

COPPERMINE CHAPTER – REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2025 at 1:00pm
MINUTES

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Debora Saliego at 1:22 pm
- II. **Invocation:** Zena Williams
- III. **Roll Call/Introduction:** Debora Saliego, Kee Black, Debbie E. Tsinigine and Helena Nez-Begay.
- a. Debora Saliego – Welcome and thank you for your vote. Introduced herself, her clans, her resident, her parents, has three other siblings, and has one son. Have Bachelor & Master degrees in Environmental Studies and has own business. We will work together, help each other & we need your support.
 - b. Kee Black – Thank you for your vote & your support. He introduced himself, his clans, his resident, parents name, has siblings, wife, children, in-laws & grandchildren. Has worked & retired. Have a lot of work at home. Thank you for coming to our first meeting. We will help each other.
 - c. Debbie E. Tsinigine – Welcome & thank for attending our first meeting. Introduced myself, my clans & parents. Have siblings, husband, children, in-laws & grandchildren. We need your support, prayers & help each other to take care of our needs here. Thank you for your votes.
- IV. **Review/Adopt Meeting Agenda:** Read by Debbie E. Tsinigine
Motioned/Amend: Alice Talatke Second: Sallie Tsinigine Vote: 22/00/01
Alice Talakte requests to amend the agenda to add Michael Robert Barnes, Page Justice Court to reports.
- V. **Read/Accept Chapter Meeting Minutes:** Debbie E. Tsinigine, January meeting minutes is not available.
- VI. **Old Business:**
- VII. **New Business:**
- a. **Resolution CO-02-011-25:** Authorizing the Approval of the Chapter Scholarship General Fund for two (2) Full Time students in the amount of \$500.00 each and two (2) Part Time students in the amount of \$250.00 each utilizing the scholarship General Fund Account 13:6721 for a total of \$1,500.00.
- | <u>Name of Students:</u> | <u>Name of School:</u> | <u>Amount:</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Angel Clark -full time | Utah Tech University | \$500.00 |
| Shannon Reid – full time | University of Arizona | \$500.00 |
| Adrienne John – part time | Dine College | \$250.00 |
| Rochelle Curley- part time | Northern AZ University | \$250.00 |
- Motion: April Endischee Second: Colleen Mountain Vote: 17/00/02
- 1. April Endischee – motion to table Student Scholarship resolution for next meeting, due to their absent and no representative here today.
 - 2. Debora Saliego – Chris Benally is on his way here; we can add him to reports so he just justify student scholarship.
 - 3. Floyd Stevens – Move scholarship resolution to Chris Benally’s report.
- Substitute Motion: Susie Yellowman Second: Marie Atcitty Vote: 20/00/01
- 1. Susie Yellowman – made substitute motion to continue with Scholarships. Check their applications, call their phone, ask why they’re not here & written letters should be with their application.
I will represent Rochelle Curley, she teaches at Page School and attends school part time at NAU for a teaching degree. Works full time and going to school is a lot, that’s why she not here today.
 - 2. Marie Atcitty – We can not table Scholarship resolution, they have deadline to meet and need their money to pay their bills.

3. Debora Saliego – found students’ letters with their applications. Read letters from Angel Clark, Shannon Reid and Adrienne John.
4. Floyd Stevens – ask Susie Yellowman to rescind her Substitute Motion, since letters are found. After that someone can make a motion for approval.

Rescind Substitute Motion: Susie Yellowman

Second: Marie Atcitty

Motion to approve Chapter Scholarship for all four (4) students.

Motion: Susie Yellowman

Second: Marie Atcitty

Vote: 28/00/01

- b. **Resolution CO-02-012-25:** Accepting the Resignation of Mr. Alfred R. Long as the Coppermine Chapter Peacemaker Representative to the Tuba City District Court and Declaring a vacancy for the fulfillment of said position through established qualification ad procedures.

Motion: Frank Spencer

Second: Sallie Tsinigine

Vote: 33/00/01

1. Floyd Stevens – Mr. Alfred Long worked as Peacemaker for thirteen (13) years. He helped so many families and planned to resign due to age and health, also asked to help him draft a resolution.

*Became a representative on July 07, 2011, Resolution# CO-07-067-11.

- c. **Resolution CO-02-013-25:** Supporting and Approving a Land Withdrawal for Designation for Commercial and Economic purpose in Coppermine Chapter, Arizona.

Motion: Floyd Stevens

Second: Rose Johnson

Vote: 29/00/01

1. Helena Nez-Begay – We approved the Legislation for Senior Center, dollar amount included. I submitted documents and attached costs. Right after approving the Legislation for Senior Center, Comprehensive Budget was table.

- d. **Resolution CO-02-014-25:** Accepting the Resignation of Ms. Leila McCabe as the Coppermine Chapter Peacemaker Representative to the Tuba City District Court and Declaring a vacancy for the fulfillment of said position through established qualification and procedures.

Motion: Sallie Tsinigine

Second: Zena Williams

Vote: 28/00/01

1. Leila McCabe -Introduced herself, Peacemaking has been used for years in Window Rock Court before other agency created office. Peacemaking is based on traditional teachings & utilizes the Fundamental Laws. Attended lots of training, help & counsel families who have problems at home, teenagers with problems or with school, etc. I am also a Board Member with Tuba City Regional Health Care and would like to resign from Peacemaking Program.

*Became a representative on November 15, 2010, Resolution# CO-11-012-11.

VIII. Reports:

- a. Echo Cliff Health Clinic – Dorothy Scott, TCRHCC
 1. She introduced herself, working at Tuba City Hospital, her supervisor is Julius Young, who is the Project Manager with Echo Cliff Clinic.
 2. Expected date of completion is December 2025 and open date is April 2026.
 3. The Employee Housing compound includes thirty (30) apartments and sixty (60) single family rooms.
 4. Requesting for Artists, Drawing/paint the wall, canvas drawings, showcase for pottery and Sculptures. Can negotiate hourly pay or commission base pay. Deadline: February 27, 2025.
 - a. Debbie Tsinigine- Ask Floyd Stevens to give TCRHCC Coppermine history.
 - b. Floyd Stevens- When the mine opened in 1903, the area had no name, the supervisor’s name was Bob Burgs and Bob’s supervisor called the mining Bob Burgs. Later, it was named Coppermine.
 - c. Debbie Tsinigine- In the late 90’s Bodaway/Gap started the project, couldn’t get a site and was

given to Coppermine. That's why, you'll see Bodaway/Gap resolutions.

- b. Council Delegate – Helena Nez-Begay
1. Legislation 0157-24; Summer Youth \$2,248,019.12 for 79 Chapters.
 2. Legislation 0164-24; Gaming- expenditures, revenue, etc.
 3. Legislation 0263-24; Pro-Temp Chapter Secretary/Treasurer to serve until New Chapter Officials are sworn in following a special election.
 4. Legislation CIA-01-25; Selecting & confirming the Speaker of the 25th NNC -Speaker Crystalyn Curley was approved for a new term.
 5. Legislation 0233-24; Official Language of the Navajo Nation- Our Dine Language should be used daily.
 6. Legislation 0010-25; Dietary Guidelines advisory committee -Meals should be prepared daily.
 7. Legislation 0195-24; NN Child Support Guidelines -Revised & increased Child Support payments. Also when an absent father hauls a load of wood for his children, please grandmas do not refuse or get in the way because that is part of child support agreements made.
8. Updates
- a. The 25th NNC did Comprehensive Budget & Public Hearings (unmet needs) -For your needs & wants. Will schedule/plan for another hearing.
 - b. Report was made from REDW Advisors & CPA's. On the Comprehensive Compensation study on bringing 2,812 employees to the current market rate, which includes a minimum wage increase.
 - c. Native American for Community Action, Inc. (NACA) of Flagstaff, Az. - They have Mental Health & Behavioral Health, to help alcoholic and drug addicts. Assist them with food, clothing and housing.
 - d. Urban Indian Organization – provides Primary Care, Traditional Medicine, Behavioral Health Services and Social & Community Services.
 - e. We met with NTUA last Friday to review the Delegate Regions, Light up Navajo Projects, Existing home without Homesite can get one and NTUA can assist with HSL.
 - f. Bathroom Renovation/Addition - Delegate Region are divided into five (5) chapters. For bathroom renovations, need AOA compliance and HSL. Ask for walk-in showers, no tubs.
 - g. Waterline Extension project is in process with IHS and they will do the map. IHS client listing has "deceased" elders and needs update. Need to set meeting at Chapter for people to apply.
 1. Floyd Stevens – We have two (2) projects to run water from Kaibeto to Bennett Freeze area.
 - Water wells were done by Tuba City IHS, which goes to Echo Cliff Clinic.
 - Western Pipeline- We selected three (3) areas to install water tanks in our community.
 - Jeff Allen worked with LeChee Chapter -IHS approved three (3) million for waterline & they got Big water barrels.
 - Simmon Dugi, Coconino -Northwest Coppermine by highway 89 approved to extend waterline, from where waterline ends & still in the process. *If you live half (1/2) mile or only one (1) in the area (will not run waterline to that residence).
 - We might even go partnership with City of Page.
 2. Faith Mooney- Do not forget about us at Cedar Hills, west of the Chapter.
 - h. Richfield Dormitory Hall - The dorm is old, they borrowed from Navajo Nation 105 funds to build a new Dormitory Hall and BIA will pay back to Navajo Nation.
 - g. Coppermine Chapter - wanting the Multi-Purpose building. Senior Center has been approved, cost amount & other documents were submitted. Maybe we can change it to Multi-purpose building. Will travel to Phoenix to tour a new Multi-Purpose and Senior Center. Need land withdrawal soon.
 1. Floyd Stevens – Multi-Purpose building has been discussed with Veterans. GPS and withdrawal has been completed within the Chapter compound.
 2. Helena Nez-Begay- I am working on a new development near Echo Cliff Clinic (Gas station, store, laundromat, etc.). Building a highway from 1st windmill to Kaibeto- a traffic count line

was installed but someone removed the line and counted only 100 cars. The traffic count line is to determine how many people utilize the road, please do not remove the line.

c. Chapter President – Debora Saliego

1. Community Housing Grant HIP- can assist with \$700.00 for minor repairs, assist with complete repair at \$60,000.00 and can help with down payment to purchase a house on the reservation. You can apply if you have not been assisted for the past 25 years. Allocation of \$2.4 million to help thirteen (13) families.
2. CHID -Allocation of \$100 million, now have \$50 million balance left and that information was given to our Council Delegates. They are willing to re-open their portal for us, since we did not receive information for our people. We were also told most applications have missing documents, if not completed they will go to the next applicant. Our Bennett Freeze residents need new homes, they live in clustered homes (more than one family in one homesite lease area). Mobile Direct was approved for 360 Mobile Homes and 37 were given to Western Agency, we did not get one.
3. Bennett Freeze residents are in need- Have no HSL, Septic tanks are corroding (health concerns), need bathroom addition. According to DOJ, old home structures can bypass Environmental Clearance if they were built prior to 2016.
4. CLUP- Recommend 1000 voters but that changed, audit is not required and will try to certify 35 Chapters by the end of the year. Attorney General audits five (5) chapters per year, we might be next.
5. Ethics & Rules -we were told not to lie about travel, embezzle, etc.

d. Chapter Vice President – Kee Black

1. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)- Debora and I attended CDBG training on February 11, 2025 at Twin Arrows.
2. FY2024 Allocation of Five (5) million was divided among the 110 Chapters for their needs.
3. May 16, 2025 -Chapter's last day to submit application for grant.
 - a. Debora Saliego- Coconino County can help with grant for our needs. Congress allocated 23 million for SW states – if Navajo Nation applies and gets the grant, NN receives 5 million for 110 Chapters, for infrastructures and for community use. After that, each chapter must apply to get assistance.

e. Chapter Secretary/Treasurer – Debbie E. Tsinigine

1. Financial Report – Due to recent Chapter Officials election, budget has not been used. All accounts from January 2025 are still the same for February 2025, except for utilities (water & electric). Will try to have financial reports and minutes available for next chapter meeting.

f. Chapter Grazing Official – Stanford Fowler -Absent

g. Coconino County, Page Justice Court – Michael Robert Barnes

1. Introduce himself and thanked everyone for their votes. We are open Monday – Friday. I am available to talk with you at 1:30. Wednesday & Thursday are very busy days for me.
2. I can not throw out cases or close cases. I try to help people, they can set up payment plans, do community services, if they have 3 to 4 charges can dismiss 1 to 2 old charges, can lower fines and lower charges.
3. I work with Navajo Nation Police Department, Coconino Police, State Patrols, etc. Tell me how you are treated by the court. I'm willing to work with the Chapters.
4. People do not keep their addresses and telephone numbers (always changing), if we can't contact you by mail or phone that's when warrants are issued for your arrest.

5. I will attend your meeting every six (6) months and I will be back in August 2025.
- a. Ivan Begay- We have lots of problems with this highway (N20 or Coppermine Road). Commercial trucks holding up the line, out of state travelers driving too fast, need more caution road signs. We need officers out here to control traffic.
 - b. Michael Barnes- There are usually two things officers will look for and get stopped for (cracked front windshield & speeding).

IX. Announcements:

- a. Next Planning Meeting: Sunday, March 09, 2025 at 1:00 pm
- b. Next Regular Chapter Meeting: Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 1:00 pm
- c. Veteran's Meeting: Friday, February 21, 2025 at 4:00 pm
- d. St. Mary's Food Bank: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 1:00 pm
- e. Echo Cliff Health Clinic: Arviso/Oakland Job Fair @ Bodaway Chapter February 26, 2025 @ 10AM
- f. CLOSED President's Day: Monday, February 17, 2025
- g. Western Agency Council Meeting: Saturday, March 15, 2025 at
- h. District 1 Grazing Meeting: Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 10:00 AM at Kaibeto, AZ
- i. Western Agency Grazing Committee Meeting: Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 9:00 AM

X. **Benediction:** Ivan Begay

XI. **Adjournment:** by Debora Saliego at 4:38 pm

Motion: Connie Lou Spencer

Second: Ivan Begay

Vote: 19/00/00

Debbie E. Tsinigine

Written/Prepared by Debbie E. Tsinigine
Chapter Secretary/Treasurer