

Black Mesa Chapter
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2016

I. Meeting Called to Order by Larry Biltah @ 1:50 pm.

A. Invocation: Amy Begay

B. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes of 03-29-16

Motioned by: Ella Tallis

Seconded by: Audrey Gray

VOTE: 23-00-05

C. Adoption of Agenda

Motioned by: Ella Tallis

Seconded by: Lita Bahe

VOTE: 26-00-03

Motioned to Add-on Item I under Resolution by: Nona Yazzie

Seconded by: Roger Bahe

VOTE: 26-00-03

D. Announcements:

1. 4/14/16 – NPL Permittee Meeting @ BM Chapter, 9am
2. 4/15/16 – Chinle Agency GCM Meeting @ Forest Lake, 9am
3. 4/14/16 – 2016 Navajo Aging Meeting @ Lukachukai
4. 4/16-17/16 – Horse Sale @ Pinon
5. 4/18/16 – District 4 GCM Meeting @ NPL Office Pinon, 9am
6. 4/18-22/16 – NN Council Spring Session @ Window Rock AZ
7. 4/18-29/16 – BM Community Clean up
8. 4/20/16 – NDOT Regional Meeting @ Tse Bonito NM
9. 4/20/16 – CLUPC Meeting @ Holbrook AZ, 9am
10. 4/16/16 – LCRWSCA Meeting @ BM Chapter
11. 5/11/16 – Chinle Agency Health Board Meeting on PL 93-638 Contract
12. 5/12/16 – IHS Policy/Bylaws Work Sessions at Chinle IHS
13. 5/14/16 – Veterans Blue Star Mother Dinner @ BM Chapter, 10a

Motioned to Suspend the Rules and Act on Resolutions by: Nona Yazzie

Seconded by: Daniel Begay

VOTE: 26-00-04

II. Resolutions:

A. TABLE - BMC-16-04-073: Authorize and Approve the Selection of Alternate LCRWSA Steering Committee Member

Motioned by: Nona Yazzie

Seconded by: Richard Sage

VOTE: 30-00-02

B. BMC-16-04-074: Supporting and Approving the Amendment to District Proposed Range Units 309, 310 and 311 Boundary Lines

Motioned by: Nona Yazzie

Seconded by: Loretta Begay

VOTE: 30-00-03

- C. BMC-16-04-075: Supporting and Approving the Amendment to District Proposed Range Units 308 and 311 Boundary lines
 Motioned by: Daniel Begay
 Seconded by: Albert Lee
 VOTE: 27-00-06

- D. BMC-16-04-076: Approve to Rescind the Resolution #BMC-16-03-071 (Supporting Legislation 0093-16 on Range Unit Boundaries and Grazing District Established by BIA for NPL)
 Motioned by: Daniel Begay
 Seconded by: Daisy Kiyaani
 VOTE: 23-00-10

- E. BMC-16-04-077: Reaffirmed the Eligibility Criteria of NPL Grazing Permits
 Motioned by: Lita Bahe
 Seconded by: Roger Bahe
 VOTE: 15-00-05

- F. BMC-16-04-078: Requesting Navajo Area Council on Aging to Establish and Fund the Senior Citizen Program at BM Chapter
 Motioned by: Albert Lee
 Seconded by: Roger Bahe
 VOTE: 18-00-02

- G. BMC-16-04-079: Supporting and Approve Veterans Housing Assistance for Billy K Biltah
 Motioned by: Daisy Kiyaani
 Seconded by: Daniel Begay
 VOTE: 19-00-02

- H. BMC-16-04-080: Supporting NNC's Directions to NN Board of Education and Department of Dine Education to abide by the NN Laws Regarding Local Control of Schools and to Ceased all Efforts to Overtake, Manage, and Operate All BIE Funded Schools
 Motioned by: Lita Bahe
 Seconded by: Roger Bahe
 VOTE: 16-01-01

- I. BMC-16-04-081: Approve Chapter Scholarship Assistance for Monica Tallis Jones
 Motioned by: Annie Lawrence
 Seconded by: Roger Bahe
 VOTE: 18-00-01

III. Reports:

- A. Navajo County Recorder's Office, Lorena Yazzie
 - 1. State Election Dates – May 17th Special Election
 August 30th Primary Election
 November 8th General Election
 - 2. Proposition 123 – Education Related Amendments
 - 3. Proposition 124 – Retirement Plans for Police Officers and Fire Fighters
 - 4. Bring ID to vote on election days
 - 5. Anyone can vote at any polling stations within Navajo County.
 - 6. AZ MVD – if party if not fill in on renewal driver's license application, party not designated will show on record. Currently all AZ county recorder's office are checking everyone's party selection.
 - 7. If democrat is chosen, a person cannot vote for republican in Primary Election.

Dwight Witherspoon expressed his concern on improper designated republican or democrat party for some voters. He let the people know that Proposition 123 is important to vote for since it includes all public schools on Navajo Nation.

Caroline Bemore explained that a person does not need to fill out another application during Election Day to vote. It's time consuming. All personal information should be on the list. Each poll worker should be properly trained.

B. Navajo County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Lawrence

1. He has received reports on home break-ins within local areas. Some were not reported on time or didn't hear about till a month later.
2. If possible, always get all information such as model and make of vehicle(s).
3. He advised a neighborhood watch should be developed, especially when planning to be away more than 2 days.
4. He encouraged creating a list of serial numbers for all equipment including weapons.

Lita Bahe reported on shooting of livestock in local area.

C. Council Delegate, Dwight Witherspoon

1. Navajo Hopi Land Commission
 - a. Met with RDC to gain a better understanding of the intent of Legislation 0034-16, the Navajo eligibility criteria for issuance of grazing permits on NPL, a request for audit of Rehabilitation Funds and approving housing policy to apply to NPL chapter and Nahaata Dzil.
2. Budget & Finance Committee
 - a. Approved Legislation for NN Permanent Trust Fund five year expenditure plans. \$16 million for water projects and economic projects.
 - b. \$13 million deficit projected in 1st quarter for NN operation budget.
 - c. Authorizing NHA to submit application to HUD for veteran housing projects.
3. Naabikiyati Committee
 - a. Approve legislation 0050-16 relating to water rates adjustments for Peabody Coal Company, There was complaint of discrimination with statement of "beyond reasonable doubt". Both parties submitted their evidence and made decision. NN Council reversed it.
4. NN Council Special Session on March 23rd - NN President vetoed supplemental funding for Cameron chapter demolition project.
5. LCRWSCA will educate the public on watershed projects and to work with Hopi Tribe. Large project plans are needed. Community needs big reservoirs. Wheatfield Chapter is restoring their corn field. BM Chapter can submit a proposal for a big water project.

Lita Bahe had questions on abandoned buildings at Black Mesa Mine.

Hansen Begay commented on Gaming Revenues where NN President told the audience at a conference he attended that Navajo Casinos is in hole (deficient).

Mr. Witherspoon responses:

1. Twin Arrows Casino is in a hole and Northern Edge Casino is struggling.
2. A management Team and Review Team made recommendations for solutions such as convenience store, RV parks, and housing.

Daniel Begay asked what will happen to the water stations if Peabody Coal Company shuts down because of bankruptcy. Will the Navajo Nation take over and keep the water going?

D. Grazing Official, Francis Honie – Absent.

- E. CSC, Albert lee
1. Still updating the mailing addresses of people that are on the list. He has 260 names on the list for Rural Addressing.
 2. There are several people behind payments on Solar System.
 3. Gaming Revenues – Window Rock Office finally making payments for chapter utilities.
 4. The Chapter will start making payment for SUTA.
 5. He announced about Earth Day activities scheduled for the community.
 6. A brief update on East Valley Wateline project.
 7. Equipment operator is blading to residents, started from Yale Point and going down towards South.
 8. He is working on getting estimates for fencing materials for equipment yard.
- F. CLUPC , Daisy Kiyaani
1. The Committee still working with Navajo County on the Manual and hoping to finalize it when meeting next week. When completed, the manual will present it to the community.
 2. LCRWSCA – The NN allocated funds for planning and currently using carry-over funds to complete the projects by July 2016. Need to write a proposal for Black Mesa area on water projects. Engineer Andrew Griffin will be conducting survey for terrains, erosions and washes on April 18, 2016.
- D. CHR – Vacant.
- E. BM Veterans Organization, Richard Claw – Absent.
- F. BM Review Board, Andrew Benallie
1. Peabody Coal Company and many other coal mines are experiencing budget cuts due to falling of stocks worldwide. One reason might be climate change.
 2. US President Obama recommends utilizing more solar energy and white gas infrastructures.
 3. PWCC is going into bankruptcy and might requests to lower revenue payments to Navajo Nation but it will be up to bankruptcy court. NN General Attorney will support Navajo Nation’s interests.
 4. Requesting Mr. Witherspoon to give his strong support on N8066 Road Construction Phase III and advocate to RDC to make it priority.
 5. Manymules Waterline Extension Projects
 - Water tank installation at Oak Ridge is being discussed for water projects.
 - Infrastructure Team is composed of 3 council delegates and 4 administrators. They make decisions on \$1.5 million allocations.
 6. PWCC is being directed by their main office. Travis John is not getting full support by main office on community assistance requests.

Lita Bahe is concern about the road maintenance by PWCC on route N8034. Lately, that is being neglected by Peabody Coal Company.

Marlene Biltah said if water tanks installation at Oak Ridge is being discussed for Manymules Waterline projects, regular road maintenance should be considered on route N8034, up to the junction of N8066. The BM Chapter has plans for \$250,000 allocation towards preliminary studies for both North Valley Power Line Extension project and North Valley Waterline projects. The chapter has requested to have funds allocated to the chapter with approved Resolution. BM Chapter Officers’ wish is to make both projects to be ready for constructions. They will seek additional funds for the projects if both have their preliminary studies completed. All funding grants like to see projects be ready for construction. She requested to Mr. Benallie to advocate for BM chapter’s interests.

Larry Biltah explained the phases of Manymules Waterline projects. Phase I have not started yet and there’s a short-fall of funds for Phase II. Oak Ridge area is on Phase IV which, probably, will not happen since all allocations will be used by Phase III. All approved allocations funds of 10 years will be exhausted by Phase III construction.

1. 1st Allocations – N41 Road Improvement

2. 2nd Allocations – Manymules Waterline Project
3. 3rd Allocations – 6 chapters received the funds at \$250,000 each
4. 4th Allocations – Manymules Waterline project

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

H. Chapter Officers

1. Caroine Bemore
 - a. LCRWSCA – water assessments to be conduct for participating chapters, including reservoirs.
 - b. CLUP Manual – Chapter projects will be included in the manual
 - c. Brief updates on RDC meeting on N8066 Road Construction Phase III

I. BMCS and RRCS School Board – None.

J. LCRWSCA, Evalena Claw – Absent.

IV. Updates on Chapter On-going Projects:

A. N8066 Road Construction, Phase III & Permanent Bridge

1. Meeting with RDC has been rescheduled to from April 12th to May 17th due to important meeting with NTUA.
2. The community and chapter officials need to advocate to RDC and request to move the project up on NN Road Construction Priority List.
3. The community invited for support.

B. N8065 Low Water Crossing Project

C. East Valley (Yale Point) Waterline Extension Project

1. NECA informed CSC water will be turned this summer for East Valley (Yale Point).

D. North Valley Power Line Extension Project

E. Black Mesa Head Start Building

1. A Business Number has been assigned to the project and moving forward by Harrison Martin.
2. Construction is scheduled in November 2016.

F. Frontier Telecommunication

V. The Meeting Adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Motioned by: Albert Lee

Seconded by: Daniel Begay

VOTE: 15-00-01

Next Planning Meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2016 @ 9:00 am

Next Chapter Meeting: Friday, May 13, 2016 @ 1:00 am



Marlene Biltah, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer