

Black Mesa Chapter
Planning Meeting Minutes
March 04, 2016

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Larry Biltah @ 1:57 pm.
 - A. Invocation: Helena Nelson

 - B. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes of 02-05-16
Motioned by: Caroline Bemore
Seconded by: Marlene Biltah
VOTE: 03-00-00

 - C. Adoption of Agenda w/changes under the Reports
Motioned by: Caroline Bemore
Seconded by: Marlene Biltah
VOTE: 03-00-00

 - D. Announcements:
 - 1. 3/7/16 – Local Council on Aging Meeting @ Senior Citizen Center, Forest Lake
 - 2. 3/10/16 – Chinle Agency Council on Aging Meeting @ Many Farms
 - 3. 3/11/16 – Navajo Nation Aging Meeting @ Farmington NM
 - 4. 3/18/16 – RDC Meeting @ Tse Boninto NM, 10am
 - 5. 3/22/16 – Election on US Presidential Candidates
 - 6. 3/25/16 – Red Dog Gravel Meeting @ Pinon, 10am
 - 7. 3/29-31 – NN Natural Resource Summit @ Window Rock
 - 8. 3/30/16 – Sihasin Fund Meeting on Economic Projects @ Twin Arrow,
 - 9. 4/2/16 – NAPI Hay Sale @ Pinon
 - 10. 4/7/16 – Dzilyijiin Regional Council Meeting @ Hardrock Chapter, 9am
 - 11. 4/8/16 – Chinle Agency Council Meeting @ Cottonwood Chapter, 9am

- II. Brief Reports/Introduction of Resolutions:
 - A. Others:
 - 1. LCRWSCA – Matthew, Community Involvement Specialist
 - a. He made a brief introduction of the water shed projects for 20 chapters that are involved with LCRWSCA.
 - b. He made a request to be on regular chapter meeting.

 - 2. Chinle Justice Dept.
 - a. She made a brief update on justice building construction in Chinle.
 - b. She request to be regular chapter meeting.

 - B. Chapter Officers
 - 1. Caroline Bemore
 - a. She attended the meeting with Mr. Harold Riley of BIA Roads Dept on N8066 Road Construction Phase III last month.
 - b. She expressed the need of community support
 - c. She submitted a letter to RDC to schedule a meeting on the road projects.
 - d. A need to organize and develop a presentation to RDC.
 - e. ADT count may be low but need to be treated equally regarding on excess road to the Chapter House.
 - f. NPL has always hindered any improvements within BM Chapter area.
 - g. A recommendation to include the parking lot to the road construction should be requested.

Dorothy R Yazzie:

- a. She talked with Delegate Leonard Tsosie and he recommended to be under RDC agenda's Report.
 - b. Contact person is Shamie at Legislative Office to request to be on agenda.
 - c. BM Chapter is one of the two chapter houses that do not have access roads.
 - d. A need to involve elders and students for support on the road project.
 - e. A power point presentation should contain stories and pictures of muddy roads, including medical data on community elders and disabled members.
 - f. A request for regular asphalt road should be made, not double chip seals like Mr. Riley' recommendation.
2. Sihasin Fund
- a. \$200+ million has been approved by NCC for water projects.
 - b. Within Dzilyjiiin region, only 4 chapter projects were on the list.
 - c. Need to request to OEH for N8034 Valley for bathroom additions projects.
 - d. It seems BM Chapter has been left out.
 - e. A request made to Mr. Witherspoon to support the BM Chapter's water projects.

Delegate Dwight Witherspoon:

- a. There are other chapters that did not get on the list.
- b. N8066 Road Construction is on current 5-year list for road construction, but towards the end of the 5-year plan.
- c. He recommends to include the elder's health data to be part of the presentation to RDC.

Ella Tallis expressed her concern on service deliveries for elders should be priority for road improvements.

3. NPL Meeting with RDC on March 18, 2016 at Tse Bonito NM
- a. All collected recommendations will be combined with sections that relates to different issues regarding redistributions of grazing permits.
 - b. It has been agreed to meet to make a final recommendation statements on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 10:00 am.
 - c. Finished statements will be hand-carried by chapter officers and distributed to RDC members.
4. Discussion on N8066 Road Construction Phase III
- a. Caroline Bemore and Marlene Biltah will work on gathering all documents for presentations.
 - b. Marlene Biltah will work with Black Mesa Community School regarding student letters and pictures of road conditions.
 - c. The School Board members needs to attend and give their support.
- C. Council Delegate, Dwight Witherspoon
1. He made a brief update on Black Mesa Head Start Building Project.
 2. There are 62 projects using Sihasin Fund; not all chapters have projects on the list.
 3. Suggestions for RDC Meeting:
 - a. Create a binder with pictures of elders, students, and water hauling with maps.
 - b. Have a speaker to mention low water crossing project and appropriate funds
 - c. Be humble and do not attack any of the committee members; also be humble to him; he can help.
 4. He needs North Valley Power Line Extension Project packet.
 5. NN Gaming Funds:
 - a. NCC and OMB are following the guidelines of distribution plan
 - b. NO funds have been distributed yet; waiting on amendments by OMB.
 - c. There should be no transfer of funds from one account to another.
 - d. If sanctioned, it needs to be lifted before the chapter's use their allocations.

Marlene Biltah explained that both BM Community School and BM Chapter needs to come together to clean up the landfill. The cost for any environmental clean-up should be taken care of by both parties. The landfill has been used by chapter house and community members since it has been developed in 1983. Now BM Community School has its own containers. BMCS Facility Maintenance might create a side ditches to block entrance and bring down all fencing materials. Before that happens, both chapter house and school need to clean up all trashes that on above ground to avoid scattering of paper materials.

Dorothy R Yazzie, former Executive Director of BMCS, explained when new school was constructed, both landfill and sewer lagoon was development. It should be used only by the School.

Caroline Bemore recommend the clean up should be conducted on Earth Day Week.

G. CLUPC , Dorothy R Yazzie

1. Data entry of rural addressing needs to be conducted. When completed, a meeting will be schedule to finalize it. She recommends having CSC to collect mailing addresses of all people.
2. A meeting with Navajo County will be schedule to finalize the CLUP manual. Housing developments are being proposed at three locations which do not include Kitsillie area. Multi-purpose building, veterans building, maintenance yard and head start building are all within the fenced area of the Chapter House.
3. She got selected to be on Navajo Area Council on Aging and will be attending a meeting soon.

D. CHR – Vacant.

E. BM Veterans Organization, Richard Claw – Absent.

F. BM Review Board, Andrew Benallie – Absent; Attending meeting in Window Rock, AZ.

G. Dzilyijiin Regional Community Development Corp., Jimmy Yellowhair – Absent.

H. BMCS and RRCS School Board – None.

III. Updates on Chapter On-going Projects:

A. N8066 Road Construction, Phase III & Permanent Bridge

B. N8065 Low Water Crossing Project

C. East Valley (Yale Point) Waterline Extension Project

D. North Valley Power Line Extension Project

E. Black Mesa Head Start Building

1. Harrison Martin of DES and OMB will create account number for \$400,000.
2. Business Unit # is needed by Harrison Martin to forward the project for SAS Process.
3. A Concerned that the project is not in the Chapter's 5-year Plan for capital project.
4. Navajo Nation DOJ will review for legal opinion.

F. Frontier Telecommunication – Towers are being installed.

IV. Resolutions:

A. BMC-16-03-059: Supporting LCRWSCA's Leadership Program and Initiatives

- e. The chapter needs to budget for community's benefits.
- 6. NN President vetoed PTF's 5-year Plan for water and economic projects; amendment was conducted to include Eastern and Central economic developments.
- 7. Navajo Casinos are repaying loans.

Dorothy R Yazzie questioned on LGA Certification and audit findings.

Caroline Bemore talked with Auditor General on Audit Findings:

- 1. The chapter needs to write a letter for re-audit after findings.
- 2. The Chapter will have to pay for their request for another audit.
- 3. Fencing the warehouse for heavy equipment needs to be conducted which was a finding.

Larry Biltah:

- 1. He wrote a letter and submitted.
- 2. He agreed that fencing needs to be conducted soon.
- 3. Mr. Leonard Tsosie did say at the Chinle Agency Council Meeting that a proposal is not necessary for Gaming Funds.

D. Grazing Committee Member, Francis Honie- Absent; Medical Appointment in Phoenix, AZ.

E. CSC, Albert Lee

- 1. He attended Red Dog Gravel Meeting in Holbrook.
 - a. Chapter needs to designate roads for spot gravel for the next round of hauling.
 - b. Each chapter has 2.5 miles for spot gravel within their chapter area.
 - c. There was outstanding bill for housing the BIA Force Account workers which needs to be paid soon.
- 2. He budgeted for CLUPC's travel.
- 3. BM Solar Energy – 15 residents need to update their monthly payment before receiving microwave; solar system was stolen from Curtis Smith's resident including refrigerator and generator. It has been reported to NN Police.
- 4. There have been some more home robberies and he is working with Navajo County deputy who is stationed in Pinon.
- 5. He will be updating the names and mailing address for Rural Addressing.
- 6. Navajo County is scheduling heavy equipment training for chapters that are involved with Red Dog Gravel Projects. Two individuals will be recommended by the chapters.

Caroline Bemore questioned why Navajo Nation President is not supporting the chapter when he vetoed Emergency Funds.

Mr. Witherspoon talked with Arbin Mitchell, Chief of Staff of Navajo P/VP Office. There is a deficient in Emergency Funds. Some chapters still have emergency funds available. Navajo Nation President is working on economic developments.

Dorothy R Yazzie said it should be used for road improvement to residents.

F. Call to the Public:

- 1. Geneva Small request for veteran assistance for her daughter's home site lease. She had head injuries and needs assistance.
- 2. Rosemary White expressed her opposition of any new housing developments within Kitsillie area due to current landfill which is over-flowing and looks disgusting.

- B. BMC-16-03-060: Request BIA Road Dept and NDOT for Asphalt Road Construction on N8066 Road Construction Project Phase III
- C. BMC-16-03-061: Approve Medical Assistance for Priscilla Yellowhair, Marlinda Elthie and Ella Rockbridge
- D. BMC-16-03-062: Approve Chapter Scholarship Assistance for Andrew Benally
- E. BMC-16-03-063: Approve for Red Dog Gravel Project on N8066 and N8065
- F. BMC-16-03-064: Request to BIA Roads Dept and NDOT to Expedite the N8066 Road Construction Project Phase III
- G. BMC-16-03-065: Express sincere appreciation to the joint efforts and dedication of Navajo County, NDOT, BIA Roads and Peabody Western Coal Company to improving public roads by applying red dog gravel materials within Dzilyjiiin Region
- H. BMC-16-03-066: Approve Veteran's Assistance for Sherry Small
- I. BMC-16-03-067: Request to NN Natural Resources and NN Forestry to stop illegal cutting of trees in Upper Wepo Washing Valley
- J. BMC-16-03-068: Request to initiate of providing bathroom additions to home of the residents of Upper Wepo Wash Valley

Motioned to forward resolutions to regular chapter meeting by: Marlene Biltah

Seconded by: Caroline Bemore

VOTE: 04-00-00

V. The meeting adjourned at 5:51 pm.

Motioned by: Marlene Biltah

Seconded by: Caroline Bemore

VOTE: 04-00-00

Next Chapter Meeting: Friday, March 14, 2016 @ 3:00 pm

Next Planning Meeting: Friday, April 8, 2016 @ 1:00 pm



Marlene Biltah, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer