

Tse Alnaozti'i' Chapter
January Planning Meeting Minutes
In Person and by Teleconference
January 8, 2023
1 p.m.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:17 p.m. by President Haskie
Meeting made available in person, by phone, Zoom app and Facebook Live

II. ROLL CALL

1. Chapter President, Jeanne Haskie: **PRESENT**
2. Chapter Vice-President, Gerald Henderson: **PRESENT**
3. Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, Jourdan Washburn: **PRESENT**
4. Chapter Grazing Officer, Alonzo Cohoe: **PRESENT**
5. Honorable Council Delegate, Amber K Crotty: **PRESENT**
6. In person Audience- **8 in person audience**
7. Teleconference Audience- **1 online participant**

III. INVOCATION

Invocation given by Nelson Begaye

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Haskie reviewed the agenda and opened the floor for discussion and any additions.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. Minutes were attached to Planning meeting documents.

VI. GUEST SPEAKER(S)

1. Keith Howard- Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife- Climate Change Program.

Jamie Begay presented. She is a Wildlife technician, working with Keith. Current project they are doing with NMSU. It is a weather station installation. See if your chapter is interested in housing one. Three different types: Tier 1, 2 or 3. Tier 1 in Sanostee that gathers real time data. Precipitation, humidity, solar radiation, soil moisture and temperature. Also, a tipping bucket to gather the information for snow and rain data. We want to come in and give more information. The whole project is already paid for. No cost to any of the Chapters or Navajo Nation. NMSU is covering all the costs, installation and taking care of any type of malfunctions. Not sure if the Chapter would be interested. This data is beneficial to community and implementing any drought or flooding responses. We are working with 15 other Chapters too.

Patrick Lapahie: Where is the location going to be at?

President Haskie: Chapter compound.

Jamie Begay: It will be within the Chapter compound. We were there yesterday, myself and the Climatologist to look at the area. We found two potential areas. We were hoping someone would be in yesterday. We did speak with an individual at the senior center and gave him the information. He thought it was a good idea but we still want to present at the meeting. Curriculum was also used for schools. Potentially want to do updates in the future, such as the soil. It would be inside the Chapter boundaries.

Kori Tso: If these are towers, how tall are they going to be?

Jamie Begay: 10 ft tall and range is 10 mile range all the way around.

President Haskie: Looking at the diagram, it says 33 feet above ground.

That's the Tier 1.

Is that how tall it's going to be?

Jamie Begay: I believe that's a typo, that's way too tall. It's going to be 10 feet.

Kori Tso: One tower?

Jamie Begay: Yes, it will be one tower with a 10-mile radius.

President Haskie: We are going to need a resolution to approve at the meeting. Can we get that from you?

Jamie Begay: We will be there at the meeting to give a better presentation. Thank you for adding us in the agenda.

President Haskie: We need the resolution, 48 hrs. before the Chapter meeting. Email it to Jourdan, the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer.

2. **ADD ON:** Evelyn Walker- Navajo Department of Highway Safety

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

a) Resolution regarding the increase of Council Delegates. **Sponsor: Commander Billey**

President Haskie: Requesting sponsor to explain the resolution.

Leo Billey: At first we thought there was a resolution already but that wasn't the case. I requested 110 Council Delegates but 48 delegates will still be okay. Like I stated before, Council Delegates are not able to attend all their meetings, only through the phone lately. There are only two delegates who bring up stuff at the Council and they are always overwritten. Maybe if the delegates are increased, they'll be listened too. Go back to the basics, even from 24 to 48 delegates. The transition team coming up, maybe bring it up to them and maybe they can work with the new president.

President Haskie: How do you want the resolution to be made?

Leo Billey: What does it say now?

President Haskie: 110. Remember some were recommending 48. It's up to you how you want to correct it.

Leo Billey: Okay, just go ahead and wait on it.

Delegate Crotty: You can request Navajo Government Development to present to the Chapter on how to increase/decrease the council because that goes back to people for a vote. They could give you a presentation on your options.

Alonzo Cohoe: There were never 110 delegates, I think it was 88.

Delegate Crotty: 100 years ago, it was only 5. Then 77, 88 and back down to 24. They can give you that history too.

President Haskie: We can ask for that and go from there.

Kori Tso: I think 48 on the resolution would work. We can be initiator from here and work with another agency for more supporting resolutions from Northern Agency. They do need a referendum but let's start somewhere.

Rannitta Henderson: I agree with Leo. We do lack in certain areas. We could be the starter. We always put things on hold and then it phases away. This is a new year and as a community, need to voice our concerns.

President Haskie: Okay, put 48?

Harrison Barber: I do agree, 100%. We are lacking equal presentation across the Navajo Nation. Ms. Crotty represents 7 chapters and others have less. There is only one chapter that is being supported by their delegate. We share ours. We need to go forward with the resolution to government office. Based on that, we can work with them to the council, etc. It will go back to election office and the people will make the decision.

President Haskie: Resolution will read 48.

~~b) Resolution regarding the Earthen Dam north of Chapter and East of Mary Henderson's Place and Irrigation Canals/ditches to be cleaned out. **Sponsor: Farm Committee**~~

President Haskie: Can anyone clarify this resolution? At last meeting, this was no clearly written.

Larry Jumbo: The Mary Henderson portion might be South of Littlewater Store. I am not sure what that part meant about Mary Henderson. The dam near Cecelia's is what they should be talking about.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: The title and details of the resolution are different. The title talks about Mary Henderson and the details states south of Littlewater.

Larry Jumbo: I think that's what they are talking about, the one towards Cecelia's.

President Haskie: Okay, David John is correct and South of Littlewater store is correct?

Vice-President Henderson: Probably need to pull out Mary Henderson.

Larry Jumbo: Yeah, that's not the right area.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: All the canals and ditches need to stay in there.

President Haskie: That's for livestock. We are talking about the irrigation canals.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Wasn't there a question of who was going to do the work?

Larry Jumbo: During the meeting, I can talk with them about it.

Vice-President Henderson: Can we just table this?

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: It would be up to the Farm Committee.

Larry Jumbo: We need to send the resolution to Window Rock, for them to do the work.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Should it change to assistance request? So, it'll cover all the help.

Harrison Barber: I think everything is not in line. The farm committee was established, then it phased away and right now it hasn't been picked back up. We are still lacking two memberships. Those need to be addressed first. Two positions are there. The problem, one doesn't want to come to the Chapter and work with the Officials. The only reason why he feels that way, if he has the money. Because a lot of these irrigation care and repair, it's going to take a lot of money. Then you can stay away from the Chapter and put the money up for these people. That's an issue. Then the secretary doesn't show up either, is she in the same situation? We need to do the re-alignment first before we can proceed with it. Advertise for those positions or if there are those who want to fill those positions, put them on the agenda to have the community approve it. Then we can talk about these working concerns. Water and Resource Committee is where they need to work with. Our previous grazing official, Elouise, is still the representative. She needs to be working with the Farm Committee. We all need to all come back together and start working as a team. That's only way we are going to move things. Otherwise, we will be spinning our wheels, for the next four years. My people, someone has to say it. Else we don't have a leadership. Let's get the two members filled and then we will proceed on how to take care of these issues. Right now, the resolutions should be tabled.

Larry Jumbo: There are already two people interested and approved at the meeting.

President Haskie: Have they been approved?

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: We have not officially from the Chapter declared vacancy for these positions. According to Plan of Operation, these members can step down with a resignation letter OR if they miss three meetings, they are removed. Then vacancy can be declared for your officers. Then you can accept letters of interest and then it comes to the Chapter meeting to be approved by the people.

President Haskie: Have they missed three meetings?

Larry Jumbo: Yes, both of them.

President Haskie: At your next meeting, take them off, declare vacancy. Then advertise and put notice out there. We go to do this right. Make sure to get the letter of interest from those who are interested.

Harrison Barber: Larry, you have a Plan of Operation and take a look at it. In compliance with that, these two have missed three meetings. You as a president can declare vacancy and write a letter to the Chapter. It causes a lot of friction; you need to clear these first with vacancy and then you can get recommendations.

Alonzo Cohoe: Back in the day, those who had land, they all helped each other out. I keep asking, why can't they do it themselves, the farmers? Back then, they weren't lazy and did the work. They used shovels and cleaned out the ditches. The people aren't going to come back to the Chapter and give anything back. They won't do that. Even to people who have livestock. We give out hay but they never come back and give back. They just do it for themselves, not anyone else. If they want to farm, they can clean it out themselves. Just work on the diversion dams for them. There are lot of diversion dams, NTEC recognizes there are a lot of broken dams. They want to help us fix it and we should identify which one needs to be fixed. We can't just fix one. There are at least four places in Littlewater that could be repaired. We should ask NTEC for help with a resolution, that's what I think. Why just look at the Chapter. The farmers can't really afford the costs for the dams. There are some people who have gardens, like Jourdan. She's doing all this work, buys stuff, hauls water for it and she's producing from it. There are funds for those too. If you have a grazing permit and farms, January 10th to February 10th, the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund is accepting online applications. They'll be at Shiprock Chapter too to apply. Let the farmers do it themselves, nothing will come back to the Chapter and their efforts.

President Haskie: Item B,C,D and E was derived from Farm Committee when they had their meeting. Just as mentioned earlier, two member issues. The committee needs to be re-established to a committee and they can provide the proper and new resolutions. There will be no action at this time and given back to the committee.

- ~~e) Resolution approving an assessment be conducted, while protecting consecrated tradition and in coordination with all users and residences for a cooperative comprehensive agricultural and farming plan to be used for obtaining resources. **Sponsor: Farm Committee**~~
- ~~d) Resolution that Navajo Gallup Waterline Project fulfill its promises while protecting consecrated tradition that the water be available at no cost, free of charge for residential consumption, agriculture, farm irrigation and livestock use. **Sponsor: Farm Committee**~~
- ~~e) Resolution asking Navajo Nation Government at all levels, elected people, staff, and its operatives (nng) are required to abide by the dine fundamental laws and be transparent, respond, and be accountable to the people and obtain free, prior and informed consent on any acts, without coercion, force, or threat, to protect all indigenous people's rights, civil liberty, habitat, and livelihood, and in doing so page 8 of 10 that the nng as part of their public servant civic duty, respect and honor the peoples' wishes through chapter and agency resolutions, and throughout the process engage the public comprehensively so all constituents are informed and understand with public hearings, representation, agree with, and elect on changes prior to any legislation or policy actions, adoption, and enforcement, including any funds, contracts, or agreements (mou and moa) between navajo nation and any entity (federal, state, and county governments, enterprises, organizations) especially regarding the safety and rights as the title 17 amendments and any acts. **Sponsor: Farm Committee**~~

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolution for Financial Report for December 2022. **Sponsor: Chapter Staff & Officials**
- b) **ADD ON:**

Vice President Henderson: We have a new membership for ALERT Team. Sterling Lewis is requesting to join the team.

President Haskie: That's an addition, not filling a vacancy?

Vice- President Haskie: No, I have his letter of interest.

Nelson Begaye: I started talking about this a couple month ago and now it's a community medicine people. I went to the Chapter meeting last month and asked for chapter and members support. I got some good support. We are already making progress and have a plan in place. Next Saturday, Jan 14th will be the traditional ceremony awareness, here at Sanostee Chapter. It's a beginning and making progress. It'll be good for the community and reaching out to the outside communities. Want to sit down with them, tell some winter stories and Navajo way of teachings. Also, for next month, I touched base with Dine Haatali Association and talked to their leadership. I told them they are more than welcomed to have their meeting here, if we can make it possible for them. It will be their regular business meeting and opened to the community. You can observe, ask questions, share as a community. At the chapter meeting, maybe I can give an update on how the meeting came out.

President Haskie: We are going to add you to Reports for the Chapter meeting.

I. REPORT(S):

1. Council Delegate, Amber Crotty
2. Chapter Business Update
3. Veterans Organization
4. Grazing Official, Alonzo Cohoe
5. **ADD ON:** Nelson Begaye, Community Traditional Ceremony Awareness Representative

Evelyn Walker: I work with Navajo Department of Highway Safety under Navajo Division of Transportation. Id like to get on the regular agenda to do a report on Winter Driving Tips. We are currently driving in the mud, snow and rain. It all relates back to the road conditions. I would like to talk about that and preparedness in these conditions.

President Haskie: We will add Evelyn, under Guest Speaker.

Evelyn Walker: Thank you for working with me and doing Defensive Driving course with your staff, other chapters and as well as the Summer Youth Employees. Even during events, setting up a booth and giving out incentives and information. I just want to Thank you.

Harrison Barber: We are lacking two members on the Road Committee. Last meeting, it was recommended to announce that. Was that done?

Secretary/Treasurer: It's being announced.

Harrison Barber: If no interest, there is another process to take into action.

President Haskie: Okay, it can be advertised.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: It is being advertised, they have until February 3rd.

President Haskie: If anyone is interested in being a committee member, put your letter of interest in.

Rannitta Henderson: I would like to request a concern that I have. Can we get forestry to come in? I've seen and read this, that people buy permits and go to the mountains. The resale ones, they go up and come back down a couple of times. They only take the trunks and leave the arms. Towards my grandparents' place that is what they are doing. We pick those up for ourselves. Then trash, they build a fire/cook, they leave their trash there. They don't clean up after themselves. At night, you can see people coming down. There are these 3 vehicles that have loads of Pine. They don't bring it here; they take it to Shiprock. You don't see the arms, just the trunks they are hauling out. I am really concerned about that. Like during the summer time, that could be a fire hazard. Some of us enjoy the mountains and go up there. Can we ask Forestry to come in? Then we can get a resolution about this wood hauling.

President Haskie: We will have an invitation to Forestry.

Larry Jumbo: In the wash, people do the same thing. They make random roads and leave their trash too.

President Haskie: Thank you. It is a big problem and we have met about how to handle these issues. Even if we say no, they still do this.

Tommy Tsosie: Is resale allowed?

Vice-President Henderson: It is allowed. I just went to Forestry for Wood permit and they update us on how to do the permits. They are also short staffed. Two of their officers are retiring. After that, they don't know if they are going to fulfill that gap. So why do we have wood permits, if they aren't going to have forestry officers. There are a lot of people selling firewood in Shiprock. I don't know how many have permits. I sell the permits. About once a month, I'll give out a resale permit. They are supposed to have a resale permit if they are selling and give it to the person who is buying it from them. So, if they get stopped, they can show that permit. We asked, does someone check on the sellers, like in Shiprock? They mentioned only one time did they do that. A lot of these people are taking out wood for free. I don't know how to control it. I asked, can I stop someone? They said it can be done but they don't want us doing that. A lot are selling without permits. They are making money off of it. There is not really an enforcement from Forestry.

Alonzo Cohoe: Department of Resource Enforcement- Rangers, we know they go out and look for the resale tickets. Maybe if they are asked to do it every day.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Maybe a resolution to Rangers for more enforcement. There was one before too. Maybe we can send both.

Kori Tso: The proceeds, where do they go?

Vice-President Henderson: Back to Forestry. All we are doing, is selling it for them

Kori Tso: Do you have a tally of how many tickets you sell?

Vice-President Henderson: Yeah.

Rannitta Henderson: Can we also add Resource to the resolution?

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Who is the resolution going to?

Alonzo Cohoe: Department of Resource Enforcement- Navajo Nation Rangers

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: If you could get me bullet points for the resolutions.

Leo Billey: What about the street lights at Little Water, they are all out. Can we ask the store to pay for it?

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Those lights and Sanostee junction are all paid by Navajo Division of Transportation. They pay for it and have a maintenance agreement as well. If they go out, we contact them. I have followed up before and state that Accounts Payable is taking a while to make the payment. We did want to take over the NTUA payments but that is no longer in our budget. I did email NDOT about this issue but I am not getting any feedback on it.

Nelson Begaye: Thank you to our Council Delegate. A lot of work accomplished this year. The work with MMIW and your support with the lady who walked from Red Mesa. You helped out the people across the Navajo Nation and our Veterans. We give you our support and ask for your support too. Just want to give recognition to our leadership.

IX. NEXT MEETING:

1. February 2023 Planning Meeting: 2/5/2023 @ 1 pm
2. February 2023 Regular Chapter Meeting: 2/19/2023 @ 1 pm

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn was given floor for announcements.

1. Housing Discretionary Application open for January. Deadline is 01/31/2023 @ 5 pm.
2. Student Scholarship Applications for Spring Semester 2023 are available. Deadline is 01/31/2023 @ 5 pm.
3. New Mexico Legislature- Chapter Officials attended 01/04/2023 in Gallup, NM. Provided Top 3 Priorities. # 1 was Helipad, # 2 was Cell Tower and # 3 was Waterline Extensions. Additionally, that was requested was a Veterans Administration Modular Building, Bulldozer for Road Equipment and Double Chip Seal improvement for N5010 South. These were presented to NM Senator and Representative. We were promised by Senator Munoz, our # 1 priority will be funded for our community public safety.
4. January 2023 Activities Calendar/Meetings was read.

Glenn Duncan: The water at my house, has low pressure. I asked NTUA to come out. They flushed out the main water next to my house. They said the tank is lower. Are the waterline extensions for that? There is another waterline up the hill too. NTUA said to go to the Chapter and that it could be done.

President Haskie: Is it everyone there? Or just you?

Glenn Duncan: Just me.

Berlinda Dickson: Mine is like that every once in a while.

President Haskie: We will contact NTUA and see what they can do. The water extensions, it's for those who don't have water to their homes. There are 19 homes that don't have a waterline.

Leo Billey: President Nez this summer, declared emergency, how much money did we get?

President Haskie: We didn't get any money.

Leo Billey: How much money did we get from this?

Amber Crotty: Is that the reimbursement? We've been in this state of emergency since 2020. This summer, was regarding the Monsoons, but it depends on the amount of funding the Chapter used from their emergency funding. There is FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Reimbursement. What these Chapters are asking is for that deficit. I can look if the council has voted on it. It's because they spent a lot of money during the emergency. That's why you don't see the Chapter on here. They didn't spend, they wouldn't be asking for reimbursement.

President Haskie: We didn't receive any money. We got a lot of donations from NTUA, Department of Emergency Management.

Delegate Crotty: How much money do you have in your emergency account?

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: Close to \$28,000.00

Delegate Crotty: If you have more than \$25,000.00, you don't get a reimbursement. Some of the Chapters are in the red and spent over. Now they are asking the Council for more money. We did not agree on all of it because these Chapters should not be spending what they don't have.

Leo Billey: Is the Veterans Director going out?


Delegate Crotty: When the Navajo Veterans Advisory Council voted in favor, that's a 6 year contract. We did ask a legal question, if he is in breach of his contract. I believe they had a meeting on Thursday. We could ask Olin Keyoomia what their plan is with this administration with the Veterans Director. We are working on Veterans housing. We will be having a meeting with Larry Ute Joe to see how many Veterans in Northern Agency will be getting a home. We will get you that information.

Secretary/Treasurer Washburn: So he has completed 4 years?

Delegate Crotty: He has only served 3 years and said if you want me to leave, pay me out. I say you are in violation of your contract. So, the lawyers are discussing it. Inauguration is Tuesday. Council will be sworn in and head back to the Council Chambers while all other activities are going on.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. by President Haskie

Submitted by: Secretary/ Treasurer Jourdan Washburn:  on 1/8/2023.

Chapter Administration Rec'vd: _____