

**RAMAH NAVAJO CHAPTER**

**David Jose**  
**President**

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**Jamie Henio**  
**Council Delegate**  
**Navajo Nation Council**

**Chancey K. Martinez**  
**Vice-President**

**Tribal Office**

**Dixie M. Begay**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**



**Rodger Martinez**  
**Member**  
**Eastern Navajo Land Board**

**VIRTUAL PLANNING MEETING MINUTES (COVID-19 Emergency)**

**TRIBAL OFFICE TELECONFERENCE CALL**

**Thursday, January 7, 2021 @ 09:00 am**

**Dial In Number: 12063314836**

**PIN: 661-695-042#**

- I. Meeting Call to Order by President Jose @ 9:10 am. Roll Call: Present; President Jose, Vice President Chancey Martinez, Secretary/Treasurer Dixie M. Begay. Three Officials present which constitute a quorum. Attach are list of online participants.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance. (N/A)
- III. Invocation. Gilbert Maria, Pastor/Manager of Community Development
- IV. Sergeant at Arms. (NNC NABIJN-26-20 and CMA-19-20 Applies)
- V. Reviewing and Approving of Meeting Agenda: Present Jose read through the agenda.  
Motion made by Chancey Martinez, second by Dixie M. Begay to approve the agenda with corrections and additions. Corrections: to numbering of resolution numbers. Add supporting resolution if there is a project that will going before the 60 days NM Legislators session in Santa Fe, (TIF, Capital Outlay). Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting).
- VI. Review of MINUTES: Virtual RNC Regular Meeting Minutes on December 17, 2021. (Move to Regular Meeting)
- VII. Finance Report: (Written Report Only for Review) Move all reports to regular chapter meeting.
  1. Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer – Navajo Nation and General Funds Report.
  2. 638 Office Grants and Contracts - Funds Report
  3. RNSB INC. Board of Trustees' Finance Report
  4. RNUA Finance Report – Contact the Manager for report.
- VIII. Condolence Resolution: (If any - otherwise N/A)
- IX. Introduction of Guests and/or Presenters: (Written Updates Preferred).
  1. Honorable Judge Malcolm Laughing, Ramah Judicial District Effective December 28, 2020. He has been busy with hearings today. He is coming to our community from his original residence, Crystal, NM and now living in Church rock, NM commuting to Mountain View. He was raised in traditional lifestyle in Crystal where they have water running down from the mountain which is use for irrigation and he has cattle there. He previously was send to Window Rock, Arizona from there he was assigned to Tuba City, Arizona as a Judge for one year. His next assignment is here at Ramah District Court coming here with 25 years of experience. He does not know how long he will be here. President Jose, welcome the Judge to Ramah Band of the Navajo Tribe. Vice President, Chancey Martinez, welcome to Ramah Navajo. Secretary/Treasurer, Dixie M. Begay welcome and congratulation hope you remain here to help us out. Due to pandemic communication is limited to use of telephone. Lucinda Pino, Tribal Administration introduced herself as employee of 638 Grants & Contracts, all communications are through email, all meetings through teleconference. Thanks for coming here and she asked if he will be working with Alamo and Tohajilli? Judge will be here in Ramah courts only. Dorothy with RNDOT–Good Morning and she introduce herself and working on future plans for the Ramah Navajo Roads. Welcome aboard and call if you need assistance. Darnell Maria, Acting ED for Grants & Contracts

programs. Unfortunately the issue we have here turnover of employees hope you stay with us a lot longer. Its unfortunate the Prosecutor Jennifer resign, she is a hard worker, she would be in her office late into the night and early mornings as well as working on the weekends. Beverly Coho, School Board Member – welcome here to perform work here in the community. Let us all work together we have alcohol abuse problem just like other communities. Thank you for your attendance at this meeting. Pine Hill which is 8 miles south from chapter house there you will find school, Health Center and Market. Delegate Jamie Henio, Congratulation, we have been working on a new court building to be located near Detention Center, until the pandemic happen work has been at a standstill. He announced he received word this morning our Prosecutor and at times worked in Window Rock as Acting Chief Prosecutor has resigned. Many cases will be pending until a new Prosecutor is hired. A thank you for coming out to this community.

2. Martha Garcia, Cibola County Commissioner – No report today moves to regular chapter meeting.
3. Brenda Yazzie, CSC, Progress updates for the following subject matters & Completion Rate/Project:

**A written report submitted on items A through K, Need reports on L and M.**

- a. Progress of Septic Tank Cleaning?
- b. Revenue and expenditures of NN Emergency Relief Fund?
- c. OAG follow-up of audit review?
- d. Ramah community cemetery A&LS?
- e. Bond and Nicole Ranch land management plan?
- f. Waterline extension to Judie Antonio?
- g. Hay purchase?
- h. Resolution 081805 Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Martine re Cistern Tank?
- i. Resolution 072007 Emergency Bathroom Addition Projects?
- j. Resolution 062002 PS/Judicial-Land Survey/Arch?
- k. Resolution 052002 Mt. View Well Budget Transfer of \$10,000?
- l. Resolution 092003 Residential Lease site A&LS Assistance?
- m. NN CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan update.

**X. Reports:(Limited to Elected Officials Preferred)**

1. Chapter Officials; President Jose highlighted the Oath of Office for all the Officials on January 6, 2021. All three Officials present along with Land Board Member. Vice President no new updates, he reminded everyone to continue to take care of self and families. Vaccination is happening in our communities. Dixie Begay reports the Oath of Office that took place and a thank you to those working the frontline during this pandemic. I.e. Pine Hill Health programs, Food distribution center, and staff that are working. We are all here to help our people and not ourselves. Positions that we hold allows us to assist everyone. This year we need to all work together and make things work for our people.
2. Rodger Martinez, ENA, Land Board Member- Update: he took his Oath of Office along with all of the Chapter Officials. He is part of the Eastern Navajo Agency Land Board Commissioners representing District 19 with nine members; next meeting they will be selecting their Officers. In Window Rock-Department of Agriculture has been closed if there is any communication it's done over the phone. No assistance coming out from Window Rock on Livestock feed etc., so he encourage as livestock owner to responsible in providing feed and water. No new updates on Grazing Permit.
3. Jamie Henio, Council Delegate; congratulations to the Officials and Happy New Year. During the Officials Oath of Office yesterday there was also a takeover of the US Capitol in Washington DC. COVID 19 vaccine has arrived President Nez, Speaker Damon and all Delegates over the age of 65 received their vaccination. We all continue to practice safety by wearing mask, washing hands, social distancing, the better it will be. A new listing out of control listing is going down. Ramah was on the list at one time. We here in Ramah are fortunate with the programs we have and Health Center with the leadership from Mr. Becker we are on top of all up to date information. Also Randy Chatto and Darnell Maria their leadership with the Food Distribution staff and other 638 programs. The Police Department assistance and that is why we hear in community of Ramah are so fortunate. He has been attending NAABIK'IYATI meeting looking at Legislation 0309-20 which Speaker Damon introduced Council are working on amendments, once these amendments are address by the Committee it becomes difficult. The purchase of heavy equipment for chapters was not approved by controller under the CARES ACT funds. Ramah Chapter's two equipment requests are listed as well as Alamo and Tohajilee chapter's request. Water project with Dooley Contract is also on the list. He attended a meeting on Crownpoint Hotel construction. NN Casino are laying off employees, they are using all their savings. Main intention was to get Navajo back on payroll and re-open the casino. Working on streamlining the 164 process in Title 2, keeping

in mind not a hindrance to Tribal contracts and financials. CARES ACT /Hardship account initially given 49 million once the portal was open to receive application with CIB, today total at 290K some are weaned out such as double applications. Presently they have 275K in addition of 40 million coming from water projects that will not meet the deadline date. So according to Controller report there is a total of 324 Million in hardship funds. Estimated figure to distribute to adults/over 18 years old at \$1300.00 and under 18 years old \$470.00, the checks should be going out January 18, 2021. The second stimulus funds may come down through the COVID 19 funds. Legislation introduced by Delegate Raymond Smith funds were distributed to chapters projects in 2018 we are in the last year and we still have some chapters have not use their funds. He has been working with the office of DPMD to work on the chapter renovation. Those chapters not meeting the deadline the funds will go back into Shihasin funds. The Ramah projects in Unit 3 and chapter renovation. This also goes for Alamo and Tohajilli chapters. Raymond Smith legislation is requesting an extension giving 48 months for chapter projects. It has gone to President Nez office for signature. The Controller is asking about the 300K that was given to Pine Hill they have no invoice. This issue given to Chancey to work with RNSB. Council Delegate requests the assistance from Beverly Cojo, Board Member to make a follow up with Finance office. Understand this is where the hang up is in administration, get this completed and forward to Finance Office. Chancey Martinez made a follow up with Controller it was funds that Ramah 638 program received, they have not submit the 300K documents. Mr. Becker submitted report on 375K, funds used to purchase PE and documents were sending to Finance and Controller. Controller needs their expenditure plan as soon as possible, if not submitted the funds will revert back.

President Jose recommends keeping the two heavy equipment on the list for Ramah Chapter; He still need update report on what was submitted from Ramah Chapter under the CARES ACT funds. Beverly Coho, RNSB reported that Self Determination with five groups from Tuba City, Arizona request one million which they received. Through this group Pine Hill Health Center received 300K-375K from this group. These funds were used for PPE, Beverly does not know if it was spend or paid for. They also receive funds from CDC, these funds was to be use to hire an individual to oversee all revenues and expenditures coming in from CARES ACT. No hiring as of today this position is very critical, staff may be overwhelm and not submitting the documents. Board Meeting Monday she will mention this but today she will email Executive Director to get this taken care of. Thank you for the allocation of funds and bringing up the discrepancy.

4. Navajo Nation Division of Community Development - ASC Staff; Ms. Adeky with Baca/Gallup Service Area she is working with Ramah Chapter in the distributing five pellets of goods; Ramah will receive food package and PPE. Oath of Office for Officials took place yesterday we will now have orientation for Officials providing updated information, date, time and call numbers are being emailed out. This is scheduled for February 15, 2021 from 1 thru 5 pm. For January there will be orientation for staff and officials on General special funds this information to be given to Brenda through email. The ASC office still need the October and November financial report and soon the December report will be due. Brenda Yazzie, CSC stated she scan the information and were send to DCD staff. Hay sold out as of yesterday, still selling wood.
5. Ramah Navajo Chapter - Office of Grants & Contracts; Acting ED Darnell Maria – new schedule for distribution center staff since they are returning back to their program to work. Next distribution is scheduled January 29, 2021, drive through will take place once a month. The home deliveries are also scheduled and phone numbers to call. Staff working at the distribution center; Darnell Maria, Michael Henio, Randy Chatto, Julianna Cojo. As far as COVID 19 vaccination they are waiting for Pine Hill Health Center to contact them for further instructions. The Annual Funding Agreement for 638 programs through BIA has been approved and moving forward. All work is done through tele network with BIA Staff. The transfer of RNA to NAO there is no response on this issue. The Attorneys were notified but no action that was planned by Southwest Region on the transfer. Only information received was as of December 31, 2020 the employee working on this has retired.
6. Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc. Beverly Coho, Board Member reported on meeting dates: First Monday – Education report from staff and second Monday of each month is non-education reports. Board reaffirms all community meetings attended by School Board Members. The new officers: Maxine Coho, President; Beverly Coho, Vice President; Marlene, Secretary/Treasurer; Carolyn and Martha are members. The RNSB election has not been scheduled due to filing of temporary injunction based on reapportionate. All Board Members across Navajo Nation may go with permanent injunction. First semester students are still on due to internet tower, student pick up own package and are still working on it. Enrollment at 327. Electricity completed using NN CARES ACT funds. Board still working on comprehensive water projects as well as the renovation of school buildings. Emergency Preparedness Plan has been develop with the assistance from Jeff Kiely. At Mondays RNS Board meeting the Plan will be approved. The Plan includes everything in the community.

Mr. Becker reported that within the next two weeks vaccine will be administered to essential employees. They are following the NN Health Department plans. He has 130 doses on hand and by next week Thursday he will be out. Number of vaccine to be received is unpredictable. He may have more vaccine the week of January 17. Booster shots will be given to community people depending on number of vaccine Madera is received beginning on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Both vaccine Pfizer and Madera vaccine will be used.

David Nez, ED. The 3.5 million dollars approved through Navajo Nation there is lack of communication between the Controller and James Adakai, Community Development. A meeting took place to develop an agreement to receive the funds and expenditure plans. A question asked does this include the clinic as well. James Adakai responded yes. The school used the funds to pay for the electricity contract. It was understood that a Portal was open to upload all invoices etc. to go to Controller and James Adakai. The clinic uploaded invoice to James Adakai, he was not aware there was a Portal for Medical and School. On December 30, 2020 the invoice and documents were hand delivered to Controller. The Clinic 375K expenditure plan was hand carried to Window Rock to Controller, the invoices on PPE is done. There is confusing information coming out of Window Rock, Az. They are taking care of the situation today. He appreciates the assistance from Council Delegate Henio. The electric circuit 2 & 3 completed and now working on circuit 1. When the electric is upgraded and completed the school will have its State of the Art project. On PH well #1 they are working on this the well drillers are onsite, once repaired they will have water and relieve some pressure of Jacobs well. The school building they are developing the plans and designing, the contractor will be coming out this summer. Protocols they are following Navajo Nation Executive Orders. Four million is cost estimated for circuit #1.

Dr. Bicenti, Superintendent, she appreciates all the help Mr. Nez provides. Most of the students are on line, Unit 5 lack of internet service, hot spot is being used by IT to assist these students. She covered a lot of areas on her daily, weekly plans for students & parents. She makes home visits to assist the parents and students. Going back into her previous work with students and parents she has always valued students and encourage them to challenge themselves. Parents are the most important in a student education. She loves her student and wants them to succeed.

Jamie Henio, Council Delegate question Mr. Becker if he has plans for all the elders over 60 years old vaccination and how are they being contact? Mr. Becker is following the CDC and NN published category. They have completed 1a group, next 1b these are over 65 years old which they are doing now. Hoping all community members will be vaccinated by March 2021. Jamie Henio, Delegate stated if vaccine can be made available and offered to administer the vaccine. They do not have the vaccine for tax credit. Jamie will provide information to Mr. Becker on this. Mr. Becker also stated that planning is difficult number of vaccine coming is done without prior notice. Within two months to get everyone vaccinated.

**Motion made by Chancey Martinez, second by Dixie M. Begay to accept all the reports. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting).**

7. Ramah Navajo Agency; No report.
8. Committees, Commissions, Boards; and Ramah Navajo Chapter – No committee reports.

XI. Old Business: (Emergency Relief Items from prior meetings for consideration)

XII. New Business: (Emergency Relief Items) President Jose read each of the resolution.

1. **Proposed Resolution 012101:** Approving Financial Assistance from FY 2021 NN Capital Improvement Fund for Joanna Pino to Defray the Cost of Archeological Clearance and Land Survey on One (1) Arce of Ramah Band of Navajo Tribal Land (RBL) described and Situated within the SE/4 of Section 33, Township 07 North, Range 16 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Cibola, State of New Mexico in Unit 5 to Expedite Construction of New Home Development.

**Motion made by Dixie M. Begay to approve and move forward to Regular Chapter meeting the following resolutions: #012101, #12102, #12103 and #12104, second by Chancey Martinez. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting)**

2. **Proposed Resolution 012102:** Approving Financial Assistance from FY 2021 NN Capital Improvement Fund for Louise M. Pino to Defray the Cost of Archeological Clearance and Land Survey on One (1) Arce of Ramah Band of Navajo Tribal Land (RBL) described and Situated within the SE/4 of Section 33,

Township 07 North, Range 16 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, County of Cibola, State of New Mexico in Unit 5 to Expedite Construction of New Home Development.

**Motion made by Dixie M. Begay, second by Chancey Martinez to approve and move this resolution to Regular Chapter Meeting. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting)**

3. **Proposed Resolution 012103:** Confirming the Appointment of Nixon Martinez to Community Land Use Planning Commission (CLUPC) for Unit 3 and to replace Cecelia S. Whitetail Eagle.

**Motion made by Dixie M. Begay, second by Chancey Martinez to approve and move this resolution to Regular Chapter Meeting. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting)**

4. **Proposed Resolution 012104** Supporting Legislation for the 60 days session in Santa Fe on RNC projects through CIP, TIP funds. (If there is a project a resolution will be develop and approve at regular meeting.)

**Motion made by Dixie M. Begay, second by Chancey Martinez to approve and move this resolution to Regular Chapter Meeting. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1. (Chair not voting)**

XIII. Community Concerns: (If any)

XIV. Announcements:

1. January 18, 2021, Monday – Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Observed HOLIDAY
2. January 12, 2021 Tuesday – CLUP Meeting

XV. Next Meeting: Regular Chapter Meeting – TBA.

Motion made by Chancey Martinez, second by Dixie M. Begay.

Regular Chapter Meeting

January 13, 2021

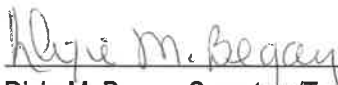
Time: 10 am

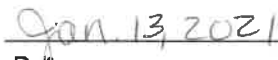
XVI. Adjournment:

Motion made by Dixie Begay, second by Chancey Martinez to adjourn.

Meeting adjourns @ 12:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer

  
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Date