

COPPERMINE CHAPTER
PLANNING REPORT MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2023 @ 4 PM
MINUTES

- I. Meeting called to order by Allen Fowler at 4:32pm.
- II. Invocation by Duane Tsingine.
- III. Review and Adopt the Agenda
Ready by Allen Fowler. Add II for Invocation and re-number the agenda.
Lila McCabe – add to agenda for report TCRHCC
Parent - Request appeal for scholarship due to 6 months registration.
Allen - Parent needs to be registered voter. Parents are registered voters. Its what ASC Milford says on scholarship.
Motion: Valerie Fowler Second: Lola Smith Vote: 03/00/00
- IV. Approval of last meeting minutes to be posted at Administration Building
Motion: Lola Smith Second: Valerie Fowler Vote: 03/00/00
- V. Old Business:
 1. **Resolution CO-11-003-24: Coppermine Chapter supporting the designation of the Confluence of the Little Colorado River and the Colorado River, the Little Colorado River Gorge, and other related Cultural /Spiritual Sacred Sites as Sacred Sites.**
Allen – read the resolution heading to the community
Delores – introduced herself to the community. Current live in Tuba City. Raised on the FBFA in gap. Grand Canyon on Navajo Nation where 2 different color river meet is sacred site. This site is where we make prayers.
Going to read from resolution:
-#3 bodaway/gap chapter of the Navajo nation, by resolution at a duty called chapter meeting held on February 24, 2018, by vote of 55-00 approved authorized and directed its chapter officials/council delegate to do all things necessary and proper to have the confluence (little Colorado river and Colorado river) to designated as a sacred site
-#4 the HAC working through the NN Department of Historic Preservation Department, has designated To ahidiliih (Confluence) as a Sacred Site and cultural properties attached as exhibit B
-#5 the district 3 grazing committee of the western navajo agency, by resolution, approved and supported the designation of the confluence of the little Colorado river and the Colorado river and various cultural, spiritual, and religious sites be designated as a sacred site(s) of the NN
-#6 the grazing permittees and land users in the area of the little Colorado river have state their opposition to the proposed big canyon pumped storage project and any other commercial or industrial development of the little Colorado river gorge also requests that the confluence be designated as a sacred site by the NN
-#7 cameron chapter, by resolution march 20, 2023, supports the designation of the confluence of the little Colorado river and Colorado river as a sacred site

-#8 leupp chapter, supports to the designation of the confluence of the little Colorado river and the Colorado river as a sacred site

Alice T: agree with the resolution for supporting little Colorado river, worked for the parks and recreation

Comment – supreme court is against water rights, how far are you going with this, all the water is going through phoenix, we are asking for funds, is there a way to do something that is feasible, are we going to cut ourself off, federal government can take our water, phoenix are swimming in pools, Delores – we have been working on it, water aren't been used, the water is going through wash and goes into the canyon so it would be good if we had dams, yes 11 tribe use that water and claim it's a sacred area, with the hydrologic dam which isn't coming from NN, right now that man that is proposing the pump is from phoenix az and needs to go through the procedures, why couldn't we put up a dam,

Lavern – it should state opposing instead of supporting

Yoshi – not keep same as supporting

Rita – introduce self, we have been fighting for past 10 years against the development and address some questions you have, we are not coming to chapter to ask for million dollars or five million. All we are asking is to designate the bottom of the canyon and at the top. This is where the medicine people gather herbs and says prayers, have ceremonies, to pickup herbs, this has been like this for long time, this is all happen all the way back from the long walk, this is home, its up to us, we are the ones taking care of the land and live in peace. Ben bennett, leonard Tsosie, others were pushing us and ask what are you going to do with the medicine people that need to do offerings and pick up herbs. Their response is that they would fence off the sacred site for that usage and other areas would be used for tourism. This resolution is to help us to protect the sites. They are still people in window rock to build tourism by grand canyon and they will keep pushing. You have th power to say no. we are not helpless. We have all tools to pass resolutions to say no, we are not going to allow you to do this on the land. This is area where the confluence is and ontop. We are not talking about the water rights. We have our government to do water rights. Do not fence off for the medicine people.

Duane – language says designate gorge, 1974 boundary line states rim, resource committee will say need stronger language, these chapters the water acreage feet, water department are quantifying the water, use the bodaway gap for quantifying the water, work with water department and lets coppermine quantified. Federal government will say Coppermine and gap have done quantified and will approve for those chapter only. You need to not only stop at chapters but go to the window rock and to Washington.

Allen – this resolution is just wording, there is no map or documentation which would be good

Delores – we have discussed this before, our government and counil are in window rock and need to meet with them

Allen – we need additional document like the map would be best to have for support, Navajo land department have sacred sites, that's my recommendation

Lola – mr tsinigne he recommended that Coppermine and gap, maybe increase the buffer zone to be added, national park added 1mile buffer zone into our land,

Allen – different chapter have approved resolution, amend to add map to the resolutions,

Fern – get young scholarship people to get their involvement, we have students at ASU law,

Delores – we have website and we did work with some, NN needs to increase it pay raise,

Julia – they are asking for support, we should be supporting, we can say we can do the map, we say things against each other, gap probably did all the work, but what about us,

Allen - Motion to move to the chapter.

Lola – recommendation for need of map

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Valerie Fowler

Vote: 03/00/00

2. Resolution CO-11-004-24: Supporting and endorsing NTUA's issuance of a Tribal Authorization Agreement (TAA) for as-built distribution line with fiber optic cable across Coppermine Chapter area.

Susie Bill – application for row, which is now called a TAA. What other chapters is your powerline going through, said Coppermine too which is only 500 feet, need help with the supporting resolution, this powerline already exists, pole is already there comes from tuba city to gap, fiber is going to be attached powerline, powerline crosses Coppermine 516 feet, I drove through it, there are 2 poles within the 516 feet, ask to put fiber optic on 2 poles that is already existing on site, its to benefit for the elementary school for faster speed internet, broadband refers to the fiber optic, Yoshi – I though school board voted down per linda long

Susie – she was against the powerline not the fiber optic, I'll be here at the chapter meeting and if im not available then will send ms long.

Lola – it will go the clinic later on

Susie – yes it will go to the clinic if approved

Yoshi – if another company wants to provide services,

Motion to move to the chapter.

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Valerie Fowler

Vote: 03/00/00

VI. New Business:

1. Resolution CO-11-006-24: Supporting the issuance of a Tribal Access Authorization Agreement (TAA) from the Navajo Nation to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority to construct, attach, operate, and maintain a distribution line, and fiber optic cable installation within the Coppermine Chapter for expanding and enhancing electrical communication services for the Echo Cliffs Health Care Center.

Allen – read the resolution heading to the community

Christine Wallace – introduce self to the community. Powerline extension from gap to school to healthcare center, any powerline over mile needs to have Tribal access authorization agreement, there is powerline through Gap, Tuba City, and Coppermine. Will be attending gap meeting on Saturday. They need temporary power by April 2024, just to provide power for construction and completion December 2024. Supporting resolution. Dotted line is the distribution line. Powerline is 4 miles. Fiber optic will be going at the same time with the powerline extension.

Allen – why ending at milepost 5

Christine – funding only up to that area, Navajo nation needs to be specific and in the language it just states water, in the heading it doesn't state electrical distribution, need to get all resoltions by end of November,

Allen – what is the cost

Christine – can provide at chapter meeting

Lola – in other area having problem with transformer,

Christine -I haven't hear of it, we are expanding Coppermine sub unit, maintenance is needed, substation expanded

Allen – the substation expanded and, in the agreement, we ask for broadband to the chapter

Christine – have submitted request to them

Allen – in the resolution it was supposed to state that for the expansion of the broadband to the chapter, you need not state promise and not come through

Yoshi – you are saying that another vendor can utilize the pole, a competitor, is this rush deal to push out other competing vendors,

Christine – this is request from the hospital, we don't push onto to the hospital, they are funding this project, some people didn't pay for 3 years for over \$6000 bill, light up Navajo can cost funds, ntua help with electrical bill,

Allen – ntua purchase power from another company then sells to their customers,

Rita W – if another company wants to have access to their fiber optic line I don't think they don't want someone else messing with their fiber optic, put wording in there

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Valerie Fowler

Vote: 03/00/00

2. Resolution CO-11-007-24: Approving Chapter Assistance-Community for Rose Denetso for \$3732.54 utilizing Chapter Projects – Fund Code 28, Account 28:6809.

Valerie – applicant came during chapter meeting and ntua refer her to get financial assistance from the chapter for her powerline extension. I told her to fill out both application, one for the chapter and the other with light up navajo.

Lola – applicant need to go through light up Navajo

Lola – motion to table until applicant goes through Light Up Navajo

Motion: Lola Smith

Second: Valerie Fowler

Vote: 03/00/00

VII. Reports and Presentations:

1. Red Feather Development report – Duane Tsingine – program coordinator and aps electric and consultant for clean energy, provide assistance to families with central and western agency, hopi, and other area. I don't have many clients with Coppermine, have ask chapter for cost matching for bathroom addition, we do water pump and cistern installation, wood stove project, priority is elderly and veterans, we get funding and needs to be spent, paperwork is electronic, its non-profit. Julia refer from hospital and lula refer from officials. Its going to cost \$18,000 for roofing. Housing discretionary needs to be filled out by applicants. If housing discretionary is \$1500 then redfeather will contribute \$1500 for total \$3000 for roofing materials. Will work with milford and chapter officials. Redfeather said 50% but can do 100% labor.

Cora – I have elder sister, I applied for her with rural development, and nobody is doing project, is there work or assistance for her,

Yoshi – need flooring and bathroom and stairs

Duane – need more Coppermine residents,

Julia – request for support for home renovation,

Robert – stove. Duane - wood stove apply for it and your veteran and we got funds to spend.

2. TCRHCC Update Report – Lela McCabe – introduction to the community, next meeting I'll provide more information, had 3 day meeting in Sedona on funds, take care of yourself and families, some elders stay home by themselves, we are talking about nursing home and there are no funds for the facility, cancer treatment, people that come to hospital is been mistreated please tell the hospital of the mistreatment,
Lavern – update on clinic
Lela – December 1 meeting, we are designing, invite the chapter officials,

VIII. Chapter Officials / Council Delegate / CLUPC Report

1. Council Delegate – Helena Nez Begay – not present
2. Chapter President – Allen Fowler Jr. – report at chapter meeting
3. Chapter Vice-President – Lola Smith – report at chapter meeting
4. Chapter Grazing Official – Stanford Fowler – not present
5. CLUPC President – Linda Long – not present

IX. Announcement:

1. Next Chapter Meeting – November 20, 2023 @ 4 PM
2. Veterans Meeting – November 16, 2023 @ 5 PM “THANK YOU VETERANS”
Lavern – veterans meeting and thanksgiving dinner
3. St. Mary's Food Bank – November 21, 2023 @ 1 PM
4. Administration Office CLOSED November 23 & 24, 2023

X. Adjournment at 7pm. Motion: Lola Smith. Second Valerie Fowler. Vote: 03/00/00

Valerie Fowler

Written and Prepared by Valerie Fowler

Coppermine Secretary/Treasurer