





# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

**GERALD KEETSO**  
PRESIDENT

**ROLAND SMALLCANYON**  
VICE PRESIDENT

**CANDIS YAZZIE**  
SECRETARY



Kayenta resident- comments

Lucille Krause- comments

Genevieve B-comments

Chair mentions for resolution to get to the agenda one or more chapters of the WNA approved the resolution

Larry Tuni- comments, suggests a special meeting for chapters that will be affected.

Chair Keetso- closes discussion calls for the vote, vote taken, tie vote 9.9,4, tie broken by chair.

Final vote 10,9,4 motion passes.

**Motion: Allen Fowler      Second: Genevieve Benally      Vote: 10,9,4**

**Chair moves to NB3.**

### **3. WNAC24-09-NB3: WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL SUPPORTING CANDIDACY OF JONATHAN NEZ FOR ARIZONA'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

**Sponsor: Shonto Chapter**

**Presenter: Johnathan Nez**

Title read into the record. Johnathan Nez presents resolution.

Motion made 2<sup>nd</sup> made, open for discussion

Lena Fowler- Comments

Judy Begay- Comments

Charlie Smith Jr.- Comments

Leland Dayzie- add support and endorsing to the wording of the resolution.

Otto Tso- Comments

Johnathan Nez- comments and thanks supporters.

Chair- calls for vote, vote taken, motion passes. Chair moves to NB4.

**Motion: Myra Begay      Second: Angie Cody      Vote: 32, 0, 2**

### **4. WNAC24-09-NB4: THE WESTERN AGENCY COUNCIL STRONGLY RECOMMENDS AND SUPPORTS A REFERENDUM MEASURE TO BE PLACED ON THE 2024 NAVAJO GENERAL ELECTION TO REDUCE THE COMMISSION ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT FROM TWELVE (12) TO FIVE (5) MEMBERS, WHILE WORKING WITH THE 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION OF REFERRAL TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE NAVAJO ELECTION ADMINISTRATION**

**Sponsor: Marsha Greyeyes**

**Presenter: Marsha Greyeyes**

Larry Tuni- Do 51 chapters support for a policy change

Harrison Tsosie- challenging for OGD, by court order cannot abolish the commission 2008 elimination of OGD is challenged

Marsha Greyeyes- how many members currently? Not to hinder the work but expedite process chapter officials want job security

Leslie Dele- Comments

Chair calls for vote, vote taken, motion passes, chair moves to presentation B.

**Motion: Larry Tuni      Second: Angie Cody      Vote: 18,0,11**

### **V. PRESENTATION(S). -10 minutes is allotted for each presentation.**

- A. Derrith Watchman-Moore- Phase 2 Expanded Trust, assessment and clean up plans for abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Nation.- Joanna A. Manygoats and Abby B provide presentation. Presented at 9:29 before CTO.
- B. Verlana Little, and Maureen Nez- SuNA Study Report – Provided report B and I, and submitted written report.
- C. Andy Bertelsen- Coconino County manager Proposition 482- Coconino County representatives reported  
Charlie Smith- Comments support for Prop482
- D. Ammon Barker- Coconino County Attorney's Office – reported information, shared that Meth, Fentanyl use high but alcohol still the highest for fatalities.

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- E. Kyann Dedman-Cisco- Project Safe Schools/PSS Report – Provided report E and G and print outs.
- F. Dave Dirksen- An overview of the Coconino County Accommodation School District- Provided report, with handouts.
  - L. Dele- any JOM available at your schools
  - Guest- what % is from the chapters?
  - Dave- mostly Western Navajo
  - Joanne Yazzie- Pioche- comments support impressed with Tse' Yalto school, daycare center at the school for young parents.
  - Dave- comments
  - Lena- Coconino County schools, when you think about prop 482 that will impact schools too. Just recently representatives in DC for funding for schools and roads. NGS site working with NN on the vocational educational center, working with AZ board of regents
  - Louise- just mentioning the support for the Ponderosa HS. Also, a Navajo teacher as well, so to see the accomplishments are good.
  - Dave- you will see something from me soon, to assist with funding. Just need signature to verify that the student is from your chapter.
- G. Kyann Dedman-Cisco - +Connection is Medicine Report -Reported
- H. Johnathan Nez- Nez for US Congress, candidate for Arizona's CD-02- Not present (presented during action item NB3)
- I. Verlena Little, Nirsevimab vaccination for RSV\_SuNA- reported during E report section.
- J. Verlena Little, and Maureen Nez- Active Bacterial Surveillance system, or 'ABS' Report -reported
  - Yazzie-Pioche- asks if the vaccine is available now.
  - Little- yes, they are, should have them available.
  - Chair- Thanks presenters and moves forward to Reports.

**VI. REPORT (S) 10 minutes is allotted for each report, please provide electronic copies, thank you.**

**A. NN Executive Branch Office of the President and Vice President:**

1. Honorable President Buu Nygren and/or Honorable Vice-President Richelle Montoya – Rena Dodson Reports on behalf of OPVP Mentions Chris Beecher will be present shortly for OPVP(1:40 pm)
2. Navajo Nation Attorney General: Ethel Branch- Cynthia Freeman Reporting on Behalf of chapter unites department of DOJ. Mentions different departments. LGA amendments 4 changes. CLUPC POO template to include removal processes, need due process steps., drought mentioned Rules of order for chapters , contract or procurement documenting process, 2010 property management and personal, High Q services through portal, each chapter has one user name and password.
  - Question- water rights settlement
  - Cynthia- that is a different division
  - Greyeyes- thanks Freeman for services
  - Chris Beecher- Introduces self, reports for OPVP, budget mentioned,
  - Leslie Dele- Let chapters review budget, then chapters support, when it gets to council the people have spoken, directive to president.
  - Beecher- appreciates sentiment
  - Marsha- Layoffs, contention on budget what part?
  - Chris- required notice by title 12, ultimately need comprehensive budget, for fully functioning government, 3 branch government, numbers were disagreed.
  - Guest- Recall?
  - Chris- Debbie, lead on recall was 2<sup>nd</sup> on campaign lead, probably hard feelings
  - Charlie Smith- Comments
  - Sally Chee- Comments
  - Chris-Comments

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3. Division of Natural Resources: W. Mike Halona, Division Director – Sonya Begay, Project specialist- Paper reports provided brief of report, 11 departments in DNR.  
Dele- who deals with round ups  
Begay- Dept of agriculture  
Joann Yazzie-lower Colorado river issues, national park, department of reclamation, wanting side canal to eliminate invasive fish, some tribes object, needs to be looked into,  
Roland S- Comment and question in regards to deputy livestock inspector memo  
Begay- comments
4. Division of Community Development: Representative – Edwin Begay reports, written reports brought, highlighted points of the report  
Honorable Parrish- asks question on Kayenta Wellness center, it was fully funded, any updates  
Begay- provides response  
Marsha- how does that affect  
Begay- doesn't have specific information on this project  
(2:44pm Roll call taken-14 chapters present Cameron, Coalmine, Chilchinbeto Dennehotso, Kayenta, Lechee, Coppermine, Leupp, Navajo Mtn, Oljato, Shonto, Tolani Lake, T/C , Tonalea)
5. Navajo Department of Transportation: Tom Platero, Division Director - Leann Roy, provides report mentions departments in NNDOT. Written reports provided. Lists road numbers that are being worked on by NNDOT. Mentions open positions in the department. Acknowledges veterans.  
Charlie Smith Jr.- washout mentioned, near local residence, BIA routes 6150,  
Marsha Greyeyes- there was a meeting recently with surrounding chapters, waiting for follow up on next steps, there is a lot of roads that need addressing.  
Tulley Begay- Dennehotso chapter, 3 weeks ago reported a road, that was to be paved but it got stuck there, Response was BIA having a training in WR.  
Yvonne Bigman-Lechee chapter comments.
6. Division of Human Resources Administration: Nathaniel Brown, Deputy Director- Not present
7. Division of Economic Development: Tony Skerlunas, Division Director – Provided verbal report. Mentions projects in progress, Motels, Hotels, ground breaking events, Shonto hotel mentioned, 160, 89 corridor, most busiest corridor interest in development, horsemen's Lodge, hotel project in Cameron, T/C hotel project. Resort Horseshoe bend, working to expand Zenni, Railroad, authority of area in question, Chilchinbeto store, Kaibeto has business sites, making online user friendly like Zillow, Change labs.
8. Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency- Stephen B Etsitty, Executive Director greets thanks for time and introduces Mr. Maryboy, from enforcement.  
Arnold Maryboy- greets and provides report  
Etsitty- speaks to legislation and amendments  
Lena Fowler- we thought we could stop this be halting the transportation, traveled to DC, learned not even the Governor had no authority. From the county level best, we can do is to get a report monthly we have ADOT, forest service, tribes and GC, Sheriff. They do their own monitoring, how can they do self-monitoring, tribes asking for more reporting. 928-606-4733  
Charlie Smith – Comments  
Genevieve Benally – Comments  
Etsitty- Fact is ROW is granted company needs to recognize sovereignty, articles in treaty that must be adhered to, the 1872 mining act mentioned, asking for agreement to inspect, Fees and licensure,  
Lena- Comments mentions Mr. Orlando Teller,





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Jean Holiday- Oljato, comments

Lena Pourier- Red Mesa, comments fees where will they go? Any fines cited?

M. Greyeyes- Comments asks question in abandoned buildings, who assists with clean up.

Myra Begay- when will you be coming out to chapters.

Herbert Zahne- comments, uranium kills the soil only thing is weeds that grow. This clean up is cosmetic, it doesn't clean up the water, were an arid region, clean ups require water and we don't have that.

Helen Webster- comments, from the past to now, don't follow up on it, like Peabody, a lot of people died from this. RECON act 50 thousand whats that going to do. we have to deal with the effects of these, we get IHS services that's not the best care.

Chair Keetso- comments in the 80s there was some advantage taken when this was approved. Everything that has been endured by our people, and now have come to this, dealing with this again

Etsitty- lobbying continuing, mentions brownfields, 0194-24 legislation, clean up expense's owners have ran out on leases, old boarding schools, built before regulations, lead based paint, cost a lot to identify and transport waste.

Lena- comments on old building tear down, still working on that, saved library.

9. Navajo Nation Division of Social Services- Thomas Cody, Executive Director- Greets and thanks for time and attendance, provides report and name change of department to Department for Children and Family Services, and new logo. 416 employees, me with operation rainbow bridge. 417-489-6434 looking or people that are deceased or have been affected. Homeowners' assistance fund, 55 million, Over 700 applicants. Preserving Navajo Families, working with churches, and native American churches. Community healing for children and families. Were going to push a lot of money out, RFP local chapters with nonprofits. 720-207-7696 my number. Thanks for time.

Mentions ke' be cordial to one another

Chair calls for roll at 4:58pm

(Roll taken 13 chapters present)

Marsha- Motion to hear B&F report and accept reports that have been given to this point.

Chair- mentions roll call will be done first.

Marsha- makes motion to hear B&F report, were running out of time here.

Chair- if reports can be 5 mins we can get to her, in about 15-20 minutes were going to have to vacate, and no questions on reports to get through the

Miss Western Navajo- Introduces self in Dine' thanks for leadership.

10. Navajo Government Development: Loretta T. Seweingyawma, Commissioner- Harrison Tsosie Provides verbal report from OGD written report provided. Initiative process, 2008 opinion, 3 ways to make laws on Navajo, one is through council, 2<sup>nd</sup> is the referendum process, send to people and NN wide ballot, 3<sup>rd</sup> method is the initiative process, petition committee. Explained other places have petition requirements are a bit lower in other places and this makes it difficult for the Navajo people to exercise that right, it was done in 2013, 10 for and 10 against and speaker voted against it. Asking chapters to support, template resolution on website. You can find our contact information there. Thanks.

Chair- thanks was just informed our time is up. Theres one last request, I do apologize for those left here to report, theres one request, im going to let Honorable Shandiin Parrish, then asking that we adjourn after this. Again I apologize but this is where were at now, we need to vote once this report is done.

Shandiin Parish-greets, B&F committee, provides report mentions comprehensive budget report in the website. Continuing resolution will allow operations to continue.

Jan 2024, conversations started, if not enough discussion, we wanted to ensure more

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time to discuss. Approved the BIM, last WNAC meeting we talked about consideration for a chapter BIM, committee has proposed a planning base amount based on projections, this year theres a 20 million increase but will decrease by 20 million and more each following year. UUFB with dollars are left over, budget transfers mentions. Public hearings part of the process. Unmet needs of chapters, included so they can insert that into the comprehensive budget.

Chair – thanks for report,

Elections department- Melvin Harrison, provides brief report, you have 10 days to turn in expense reports, after 5pm you get disqualified. Purging mentioned, missed two elections, will be purged. You have to register again.

Lula Neztosie- flyers for election 2024 going around, theres primary and general election, process listed read it.

Chair- thanks those that are still here, I need a motion

**Motion to accept reports: Marsha Greyeyes 2<sup>nd</sup>:Tulley Begay      Vote: 15,0,1**

Chair- thanks and moves to benediction.

11. Navajo Hopi Land Commission Office: Sarah Slim, Executive Director

12. Western Agency Board of Election Supervisors: Shirlee Bedonie

## **B. NN Legislative Branch Office of the Speaker of the 25<sup>th</sup> NNC**

1. Honorable Speaker Crystalyne Curley, 25<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council and/or Representative

2. Council Delegates WNA

A. Honorable Shaandiin Parrish

B. Honorable Herman Daniels Jr.

C. Honorable Casey Allen Johnson

D. Honorable Helena Nez Begay

E. Honorable Otto Tso

## **C. Coconino/ Navajo County Supervisors**

1. Navajo County Board of Supervisors, District 1: Fern Benally

2. Coconino County Board of Supervisors, District 4: Judy Begay

3. Coconino County Board of Supervisors, District 5: Lena Fowler

4. Coconino County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Chief Mr. Brett Axlund

## **D. Other Entities / Corporations**

1. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation: Mr. Franklin Fowler

2. Western Navajo Agency Veterans Organization: Ms. Gabriella Mehl

### **Accept reports**

**Motion:                      Second:                      Vote:**

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Next Western Agency Meetings

Saturday, December 14, 2024- ?

## **VIII. BENEDICTION**

A. Dalton Singer Kayenta Chapter, President- provided benediction in Dine'.

Chair- thanks Kayenta chapter and those that attended, calls for motion to adjourn,

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Marsha Greyeyes**

**Second: Tulley Begay**

**Vote: AYES**

Time: 5:27 PM

*Have a Good Day, and Safe Travels. Ahe'hee'*

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Respectfully prepared and submitted by: Candis Yazzie On September 24, 2024.  
Candis Yazzie

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