Coppermine Chapter Meeting

September 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting call to order by: Debora Saliego at 3:21 PM.
- II. Invocation by: Betty Mae Slim
- III. Approval of agenda by: Debbie E. Tsinigine read the agenda.
 - 1. Debora Saliego -Any amendments or an add on. I have one (1) amendment to add as letter A. under Old Business, CLUPC resolution signed, that action item is for us three. I need a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Cindy Dejolie

Second by: Houston Fowler

Vote: 19-00-13

- IV. Review and approval of last meeting minutes: I, Debbie E. Tsinigine read August 24, 2025 of last month's meeting minutes.
 - 1. Debora Saliego -Debbie will go over last month's meeting minutes really quickly. The Resolution for the mining was voted down that was from the last report.

Motion by: Debra Benally

Second by: Roger Curley

Vote: 23-00-10

- Laverne Tsosie -Was the minutes for July 2025 or August, is that posted?
- 3. Debora Saliego -Is that posted?
- 4. Debbie Tsinigine -Yes, was submitted last week.
- Debora Saliego -Can someone check if it's online. Anybody pull it up?
- 6. Laverne Tsosie -All I see is the agenda, no meeting minutes on there.
- 7. Debbie E. Tsinigine -I did submit it and I have the final copy.
- 8. Debora Saliego -To Constance Lano, did Rohvena give it to you?
- 9. Constance Lano -It was submitted, but not posted on website.
- 10. Debora Saliego -Oh, submitted and it's posted at the Admin Building. Did you get the password to post online? We will make a request to ASC to give you the password, I think that's where everybody looks.
- 11. Debra Benally -Can I <u>make a request to move</u> letter E. Resolution CO-09-055-25, to allow NAU staff to do their report after Debbie Tsinigine's Report.
- 12. Debora Saliego -That's the resolution, so you want to do the resolution and report?
- 13. Debra Benally -Under New Business, move E behind A (Debbie's Financial Report).
- 14. Tom Franklin -To Debora Saliego, you have an agenda that was passed.
- 15. Debbie Tsinigine -The agenda has motion & votes, she (Debra Benally) needs to make a motion for her request with a second and vote.
- 16. Debora Saliego -Ok, I think it will go quick.

V. Old Business:

- A. CLUPC -need a signed Resolution with five (5) members. *For chapter officials discussion.
- VI. New Business:

A. <u>Financial Report by Secretary/Treasurer</u>: I, Debbie E. Tsinigine read Budget Ending August 2025. Did everyone get a copy of Resolution CO-09-053-25, at the bottom is the carryover budget. Reviewed code# and amount in each line items. Both Carryover balance and August ending balance should match. Chapter will continue to operate, using the carryover. New Fiscal Year 2026 Budget will be added to the 2025 carryover, when it is approved by Navajo Nation.

Motion by: Brianna Black

Second by: Cindy Dejolie

- Vote: 28-00-05
- B. <u>Resolution CO-09-052-25</u>: Authorizing the Approval of the Chapter Scholarship General Fund for the following six (6) students and utilizing the Scholarship Fund Account 13:6721.
 - 1). Tehya Black -Full Time at Northern Arizona University -\$500.00; Ron Black, father of Tehya Black he introduced himself in Navajo. My daughter is attending school at NAU for the past three years. She's requesting for scholarship to cover her expenses. She's at school now, has lots of home work and could be here today. Going to school for construction supervisor, which includes concrete, footing, wall structures, roofing, water pipes, electricity, etc. That's my trade too and I have been helping her. There is a difference between just going to school for that and actually doing hands-on at job sites, she will learn. We will give her support and thank you.
 - 2). Shawn Curley -Full Time at Mountainland Technical College -\$500.00; Roger Curley, Shawn is my son his attending school in Utah at Mountainland Technical for engineer and he said, he has a lot of home work. He applied for Scholarship and ask me to come to the Chapter Meeting. This is his first year, it is expensive and sometimes you have to out of pocket.
 - 3). Kaylin Stevens -Full Time at Northern Arizona University -\$500.00- no show.
 - 4). Rochelle Curley -Part Time at Northern Arizona University -\$250.00; Hello, my name is Rochelle Curley introduce herself in Navajo. I'm asking for assistance, my second year at NAU getting my Bachelor Degree in Education and employed with Page School for eight (8) years now. This year I'm teaching 2nd grade, scholarship funds are very helpful.
 - 5). Hunter Martin -Part Time at Arizona State University -\$250.00;
 Brianna Black, I'm here for Hunter Martin and she introduced herself. He is enrolled at ASU, getting his Sustainability Degree and will graduate in December 2025. Any funding is always needed and it's not free. Fundings will go towards tuition, his basic needs, any funding he can get is helpful and thank you.
 - 6). Star Yazzie -Part Time at Arizona State University -\$250.00;

Hello, my name is Star Yazzie, I'm a freshman at Page High School and take classes at ASU to get my Associate Degree. She introduced her clans, my mom is Rochelle Yazzie, my grandparents are Rosita and Roger Curley.

7). Debora Saliego – I need a motion and votes for the resolution.

NOTE by Debbie Tsinigine: At the beginning of the meeting, I remind Debora Saliego that they (Debora & Laverne Tsosie) need to recuse themselves when we get to Scholarships, due to family members applied as follow; 1. Debora Saliego's niece Tehya Black and son Hunter Martin. 2. Laverne Tsosie's sister Rochelle Curley, niece Star Yazzie and brother Shawn Curley. *Did not recuse themselves. All Scholarship resolutions were approved, no applicant was denied.

Motion by: Loren Thomas Second by: Constance Mexicano Vote: 28-00-05

C. <u>Resolution CO-09-053-25</u>: Approving the Fiscal Year 2025 Coppermine Chapter Carryover Funds in the amount of \$993,709.86 for Coppermine Chapter as the Carryover Budget for the Fiscal Year 2026.

1. Debora Saliego -Read the resolution, balance of 2025 budget of \$993,709.86 is the carryover to 2026, if approved we will continue to use it and after Council approves the new Fiscal Year budget will be added to carryover so does anyone have questions. If not, may I get a motion for this resolution.

Motion by: Laverne Tsosie Second by: Cindy Dejolie Vote: 29-00-04

- **D.** Resolution CO-09-054-25: Authorizing the support of Tom Franklin Jr. as Legislative District Assistant for Delegate Helena Begaye.
 - 1. Tom Franklin Jr. -Ya'ateeh, to everyone. I've been coming here to attend meetings for two years now. I am an assistant/liaison to our Honorable Delegate Helena Nez-Begay and the communities within her District. Every year, our Navajo Nation will do their comprehensive budget in Window Rock. Our Council Delegates approve the budget, forwards to NN President's office for review and approval. President Buu Nygren did a line-item veto, cross-out the budget, there are twenty-eight (28) of us, our budget was removed and our program was removed. We contacted each other and decided to do a resolution drive for the chapters we represent. That's what I'm here for today and I'm requesting to our NN President to approve our LGA budget, to continue working with our Council Delegate as an Assistant.
 - Debora Saliego -It is true that Tom Franklin is always here with us, we see more of Tom than Delegate. Whatever we discuss, if we have an LDA he informs Helena right away of any of our concerns and just wanted to let you know. Can I have a motion.
 Motion by: Jennifer Yazzie Second by: Brianna Black Vote: 25-00-08
- **E.** Resolution CO-09-055-25: Coppermine Approves a study by Northern Arizona University students to Investigate Environmental Exposures related to Abandoned Mine Toxicants within Coppermine Chapter Area.

- 1. Dr. Jani Ingram -Introduced her clans, good afternoon I am a Chemistry Professor at NAU we been doing in my lab since 2002 looking at containments related to the legacy of Uranium Mining for quite a long time, mostly in Western Navajo. But we have done work in Four Corners area and also Eastern Navajo. This is my student, he can introduce himself.
- 2. Justin Burbank -Hi, I'm Dr. Ingram student, most recently I've done the work presented on this paper, going out to the wells in this area, sampling water, and taking it back to the lab for analyst looking for uranium and arsenic. We took this last month as you can see on the map, there are purple circle for each water-wells with number. The table have Uranium (ppb) and Arsenic (ppb) numbers recorded, if is above the level or below the level and if it's safe to drink. On the chart also has up to what level is safe; Uranium MCL: 30 ppb and Arsenic MCL: 10ppb set by EPA. So, each of the wells have below maximum element level is safe to consume.
- 3. Dr. Jani Ingram -We reported this to a smaller group and there is interest to look for other potential elements to be tested, maybe copper and other things. I have another student who is looking at p-fast, toxic are low level and also similar samples that Justin is collecting, so far, there is no detection and that is a good sign. Usually, you see those compounds more in remote areas. Collection of soil, water, and others are on the resolution. If Chapter wants to do other analysis with your permission and also have study funded by Cancer Society. We also looking at connection to arsenic, uranium, and cancer. We've been told many and many times, my mom or auntie had cancer. We are working with Tuba City Hospital, how many diagnose with cancer, where do they live, is there a connection for example in Cameron there was an open pit mining. We had done some work in Coalmine Canyon and Debra Benally was at one of the meetings, ask if we could do some work here at Coppermine as well. That's why we are here asking for Chapter's permission to continue to do this work and if you have a well that is not on the map and that you would like to have it tested, we sure would like to do that for you or other concerns. If you have planting, to test the soil and water, we can do that too.
- 4. Loren Thomas -We have a small garden that we use, we haul water from the wells you tested. What is kind of testing would be beneficial with that well or soil?
- 5. Dr. Jani Ingram -Honesty the soil would be important, it is what's in the soil. We could collect some soil sample from you and if you want can do the plants too. If you plant corn, uranium is in the soil, goes into the roots and by the time the corn has develop, you will not find anything in the corn. We are working with some Cameron farms, the wash, rain pond, and others. We could bring some sample kit, those are easy to use.
- 6. Debora Saliego -Like, if we test the water and what's the holding time?
- 7. Dr. Jani Ingram -If we do metal, we bring a little bit of nitro acid and put a couple drops in there and store it in refrigerator. Depending what you are testing for, to get a quick result or wait for couple of days to get results. We also have fundings available and we are not asking Chapter to pay for this at all, because this is part of Justin's master so we are here to help.

- 8. Connie Lano So this one is at seven (7), what is the time frame when it passes ten (10) and is considered unsafe.
- 9. Dr. Jani Ingram -Justin will sample again, to see if there is fluctuation. If it passes ten (10) we need to sample seasonally because you get drought problems, his going to come back out and we will let you all know.
- 10. Connie Lano -So if you identified the issues in the publicinary areas, will you also be involved in writing the solutions?
- 11. Dr. Jani Ingram -That's where we can provide information to the Tribe and let them know that there are issues here. We work with a group out of University of Arizona who makes point source filter systems, if that is a need we can reach out to our Chemical Engineering Group. There are a few of those systems all over the reservation, in Dilkon, Navajo Mountain area and some on the Eastern side.
- 12. Debora Saliego -One of the items came up, those water pitcher. Will that capture some of the contaminants?
- 13. Dr. Jani Ingram -It will work for other metal, arsenic has a different chemistry, and it's kind of tricky. It works ok for arsenic, will work for other elements. They trying to move contaminant level from ten to five. It's not just here, arsenic is all over the west, not just the Navajo.
- 14. Mae Slim -How long ago was this done?
- 15. Dr. Jani Ingram -He did this in August, he will be back next month and we will try to report after its done.
- 16. Debra Benally -When we pass this resolution, we would like to ask for an animal testing meaning we need to test their liver, intestines, everything. We need participation from different areas, especially in the high level of arsenic. Will be requesting to donate a sheep, butchering, for testing of the whole sheep and will not be for eating. That way we have the best reading for the whole community. All our water comes from Calvin Bagay area windmill and it has the highest-level reading. How much of that are we using and even NTUA does their treatment. Test all what we are eating, like planting and livestock.
- 17. Dr. Jani Ingram -We can train the community how test the water. Take sample, label, refrigerate and sent in results. We heard some wells are hard and difficult to get to. We will be back.
- 18. Sallie Tsinigne -Speaking without microphone is not good, I speak for everyone who cannot hear and please stand up while speaking. I cannot hear everything that was said.

Motion by: Natalie Tsinnijinnie

Second by: Loren Thomas

Vote: 32-00-03

VII. Reports:

- A. Honorable Council Delegate, Helena Nez-Begay; No show Tom Franklin Jr., Legislative District Assistant (LDA);
 - 1. Hello everyone and thank you for passing the resolution for LDA budget. Introduce himself, his clans of Kaibeto. Have been working with Delegate for the past two & half (2 ½) years, and I've been attending your meetings.

- 2. Our Delegate Begay is on travel with Tuba City to Agency Office to Oklahoma for National Conference.
- 3. Last month, she was here with us to review the Project Budget. Navajo Nation New Fiscal Year starts on October 1st, your carryover is FY2025 balance ending September 2025. Council approved the carryover budget, went to President Nygren's office for review & to sign within five days.
- 4. Our Delegate is on Hopi Land Commission Committee, last week she was in Chamber did a site view on a ranch.
- 5. Update on Bathroom renovations list review and I sent a copy to the Chapter Admin. Office. If you want to know, come ask me and I can give you the information. There is also a second phrase, they are working with NECA.
- 6. Met with Debbie Shirley of Gallup BIA office, regarding Tonalea old clinic to be removed and the old school compound in Kaibeto that needs to be remove too.
- 7. ARPA Funds has a balance of \$160,977.50. We talked about it, decided to divide it to five chapters and to use it for Septic Cleaning for six (6) applicants, will give it the Chapter to do selection.
 - -Since Coppermine and Kaibeto are not certified Chapters, funds will be given to Bodaway/Gap and LeChee are certified.
 - -The cost of everything has gone up again, might have to reduce number of applicants for Septic Tank cleaning is at \$848.00 per tank (6-2=4) applicants.
 - -We have to go back to the listing of Bathroom Addition and Bathroom Renovations, remove people off the list that already got assisted. That's what they were told to do.
- 8. Laverne Tsosie -Did you say all the 16 thousand will be given to Gap?
- 9. Tom Franklin -The money will be received by Bodaway/Gap, we sent the names to Bodaway/Gap and will assist us.
- 10. Laverne Tsosie -Veteran receive certain amount every year, what is the total amount?
- 11. Tom Franklin -I did look at the budget but I don't remember, I will ask Helena.
- 12. Debra Benally -How far are we with Housing Project and do we still have funding available?
- 13. Tom Franklin -I don't know anything about the Chapter Projects.
- 14. Debra Benally -You said, there were application and list.
- 15. Tom Franklin -Yes, I review the applications along with the list and dropped it back off the Chapter Administration here. I cannot give the whole listing but you give a name, I can look it up. Any other questions, Thank you.

B. Chapter President, Debora Saliego;

- 1. First of all, I want to introduce Connie, she is our new CSC, she replaces Chris's position. Can you come up and introduce yourself.
- 2. Hello, my name is Constance Lano, introduce herself in Navajo by her clans, her parents are Hugh & Amelia Lano. Father is originally from Ganado, where they lived for years. Maternal grandparents are Lillie Manygoats & Jessie Sloan, and from West

of Chapter "Deer Trail." I worked as a FootLocker manager for twelve years & travel for the company, five years in North Carolina, El Paso, Texas, Alburquerque, New Mexico, to Gallup and Farmington, New Mexico. I manage the business from front to back end. Four years with Navajo Arts & Craft as a production manager, bought inlay and buffer materials for silversmith, got the finish goods, and mark the pricing. After moving back in 2021, I've been working for my aunt Carol Bigthumb with Canyon Touring. As far as my education; attend Dine College and Grand Canyon University with Bachelor in Applied Management. My start date was this past Tuesday the 23rd, I look forward to working with everybody and use my experiences to help the chapter, thank you and enjoy your food.

- 3. Debora Saliego -Thank you Connie, Connie started this week and now we are looking for AMS, it would be so helpful to get a full staff.
 - August 27, we went to a Ground Breaking Ceremony up by where they are building a new clinic. They were doing the Ground Breaking for the Housing part.
 - -NAU did their results, they came to the CLUPC meeting.
 - -We had our District 1 meeting, there was one (1) action item that was for N21 Pavement. Tom, at our District 1 meeting on action item. Tom said, we had no action item. But we did talk about it, right?
 - -We went to Western Navajo Agency meeting on the 13th, we got updates from all different Executive Branches Directors at Twin Arrows. One interest is the ARPA money, we met with Lisa Jymm. Possibly, transferring the five projects, that money that we were to spend on the five projects into just purchasing homes for the community but we want to plan in section to do delivery because we are learning from other Chapters that some houses are empty. The company did not discuss the electricity, water lines, and the concrete for the homes. Tolling homes to different areas, there are trees, rocks, rocky roads and hard to deliver homes. We are going to go back to do a break down management to make sure we have plans from beginning to end.
- 4. Debora Benally -I know people are in need of home, they are putting homes where they cannot get services, and where it will not reach them. They will come in anger that they are not getting their water line & electric connected. In CLUPC book, housing should be half a mile from service line. Have assessment done, to make sure they are half a mile from service line, near their parents or grandparents house not way out there. That's going to be a huge issue later on. To get ahead and think for the future, I think that's what you need to start implementing. New homes that are been built, they are about 1 mile from an electricity line. I'm sure we are going to start seeing them come in to the chapter for assistance and live 2 or 3 miles from the lines. As a community, we think for the future, not just now. What our kids are going to run into and might not even like where they live with muddy roads, we already know we don't get help and lack of funding for everything so think for yourself and put your Homesite Lease near each other.
- 5. Debora Saliego -Thinking about that, Delegate Begay also talk to us about clustered homes with NHA. Going towards Kayenta, you see six family homes in one area and further down another six more homes. I know our community does not want a

clustered home like a community in Bittersprings. A clustered homes for families, with NHA that way you save money on infrastructure, money for electric lines, money on water line all at once so it's a cost savings in the future and we are working with Delegate Begay on NHA homes.

-We had a Former Bennett Freeze Meeting on the 14th and we have a listing of people that got help. We visited their homes, they are KOKOA 1, KOKOA 2, and KOKOA 3 for water line projects. KOKOA 1 (phrase 1) starts from Late Harry Begay's resident to First (1st) Windmill, they will go out one (1) mile either way from Kaibeto road and they will serve those homes first with water lines. Phrase 2 is KOKOA 2, west of First (1st) windmill will get water line too and within one mile radius. And then KOKOA 3 ends by Calvin Begay's resident, where Bennett Freeze border is, and will serve people living within a mile.

-KOKOA 1 and 2 are paid for but KOKOA 3 somehow it was missed. So, we met with Tuba City OEH, somehow that was not part of their budget, they have money now. It will happen, it will be paid for and they have the money now.

-So, last week Laverne, Kee and I, we visited 20 homes and we will continue. Our plans are to do KOKOA 2 area on October 8th and KOKOA 3 on October 9, 2025 and we will continue that project. OEH wants us to assess the home for, if you have cistern system in house now, they know that you have plumbing and it would be easy to hook up to the water line or they have to install the pipes. It's alright if you tell us if you have cistern but it's better if we look at it ourselves.

- -Highway 89 Project -is already paid for, they are on board and I think they are running the water also in conjunction with KOKOA 1 project.
- -So, I will have Kee Black tell you more about our home visit.
- -On 15 & 16, we all met in LeChee and we all looked at our budget, the 9 hundred thousand that we are moving forward. We met and decide how are we going to spend the money in the coming years. But we found out that 2014, 2015, 2016 they did not pay to the taxes. IRS is now contacted Tuba, at that time they told her that it's going to cost us 10 to 15 thousand. They did not pay taxes for the workers for three (3) years. So, when we met, we had to move money around to pay that off, which is a lot of money. A mistake that our ASC at that time that was taken care of, that's one thing I wanted to share with you.
- 6. Houston Fowler Which account did you take the money out?
- 7. Debora Saliego -We transferred out of Emergency Funds, because there was no emergency happening. As of October 1st that's if President signs the budget, so that fund will replenish so that's what we did.

-On the 19th we met with Tom Franklin in Page, we went there to discuss making sure that the meeting minutes are done and posted. Hopefully, you get the password, make sure we are on top of things and that you guys see the meeting minutes as soon as within 10 days. So, we've been having issue with that, so that's why we met in LeChee and we are hoping that will change so you can get that need and move forward.

- -NTEC gave Coal cards to the Chapter House, so if you burn coal in the winter time. So, you can pick up a card from the Chapter House.
- -For our meetings, I schedule for the 19, we were asked for October meetings. I told them I usually confirm with my people for Sunday. I gave October 12 and 19, then I found out the 19 is Tuba City Fair and I don't think we are going to hit quorum that day. So, I want to move it to the 26 if you agree and we can post that if that's ok with you. That way we will get quorum.
- -So, when we met with Delegate Begay talking about that ARPA funds. She said, if we don't use the Housing Capital, the money for housing improvement. Debbie, do you know off hands do you know how much is in there off of your financial reports? -Housing Discretionary Funds, we have about 20 thousand in there close to 20 thousand, she said we need to spend the money. She said, another Delegate is looking at it and wants to take that from our chapter and she told me at that time, if he passes a resolution, she is going to support him. So, my respond was you are going to lose Coppermine if you do that. Hopefully, we go us it or spend since Connie is on board. So, those are some of the things we discussed.
- 8. Loren Thomas The Housing Discretionary Funds come from the Navajo Nation it's not ARPA. ARPA is a different funding and that should have a different amount. What is the amount for ARPA?
- 9. Debora Saliego -The Housing Discretionary? Loren -No, the ARPA. Debora -The ARPA is 1.7 million is what we are looking at here at Coppermine Chapter with the ARPA. Our project with Connie Lano, we are going to start looking at different mobile homes companies so if we can get discount on multiple homes and we are developing policy with Connie of how we are going to prioritize people of who are going to be up for the homes. Some of the criteria we talk about is Multi-Generational Homes. Because of covid, this is covid money and we found there's a lot of people living under one roof and you can spread covid really quickly so that's one way to help the people is kind of spreading them out, that's the first one. The second one is if they're homeless and that's a priority. The third one is if the home is aging, if they request for repairs and its beyond repairs. The fourth one is for disability. We are looking at all four criteria right now but as we are going through, we are finding out that, we may need to add others.
- 10. Debra Benally -Is ARPA funding separate from the three (3) branches assist with homes? Like CHID, everyone like to double-dip. Example; if I get a trailer then the next following year I move out of the trailer and say I don't have a home, then apply for home with CHID or NHA clustered home. Anyone could do that because funds are separate.
- 11. Debora Saliego -We really need to keep an eye on that, who's getting a home. What we are trying to do is cross reference. Who's getting CHID, who's getting Housing Improvement Program, different programs so going out there, if they got a home from this entity, and make sure they go to the end of the line. If there is other funding, they can assist in the future but everybody got to get their share.

 -There is a program I'm using called Cobol, what it does is we have questionnaire when we visit these homes and it scores our answers. So, when I get home, I

download the applications and scores it. After visiting KOKOA 1, 2 and 3, we are going to visit all the homes on the west side and to the north side. The reason we are starting from there (south) is OEH want data from us so they can start the water line and that's why that is the priority right now.

-So, the 1.7 million, we are going to start prioritizing until after we visit everybody. So, what that program (Cobol) does is it prioritize people for you and it is connected to Google Earth. When we go to the sites it will put down the GPS and it can create a map for us at the end, it shows where everybody lives. You can use icon like yellow for no electricity or red for no running water, something like that. The icon will show who doesn't have what, on top of that we are taking photos so, when I'm filling out the applications and I can download the photos. So, when we start assessing, maybe by that time we will have a housing committee and we will let them look at the results on that Cobol so that's one method.

- 12. Loren Thomas -This ARPA money support to be converted by 2026, so we are looking at getting as much done by September, so we only have one year and can it be feasible.
- 13. Debora Saliego- That's where we might need CLUPC 's help, to start visiting other homes.
- 14. Debra Benally -Just form a Housing Committee right away. When Wilford Lane was the CSC, he dismantles the committee and said that was the CSC's job. Every other chapter said, they have Housing Committee in place. We are running into that problem, why can't we create another Housing Committee at the next Chapter Meeting to assist.
- 15. Debora Saliego -That's a good idea and we will put it on the agenda. The way I see it we will have a representative from each region, you know what I mean. If someone had a question about someone that lives out there, that person would probably or most likely would know about the situation. And this person, might know about these family here.
- 16. Roger Curley -Are you going to start from Bennett Freeze? We need water and electricity.
- 17. Debora Saliego -For homes, we are going to go through all of them. Until we finish going to every home, then we will know who needs home.
- 18. Mae Slim What is your limit, or time frame, visiting homes?
- 19. Debora Saliego -We did 20 homes in one day. I'm interviewing the home owners, Laverne Tsosie is taking pictures and Kee Black is our driving.
- 20. Debora Saliego -We are visiting every home, that's how we are doing the inventory. Some do not have plumbing or indoor restroom. I'm going to use one person as an example, he was in a wheelchair & does not have indoor plumbing. Looks likes he comes out of his house, there is a decline and don't know how he strolls over and goes to the outhouse. It's an incline when coming back, can see the wheelchair tracks and it's sandy. His one of the people that would be a priority. His leg is amputated, in the wheelchair, lives alone, visiting people and it is very humbling.
- 21. Debra Benally -We run into problems with housing dispute and now you're saying this person live along. When you get a house or trailer, if something was to happen

to you who would you give your trailer to and that needs to be taken care. Some of the elderly do not sign over their house or permit and that's becoming a big issue across the reservation. Probating an estate, you have to wait six years after the person is gone to start a probate and cost a lot of money. Maybe put this in place to help with the future problems.

22. Debora Saliego -It's interest you say that because this guy we went to see that's what he said, I'm not sure about a house, I think I might have someone to give it to but I'm not sure how much time I have left. I have to be honest and I don't know if I want a new house.

C. Chapter Vice President, Kee Black;

- Kee Black -Thank you for coming. We did 20 homes doing the inspection, some have no water line, electricity, need homes and it is very sad. Some are in need of a new home, some are half way done but still live in them. Take care of your elderly and each other.
 - -Some roads are very sandy and rocky, our people need help. Went to a resident, road was very terrible, rocks and sandy but when we got to the resident there was a double wide trailer and I don't know how it got there.
 - -We went to John Morgan's house. This weekend we will go north of First Windmill, we will go to every home so don't think that you will get left out.
 - -Thank you, Connie, for coming aboard as our CSC, talk to her nice and respect her. Have respect for our Administration staff and be nice to all of them.
 - -Yesterday I inspected the road to a resident of where a trailer will be tolled. I'm going to help with grading the road. She asked me to help her.
 - -Yesterday I checked out the warehouse, there's a flatbed trailer, generator, a squeeze chute, large & small cement mixer, pellets, lots of cider blocks, couple of shingles, roofing materials and maybe we can use those to help people. Thank you, Tom Franklin, for coming to our meetings. Laverne Tsosie is always helping us too.

D. Chapter Grazing Official, Stanford Fowler;

- 1. Debora Saliego -Stanford is here today but he said, he has no report.
- 2. Debora Saliego -We have visitors from Flagstaff who wants to do their reports on letter-J, they been here all day and we will give them the floor to do her report.

NOTE by Debbie Tsinigine: Under <u>letter J.</u> TCRHCC report was Stacy Claw (No show). Move TCRHCC report <u>letter J.</u> to <u>letter E.</u> for Annie Edleman, Public Health Director and Mikaila Adson, Public Health Department. <u>AMENDMENT</u> was not requested with a motion, second and a vote (letter J is a strikethrough & changes were made).

E. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC);

Annie Edleman, Public Health Director;

- Annie Edleman, introduced herself, original from Iowa and worked at Tuba City Hospital for 11 years.
 - a. Today we are here to talk about 2024 Community Health Assessment.

- b. This is a book we do every three years, it's community health population data for people who lives within Tuba City service area.
- c. The assessment guide us to do our program planning, how we distribute resources, how the community use it to develop their own programs, grant programs, allows chapter to plan or develop their own health improvement program.
- d. It started this in December 2022 and the publication end of 2024, we are going around to the Chapters to give update.
- e. We collect data from all sources with community health survey. Our main sources are from different area but try to get 5% of the adult service area.
- f. We got 11, 051 survey, 27 of those are from Coppermine. We go to places like Bashas, Post Offices, laundromat, Chapter Houses, door to door, that's where community health assessments are collected.
- 2. Leroy Denetso -He is the Navajo Language Interpreter for TCRHCC, works with Annie Edleman and other staff. Introduced himself, clans and from Tuba City.
 - a. She gave out the books, it has all the information collected for assessments. That helps with how many elderly needs help with coal, wood, food, etc.
 - b. We also have a medicine man available, when a patient stays in the hospital and needs a prayer service.
 - c. Patients that haven't got a prayer done for years, or going through grieving. The prayer service is to help our elderly, to give them hope and to get well. These are now available for your services.
- Loretta Howard -Thank you for telling us in Navajo, I do not understand English. My kids and grandkids are why I go to meetings, I tell them only the white people met again.
- 4. Phillip Tsinigine -This ceremony you are talking about, who pays the medicine man?
- Leroy Denetso -The hospital pays the medicine man, we work with culture and she works with House Services. It is called Cultural Resource Language Program and that's where the medicine man is located.
- 6. Phillip Tsinigine -Do you already have a medicine man that you use?
- 7. Leroy Denetso -We have a medicine man working with us, he is certified through Window Rock of Pinedale, NM.
- 8. Phillip Tsinigine -Does he travel from New Mexico?
- 9. Leroy Denetso -He stays there and in the office with us. He is there to help patients that are in need of prayers, at their request we make the referral for his services. Patients go to a private room for prayers. We are located on the east side of the hospital, next to the helicopter pad, Doctors office on the east side and our office.
- 10. Sallie Tsingine -Can anyone see the medicine man or do you have to be a patient? Or make like appointment?
- 11. Leroy Denetso -If you are a patient, give you a referral to see a medicine man but you left early to go home and you can come back to see him. Because your referral will have date & time, which is still good.
- 12. Roger Curley -What if you want to visit on your own, not being a patient?

- 13. Leroy Denetso -If you are a patient, with a referral you can see the medicine man. If you are not a patient, want to have a prayer, and you pay for the service.
- 14. Annie Edleman Every three years, we collect a ton of information about our community. We ask questions about health, employment, housing, needs for water, electricity, food.
 - a. This year is the first time asking about access child care, household trash, emergency vehicle access, etc.
 - b. Most important community health problems, the top five problems are substance use, diabetic, mental health problems, lack of infrastructure, public highway safety. All information is in the book.
- 15. Debora Saliego -The demographic, did you visit their home or collect the at the hospital?
- 16. Annie Edleman -We try to avoid collecting them at the hospital. We try to go to Post Office, Bashas, Laundromat, and if we didn't get enough people, we would go to door to door.
- 17. Loren Thomas -I want to make a comment on your survey, you have Coppermine's population. According to 2020 Census Count we have 590 people. To say that 95% of the people have electricity.
- 18. Annie Edleman -It's very hard to get correct numbers and 2020 census went bad on Indian country and other rural areas.
- 19. Loren Thomas -So if I was to say, this does not represent Coppermine Chapter, would you agree.
- 20. Annie Edleman -It is a survey of what we can gather. Immunization is available now, science has not changed the benefit of the covid vaccination. Got vaccine this week, no restriction, drive-up will be open Monday and walk-in will be open.

Mikaila Adson, TCRHCC Public Health Department;

We received a grant for the National Association for County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) to develop a Syphilis Reduction Plan to address the syphilis epidemic. In 2022, we had 155 patients, 2023 we had 141 so there were about 8% decreased.

- 1. Normalize & De-stigmatize Sexual Health:
 - -Encourage open discussions on sexual health & sexual transmitted infections (STIs)
 - -Many community members expressed that it is not discussed
 - -Participants expressed that normalizing these topics could help prevent the spread of STIs.
- 2. Compassionate Care:
 - -Patients often feel ashamed and triggered when diagnose with an STI, participants recommended that health providers should recognize the emotional & mental health impacts of STIs and show empathy to their patients.
- 3. Trusted Support:
 - -Participants emphasized the importance of having a patient navigator to help patients with scheduling, transportation, and follow-ups. This builds trust, especially for those with past trauma.
- 4. Comprehensive Sexual Health Education: #4 and #5 are more of outreach.

- -Participants stressed that schools should teach age-appropriate lessons on sexual health. "Some kids don't have parents or adults they can trust," one person said. -Lessons should be age-appropriate, culturally appropriate & respectful. Sexual health education should start from kindergarten to high school.
- 5. Community Campaigns: -More outreach is needed beyond condom distribution. "All we see are condom jars, but no information," a participant noted. The community wants flyers, social media posts and visible efforts that share clear information and local resources.
- Health Program Presence in the Community:

 Participants mentioned seeing STI information and resources only at hospitals, not in Community areas.

For more information, contact: Jamie Wilson, DrPH, MPH, Epidemiologist/Evaluator at TCRHCC Public Health Department (Jamie.Wilson@tchealth.org).

7. Debora Saliego -At what ages did you met with? Mikaila – ages 13 to 79.

F. Community Land Use Planning Committee -Laverne Tsosie;

- Hello everyone, my name is Laverne Tsosie CLUPC President, Debra Benally is my Vice President, Cynthia Slim is my secretary and I have two other members, Calvin Begay and Wilford Lane.
 - a. So far, for the twenty (20) years of the CLUPC book in process. We had to go through it again, we thought we were going to push it forward but found out we were missing a lot of things. They said, this is the list and is required, and in order for our book to get certified by RDC. So, there is a process, to process, to process.
 - b. So far, we got our Plan of Operation done, members on board, NAU for water test.
 - c. This book right here is for you guys, this is for you to look at it and say if there is an economic development here, ok I might move my house or you want to move here but there is electricity line right here and you got to think about that too.
 - d. Any and all projects, they must first come to the CLUPC. We talk about it, think about it, and say go ahead and move it to the Planning Meeting, going on just like that Mining Company. They already had that going with the mining, but you voted against it.
 - e. But some of the information I wanted to implement into this book was water. How good is our water? Is it bad, is it ok, or how do we go about these things. That's why NAU came out here. Debra Benally invited them out here and we took samples of all of the water from the windmills. The strangest thing is the Red Mesa water is very red and dirty, and that's probably the safest one. That information will go into this book.
 - f. Five years from now, the new members will go through the book and all they need to do is update the numbers. What we are doing is the hard part of it, getting the book together. The next five members will just review and update the numbers.

- g. We are also looking into Air sampling, plant sampling, soil sampling those are what we need to do. Need their resolution so they can continue their studies, remember they getting funding from the Chapter and they have their own fundings.
- h. Last Friday, I went to a CLUPC orientation by DCD, she came out again. We invited her for October 10, 2025 to review the book again. We ask her if we are on the right track and are we going forward with this book. Because the other book has so many information in there, it was kind of mind-boggling. What I want to know or make is easier for people to understand, not hard words and it has to be dummy words.
- i. We had six meetings and our next CLUPC meeting is on October 06, at 1:00 PM. We always have it here at the Chapter House and we always welcome you to attend. Tell us if they are ok or not ok. I also put the previous CLUPC on Facebook, you are able to scan it and look at it, we want your feedback. That way we can think about it, take it off or keep it in the book.
- j. Business Development in Tuba City does not any Business Development here in Coppermine. So, I know one or three were in the previous book. If they don't have resolution, they are not in compliance and they need to be removed from the book. She is asking about the future land withdrawal for business, the 1267 acres what was the economic development for, doesn't say what it was for, what said so and it's not in the book, if you don't want something in the book and we take it out of the book. Everything has to have a resolution, that's what we have to get and we also added the twelve (12) pages of our projects; water lines, bathroom additions, multi-purpose building, cemetery, cluster homes, all of that has to be in the book. So, we are updating a lot of things in this book.
- k. We've been doing surveys, there is a lot of questions on the application. Once we are done, we can a spread sheet or excel and start getting information for everybody. People with disability, how many over sixty, that we know who to help and how. That way, we already know she got help and cross her out. There is a list or survey somewhere, we don't know where its at and this way we have it. We an individual got a home, one is getting her home and another is on the way. So, these are in place and we just need to continue our communication and working together.
- Just like what Debora Saliego was saying, we need to think about future homes.
 If you want to live way out there, you will not water line and electricity, think about it.
- m.On October 10, 2025, we invited Latasha James to review this book again. She will tell us if we need to add more. She warned us if we get outside consultant, we have to review every word because they take wording from other chapters and just sticking in there. Just so they can get paid and run with it.
- n. We need to talk about the Cemetery and clustered homes. That also all depends on how the project is going to go.
- o. After we complete our survey, we can a list going for people who does not have a homesite. People apply on their own, it takes longer.

- 2. Tina Tsinnijinnie -Do you have a map of Homesite Lease?
- 3. Laverne Tsosie -we do not have one but we do need to tackle that one, who has grazing permits, how many sheep do they have, all that information is going to be in the book.
- 4. Debora Saliego -The questionnaires we gave out the house assessments in there it asks if you have a Homesite Lease, that way we know.
- 5. Sallie Tsingine -The clustered home, is that the one they have in LeChee?
- 6. Laverne Tsosie -yes, similar to that one, I think we brought up that subject last month. There are three selected areas in the book; one at First Windmill, second one is at Fourth Windmill and the Third one is by White-Cone. We were also saying what about a family clustered home, right Debora Saliego. NHA clustered home for 20 families in one area.
- 7. Debora Benally -What the recent CLUPC and former CLUPC has done, we can't say "put it here or put it here." Those NHA homes still have to get clearances, so that's what will be holding us up and our Grazing Official Stanley Fowler, we really need you to our CLUPC meetings and help us with people living nearby to sign off on it. Otherwise, it's just a wish list if we cannot get signature on sites that previous CLUPC chose so we can move to a different direction and find one that feasible. Let's get certificated, become a more reliable chapter and let's not wait another 20 years. Like I said, I started attending meetings since I was small, now it's been 25 years, going over and over. I don't my child to say, my mom was talking about this 10 years ago. We can do it if we all come together as a community and pin point where is a good place.
- 8. Laverne Tsosie -Thank you Debra Benally, there is a lot of things that will come after this, just because we get this done does not automatically, we are certified and there is a process.
- 9. Phillip Tsinigine -I heard these windmills have some contamination. Are they going to do anything about that?
- 10. Laverne Tsosie -Are you talking about what they did the presentation on. Oh, you weren't here. NAU did their presentation on all the studies and report the results.
- 11. Phillip Tsinigine -People are hauling water from those windmills.
- 12. Laverne Tsosie -According to the study, all windmills are still good for now.
- 13. Debra Benally -Every windmill I visited had "Livestock Only" written on it. If you are using it, I suggest you boil it.
- 14. Laverne Tsosie -They will be studying livestock too. If we want t our livestock to be tested, they have to be butchered, so they can test the intestine, stomach, liver, lungs, because we are in-taking whatever they are eating or drinking. Maybe that's affecting us so, that's the study we need and we need to know. That should go in the book too.
- 15. Debra Benally -There were little amount of algae (green plant like organisms). The algae hold all the bad stuff will suck-up the contamination, uranium, arsenic. Label your water tanks with Windmill water and Page water, keep them separate.
- 16. Floyd Stevens -The book you're talking about, you need to treat it with respect.

 Thank the people who worked on it and also the consultant at ASU, we utilize them

to help us the book and information they gave us for CLUPC. About a year ago, there was a resolution for Linda Long to continue working with ASU instead it was tabled. The resolution for the book was also tabled as far as I know and with the new election, it just stopped there. Since the book was tabled, why did you just pickup from there again and getting new members is ok. Need to rescind the tabling motion and bring it back. We are told there missing information, some of those things have been discussed and I got the whole manuscript in my own writing. So far, why conditions, drafts that we made and those are proposing. The 12 hundred acres is just a possible touring, its just there to be used later or it can be removed, for all business sites we still have to work with Business Development. Now, it going in the direction of blaming people. Stanley knows about the livestock, and Range Management. We worked with BIA with vegetation, permittees of who's active and non-active, and livestock. Have respect for people who work on it, our NN President Peterson Zah and ASU President/CEO got together & talked about it and made agreement to help the Chapters, not just us. Back in 2000, the one who institute this was Navajo Development Office when Title 26 was approved, included was you have the right to update the book the way you see fit. Good luck to working on the book and thank you.

- 17. Laverne Tsosie -Thank you so much for a lot information you prove us. We are already stressing that information many times already. We talked about our CLUPC meetings, I invite you all to come to our CLUPC meetings, it's on the website, I invited all previous CLUPC members to come. So, I'm not rehashing it out in front of the community, maybe you know something we don't know and we are only following what DCD is saying. How we are being taught and trained, what is supposed to be in the book. I can say something about twenty (20) years ago, now the present time things have changed, policy have changed, the way they want things have changed, what they want in the book have changed and it's not the same as twenty (20) years ago. ASU, they have done the job, great job, kudos, they have a wonderful job. The Navajo Nation DCD said, this is high tech stuff it's futuristic (having or involving very modern technology or design), are you going to understand the futuristic part of it, that is why I'm bringing it back to the local side where you guys will be able to understand it. How many windmills do we have, how many cell towers we have, how many homes we have, and how many people have RMU's. You guys said, you have Range Management Unit (RMU), is that in the book (pointing at Loren Thomas)?
- 18. Loren Thomas -We never said, we have RMU's (for livestock owners).
- 19. Laverne Tsosie -Remember you said, you have one. That you use two miles out.
- 20. Loren Thomas -I said, there is an RMU and not ours.
- 21. Laverne Tsosie -This says we have one RMU.
- 22. Debra Benally -That's Wilford Lane
- 23. Laverne Tsosie -All though, it has not been actively maintained and it needs improvement. This part right here do we put it in the book, yes or no. Do we have RMU, yes or no plain & simple. This is the stuff we have to actually identify. So yes, we had six meetings, the first meeting we had Linda Long came. We invited her, we

did not invite her, no actually she just came in "Oh my gosh" she just said whatever she wanted to say and storm back out again. We did not say anything, we left it along. All of our meetings are on our website.

- 24. Debbie Tsinigine -Point of Order
- 25. Loren Thomas -Point of Order
- 26. Laverne Tsosie -So, again October 06 is our CLUPC meeting. You can come talk to us, she (Lula Tsinnijinnie) came and sat in our meetings. Thank you. Note by Debbie Tsinigine: I heard two other individuals say "Point of Order" too. After I said that, Debora Saliego said to me "you should not have said that to Laverne and that should only come from the floor." According to Rules of Order; Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, or registered Chapter Member may raise a Point of Order.
- 27. Debora Saliego -We are talking about CLUPC's manual, we will pull up the resolutions for tabling the CLUPC book, we have to verify actually what happen and I don't recall it.
- 28. Floyd Stevens -You weren't in the office.
- 29. Debora Saliego -Do you know about what time frame.
- 30. Floyd Stevens -I think, it was in October.
- 31. Debora Saliego -Ok, we will look for it. The book, when you say patriotism, I think the Chapter House paid for it and that belongs to the Chapter House. Because CLUPC members for twenty (20) years, they all got paid \$125.00 for each meeting, five (5) members. For twenty years, they been getting paid so, if you calculate that
- 32. Floyd Stevens -That is incorrect, first CLUPC was only up to 2004 and restarted 2013.
- 33. Debora Saliego -Why is there a long gap?
- 34. Floyd Stevens -No members, no one volunteered. I was not there at the meeting, so I don't know what was discuss and what took place. Due to Bennett Freeze, had to restart CLUPC in 2013.
- 35. Debora Saliego -So, how long has it been since the CLUPC?
- 36. Floyd Stevens -Since 2013
- 37. Debora Saliego -I do if we did have it for thirteen (13) years, \$125.00 (stipends) x 5 (members) and it cost the Chapter \$97,500.00 so far. That is why Laverne Tsosie is really pushing to get it certified so it does not, we don't have this kind of bill and not be certified. So, those are the things we need to be aware of so, I truly believe that it belongs to the Chapter House. We can show where it was paid out to people to worked on the book and it is the Chapter's money that was paid out so....Laverne Tsosie interrupts.
- 38. Laverne Tsosie -Not only that, after the first book is done, the next members that comes up, all they do is change the numbers, that's it. We can't say patriotism any more, because this is your book right here. Just like I said, just the numbers will be updated.
- 39. Tom Franklin -Point of Order
- 40. Debora Saliego -Thank you, alright any questions. If not, we will move on to Natalie Tsinnijinnie's report.

- 41. Loren Thomas -I would like to make a comment. What our Former Leader Floyd Stevens was saying, all his asking for is respect. You just need to hold that respect, instead of saying nothing was done. Use your language different and have respect for the amount of work that was done. I feel like you're saying, nothing was done, but there was work done. You as a President you keep the quorum of the chapter and for this to transpired, that quorum needs to be address. How we feel as a community member, we feel like we are being disrespectful or been disrespected. should not let that transpired, you should control it.
- 42. Debora Saliego Thank you and you're right being respectful goes both ways. And raise your hands if you want to be address because that's how we are going to run this form.
- 43. Lawrence Curtis -Introduce himself, and his clans. It is good to talk about things, it needs to be discussed in order to move forward. When did the CLUPC started? Debora Saliego -2013 and it started in 2004....She interrupts but Lawrence continues to talk. What was the year? My late mother-in-law talked about being a CLUPC member. It is very hard to work as a leader, it takes all your time, lose sleep over it and it better to talk among with other, get each other strength again. When you have elderly, you ask them questions and they will give you strength too. I been a member of Medicine Man Association and Native American Church for twelve (12) years, it is hard work and I donated my time. I did work side by side with my grandpa Floyd Stevens when he was younger. Just wanted to encourage you continue to work hard and thank you for what you do. Respect each other and talk to each other with respect with Ke', greed each other with Ke' nothing beats that. Thank you and continue working together.

G. Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA) – Natalie Tsinnijinnie;

- Natalie Tsinnijinnie -I'm on the agenda for FBFA. I lost my voice and getting it back. Grandma that was sitting here said talk Navajo, so I'm going to talk in Navajo.
 - a. We had a meeting here last two weeks ago. I was elected as the President years ago and have other officers.
 - b. Bennett Freeze boundary ends on the other side of Calvin Begay's resident. That land has been frozen for many years. We have been drinking water from windmills that were tested. Water line has been discussed for many years, and today we are still waiting.
 - c. My mom Sallie Whitehat lives in the Bennett Freeze. It really hard for me to talk about how we live. We built a small house, we haul water, an individual came to our house and said a septic tank will be delivered to your house soon. They ask us, where is your restroom, and we only had outhouse. Was told to go to the chapter house to apply for funding and will help you.
 - d. I attended the meeting requesting for funding and Tashone Slim was the Council Delegate at that time. I did not know, I'm supposed to start at Planning Meeting.
 - e. Delegate Slim said, there are ESCROW funds available in Window Rock for people living in Bennett Freeze Area. There were a lot of requirements and realize there were more people in need of help too. After the meeting, met with some FBFA

- residents and they also have been applying for assistance. I told them to met me at my resident to talk about this.
- f. The next day, we had our meeting in the hogan. Everyone in FBFA were not getting assistance through the Chapter.
- g. At one of the meetings, a white lady came and pass out application for collecting data. There was no data on file and we started to make and gather data on the needs of as in roofing, repairs, and such. I needed a helper and Roylietia Begay decided to help me which at the time she didn't have a job so she volunteered her time.
- h. We've been to several people's homes and for instance when visiting Linda Kent, she will state how many times people have visited her in regards to her home. We had files that were taken to the chapter administration building and Debora Saliego states they asked Rohvena Black and she stated that they could not find it. It's frustrating to know that the files have gone missing again. Many people have turned in applications and documents but they turn up missing. There is your answer, she says to Sallie Whitehat. I advocate for people and try to help the community and some have passed where they never got to see their new homes.
- I. For a while we lost touch with what was happening and seems like we won't get the help we need. People are losing faith in what have been trying to do. People jokingly say that their kids will be standing up here in 10 years and repeating the same thing. We've gotten quotes several times and each time when that was needed. Mae Slim -quotes are only good for 30 days.
- J. We would like to start the Bennett Freeze back up & running and help the people that needs to be helped. We also have a list of 20 people on a list for help and some we have taken off the list that have passed away or some that have been helped. Escrow funds were used for housing materials and bathroom addition. I don't know how we will find the data. Anyway, that is my information.
- 2. Debora Saliego -The Escrow funds she's talking about is 10,000.00 per family. There is a resolution from 2012, has 10-15 names and they already had money spend on their homes. So, recently we got another letter from Sarah Slim, said those people already got assistance. We need new names on the new resolution. Those got help can get help again with balance of the funds, but they got what they needed. Two families went over the 10,000.00 threshold, Esther Bennett got \$16 to \$17 thousand. Who was the other one, oh Widehat who got \$16 to \$17 thousand. We were told to get them off the list, because they went over.
- 3. Debra Benally -Is that Widehat or Whitehat?
- Debora Saliego -I have to look at it.
- 5. Natalie Tsinnijinnie -It is not Sallie Whitehat (point at her). That's Dana Whitehat.
- 6. Debra Benally -With your information, you said there are 15 names on the list and where is that information.
- 7. Debora Saliego -It is on a resolution, I will get that for you.
- 8. Laverne Tsosie -It is Dana Whitehair, used \$13 to \$17 thousand.

- 9. <u>Debra Benally</u> -Natalie, my mom has a question.
- 10. Sallie Whitehat -Those of you that are working at the Chapter Office, please find our papers it has personal information. A male came to our house who was working as a consultant. Thomas Tso came and said he is a consultant. Told him someone came and said he was a consultant too. Maybe he got paid but he did nothing because we only saw him one time. Told Thomas Tso, you get paid and never see you again. Those girls (referring to Natalie Tsinnijinnie) worked on their own, taking pictures, GPS, they did a lot and they did not get compensated. I don't know where Thomas Tso came and I told him I know what you are here for. You are going to get paid and disappear again. He said, I will be around for three years and I never saw him again. I wondered who paid him and what information did he turn in to get paid. Is that where our book went.
- 11. Natalie Tsinnijinnie -Or our data being use to get money elsewhere, that was Sallie Whitehat concerns.
- 12. Debra Benally -That was my question earlier when you said you're going to change the names. Is there a clarification that all these homes got help. I understand it stop at the first home, second or third home problems arise from the home owner and workers. Instead of working on the home they just left. If those other homes were completed and how are you going to determine those homes were already assisted. They were even reporting here that their work just stopped.
- 13. Debora Saliego -According to the receipts, materials were bought beyond that I don't know if they complete, we don't know what happen to the materials. They turn in the three (3) quotes and materials were bought for what they needed at that time. Of course that was years ago, there's probably other needs now. That's way she sends out an email saying, those that have been listed, have been helped. Now move onto a new list, so that's part of the home assessment we are doing.
- 14. Natalie Tsinnijinnie -So this Escrow already covered the existing homes?
- 15. Debra Benally -I was a part of the group that did home assessment and that was a lot of work on that part too. I know she (Sallie Whitehat) was on top of the list and why she was completely pass over.
- 16. Floyd Stevens -We are talking about Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA), I feel for you Natalie, shi'awee (my child) how you're feeling frustrated. I felt that too because I worked on that and I did not accomplish what I wanted to do.
 - a). There are two (2) money sources that are there; Navajo Rehabilitation Trust Funds and the Escrow Funds, both in the amount of about 2 hundred & 20 thousand. Around 2008, Rehabilitation Trust Fund was allocated.
 - b). In 2009 I became the Chapter President, I was not aware of it until Delegate Toshoney Slim told me there is Rehabilitation Trust Fund available and if you don't use it, they will take it back. I travel to Window Rock to put the money into a "special account" so it stays in there. Budget & Finance Department wanted to take it back out, and deposit into General Funds.
 - c). As for Escrow Funds, when the Bennett Freeze lifted BIA save Bennett Freeze sales tax inside the Bennett Freeze Area. There savings over the years came out in the millions. Coppermine got nine (9) thousand, based on the population and

- Bodway got more maybe like eight (8) hundred-thousand. We could not withdraw money from both accounts because we were not certified. We asked Navajo Hopi Land Commission to help us find a way, for us to have excess to the accounts and it did not happen.
- d). A white male was doing contract with Navajo Hopi Land Commission and find out he embezzled money from Chapters. That's why I did not trust him. He was using a title "Bennett Freeze Recovery Plan" and he came to our Chapter. We were already working with and having meetings with NHA at Twin Arrows. They were sharing information with us; their data, application, floor plans, cost plan, etc. They allowed us to use their plans.
- e). The white male did ask for it and said I'm going put Coppermine information into Bennett Freeze Recovery Plan. Very true those are personal and confidential information. He kept coming back asking questions, gave him the original copy, told him not to make any copies and to return it. All those years, I ask him if he was done with it, he kept saying "I'm still working on it." After a long time, he finally came and drop it off at the Administration Office, I did not see him and we never got "Bennett Freeze Recovery Plan." That is what Sarah Slim is looking into it, Commissioner has that authority to make contract and do budget process for the contractors.
- f). When President Russell Begay into office, he got rid of NHA Board Members and they were planning to help us and that's where it stopped. Peterson Zah kept asking to keep the board so they continue to work with the Chapters. I kept reporting our needs, since Boards are not there anymore what are we suppose to do.
- g). The Community Development hired Pat Chee Miller's son (contractor & builder), he called and said we will go out there. He said, we will help you and work on our own, we will need building expenditure report so we bring in the first supplies with us for Esther Bennett's house. With Page, AZ you have to go through quotes. They helped Esther Bennett and Dana Whitehair, that when I left office in 2016. They said, if any complaints from home owners or community, we will stop and go home. Was told they left, they only work on three (3) homes and did not get to the next three (3) clients.
- h). The amount spend should be on your budget report. If there were no complaints, all the house would've been completed. The money is still there, the only thing we need to do is provide man-power and complete those projects. We can make a bid for contractors.
- 17. Natalie Tsinnijinnie -You gave all our copies to someone and why did your staff keep copies here?
- 18. Floyd Stevens -That was brought back to the Chapter. I do not have it and it should be at the Chapter Administration office. If we look for it, it can be found. I apologize to you and I let you guys down. I am sorry, I haven't attended your meeting and just thinking I might not be welcome there.
- 19. Phillip Tsinigine I have the same question, I attend meetings here and they said they have money for materials, for these people who needs their house worked on.

- Window Rock pick up the materials, and did they delivery to the homes. These people have been asking for homes, are in need and now they are forgotten again. The last Chapter Officials said, they will investigate to see what happen but they never did.
- 20. Natalie Tsinnijinnie -That was my question, Officials are not out there to do a check off, they do not have a check off to show how many lumbers were delivered and they sign it off. There is no trail of that and they don't know. A couple weeks ago during our meeting, I told the people that the Chapter really need to watch things and to keep track of the paper trail. Maybe that is what you are talking about, one day some people came and drop off a bunch of materials (electrical supplies) on the table. He said, I will be back in a few days to wire your house. Oh ok, Wilfred Lane was taking care of the project, he did not come by to inspector and a month went by. My husband and I, we said where are they and they are suppose to come back. We ask previous Chapter President, ask him to check the materials and we were told they are going to complete our house wiring. He went over there and saw what was happening and said, I was told your house was done. He signs off on it and left, then later the other crew came back and took all the cut wires. We had to buy our own materials and wire our house.
- 21. Debra Benally -You need to watch what you vote on, three hundred-thousand Escrow Funds was pass for the water line to go to Kaibeto. Jessie Jim has a report of that amount and here the chapter pass to do water line. With that amount of money, it's not even completed.
- 22. Debora Saliego -In 2000, Delegate Begay was pushing for the Tsingine family, getting water line for livestock. I said, why are they getting water line for livestock over our people in the Bennett Freeze area. Was told that money is already been ear-marked.
- 23. Debra Benally -Once it's been ear-marked, it is gone. So, three (3) hundred-thousand went to that water line.
- 24. Phillip Tsinigine -That was about twenty (20) years ago.
- 25. Tom Franklin -I am just sitting here listening to you and you are somewhere else. The 300 thousand you are talking about is the money from Escrow Funds used for water line is NOT correct. The Tsingine water line project has been in the works for more than twenty (20) years. We got the info from Water Resource, this project has been on the table for years and do something about it, that's we came back and moved forward, it was just sitting there. They did the plan, six miles of water line to the windmill. They had their own fundings and that money did not come from Escrow Funds. *ESCROW Funds is just for housing and renovations. With your Chapter Escrow Funds, you have \$211,125.00 and 2013 Resolution has 10,000.00 for each home and two went over the limit. We met with the Officials recently and talk about this. I have PO's which tells me which people got served. Resolution to do renovations, talk with some people to complete their renovations. Because we don't know if their houses are completed, what do we do should we go back to check on them to see things are at But that did not happen. Delegate Begay brought up that the Chapter Escrow Funds, materials can be used and purchase

- with Escrow money. The money for man-power is from Mary Francis's group and there were a few people that got serve back in the day.
- 26. Debra Benally -Some chapters wanted their windmill fixed, some money was deposited back into the funds. People said, their windmills and dam were not maintained.
- 27. Tom Franklin -Going back to the windmill repairs, Delegate Begay gave me a task to write a letter to Tuba City Water Resources Department and text all the Grazing Officials within District One Region. To get mill numbers and text me which ones needs work or replace. With your Chapter Grazing Officer gave me about six windmills. I wanted to locate all windmills but NAU report has all, now I know where they are located.
- 28. Floyd Stevens -That three hundred and fifty thousand is BIA money, was given to Navajo Water Resources which was used on; First Windmill, Tsingine Project.
- 29. Debbie Tsinigine -Our administration staff were told to pull out all documents to file but found mouse drippings and TC ASC office said, not to touch them. I am sure where they were stored and if they were removed elsewhere. We have missing resolutions, meeting minutes, etc. We need to ask where we can find copies.
- 30. Ryan Benally -I worked here for a while and was told to move those boxes. There are no boxes at the warehouse, they were in here in the chapter house and some boxes were not label. We pulled them out and do not know what to them. They were in both office room and in filing cabinets. After Marilynn and Chris left, I never came back. They were here, all the way back from the 90's right before Chris left. They were still in the office.
- I. Coconino Community Bond Initiative, Phefelia Nez No show
- J. Regional Business Development Office (RBDO), Leona John No show
- J. Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation (TCRHCC), Stacy Claw No show

VIII. Announcement

- A. 10-06-25 CLUPC Meeting at 1:00 PM
- B. 10-08-25 Korean Kulture at 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- C. 10-12-25 Planning Meeting at 3:00 PM
- D. 10-14-25 Election Poll Workers Trng @ 9:00 AM-12:00 PM at Coppermine Chapter
- E. 10-19-25 Chapter Meeting at 3:00 PM
- F. 10-21-25 St. Mary Food Bank at 12:30 DST
- G. 10-29-25 TCRHCC Mobile Clinic at 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

IX. Adjournment:

Debora Saliego, we lost quorum and we adjourn at 7:22 PM.

NOTE: by Debbie Tsinigine, no motion, second and vote for adjournment.

Prepared by Debbie E. Tsinigine, Chapter Secretary/Treas.