

**COPPERMINE CHAPTER Planning Meeting**  
**April 20, 2021 @ 4PM (DST)**

**MINUTES**

JOIN BY PHONE (US): 1-405-353-0651 PIN: 598 300 282#

- I. Roll Call
- II. Meeting called to order by Allen Fowler Jr. at 4:16pm (DST)
- III. Invocation by Stanley Fowler

- IV. Review and Adopt the Agenda

Motion: Lola Smith                      Second: Delores Dempsey                      Vote: 03-00-00

- V. Reading and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: Lola Smith                      Second: Delores Dempsey                      Vote: 03-00-00

- VI. Old Business - None

- VII. New Business: Action Items, Financial Reports, and Resolutions

- 1. Financial – Secretary/Treasurer  
Forwarded to Chapter Meeting

- 2. **RESOLUTION CO-04-046-21:** REQUESTING FOR SUPPORT FROM INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE AND ASKS THAT THE FUNDS THAT WERE DEDUCTED FROM THE FY 2020 APPROPRIATION FOR THE BODAWAY-GAP HEALTH CENTER PROJECT AT GAP, NAVAJO NATION, ARIZONA BE RESTORED AND FURTHER REQUEST FULL FUNDING OF THE REMAINING CONTRUCTION FUNDS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT –  
[Sponsor: Lola Smith](#)

VP Lola Smith – this resolution CO-04-046-21, back in 2021, FY 2021, five-year plan, date February 20<sup>th</sup>, Bodaway/Gap Health Center Project was appropriated \$64,820,000, this was also referred by Navajo Ariat Health Service. In FY 2021, in the five-year plan document which was issued March 5, 2020 in which the funding for the Bodaway/Gap Health Center Project was reduced to \$42,320,000 which is a cut of \$22.5 million. So, we are not happy with this reduction, we are asking that these funds be restored to the, approximately \$23 million be restored to the appropriation FY 2020 for the Bodaway/Gap Health Center Project. Further, it be resolved that the Health Service provide full funding of the remaining construction fund, needed to complete the health center project at Gap. So, this is just a request to replace the funds that were taken.

- 3. **RESOLUTION CO-04-047-21:** APPROVING TO AMEND RESOLUTION CO-04-070-07 BY INCREASING THE LAND PARCEL FROM 75 ACRES TO 85 ACRES FOR THE NEW HEALTH CENTER AT THE RECOMMENDED SITE NORTH OF GAP PRIMARY SCHOOL ON NAVAJO ROUTE 20, TO SUPPORT THE FINALIZED UPATE OF THE 2008 PROGRAM JUSTIFICATION DOCUMENT AND PROGRAM OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BODAWAY-GAP HEATHLH CENTER, INCLUDING STAFF QUARTERS, OTHER SUPPORT FACILITIES, ALL INFRASTRUCTURE EASEMENT AND A SEWER LAGOON. – [Sponsor: Glenna Manymules-Bitsoi](#)

Glenna Manymules-Bitsoi – I am asking for approval to amend the previous resolution, CO-04-047-21. In our previous resolution, we asked for 75 acres where the new health clinic is gonna go, Bodaway/Gap Health Clinic Project. Now, PJD in 2008, that put us on the priority list of Indian Health Service. In 2018, the PJD is a draft, but it was approved and grandfathered on to the priority list, there's four projects: Dilkon, Pueblo Pintado, Bodaway/Gap and Gallup Indian Medical Center. It was a lot of hard work to get us grandfathered on to the priority list. Being on the priority list is how we are funded, which includes equipment, computers, and housing projects. We, Indian Health Service, are asking for 10 acres. In 2008, planning documents, when it was approved, it was in draft form just to get on the priority list. What was identified in the draft form was basic health care services. We are asking for an amendment, because we want to add on a cafeteria and Navajo Nation Programs: CHR and Health Education, which we would like to have office spaces for, and some of the programs that weren't included like, Physical Therapy was not included in the beginning, and other specialty programs that we want to add. There are two Diabetes programs: one is under the Navajo Nation and the second one is under Indian Health Service; we would like to include to the Health Center. We have a Mental Health, Children's Play (Family Therapy) how the child interacts with the toy or whatever is presented to them in that play area. We would like to add this as well. The WIC (Women, Infant, and Children) Program is another program we would like to add. There are also, TB, STD, Behavioral Health Program under the Navajo Nation, and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) will have a little area to park and plug in their emergency vehicle when not in use and this area will have a shower room and a place for the EMS personnel to sleep. In 2008, PJD in draft form, the footage of the building was estimated at 17,336 sq. ft. In 202, just last year, it



increased to 80,940 sq. ft., which is a huge amount. In the beginning, the staff quarters weren't included, then we were told it was at 50, then 72, then 82, today it's at 92. Last Chapter meeting this is the same information I gave. There will be 92 staff quarters for the employees that will be working at the Health Center. This area is almost a mile from Gap Primary School, right off N20. Behind there is a big rock, that is where we were going to build the Health Center as close as could to the rock, but, that soil is not good, so we moved it back. The boundary of the Health Center has been moved back west, so, it's shrinking it, making it long, it's going south then its going north. This is the reason we are losing acreage. So, we're stretching it along the highway. We're getting there, this project is going to be \$151 million dollar project, which will include a sewer lagoon, staff quarters and health center. This is the reason I am here today, to tell you about the health center.

4. **RESOLUTION CO-04-048-21:** APPOINTMENT OF NAVAJO THAW ROUND TABLE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE FOR COPPERMINE CHAPTER – [Sponsor: Navajo Thaw](#)

Brian Cole – not online.

VP Lola Smith – This resolution is for Coppermine Chapter. Navajo Thaw under Brian Cole, and former Tom Tso, they have working with Robert Black (Navajo Hopi Land Commission) for the Former Bennett Freeze Area to improve economic development and just the way of life to improve the conditions of the Former Bennett Freeze Area. To appoint two individuals to the Navajo Thaw round table to make decisions on behalf of Coppermine Chapter, so, the Chapter appoints Mr. Allen Fowler Jr. as Navajo Thaw Round Table member and Lola Smith as the Navajo Thaw Round Table Alternate.

5. **RESOLUTION CO-04-049-21:** APPROVING AND SUPPORTING REAFFIRMING ALL COPPERMINE CHAPTER RESOLUTIONS THAT WERE PASSED FOR ROADS, CATTLE GUARDS, GATES, FENCES, GRADING, BLADING, BUS ROUTE/TURN OUTS INCLUDING RESOLUTIONS FOR ROADS N21, N6226, N6210, N20, N6211 AND N201. – [Sponsor: Stanley Fowler](#)

Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – there are cattle guards that need to be put in along N20, gates are open all the time, cattle guards need to be cleaned out, they are filled with sand.

6. **RESOLUTION CO-04-050-21:** SUPPORTING THE APPROVAL OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) ROADS WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY AND THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION'S PLANNING EFFORT TO DEVELOP THE NAVAJO NATION'S FY 2017 ROAD MAINTENANCE AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR COPPERMINE CHAPTER AND HAVE PRIORITIZED N21 (COPPERMINE TO KAIBETO ROAD) AS LISTED UNDER THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND THE NAVAJO TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROGRAM TO BE AMENDED AND IN SUPPORT OF PAVEMENT FOR N21 (COPPERMINE TO KAIBETO ROAD) FOR LITE TRAFFIC. – [Sponsor: Stanley Fowler](#)

Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – Pave N21 road from First Windmill to Kaibeto, for school buses.

Natalie Tsinnijinnie – I live on N20. Is this a paved road, like the one from the chapter house to N20, skinny road or is this a big highway? Or is this going to be like the paved road from Kaibeto to Tonalea?

Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – It's up to NDOT, and they are all under BIA. It's up to the Navajo Nation and BIA.

7. **RESOLUTION CO-04-051-21:** SUPPORTING THE APPROVAL FOR REQUEST OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA) ROADS WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY AND THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION (NDOT) FOR COPPERMINE ROUTE N20 CATTLE GUARD CLEANING FROM MILEPOST 3 TO MILEPOST 35 DUE TO SAFETY CONCERNS OF LOCALS AND TRAVELERS. – [Sponsor: Stanley Fowler](#)

Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – this is for NDOT, so they can start cleaning and take care of these cattle guards.

8. **RESOLUTIONS CO-04-052-21:** REQUESTING THAT THE TUBA CITY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE CORPORATION'S REVISIONS TO LEGISLATION NO. 0024-2021 BE ADDED TO THE NAVAJO NATION'S 2021 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF THE NAVAJO NATION AND FOR THE ADDITION OF A NEW REPLACEMENT HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FACILITY WITH STAFF QUARTERS ON THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES NATIONAL PRIORITY CONSTRUCTION LIST. – [Sponsor: Chris Curley](#)

Chris Curley – not online

TCRHCC – Leila McCabe – speaking on behalf of Chris Curley. This resolution is to the Coppermine Chapter of the Navajo Nation, requesting that TCRHCC to revision legislative #00242021 to be added to the Navajo Nation 2021 Federal Legislative priorities of the Navajo Nation and for the addition of a new replacement of the hospital and clinic facilities with staff quarters on the Indian Health Service National Construction list. Our clinic is very old, and we need to replace this. We have submitted, quite a while back a resolution for this and we are resubmitting again so we can get help as soon as possible. On the resolution, TCRHCC we are requesting for 73 inpatient hospital beds, emergency service expansion, elderly care, elderly housing, and long care facility to be constructed with the new hospital, public health



pandemic expansion. We had to close some of our clinics this year because of COVID-19. If we get another epidemic of any disease, we want to be able to serve our community without closing any of our medical department. The next one is a comprehensive cancer treatment and prevention program. We want to expand this cancer treatment so we can provide service to all our community. You know how it is now, you have to go out of TCRHCC in order to get treatment. Surgical and Orthopedic service expansion with rehabilitated service. This is needed with our hospital. Next is Behavioral Health Substance Abuse Program expansion, including inpatient and residential facilities. We have limited service in this area. Next is the Staff and Community Housing Unit Expansion, if we open a lot of these new areas, we will need housing for our staff people. Last, Veteran Administration Health Care Partnership, these are the ones that we're asking to be on new hospital. So, we are asking Coppermine Chapter to approve this resolution as soon as possible, so we can forward it so we can be on the list. I would like to be on the agenda at the end so I can give a little report on what's going on with COVID-19.

CLUP President Linda Long – Ms. McCabe talking about a new hospital, is she talking about a new hospital in Tuba City or is she talking about the new hospital their building here in Coppermine area?

TCRHCC Lelia McCabe – this is a new hospital in Tuba City. The one we have now, is very old facility, which requires a lot of maintenance every year.

Susan Yellowman – the Coppermine Clinic has been in the works since 2008 with resolutions, I am just wondering does the new Tuba City Hospital have their own resolution and money to pay for a new hospital? Because, I know previously the Tuba City Hospital wanted to take over some of the finances that should be used for the Coppermine Clinic. Is the new Tuba City Hospital that you're talking about have their own money and that they will not take away the finances to build the new Coppermine Clinic?

TCRHCC Lelia McCabe – The new Coppermine Clinic, the funding has already been approved. I think one of the ladies is here. The new Tuba City Hospital will go on its own budget. The CEO as well as our Engineer are working on it. They have the funding, kind of identified. When this resolution goes through, we will be looking into that.

Susan Yellowman – Thank you, that's what I wanted to know that they have their own finances to do their new building and it won't take away from what is being utilized at the Coppermine one.

9. **RESOLUTIONS CO-04-053-21: APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 "GF SUPPLEMENTAL" BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT \$31,610.48. - Sponsor: ASC**

ASC or AMS – not online

President Allen Fowler Jr. – this fund is to employ College Students to help them out.

10. **RESOLUTIONS CO-04-054-21: SUPPORTING THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION OF DINE' ATIIN BAHANE: NAVAJO ROAD EMERGENCE – THE NAVAJO NATION WHITE PAPER 2021.**

VP Lola Smith – this resolution, we will have it by the Chapter meeting. It's coming from Mark Maryboy, having to do with How (audio unclear) Federal Government. As it is now, it is a long, long process, and he made a resolution to shorten the process that we will be able to get to the funds and utilize this fund for improvement of roads, immediately or in a short time rather than waiting and waiting.

11. **RESOLUTIONS CO-04-055-21: SUPPORTING THE RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE'S (RDC) LEGISLATION NO. 0021-21 APPROVING THE \$4 MILLION APPROPRIATION TO ALL 110 NAVAJO NATION CHAPTERS TO PROCURE HAY, GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK FEED WITH FUNDING THROUGH THE NAVAJO NATION AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (AIF) PROJECT PLAN.**

Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – we need to support and approve this resolution, so we can get this fund and distribute to each chapter.

President Allen Fowler Jr. – we have 11 resolutions that we need to vote on, and to move on to the Chapter Meeting.

VP Lola Smith – makes the motion to move the resolutions to the Chapter Meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer – seconds the motion

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Delores Dempsey

Vote: 03-00-00

VIII. Reports and Presentations: (5-minute allotted time limit per subject):

1. Page Unified School District – Lyonel Tso

PUSD Lyonel Tso – These are your PUSD updates. I just have a couple this week. For the most part, there's been a lot of talk about Governor Ducey's order on wearing masks and if you watched the news, he lifted the requirements to wear masks in school. However, our Superintendent is making it mandatory that everyone, school staff, students, anyone in the schools or district office must wear masks. So, the mask



mandate is still in place for PUSD, throughout the rest of the school year. COVID cases are at zero for staff and students. They've been at zero for the last two weeks. We keep in close contact with the Community, Page Community, the Coconino County, and Navajo Nation to keep up on our contract tracing. We also now have the ability to conduct the COVID test at school sites. We have four hundred test that we able to give, the only thing the students need to do is if they have symptoms, they need to get a parental consent, then they will be able to have the test here at school. They'll get results in fifteen minutes, and so that a pretty big step that we're taking to make sure our students are safe and we're keeping our community member safe as well. For the rest of the news, in our state testing numbers, we're up pretty high. We have, on average eighty percent on all the school sites have completed their testing, that's really good numbers. Makeup tests for throughout the month of May. And that's the Arizona Merit test. Then, there's a plan to have a graduation, with social distancing. I think each graduate gets six tickets. That'll be in person outside and there will be people around to make sure that all CDC guidelines are being followed. That's about all the news I have, updates I have for the community this week. If you have any questions, please, feel free to ask. Thank you. Our phone number is (928) 608-4164. I know a lot of people are on Facebook following each community bulletin, our office has Facebook website call Native Language and Cultural Programs of PUSD. We post up any information that we need to pass on and some of the student highlights. We have videos on there and so, follow us if you're a parent or be an informed community member. Thank you.

2. TCRHCC – Leila McCabe – not online.
3. Navajo Thaw – Brian Cole

Brian Cole - Well, thank you very much, I'd want to ask if Bobby Robbins is also in the meeting Bobby where you were able to dial in? Okay. I will cover things here. Well, my name is Brian Cole I'm with building communities we're a subcontractor to Native Builders and we're working on the Navajo Thaw project. It's project that is to address the impacts of the Bennett freeze and we're working on an over a three-year project that started in late two thousand nineteen. We got underway with the Coppermine Chapter with our planning effort in about October and November of two thousand nineteen and as a result of that effort you do have a, chapter recovery plan, and you're a part of the regional recovery plan. This is an effort to attract funding from the federal government again to address the impact of Bennett freeze and this is in the areas of housing. The infrastructure and public facilities and, economic development. So, in your chapter recovery plan are many of your chapter priorities, we're always open to input from the chapter if any of those priorities should change or if you find that anything's missing in your chapter recovery plan. Now, one of the things we've really enjoyed working very closely with Lola. Also, all of the chapter officials before the election and now the new chapter officials. We consider the Coppermine chapter to be very engaged with our effort and we want to be very responsive. I really can't go any further without paying respect to my dear friend Thomas Tso, many of you knew Tom founded native builders, which is the primary company working on this. And, very sadly Tom passed away from the Corona Virus back in January. His youngest son Travis Tso. Travis may have dialed in, I'll just pause for a second, Travis, you run the line. Travis is taking over the company and he works very closely with Raymond Max and Bobby Robbins as we communicate, basically with all the chapters. There are ten participating chapters and what we're working on all nine of the Bennett Freeze chapters. We are working very diligently to position the Navajos off or funding from the American rescue plan. We coordinate very closely with the Navajo Hopi Land Commission Office that is led by Robert Black Junior and he's got a staff within his office there. One of the things that we've asked for is a resolution actually several resolutions related, your plan and related to your steering committee and projects for one that we're most interested in is the Navajo Thaw Roundtable resolution, which your chapter already passed, and you are putting Wilford Lane and Lola Smith as your two representatives with Wilford being the member and Lola being the alternate and then I understand that Wilford has now retired from the chapter if I understand that correctly. So, we are interested in working with you can update that resolution for your appointments in November and the alternate to the roundtable. I could go on and on about the projects and goals of the Navajo Thaw, but I know you've got a lot of people here in this meeting and a lot of business and resolutions. So, I will just pause at this point I'd be happy to answer any questions. If you have it about the Navajo Thaw or we're requesting, I bet, you're updating that resolution for the round table. Thank you very much for your time. And that concludes my report.

Unknown member – Brian Cole, do you have a number where I can call you?

Brian Cole – (928) 814-3710. Our recommendation is we have team members for each of the chapters. For Coppermine your contact is Travis Tso. Let me give you Travis' number as well. What we're trying to do is to have the chapters call their main contact first. Travis, of course, is new in his role and so, I want to have me on the line as well but, if you would I recommend you call Travis first at (928) 660-9804, and anything that he can't answer, he can add me to the call or whatever and we can get your questions answered.

4. Community Health Representative (CHR): Susie Shorthair



CHR Susie Shorthair – My job is to visit the elderly out there, and today here at Coppermine Chapter, they did the vaccine. I'm hoping the Coppermine community members got vaccinated. I was able to take a few to get vaccinated. The community concerns that I went through today was the water. Coppermine Community members are asking why it's closed. Also, they are asking when their homes are going to be fixed. The elderly are doing good, they're staying home. I remind them to wear their mask, sanitize, and wash your hands. That's all I have.

IX. Chapter Administration and Chapter Officials Report

1. Council Delegate Paul Begay – not online  
LDA Jerry Williams – not online

2. Chapter Officials

President Allen Fowler Jr. – I'm moving my report to the Chapter Meeting.

VP Lola Smith – Thank you for your resolutions. As you know, yesterday, we had somewhat an emergency situation with our admin building be vacated by our office specialist, which we didn't see it coming. In a thing like this, it takes time to look at the situation and try to work without, which takes time. Like with the Chapter Officials, we can not enter the Admin building without an office specialist or AMS. There are these guidelines we have to follow. As Chapter Officials we cannot handle the money. These are situations we have to look at and figure out, and work with the ASC from Tuba City, these things take time. I would like for all of you to understand this situation, its out of our hands, but we're trying to work it out. We need an office Specialist. If there's anyone out there willing to work here as our Office Specialist, that would be great. You would be able to apply at ASC in Tuba City, Mr. Milford Maloney. We do need this filled, or if not, we will need to shorten the schedule, possible two to three days a week here at the Chapter. AMS, Royletia, will be back on a shorten schedule. We do need her, she the only one who has the authority to go into MIP. We're trying to work it out. You'll need to be patient. We need look at ourselves and have more respect and dignity and try to work with us, because of this situation that we came upon. I forgot one more thing, this is coming from Community Development, they're asking us to come up with a priority list on three different projects, which are powerlines, bathroom additions, rural addressing, house wiring, solar, waterline, and warehouse. We need your input, go head, you can text our president and myself, based on your recommendation, we will look at it. We have one week come with this proposal for three projects, so we need your help on this. I've been hearing from NTUA, that if you live half mile from the water line, you can go to NTUA and file an application. If you do that, let us know as well at the Chapter.

Secretary/Treasurer Delores Dempsey – No report.

3. Grazing Official Stanley Fowler – I have a short announcement today and will make me report at the Chapter Meeting. At our Western Agency Grazing meeting we talked about the vegetation and drought. Due to not water, vegetation, and rain the animals are not eating. Livestock are dying due to no vegetation. As a community member and grazing committee member I ask that you make adjustment on your herd. We're all hauling water and buying hay for our livestock. The Western Agency Grazing Committee are looking at how we can solve these problems. Try to reduce and corral up your animals. Audio is unclear.

4. CLUPC – NOT ONLINE

X. Announcements:

1. Next Planning/Report Meeting: May 11, 2021 @ 4pm (DST)
2. Next Regular Chapter Meeting: April 27, 2021 @ 4pm (DST) Teleconference
3. TCRHCC – COVID Vaccine 1<sup>st</sup> Dose Drive Thru @ Coppermine @ 9am – 3pm (DST)
4. Page Lunch for any students @ Coppermine Chapter @ 11am-11:20am (DST) Daily
5. Earth Day: April 22, 2021 – pick up trash around your area or on the road.
6. Mother's Day: May 9, 2021
7. Memorial Day: May 31, 2021

XI. Adjournment @ 5:48pm (DST)

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Delores Dempsey

Vote: 03-00-00

**Delores Dempsey**

Prepared and Written by Delores Dempsey  
Coppermine Chapter Secretary/Treasurer