

Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting
Sunday, July 14, 2024 @ 1:00pm
MINUTES

** Before the Meeting began and while awaiting quorum, Sage Memorial Hospital – Purchased Referred Care Department was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and provide information about their services. Mr. Roland Todacheenie and Ms. Tashena Chee introduced themselves and provided information pertaining to service coverage with communities they serve. Welcomed audience to see them if they have any questions or information that may help them for health care cost coverage outside of the communities they serve.

I. Meeting Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr., Council President at 1:40 pm.

II. Invocation: Provided by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr., Council President.

III. Roll Call:

	i. Present Absent	
Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr, Council President	X	
Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice President		X*
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer	X	
Mr. Patrick Yazzie, Grazing Official		X*

*Mr. Wallace James, Jr. informed the Council that he will be on Business related travel during the Regular Planning Meeting on July, 02, 2024.

*Mr. Patrick Yazzie was not present during Roll-Call. He arrived at 3:15 pm.

IV. Announcements/Introduction:

1. Tsehootsooi Medical Center Update/Presentation – Mr. Roy Dempsey, Community Relations Outreach Specialist
 - Mr. Roy Dempsey provided information pertaining to Child Sports Physicals for students returning to school. Encouraged parents to schedule appointments before their child starts school. The Pediatric Department needs to be contacted to schedule an appointment. There is also a Mobile Clinic for Sports Physicals for Pediatrics.
 - Immunizations are also important to update for your child. 5-17 years old are considered Pediatrics and under 5 are considered for Well-Child
 - COVID-19 update: Tracking cases for COVID-19 has changed and limited to clinic based reports. As of June 01 to June 04th there were 28 cases reported. COVID-19 has transformed into the Omicrom Virus. Reports are calculated every 14 days. Fort Defiance Service Unit was in the Green Stage and now is at the Yellow Stage. If a person tests positive for the new strain of COVID, they should monitor themselves for 5 days and quarantine.
 - There are Board Members in the Communities for the FDSU and they continue to monitor the communities they work with.
2. Apache County Dist. II – Quarterly Update – Estelle Benally, Administrative Coordinator @ Regular Chapter Meeting
 - Julius Elwood, provided a presentation on behalf Apache County Dist II. Quarterly Report.
 - Currently there are 5 roads that are maintained within Cornfields
 - All Maintained roads are data driven and monitored for types of traffic.

- 1,605 Weekly Traffic monitored, 223 daily traffic on newly acquired Route towards Navajo Station.
 - Maintenance of roads require different sediment applications or stabilizing material.
 - Maintained Road reported with how many times they have been maintained to present day. The District II Office currently has two employees who report needed maintenance who reside within the Cornfields community.
 - Total annual cost for maintenance of the five routes was shared.
 - Overview of cost/budget for maintained road by Apache County vs. Navajo Department of Transportation was also provided.
 - New equipment ordered for heavier maintenance jobs especially in the inclement weather.
 - Reports on other events and activities held by the Apache County District II office. They also held a Veteran's benefits enrollment event that was recognized by the National Veteran's Administration from Washington D.C. This event tallied 143 new enrollments for benefits and they are very proud of this event. They were also assisted by Sage Memorial Hospital with 2 Drs assisting in this event.
 - Shared a yearly schedule for quarterly reports with various chapters
 - Shared information pertaining archeological sites that have been uncovered during scheduled maintenances.
 - Future collaborations in working with various Services such as NTUA and schools. Will also begin on working on wood harvesting for community donations usually with the Chapters. They will also be work on Annual Turkey and Ham Drive and Pumpkin Drives for our children.
 - Mr. Alton Joe Shepherd, Apache County District II Supervisor's report:
 - A question was posed to Mr. Shepherd pertaining to operation not being available on Fridays. Mr. Shepherd responded to state that the Office is open, but the maintenance section is scheduled to replenish aggregate material.
 - Mr. Shepherd is also on three different Committees at the County Level and in working with the State. He was requested to assist by chairing the NACOG for Northern Arizona. He is also extending a partnership to assist with the Sunrise Low Water Crossing project to find more funds for completion of this project.
 - Pertaining to the Resolution on this Agenda for #3. Under New Business. Anytime a road is being acquired for Routine Maintenance there is a process. All B.I.A. roads will remain B.I.A's due to Federal Law. Their roads are acquired through an Inter-Governmental Agreement that is put in place for 10 years. Another avenue to take is to work with Honorable Council Delegate Vince James to request Road Excise Tax to be transferred to Apache County for a B.I.A. Route. Another is to put an MOU/Mutual Agreement in place to request maintenance services for certain roads.
 - Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager – question pertaining to maintenance of Roads under Apache County – C416. What is the scheduled maintenance for C416? This road is mainly used by the community and school transport road to bring children out to meet the bus.
 - And is there a possibility for Apache County Dist. II to assist the Chapter
 - Virtual Meeting with NACOG on July 25, 2024, since you were reappointed with Northern Arizona as Chair he can assist with advocating for the Roads and Projects in Cornfields community.
3. Apache County Voters Updates – Mr. Larry Noble, County Recorder – No Report
 4. Mrs. Elta Shepherd, Teacher – Cornfields Head Start – No Report
 5. Ms. Kathy Chee - Cornfields Community Baptist Church
 - Introduced herself as a Community Member and the Community Baptist Church caretaker.
 - June 05, 2024 – Some missionaries came to visit for renovation of their church.
 - The Pandemic changed a lot of events that were normally scheduled.
 - They are going to restart their Firework Ministry and plans to obtain permits from the Navajo Nation Forestry.

- The missionaries also assist with Cemetery clean up and restarted cleanup this summer. The missionaries are requesting to have a Front-End Loader move their bush removal for a control burn. They have cleared the entrance of the cemetery and they have requested to have someone assigned to maintain weed cutting on a scheduled basis.
 - The Missionaries come from Mississippi. They removed bushes from two graves at the entrance and she feels they should be appreciated for the work they do.
6. Other(s):
- Sage Memorial Hospital – Purchased Referred Care Department; Mr. Roland Todecheenie and Ms. Tashena Chee present at booth set-up to provide Information.
 - Mr. Patrick Martinez, Candidate for Apache County Supervisor for District II. He is from the Sawmill Community and is experienced in Heavy Highway working off the Reservation. He has worked with Apache County and Navajo Department of Transportation. He is a Project Manager of a small business.
 - o Comments:
 - Joan Dalgai, Community Member – Pertaining to professional customer service. How do you plan to fix this with the Office you are running for to work with the community?
 - RESPONSE: In his experience, has stressed that working with all people should be equal and handled in that professional manner.

V. Approval of Agenda

M: Warren Thomas

S: Elizabeth Johnson

VOTE: 22-0-03

VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: June 09, 2024

M: Stanley Benally

S: Warren Thomas

VOTE: 23-0-03

Meeting minutes for June 09, 2024 were made available to audience at the beginning of the meeting.

VII. Old Business:

1. Business Report June 2024: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager
 - Apologized that the Air Conditioner is broken at this time. They were quoted \$6,000 per unit and there are three units.
 - Apologized for her absence during the Last Chapter Meeting on June 09, 2024 due to personal obligations
 - The Chapter continues to maintain services to community members and office hours are from 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm.
 - She continues to make time out of her daily busy schedule to sit and listen those individuals coming into her office.
 - The Chapter has received a new shipment of Hay and currently being sold at \$16.96 per bale.
 - The Propane had leaks as assessed by the Propane provider due to the Chapter ordering propane frequently. The propane lines were replaced and recommendations were to replace the old propane storage tanks.
 - ARPA updates:
 - o Home Improvement and Renovation Projects. There was an application drive several months ago and assessments were completed.
 - o 7 Individual were hired. They have completed 5 homes as of Friday; July 12, 2024.
 - o They are beginning on the next two homes.

- They are finding other deficiencies when they are renovating to add additional materials to be added for materials originally assessed.
- The group providing Renovations are knowledgeable to modern housing standards.
- Please be patient as the workers are doing a thorough job with the renovations.
- The plans for the coming year is to hire another two groups to make the Renovations go a little quicker.
- She presently meets with the two groups at the beginning of each week to go over the projects and any concerns.
- It took some time to develop specific identification of supplies needed and how they can be ordered with Vendors.
- June 25, 2024 – They had a meeting with Hon. Council Delegate with all the five Chapters that he is currently serving.
 - This meeting pertained to the \$521 Million that was transferred to General Funds – RRR account with Legislation passed by the President of the Navajo Nation. In her opinion, she feels that the transfer is risky due to an Audit that could be conducted by the Federal Government.
 - There are 5 Projects that were contracted with an SRA. The other 7 projects that Cornfields Chapter requested for was transferred to the General Funds. With all the projects, 1.2 was approved to be received with half of the amount being received
 - 1.7 Million was awarded to Ganado Chapter.
 - On Friday 7/12/24 Honorable James’ Chapters were approved to receive the remaining budget once account numbers are assigned.
 - There will be another 11 million that was projected for each Council Delegates, this proposed funding will not be dispersed to the 5 chapters, but this is not finalized. In addition to this recommendation, Hon. James was also thinking about Heavy Equipment to be purchased for his chapters to alleviate dependence upon NDOT to maintain the Roads throughout the communities. But with this Chapter maintaining roads, more funds would need to include costs for Permits applied for Historic Preservation.
 - The Speaker joined this meeting to provide additional information but this was vetoed by the Navajo Nation President. 5 Million of the 11 Million that was going to be allocated for Delegate James’ 5 Chapters is planned to be given to Cornfields Chapter to be holder of the funds to oversee and Ms. Earle had accepted the responsibility.
- Additional Support to explain the line-item vetoes provided by Ms. Linda Youvella, Community Member
 - There were three line-item vetoes for proposed funding by the Navajo Nation President.
- Summer Youth Employment – hired students in two groups.
 - There were different worksites not only at the Chapter.
 - There were some students who cut weeds and re-organizing the housing supplies.
 - There was also a group that re-painted the Local Windmill south of the Chapter.
 - The Chapter received some complaints from parents. The parents of the students were the ones who were being difficult in obeying directions.
- In addressing the Chapter Usage and Facility usage by various committees that was brought up during the last scheduled Planning Meeting.
 - Planning and Regular Chapter Meeting has been scheduled for the Planning Meeting as the first Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 pm and the Regular Chapter Meeting is scheduled the second Sunday of each Month at 1:00 pm.

- The Grazing Official has a schedule that is shared as well and this is informative for the Chapter.
- The Chapter is supportive to provide xeroxing, copying, and internet services which the Chapter pays for from its allocated budget.
- It was brought up Farm Board that they need another building, but where is the money going to come from to cover the utility cost? The Chapter does not have enough money to cover additional cost for utility.
- Committees that use the Facility need to understand that the Chapter is the main responsible party for any damages although the Chapter Administration stresses usage responsibilities.
- Virtual Meetings
 - legislation was passed with the required votes and Resolution submissions, but there are policies that need to be submitted to the Attorney General by each Chapter for approval, and our chapter does not have the required technological devices and the personnel to maintain the ordinance and administration.
- COMMENTS on Virtual Meetings:
 - Linda Youvella, Community Member – did Cornfields Chapter approve a Resolution in favor of the Virtual Meetings?
 - Audience responded “No”.
 - Ms. Youvella is thankful that the Chapter opposed the Virtual Meeting. It is true that the Chapter does not have the additional funding to cover the cost of the administration and services of Zoom. It is best that meetings are held in person for better communication because there is so much distractions at home.
- Questions pertaining to Chapter Manager’s report:
 - Ms. Elizabeth Johnson, Community Member – What happened to the Waterline Extension for her residence? Is there an update that can be provided? And on the Virtual Meetings legislation passed for the Navajo Nation, our community is not ready. The next comment is regarding the Housing Renovations, she was a recipient of a current renovation with a Handicap Ramp to her home and she is so thankful. The workers did a very good job and sometimes took short lunch breaks to do a thorough job.
 - RESPONSE: Provided to Ms. Johnson by Ms. Earle. Pertaining to Virtual Meetings there are some set-backs due to quorum. Thanked the comment to ARPA project.
- Continuing on with her report. The Council is scheduled for Summer Session to begin July 15, 2024. Our Hon. Delegate started his Annual Trail Ride that began on Tuesday, July 09, 2024. Today they were scheduled for the ride from the Summit to the Window Rock Fair Grounds.
- The Annual Bike Ride was also scheduled and they used the facility on July 12, 2024 while they are passing though.
 - QUESTIONS to Ms. Earle regarding report:
 - Mr. Jimmie Taliman, Sr. – Can the Chapter assist Ms. Johnson in her request for the Waterline.
 - RESPONSE:
 - Ms. Earle – August 2019 Indian Health services had provided 1.5 million proposal was given to CHID, but there is no updates from CPMD regarding this Proposal.
 - Currently NECA is constructing bathroom additions with plans.
 - I.H.S. is installing cistern Systems which requires hauling water.
 - The chapter continues to assist residence with cistern systems with providing water on a monthly basis.
 - ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

- Stanley Benally and Elizabeth Jim shared their appreciation for the recent Housing Renovations for their homes

M: Fritz Ronhorse S: Cecelia White VOTE: 24-0-04

2. Financial Report for June 2024 by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

M: Linda Youvella S: Warren Thomas VOTE: 21-0-05

Comment:

Linda Youvella, Community Member – Is making a motion to request a Resolution to assist the Families from Navajo Station that are requesting waterline.

S: Elizabeth Johnson VOTE: 21-0-03

Elizabeth would like to request an additional 1 million to total to assist 12 Families from the Navajo Station

- Cornfields Chapter – Statement of Revenues for the Month of June 2024

- RESALE ITEMS-----\$3,129.70
 - Hay
 - Water
- RENTALS-----\$ 205.00
 - Tractor
- SERVICES----- \$1,917.93

=====

TOTAL \$5,252.63

- Cornfields Chapter Ending Balances as of 06/30/24

General Activities	\$9,156.50
Personnel Funds	\$39,389.23
Land Claims	\$3,524.38
Supplemental Youth Funds	\$25,622.50
Housing Discretionary	\$21,220.95
LGA Funds	\$2,364.69
Chapter Stipend Funds	\$13,154.47
Scholarship Funds	\$7,365.00
PEP Funds	\$10,888.27
Veterans Funds	\$7.62
Emergency Fund	\$2,897.70
NN CIP	\$22,707.13
NN Sales Tax	\$40,416.08
Unhealthy Food Tax	\$69,562.53
ARPA	\$347,491.39
TOTAL	\$615,768.44

3. **CF-JUL2024-57:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of June 2024 in the Amount of \$5,289.35.

M: Ruth Nez S: Helen Nez VOTE: 23-0-03

VIII. New Business:

1. **CF-JUL2024-58:** Requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs Roads to relinquish Navajo Route N15 and Requesting the State of Arizona and Arizona Department of Transportation to adopt Navajo Route 15 beginning South of Burnside, AZ to West of Leupp, AZ community as an AZ State Route for all road maintenance.
M: Fritz Roanhorse S: Johnson Shorty VOTE:
Comment: Add to this Resolution to request ADOT to have the State Highway Patrol to escort all oversized loads that weigh more than the allowed GVW and for the state to issue permit to use this highway with this request. Some of these oversized loads can add up to 195 tons. Due to the Interstate closing for various reasons
Linda Youvella, Community Member – opposes the Resolution due to the three phases of the N15 already approved and in process and would like to make a substitute motion to table this Resolution with recommendation of further research. Second by Helen Nez.
Comment: Mr. Jimmie Taliman, Sr. – N15 is only 2 inches thick for traffic and State Highway is 4 inches thick for all commercial traffic, VOTE: 18-0-04

2. **CF-JUL2024-59:** Requesting the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration and the Office of the President and Vice President to carefully consider the needed housing assistance requests for the Cornfields Chapter Veterans.
M: Ruth Nez S: Mary Ann Arnold VOTE: 17-0-04
No questions posed.

3. **CF-JUL2024-60:** Requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road Department to relinquish Route #9205 to Apache County District II for all road maintenance and repair due to heavy traffic and weather erosion.
M: Fritz Roanhorse S: Elizabeth Jim VOTE:
Question: Warren Thomas – The road number is supposed to be N28 in from Klagetoh to Greasewood Springs, but it would be up to the Navajo County border.
Linda Youvella, Community Member makes a substitute Motion to table this Resolution to have this item rediscussed at the Planning Meeting on August
M: Linda Youvella S: Helen Nez VOTE: 18-0-03

4. **CF-JUL2024-61:** Respectfully requesting and supporting the Navajo Nation Resource and Development Committee, Navajo Nation Naabik'iyati' Committee, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation Budget and Finance Committee and the Indian Health Services to allocate funding in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 from the Si'hasin Fund to plan, design and Construct Waterline Extension to 35 homes in the Navajo Station Area within the Cornfields Chapter Community.
M; Linda Youvella S: Fritz Roanhorse VOTE: 20-0-02

IX. Verbal/Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James – written report submitted
2. Chapter Officials
Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Council President – No report, but announced his candidacy for President in upcoming election.
Mr. Wallace James, Council Vice-President - Not Present – no report
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Announced attending the District 17 Council Meeting and the Fort Defiance Agency Council Meeting. Assisted to advocate on

behalf of Cornfields Community to recommend the completion of the Sunrise Low Water Crossing proposed to NDOT.

3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie
 - Attended Agency Grazing Meeting on 07/01/24 held at Ganado Chapter
 - Next scheduled Agency Grazing Meeting to be held on 8/05/24 at Kin Da Li Chi Chapter
 - District Grazing – 07/15/24 at the Navajo Nation Veterinarian Center
 - Permittee Meeting – Held Monday, July 08, 2024 with Self Tally Count completed.
 - Reservation Wide Meeting – 7/16 to 7/18; Tuesday, Wed., and Thurs – There will be a wool/mohair buying event at the Window Rock Fair Grounds on those days as well.
 - Forage Program – for permit holders with a tally count. AIF Program will be including last years wool and mohair loss of revenue due to the poor quality of wool. They are planning to buy at 40 cents per pound for FSA and 39 cents per pound for AIF. Department of Agriculture is planning to reintroduce the Churro Ram for the quality wool production
 - Tally Count for sheep, if the Permittee did not have a Tally Count, this is not keeping the permit active.
 - Verification of permits need to be completed since Permits are a Legal Document.
 - 54 of 145 permits were completed for livestock inventory count
4. Farm Board, Mr. Fritz Roanhorse
 - They had two meetings so far this month
 - August 06, 2024 – 9:00 am next meeting.
 - Unused Land Use Permits need to be transferred.
 - On Tuesday, July 16, 2024 – The National Weather Channel will be visiting for interviews.
 -
5. CLUPC – No one Present
6. School Announcements:
 - a. Ganado Unified Schools – Wallace James, Jr., School Board Clerk – no one present
 - b. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Lucinda Godinez, Principal – no one present
7. Other:
 - Marleita Begay – Apache County Treasurer – report on taxes collections and Liens. Also interest gained on returns on investments.
 - Interests earned go back to the schools in Apache County Public Schools.
 - Question:
 - o Does the funding for the Apache County Schools include the BIA or BIE schools?
 - Response:
 - o These funds only go to the Public Schools because BIA and BIE is covered by the BIA and BIE with the Navajo Nation. In public schools the funding is applied to Impact Aide.
 - She would also like to request a Resolution to support her office to be relocated to Sanders. Arizona to reduce traveling distance for constituents to St. Johns.
 - Tee Gorman – Apache County School Superintendent candidate. She requested the support of the Cornfields Community for the children. She is a Certified Teacher for the last 13 years. She is a Write-in Candidate.

M: Warren Thomas

S: Fritz Ronhorse

VOTE:17-0-03

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

1. Next Planning Meeting

- Date: Tuesday – Tuesday, August 06, 2024 at 4:00pm
2. Next Regular Meeting
Date: Sunday – August 11, 2024 @ 1:00 PM

XI. Benediction: Provided by Marleita Begay, Apache County Treasurer

XII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr., Council President at 6:30 pm.

M: Fritz Roanhorse

S: Warren Thomas

VOTE: Unanimous

Prepared and submitted by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on Sunday July 14, 2024