

Cornfields Chapter Planning Meeting

Tuesday, April 02, 2024 4:00 PM

MINUTES

- I. Meeting called to Order by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr, Council President at 4:15pm.
- II. Invocation provided by Mr. Roy Dempsey, Community Relations Outreach Specialist, Tsehootsooi Medical Center
- III. Announcements/Introduction
 1. Apache County 2024 Election Calendar
 2. April 07, 2024; Sunday – Cornfields Veteran’s Meeting at 8:00am
 3. April 08, 2024; Monday – Solar Eclipse estimated time from 10a-2pm
 4. April 13, 2023; Saturday – Fort Defiance Agency Council Meeting 9:00am – Navajo Pine High School, Navajo, NM
 5. Radiation Exposure Compensation Act update – Theo Shorty NUWP Program Manager on April 14, 2024.
 6. April 16, 2024; Tuesday – Tsehootsooi Mobile Unit: Family Practice Clinic
 7. April 17, 2024; Wednesday – March into Fitness at Steamboat Chapter 5:00pm-7:00pm by TseHoTsooi Medical Center
 8. April 22 – 26, 2024 – Cornfields Community Earth Week
 9. Others:
 - a. Hantavirus and Measles update – Roy Dempsey, Community Relations Outreach Specialist, Tsehootsooi Medical Center on Sunday April 14, 2024
 - b. Ganado Unified School Parent Day on May 02, 2024 from 8:00a-3:00pm – Ganado Field House
 - c. Ganado Unified Schools Promotions: Middle School Promotion 10 am 5/24/2024, High School Graduation 5/24/2024 2pm.
 - d. Issue brought up about the Sunrise Wash crossing by Ms. Lula Nez, Community Resident – she questioned what became of the plans about the Sunrise Wash Crossing. They are having a very difficult time getting home due to the wash filled with running water and the road from Cornfields Chapter Apache County Rd 414 becoming very muddy; her daughter and grandchildren got stuck and had to spend the night in the mud this past weekend.
 - e. Issue also brought up for Apache County Rd east of Cornfields also needing repair by Kathy Chee; the gravel has sunk into the ground and makes it very impassable for taking students to meet to the school bus.
 - f. Another concern brought up regarding Apache County Rd 415 north of Cornfields by Ms. Cecelia White.
 - g. Ms. Lucinda Godinez would like to report on behalf of the Greasewood Springs Community School at Regular Chapter Meeting on Sunday, April 14, 2024.

Comments:

- Mr. Jimmie Taliman also commented on the Sunrise Wash Crossing. When he was the Chapter President, they had decided to go forth with a cement crossing but the estimate for construction was outrageous. Therefore, they decided a low water crossing was more feasible. The current Officials need to search for other resources that can help with his problem.

- Mr. Roy Dempsey commented to state that he attended a meeting at Greasewood Springs Chapter who were also discussing the same issue for residents in their community. He suggests that Cornfields Chapter should coordinate efforts with Greasewood Springs Chapter for a feasible low-water crossing.
- Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr, Council President stated that Cornfields Chapter will request a meeting with B.I.A. to discuss what the Chapter would be liable for if a low water crossing was constructed by the community with wire boxes filled with stones.
- Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager commented that it is good to hear this discussion about the wash and N15, there is a process in all projects. Presently Historic Preservation is holding up the Reconstruction of N15 due to the Anasazi findings. For the past four or five years, Cornfields Chapter has been the main voice for the Reconstruction, now finally Greasewood Chapter is getting involved. There is a petition that was developed by Greasewood Springs Chapter that will be submitted to the Historic Preservation. Another suggestion is to also change the bridge type to the Low Water Crossing by a Resolution.
- Honorable Vince James, Council Delegate commented on the request for funding for various projects. Cornfields Chapter has money, put it to use. The Navajo Nation Council is having a difficult time soliciting for funds with a lot of denial. It has taken three years to advocate on behalf of the Chapter to the State, Cornfields Chapter has \$230,000.00 set aside for this low water crossing.
- Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager clarified to state that the Sihasin Funding is NOT at the Chapter, this fund was given to CPMD and Cornfields Chapter was told that it would be given to NDOT for the proposed construction of the Sunrise Low Water Crossing. There is a process to request funding, it's not as easy as it is being shared. The amount for the Sunrise Low Water Crossing is \$266,000.00. She called NDOT to request what is being done with the \$266,000.00 for the Low Water Crossing, she was told from NDOT that they can start bidding for the design and that she should get an update at the end of March. She has not received a response thus far. Another process is also applying for a 401 Permit, a permit seeking federal permits or licenses for activities that "may result in any discharge into navigable waters.
- The Cornfields Community Baptist Church would like to be added the Regular Chapter Meeting Agenda for a monthly report.
- Darryl Bradley, Civil Engineer with NDOT was contacted via phone by Honorable Vince James to update the community on the Project in discussion, he has contacted Wayne Williams, Civil Engineer with NDOT in regards to the Cement Box Culvert. Dibble Engineering has been assigned to design the Cement Box Culvert. He will begin the process which includes obtaining the needed Permits to begin Construction. Mr. Bradley estimates that the construction should be underway in September 2024.
- Ms. Joan Dalgai requested if Mr. Bradley could come to the Regular Chapter Meeting on April 14, 2024 to deliver a personal report.

IV. Approval of Agenda

M: Wallace James, Jr.

S: Fritz Roanhorse

Vote: Motion rescinded

With this Motion, add Resolution for NDOT to change the Cement Box Culvert to a Low Water Crossing. Mr. Patrick Yazzie stated that if the Chapter changes the type of crossing at this point, it might delay the process since it was already sent for a design. Everyone agreed.

With this, the Motioner rescinds his motion along with second motioner.

Another Motion made to keep Agenda as is:

M: Wallace James, Jr. **S:** Fritz Roanhorse **Vote:** 6-0-1

V. Old Business

1. **CF-APR2024-35:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of March 2024 in the Amount of \$9,700.98.

M: Fritz Roanhorse **S:** Patrick Yazzie **Vote:** 6-0-1

VI. New Business

1. **CF-APR2024-36:** Requesting the Resource Development Committee to change project type from Pre-Design to Plan, Design, Construct and Equipment for the Deer Point Business Development under CAP-35-18 Sihasin Project Fund Powerline and Chapter Projects in the amount of \$250,000.00.

M: Sharon Smith **S:** Judith Shirley **Vote:** 6-0-1

No questions posed

2. **CF-APR2024-37:** Requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Navajo Nation Department of Transportation to maintain Route N15 from South of Burnside through Sunrise for any potholes that formed caused by the weather and heavy traffic to reduce the wear and tear on vehicles using this route.

M: Sharon Smith **S:** Patrick Yazzie **Vote:** 6-0-1

No questions posed

Comments:

- Judith Shirley, CLUPC Member asked if a Legislation ever came before the 24th Navajo Nation Council where the Navajo Nation will allow to have residents carry concealed weapons for self defense due to the increasing illegal immigration.

Response:

- Honorable Council Delegate reported that the last attempt was brought forth by NN Council Delegate Davis Filfred and eight years ago by Honorable Edmond Yazzie.

VII. Others: Meetings:

1. Regular Chapter Meeting – Sunday, April 14, 2024 @ 1:00pm
2. Planning Meeting – Tuesday, May 07, 2024 at 4:00pm
3. Others: CLUPC: May 08, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Farm Board: April 09, 2024 at 9:00am-2:00pm
Land Use Planning: April 11, 2024 at 9:00am-12:00pm
Senior Social: April 17, 2024 at 11:00am-2:00pm

Question:

- Mr. Jimmie Taliman Sr. – Is there any update on the Post Office being Renovated? And if the the Chapter Officials with Ganado Chapter are advocating for the road improvement to the existing Post Office road, there is a lot of potholes where people have to zigzag to avoid the potholes making it unsafe.

Response:

- Honorable Vince James – There was plans to renovate the existing Post Office but it was halted due to water source. Sage Memorial Hospital will not allow to share water with the existing Post Office. In addition to this the residents who have mobile home SW of the Post Office were given up to June 30, 2024 to move their mobile home due to their sewage going though Sage Memorial Hospital sewer lines.
- N15 Reconstruction – there is a shortfall of 7 million for phase I, phase II shortfall due to the Anasazi Kiva extraction costs.

VIII. Benediction provided by Jimmie Taliman, Sr., Community Member

IX. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr. Council President

M: Patrick Yazzie

S: Fritz Roanhorse

Vote: 6-0-1

Minutes were prepared by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Cornfields Chapter on April 02,2024