approve an appointment of Larry Biltah to Black Mesa CLUPC as representative for N8034/North Valley
 - J. BMC-17-02-055: Request for immediate replacement and installation of culverts at Daws Crossing on N8065
 - K. BMC-17-02-056: Request for immediate action for low water crossing installation at Oraibi Wash on N8065
 - L. BMC-17-02-057: Request to NN Dept of Agriculture and BIA NPL for immediate action on feral and stray horses within BM Chapter community
 - M. BMC-17-02-058: Request to NN Fish & Wildlife to conduct tracking and control wildlife animals that are killing livestock within Black Mesa Chapter community
 - N. BMC-17-02-059: Oppose NBOE Resolution #NNBESE-351 that approve to transfer authority of 32 BIE operated schools to the NN and to contract functions currently performed by the BIE thru PL 93-638 and support the operation of all BIE funded schools to remain govern by local elected school board and to maintain the school board apportionment plan currently in place
 - O. BMC-17-02-060: Request to BIA NPL Office and NN Dept of Agriculture for windmills inspection, services and repairs within BM Chapter community
 - P. BMC-17-02-061: Request to BIA NPL Office and Apache County for restoration and repairs of earthen dams within BM Chapter community
- V. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm. Motioned by Elouise Yellowhair and seconded by Priscilla Yellowhair.
VOTE: 16-00-00

Next Planning Meeting: Saturday, March 12, 2017 @ 10:00 am

Next Chapter Meeting: Friday, March 24, 2017 @ 4:00 pm

