

# District 6 Joint Council

Meeting Minutes

31 August 2012

Tsé Fiehu Chapter

Mr. David Lee began the meeting @ 1:42 pm even though there was no quorum and requested Gloria M. Skeet deCruz to take minutes on our Dist. 6 JC discussion.

Invocation: Pat Damon

Reports:

Mr. Damon reported that our Plan of Operation was still with DOJ and their interpretation of our POO was that we were asking for "too much power". He indicated that Chancy has the POO and we need to review it and change the verbiage to DOJ's recommendation. Once the POO is approved (via SAS) he can then request for a budget. The NNC is presently working on the budget with all the Departments and they will get 100% funding. Judicial has not submitted their un-met need. The budget is going okay, if there are additional funds, these funds will be used toward the vacancies. Personnel may get 10 - 15 million, they submitted 2 budgets: one with the lay-offs and the other for filled positions.

The council is looking at re-visiting the Little Colorado River issue. A number of plants are old, they use water but it is not enough. Negotiations were made prior to the Coal Compacts, Ft. Wingate and NAPI. A meeting with several Congressmen is being scheduled to discuss these issues at Tò Haajileé. The ENA Land Commission has a meeting on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> and is certain Attorney Paul Frye will be there. The "negotiation team" will fly to DC on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> to meet with the Indian Affairs Committee and staff of congressmen. Jarvison Williams has the agenda.

Mr. Damon now has an i Pad, and all his information is being transferred.

Albert Damon has met with a group to save the railroad project at Thoreau. Mr. Charles Damon feels it's more feasible to have the project at Tseyatoh, because they are near the coal mine and also Gamerao. May have 4 gas stations within the Gamerao Coal Company Mines (they have about 40,000 acres).

FYE: Indian Health Conference for All Indian Nations, September 27, 2012 in Denver.

Michael Benson provided an update on the Navajo Gallup Water Line Project (NGWLP). Mr. Benson works with the NN Dept. of Water Management which is under the Department of Water Resources. In 1992 Mr. Benson served as the Public Information Officer (PIO), he met with many NM chapter leaders and members and talked about water rights and during one of these meetings an elder told him to no longer be the PIO but instead work directly with handling the contracts and build the Navajo Water Project. And now, this is what Mr. Benson is doing, playing a major role in getting NGWLP going.

NGWLP is going full blast; it even got started before the contract was approved. The Chapters were a big help in getting this project going, these chapter became involved because they were concerned they would be forgotten.

Cutter Lateral from Cutter Reservoir (NAPI uses the water) the pipes are now in place in Huerfano and the surrounding area.

Gallup Interchange has funds and will have an agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and Gallup by the end of December 2012. BOR and OEI will have an agreement by the end of September (this month) on the water line to Church Rock and Iyanbito, and then from there it will go to Manuelito. The water line will eventually go to Baaaháali and Chichiltah. We need to depend on the waterline pipes from the San Juan River and not be like Gallup which depends on Ground Water which is being depleted as we speak.

Water will be delivered from Twin Lakes to the area for now until the San Juan River is available in 2022-2024. Senator Bingaman got 60 million of which 43 million is allocated to the Cutter Lateral Project.

Working on the ROW for the pipe line construction (we can construct the pipes but not the water). Mr. Benson expressed concern about the water flowing to Window Rock and the surrounding chapter communities because the water for these communities has to come from the Little Colorado River (which currently has a lot of opposition to settling).

\*Water Rights are like a puzzle, you need to talk with your neighbors and see what they want. Time is essential. 2010 census shows our population down and we are not creating jobs quick enough.

A number of farmers in Aztec & Bloomfield are against the San Juan River (SJR) diversion to provide water to NN and Gallup. The Cutter Lateral to ABQ- none of the SJR is going to ABQ. 110,000 acre feet of water are committed from the San Juan Chama Diversion. NAPI is still not complete, they need water. Utah is going well but the nicest state to deal with is New Mexico.

Roselyn John asked about the water line going south to Chichiltah to the Zuni Reservation line, right now the water is going north and east, what about the south to Chichiltah? Roselyn also mentioned that "we" no plans with the SJR-Navajo Gallup Water Line Project. She also mentioned that the Vanderwagen NN Water Resource Office has no water; the staff uses an outhouse. Michael said this issue was not with his department and needs to be addressed with Water Resources.

Mr. Damon provided info about Huerfano. He said the water pipeline will go through Huerfano, Lake Valley, Naayizie and those who do not get water through the pipeline are told to drill a well. They need to seek water outside the SJR Basin and there is no money for drilling. Mr. Damon said the settlement was for the main waterline and not the small ones.

Karl Lohman was invited by Zander Shirley to provide information on "Youth Build" Mr. Lohman provided extensive information on his youth projects and partnerships with land conservation and building walking & biking trails. Mr. Lohman has been with Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) for 11 years which provides training germane to the youth's future employment. His program employee college students and they began in mid-May when they return from college. These students are employed for 10 weeks and are allowed to work for YCC a total of 4 years.

NDOF: Larry Joe, Ben Bennett & LaFausha Lewis

Update: Still working on the Regional Plans with ENA. NDOT have the maps and have identified priorities for maintenance. They will continue to work with chapters. Larry Joe will schedule another formal meeting with Dist. 6 Chapters.

Roselyn recommended that representatives from the County and BIA be at our meetings. Guarena Skeets would like to have copies of the Road Inventories that each chapter completed for NDOT... "we still have not received our copies". Ray Jack said they identifies 4 priority roads and since Tse Litchi was not at the Dist. 6 Road Meeting hosted by NDOT at their new facilities in June, Larry Joe had to make a special trip from Shiprock to meet with Tse Litchi representatives to complete their road inventory.

Guarena Skeets: NHA reimbursements are still pending will notify each chapter once the reimbursements have been completed by the NHA Finance Department. Also, we still need to meet with Bob Winter, CEO Fire Rock Casino and request for additional funds to take care of our shortfall. A letter was submitted to Mr. Winter and a meeting was scheduled by Mr. Damon. Mr. Damon was not able to attend the meeting due to his schedule. Gloria, Roselyn and Guarena went to meet with Derrick Watchman but he was not in and had to be in Flagstaff.

Informal meeting/discussion was adjourned @ 4:04pm.

Next Meeting: September 28<sup>th</sup> Hosted by Tseyatoh Chapter @ Manuelito Chapter.

THE NAVAJO NATION

District 6 Joint Council

PLAN OF OPERATION

I) ESTABLISHMENT

- A) The District 6 Joint Council of the Navajo Nation herein referred to as District 6 Joint Council, which consist of Bááhááli, Chichiltah, Manuelito, Rock Springs, Tselichi, and Tseyatoh Chapters, is hereby established and recognized under the Navajo Nation Government.

II) AUTHORIZATION

- A) Pursuant to Navajo Nation Council (NNC) Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_, the District 6 Joint Council Plan of Operation is hereby recognized and adopted.

III) PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE(S)

- A) The purpose of District 6 Joint Council shall be to advocate for, encourage, and promote District 6 Joint Council community and regional project support, interactions, and collaboration with the Navajo Nation Council and other local government s, organizations and agencies.
- B) Maintain an effective working relationship with the District 6 Council Delegate and the Navajo Nation Council.
- C) The objectives of the District 6 Joint Council shall be to:
- 1) Advocate for and to ensure that the sovereign status of the local District 6 Joint Council Chapters shall be maintained and strengthen through collective support.
  - 2) Preserve and respect the District 6 Joint Council Chapter membership's traditional and cultural values while integrating modern technology and government reform into the current Chapter government system.
  - 3) Study and evaluate ways to achieve accountable, representative and responsible District 6 Joint Council Chapter government system.
  - 4) Assess and develop ways to improve Navajo Nation capabilities for enhanced service delivery.
  - 5) Provide encouragement and way to assist District 6 Joint Council Chapters to develop and implement the Five Management System (FMS) as required by the Local Governance Act, N.N.C. 102.
  - 6) Establish and maintain effective communications with local, state, federal and other authorities on matters related to improving the health, safety, and welfare of District 6 Joint Council Chapters and their membership.
  - 7) Establish and maintain an effective communication and working relationship with the District 6 Council Delegate and the Navajo Nation Council.

IV) MEMBERSHIP

- A) The District 6 Joint Council shall consist of all Chapter Officials (President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer), Chapter Administration, and other Elected Official Positions, such as Land Board Members and Council Delegate.
- B) Membership at large: LGSC Representative from Crownpoint (ENA) and Ft. Defiance Agencies, District 6 Joint Council CLUP Committee, Veterans, and other pertinent committees.

V) ENUMERATED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A) The District 6 Joint Council Chapters shall:
  - 1) Work cooperatively with their respective Local Governance Support Center (LGSC) by providing timelines for tasks as they directly relate to the objectives set forth in this Plan of Operation and prioritizing the Chapter Governance Certification as required by 26 N.N.C. 102 and 103.
  - 2) Establish and maintain a mutually respectful partnership with the Navajo Nation programs, outside entities, and community members.
  - 3) Recommend and encourage support resolution(s) to the Navajo Nation Council and the standing committees on regional projects, funding, and other regional matters pertaining to the welfare of the District 6 Joint Council public.
  - 4) Advise and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council all matters pertaining to issues on sovereignty, water right, civil rights, etc.
  - 5) Seek consultation with members of Navajo Nation Council on matters related to the Navajo Nation Operating Budget.
  - 6) Appoint and recommend membership to the BIA Roads Committee, Commission on Navajo Government Development, Tribal County, State, Federal and other appointments as necessary.
  - 7) Recommend legislation that affects the District 6 Joint Council Chapter Governments to the Navajo Nation Council.
  - 8) Adopt Rules of Order for conducting District 6 Joint Council meetings and selection of its officers.
  - 9) Assist and encourage District 6 Joint Council Chapter governments seeking Local Governance Certification to develop, adopt, and forward their FMS policies manual to the Office of the Auditor General for recommendation to the Resource Development Committee for final adoption.
  - 10) Seek input and guidance from the President of the Navajo Nation, the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and standing committees of the Navajo Nation Council regarding major development(s) and issues affecting the Navajo Nation government and the District 6 Joint Council Chapter governments.

VI) MEETINGS, ORDER OF BUSINESS & QUORUM

- 1) District 6 Joint Council shall conduct meetings on a quarterly basis or any number of meetings.

- 2) District 6 Joint Council shall conduct a "Special Meeting" when deemed necessary with a minimum of one (1) representative from each chapter to make a quorum.
- 3) All District 6 Joint Council meetings shall be conducted within the District 6/Navajo Nation boundaries.
  - (a) The District 6 Joint Council shall conduct their meetings in accordance with the Rules of Order adopted by the District 6 Chapters in which there shall be the following order of business on the agenda.
    - (i) Call Meeting to Order
    - (ii) Roll Call
    - (iii) Invocation
  - (b) The quorum of the District 6 Joint Council Chapters shall consist of 51% simple majority of the members of the District 6 Joint Council region. The 51% simple majority must include at least one (1) member from each of the six (6) chapters within District 6.
  - (c) District 6 Joint Council meetings are open to the public.
    - (i) Any issues or concerns community members may have must be addressed at their local chapter level.

VII) OFFICERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A) The District 6 Joint Council Chapters shall select a President, Vice President, and Secretary at the first regular meeting immediately following the general election of the Navajo Nation Chapter Officials on a yearly basis. The term for the officers shall coincide with their term of office as elected officials on the Navajo Nation. Vacancy in the officer(s) position shall be filled at the next regular or special meeting.
- B) The District 6 Joint Council officer(s) shall be removed upon two (2) consecutive unexcused absences.
  - 1) The President shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
    - (a) Preside over District 6 Joint Council meeting; consult with the Vice President, Secretary, and Chapter Administration in preparation of the agenda for each District 6 Joint Council meeting.
    - (b) Sign each form submitted by the District 6 Joint Council members. The President's meeting claim form shall be signed and verified by the Vice President or the Secretary after each meeting.
    - (c) Certify all official documents such as resolutions approved by the District 6 Joint Council members.
    - (d) Work cooperatively with the Local Governance Support Center ( LGSC) office in the Ft. Defiance and Crownpoint Agencies to ensure that all respective District 6 Joint Council actions are communicated to the appropriate entities of the Navajo Nation Government and local Chapter governments.
    - (e) Adjourn or postpone a District 6 Joint Council meeting in the event of:
      - (i) Loss of a quorum

- (ii) Disorder at the meeting
    - (iii) Unforeseen emergency
  - (f) Vote in case of a tie.
  - (g) Work closely with the District 6 Council Delegate.
  - (h) Call special meetings.
  - (i) Follow up with tribal, federal, and state government agencies on resolutions, ordinances, recommendations, proposals, and projects of the District 6 Chapters.
- 2) The Vice President shall:
  - (a) Automatically assume the duties and responsibilities of the presidency in the absence of the President during the District 6 Joint Council meeting.
  - (b) In the event of an unforeseen circumstance and incapacitated assume duties and responsibilities of the President for a reasonable time period.
  - (c) Shall serve as Sargent-of-Arms.
  - (d) Assist the Secretary when needed.
  - (e) Shall be responsible for the sign-in sheet for the morning and afternoon session.
  - (f) Shall assist the President with any follow-ups required with the District 6 Council Delegate.
- 3) The Secretary shall:
  - (a) Maintain complete and accurate records of all District 6 Joint Council meetings and activities (training, work session, etc.)
  - (b) Assist the President and Vice President in preparation of the agenda.
  - (c) Prepares and finalizes all resolutions, proposals, letters, and other important documents for distribution to the District 6 Joint Council Chapters and appropriate agencies.
  - (d) Record District 6 meeting minutes pertaining to all official action(s).
  - (e) Distribution of meeting minutes to all District 6 Joint Council Chapters.
  - (f) Follow up on all referrals of resolution, proposal, correspondence, and other related matters.
  - (g) Shall assist the President with any follow-ups required with the District 6 Council Delegate.

VIII) COMPENSATION

- A) The District 6 Joint Council members shall be compensated with a stipend for attending the entire District 6 Joint Council meeting. The presiding President shall verify attendance of its membership.
  - 1) Sign-in Sheet and Meeting Minutes shall be disseminated to the District 6 Joint Council members for their official records and usage.

IX) PROCEDURAL RULES FOR MOTIONS

- A) The District 6 Chapters may adopt standard rules for conducting District 6 Joint Council meetings:

- 1) The approval or amendments to the agenda, minutes, reports and resolution(s) shall be done in the follow manner:
  - (a) Upon presenting the agenda, minutes, report(s), resolution(s), and /or issue(s) of the agenda, the District 6 Joint Council President shall request a motion to accept the matter before the District 6 Joint Council membership and recognize a second to the main motion.
  - (b) Upon receiving a motion and a second to the main motion, the President shall provide an opportunity to members of District 6 Joint Council to address the matter before them.
  - (c) Any member of District 6 Joint Council may propose an amendment to the main motion which would require a second. The District 6 Joint Council membership shall vote on the proposed amendment motion. If the amendment motion passes, it shall take precedence over the part of the main motion subject to proposed amendment. Only one motion to amend the main motion shall be on the floor.
  - (d) Any member of District 6 Joint Council may propose a substitute motion and if it passes, it shall take the place of the main motion. The substitute motion shall be seconded and voted on.
  - (e) Any member of District 6 Joint Council may propose to table the legislation or issue before the District 6 Joint Council. The motion to table the matter shall be seconded and voted on. If the tabling motion passes, it shall take precedence over other motions.
  - (f) The District 6 Joint Council President, Vice President, and Secretary are prohibited from making motions.

X) AMENDMENTS

- A) The District 6 Joint Council herein, **may** amend the provisions during the first quarter of each fiscal year.