

Black Mesa Chapter  
~~Chapter Planning~~ Meeting Minutes  
December 31, 2016

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Larry Biltah @ 1:20 pm.
  - A. Invocation provided by Jimmy Yellowhair.
  - B. Reading & Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2016 – Deferred to January Chapter Meeting.  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01
  - C. Adoption of Agenda  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01  
  
Motioned to Suspend the Rules (Immediately forward to Resolutions) by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01
- II. Resolutions:
  - A. BMC-17-12-026: Authorizing Delegate's LDA to Write Draft Proposal for LCRWCA on behalf of Black Mesa Chapter  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Priscilla Yellowhair  
VOTE: 15-00-01
  - B. BMC-17-12-027: Approve Housing Discretionary Assistance for Howard Yazzie. Add-ons: Louise Yellowhair and Priscilla Yellowhair. Lavennia Deswood-Absent or no family representative.  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Anthony Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01
  - C. BMC-17-12-028: Approve Appointment of Two New Members to Replace CLUP Committee Members – Deferred to January Chapter Meeting due to more information needed on recommendations of appointees.  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Priscilla Yellowhair  
VOTE: 15-00-01
  - D. BMC-17-12-029: Approve Reappointment of Larry Biltah to Chinle DCI Board of Directors – Caroline Bemore, Vice President, took over the presiding the meeting.  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01

- E. BMC-17-12-030: Approve \$500.00 for Black Mesa Chapter Community Christmas Dinner and Activities on December 19, 2016. NO ACTION.
- F. BMC-17-12-031: Request NTUA to Conduct Study on Local Water Usage  
Motioned by: Andrew Benallie  
Seconded by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
VOTE: 15-00-01
- G. BMC-17-12-032: Approve \$200.00 for Black Mesa Head Start Building Meeting with Navajo Nation Capital Improvement Management Dept., Ariviso Construction and LAM Engineer on December 21, 2016. NO ACTION.
- H. BMC-17-12-033: Approve Scholarship Assistance for Shanaya Clark  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01
- I. BMC-17-12-034: Approve Appointment of Larry Biltah to LCRWCA Steering Committee Member Direct – Caroline Bemore, Vice President, took over the presiding the meeting.  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Andrew Benallie  
VOTE: 15-00-01
- J. BMC-17-12-035: Request for \$90 Million from Navajo Nation for 110 Chapters (Sihasin Fund)  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Louise Yellowhair  
VOTE: 15-00-01

Comments:

1. J. Yellowhair talked about reading Navajo Times on chapter unexpended funds that are in the thousands. They need to be more specific on line item amounts per chapters. Summaries of unexpended totals per chapter do not clearly explain which line items have more carry-overs.
- K. BMC-17-12-036: Request Navajo Nation for Funding for North Valley Powerline Extension Project  
Motioned by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Seconded by: Louise Yellowhair  
VOTE: 15-00-01

III. Announcements:

1. 01/04/17 – District GCM Meeting @ Whippoorwill Chapter, 9am
2. 01/05/17 – Dzilyijiin Regional Council Meeting @ Pinon, 9am
3. 01/07/17 – Chinle Agency Council Meeting @ Pinon, 9am
4. 01/11/17 – Navajo Nation Inauguration for Chinle Agency at Pinon School District Gym, 9am
5. 01/14/17 – BM Head Start Progress Meeting @ BM Chapter, 11 am

IV. Reports:

A. Council Delegate, Dwight Witherspoon

1. He gave brief information on the conditions of the roads to Hardrock and to Black Mesa areas. His LDA got stuck in the mud and assisted her to get out.
2. Juan Begaye of Pinon has informed him all grazing officials have not received their meeting stipends. He talked with Navajo OMB why they are not releasing the funds and they need to comply with approved legislations.
3. NGS Information – Nevada Energy/Power wants out along with California. The current lease is approved up to 2019. There will more meetings between all partners (NGS, SRP, US Reclamation Bureau, PWCC, and APS).
4. When asked about the struggling of Twin Arrows Casino, he said the casino is operating in negative status but surviving. Entertainment Center, Arts/Crafts store, Police and fire stations and housing development is being proposed and plan. Fire Rock Casino is doing well and being supported by Navajo gamblers.

Comments:

1. C. Bemore questions the operation of Twin Arrows Casino. Funds should be allocated to chapters, not bailing out struggling casinos. She further explained that chapters need funds for operations and community infrastructures.
2. A. Benallie talked about the rising of land values since the development of Twin Arrows Casino.
3. J. Yellowhair agreed with Ms. Bemore on using funds for struggling casinos. He explained that gambling is not for our people. Sihasin Funds are for community's needed infrastructures such as waterline and power line extension projects and road improvements. Politicians lobby and use students and/or veterans during election years. The people that are opposing to use Sihasin Fund are already has good benefits (retirements, incomes, access to life conveniences, etc). But people of rural isolated communities needs funds for community improvements.

B. Grazing Committee Member, Francis Honie

1. Redistributions of Grazing Permits – Currently, no action but a plan is, after inauguration, to give permits to living permittees by April 2017 and then to work on transfer of cancelled permits to a designated permittees.
2. After inaugurations, A Navajo Nation-Wide meeting is being scheduled for all members of land board, farm board and grazing officials.
3. His expressed his appreciation to all community members to electing him as grazing official for Black Mesa Chapter community.
4. When ask about the horse roundup, funds need to be approve, devise a budget and scheduled the activities at local chapters.

C. CSC, Albert Lee – Absent.

D. CLUPC, Dorothy R Yazzie – Absent.

E. CHR, Tammy Rock – Absent.

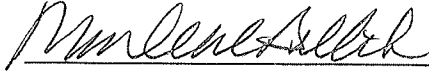
F. BM Veterans Organization, Richard Claw – Absent.

- G. BM Review Board, Andrew Benallie
  - 1. He talked briefly on the closing of Navajo Generating Station in Navajo Times and Gallup Independent newspapers'. NGS is a sole source for delivering water to Southern Arizona for electricity. Coal from Peabody Western Coal Company is the main natural resource to generate electricity power. APS, NGS, US Reclamation Bureau, Nevada Energy and SRP will meet on it for further discussions. About 90% employees are Navajo.
  - 2. \$1.5 Million per year by PWCC to 10 chapters are for community infrastructures only. A lawsuit was filed and won for affected chapters. There are three Infrastructure Committee members along with personnel of PWCC administration; they are council delegates of Shonto, Kayenta and BlackMesa/Forest Lake. Each chapter is allocated \$250,000. Black Mesa is using the funds for North Valley Power Line Extension Project.
  - 3. Manymules Waterline Extension Project – It's a 109 miles of waterline construction. A booster water station is being installed as part of the project.
  
- H. Dzilyjiin Regional Community Development Commission, Jimmy Yellowhair
  
- I. Chapter Officers:
  - 1. L. Biltah explained the purposes of each resolution and participated in discussion of reports.
  - 2. C. Bemore made a brief report on Black Mesa Head Start Building construction.
  
- J. LCRWCA – Absent.
  
- K. BMCS and RRCS School Board – None.
  
- L. Others – BMCS PRINCESS, Absent.
  
- V. Updates on Chapter On-going Projects:
  - A. N8066 Road Construction, Phase III & Permanent Bridge
  
  - B. N8065 Low Water Crossing Project
  
  - C. North Valley Power Line Extension Project
  
  - D. Black Mesa Head Start Building
    - 1. The construction cost is \$1.6 Million and scheduled to be completed by April 2017.
    - 2. An update and progress meeting was held on December 21, 2016 and next meeting is on January 24, 2017 at BM Chapter, 11 am. NN Head Start, Arviso Construction, NN Capital Project Improvement (DES), Lam Architect and Contractors are involved in the meeting.
    - 3. Solar panels might not be funded which is estimated about \$75,000. It will be good to have them installed and its energy saving.
    - 4. There will be classroom building – 1 room for Pre-Kindergarten aged 0-3 children and 1 room for Kindergarten age 3-4 children.
  
  - E. Frontier Telecommunications

VI. The meeting adjourned @ 2:45 pm  
Moteded by: Jimmy Yellowhair  
Secoded by: Priscilla Yellowhair  
Vote: 16-00-01

Next Planning Meeting: Friday, January 06, 2016 @ 1:00 pm

Next Chapter Meeting: Friday, January 13, 2016 @ 1:00 pm



Marlene Biltah, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer