

Black Mesa Chapter
Planning Meeting Minutes
June 05, 2016

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Larry Biltah @ 12:50 pm.
 - A. Invocation provided by Caroline Bemore.

 - B. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 04, 2016.
Motioned by: Caroline Bemore
Seconded by: Dwight Witherspoon
03-00-01

 - C. Adoption of Agenda
Motioned by: Caroline Bemore
Seconded by: Dwight Witherspoon
VOTE: 03-0-01

 - D. Announcements
 - 1. 6/6 to 7/8 – Summer Feeding Program @ BM School for Children Age up to 18 years
 - 2. 6/6/16 - RDC Work Session @ Forest Lake Chapter on Range Unit Boundary
 - 3. 6/7/16 – Sih Hasin Bike Riding Planning Meeting @ Pinon Clinic, 1pm
 - 4. 6/7/16 – First Responder Training @ Chinle, 8am
 - 5. 6/8/16 – LCRWCA update meeting @ PUSD
 - 6. 6/9/16 – LCRWCA Site Visit @ BM Chapter, 1pm
 - 7. 6/10/16 – 638 Training for Chinle & Pinon Chapters @ Pinon Chapter, 10am
 - 8. 6/13/16 – LCRWCA Soil Inventory Training @ Whippoorwill Chapter, 9am
 - 9. 6/16/16 – NPL Grazing Official Meeting @ Pinon, 9am
 - 10. 6/17-18/16 – Sheep as Life Celebration @ Dine College
 - 11. 6/24/16 – LCRWCA Steering Committee @ BM Chapter, 10am
 - 12. 6/30/16 – JMI @ BM Chapter, 530 pm
 - 13. 7/7/16 – Dzilyjiin Regional Council Meeting @ BM Chapter, 9am
 - 14. 7/9/16 – Chinle Agency Council Meeting @ Rough Rock, 9am
 - 15. 6/17/16 – Native American Fish/Wildlife Society SW Region Scholarship Deadline

- II. Brief Reports/Introduction of Resolutions:
 - A. Council Delegate, Dwight Witherspoon
 - 1. He met with Navajo President on Legislation 0093-16:
 - a. Some of directives by NN Council are not being met due to certain complications and other issues by BIA and Dept of Agriculture.
 - b. Forest Lake and Black Mesa chapters are the ones that disapproved the proposed boundary lines.
 - c. Grazing officials are responsible to work with their constituents and come to agreements.
 - d. Request Dept of Agriculture to present the Legislation and other NPL issues.
 - e. CFR regulation goes from Navajo Nation to BIA on reissue of grazing permits.
 - f. Any changes to boundary lines need to be approved at the chapter and forward to NPL Grazing Official for approval.
 - 2. Legislation 0034-16:
 - a. He disagreed on the reissue of grazing permits to living permit holders. Heirs should be equally qualified for reissue of permits.
 - b. Carry capacity should be completed.

3. He met with Garret Silversmith of NDOT on N8065 Low Water Crossing and has not received updates.
 4. He made brief updates on BM Head Start Building.
 5. The NN Gaming Revenue process has been completed.
 6. When asked about Summer Youth Employment Fund, NN Council approved the supplemental fund and awaiting Navajo President's signature for approval or veto.
 - a. Chapter need to submit the budget
 - b. 50% for college students
 - c. Enrichment activities with employment are recommended
 - d. The funds will be allocated based on 50/50 formula meaning 50% equal distributions among 110 chapter and 50% on registered voters.
 - e. BM Chapter has \$1909.00 as of March 2016.
 7. Nicole Horseherder is his legislative assistant.
- B. Grazing Committee Member, Francis Honie – Absent.
- C. CSC, Albert Lee – Absent.
- D. Call to the Public - None
- E. CLUPC – Absent.
- F. CHR – Absent.
- G. BM Veterans Organization, Richard Claw – Absent.
- H. BM Review Board, Andrew Benallie – Absent.
- I. Dzilyjiin Regional Community Development Commission, Jimmy Yellowhair – Absent.
- J. Chapter Officers – group discussions:
1. Chapter Resolutions
 2. Reissue of grazing permits and proposed range unit boundary lines
 3. Summer Youth Employment Funding Allocations of \$2 million
 4. Planning of work sessions on chapter policies updates – The community people were told that a thorough revamp will take place and bring in line with the current operations
 5. Concerns on LCRWCA budgets which is incomplete by leaving some important line items out which become questionable.
 6. Concerns on grazing official stipend payments
- K. LCRWSCA, Evalena Claw
1. She announced LCRWCA will conduct site visit for garden on 6/9/16.
 2. The last of work on projects is on July 28, 2016.
 3. Erosion Projects for BM Chapter – continuation from last year and some new projects
 4. An update meeting on June 8, 2016 at Pinon School District
 5. The workers will be visiting chapters to identify the locations of natural springs, corn fields, erosion, etc.
 6. The community profile is being conducted currently and still in progress.
 7. May 25th Meeting supposed to be on budgets but end up talking about projects and other issues. The copies of simple budget were distributed towards the end of the meeting and did not have enough time for any questions.

8. Development of community chapter task team is being recommended.
9. Approved chapter resolution for alternate steering committee still needed.
10. Upon request by chapter officials, there are 10 employees for the projects.

Concerns expressed by chapter officers on the budget copies:

1. There are not indications for summer youth workers, supplies, travel or contracted work.
2. Where the whole personnel budget? It only shows the personnel taxes.
3. The budget is incomplete.
4. An itemization of the budget should be included.
5. Funds for project should be set aside.

L. BMCS and RRCS School Board - None

M. Other: Amos Johnson, BIA NPL Office

1. Due to neglect of duties and responsibilities by grazing officials, Dept of Agriculture is controlling their funds. Some of are not doing tally counts, branding, and vaccinations.
2. It is true stipend payments should be for attending chapter's monthly planning and regular meeting. The people of community voted them in and should be reporting to them at these meetings.
3. He recommended to schedule and put Dept of Agriculture and BIA on chapter meeting agenda to do presentation on Legislations 0093-16 and 0043-16.

Chapter officials do agree about the stipend payments. Registered voters from each chapter elected them to represent their interests, not following the directives by Navajo Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resource. It has been brought to the attention of local grazing official on these concerns. The chapter's recommendations on 0043-16 were not their priorities but followed Dept of Agriculture's recommendations. It seems Dept of Agriculture and Natural Resource are completely controlling the grazing officials.

III. Updates on Chapter On-going Projects:

- A. N8066 Road Construction, Phase III & Permanent Bridge
- B. N8065 Low Water Crossing Project – an update was requested to NDOT Division Director but has not response yet.
- C. North Valley Power Line Extension Project
- D. Black Mesa Head Start Building – The process of paper work is very slow; Navajo Head Start Program will only allocate \$200,000 towards the project.
- E. Frontier Telecommunications

IV. Resolutions:

- A. BLAC-16-06-100: Request to Dept of Agriculture, Natural Resource, OMB, NN Council and NN President to have Grazing Officials, Land/Farm Board Members Received Stipend Payment by Attending Chapter Planning and Regular Monthly Meetings
- B. BLAC-16-06-101: Approve Travel Authorization to Farmington NM for Chapter Administration, Chapter Officers, and CLUPC President to Attend Chapter Work Sessions on Updating Chapter Policies on June 29-30, 2016

- C. BLAC-16-06-102: Approve \$100.00 for NN JMI Event at BM Chapter on June 30, 2016
- D. BLAC-16-06-103: Approve \$500.00 for Dzilyjiin Regional Council Meeting at BM Chapter on July 07, 2016
- E. BLAC-16-06-104: Approve \$250.00 for Sih Hasin Bike Ride Event on July 14-15, 2016

Motioned to Forward All Resolutions to Regular Chapter Meeting by: Dwight Witherspoon
Seconded by: Caroline Bemore
VOTE: 03-00-01

V. The Meeting Adjourned @ 4:53 pm.

Next Chapter Meeting: Friday, June 17, 2016 @ 1:00 pm

Next Planning Meeting: Friday, July 08, 2016 @ 1:00 pm



Marlene Biltah, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer