

**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, March 4, 2021 @ 9:00 am**

**Dial In Number: 1-206-331-4836**

**PIN: 436165225#**

- I. Meeting Call to Order. Roll Call. Vice President Chancey Martinez open the meeting @ 9:15 am President Jose out of the office. Officials present: Vice President Chancey Martinez, Secretary/Treasurer Dixie M. Begay, ENA Land Board Member Rodger Martinez, Council Delegate Jamie Henio (call-in) and President Jose (call-in). Total of three officials present and two on call-in, this constitutes a quorum.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance. (N/A)
- III. Invocation. **Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer**
- IV. Sergeant at Arms. (NNC NABIJN-26-20 and CMA-19-20 Applies)
- V. Reviewing and Approving of Meeting Agenda: Agenda ready by Vice President Martinez.  
Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie M. Begay. Open to recognize addition to the agenda. Assistance request by Monica Yazzie, Administrative Assistant/RNSB in reference to approved chapter supporting resolution # 022107, to include the SY beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2025 as requested by Mr. Franklin, this is due next week. Lucinda Pino, Tribal Office Manager was notified of this change and as of today she has not received the corrected copy of the Resolution. Vice President Martinez will have staff include the dates and send the resolution up to Pine Hill before the end of the week. Lucinda Pino questioned the amended resolution #032102 providing scholarship assistance for 14 students for Spring 2021. The question address to Mrs. Yazzie, CSC why she did not pay out \$200.00 each for ten students, the Direct Payment Request (DPR) went in and was signed at the amount that was approved at Regular Chapter Meeting. Lucinda stated that payment was not send out its because her daughter in-law was not on the list. It can't be that way things can't be working that way. Council Delegate Jamie Henio stated Point of Order interrupted and stated that we getting into a debate on a resolution that is on the agenda. That's not right at this time you can debate when the resolution comes up, right now we are going in circles. So, Vice President Martinez stated more discussion will take place when this resolution comes up. VP Martinez added a resolution on Internet Tower contract in Unit 5. Motion to approve the agenda made and now the Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.
- VI. Review of MINUTES: (Minutes forward to Regular Chapter Meeting for approval)  
Virtual RNC Regular Meeting Minutes on February 17, 2021
- VII. Finance Report: (Written Report Only for Review) (Move to regular chapter meeting)
  1. Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer – Navajo Nation and General Funds Report.
  2. 638 Office Grants and Contracts - Funds Report
- VIII. Condolence Resolution: (If any - otherwise N/A)

IX. Introduction of Guests and/or Presenters:

X. Reports:(Limited to Elected Officials Preferred)

1. Chapter Officials; Vice President Martinez participated in a call-in meeting with Guarena Adeky with ASC/NN personal on RN Audit and its documents. Secretary/Treasurer reported on attending virtual meeting with Pine Hill Health Center/Rehoboth McKinley steering committee. This committee are working on identifying the major health issue that face the community of Ramah. President Jose on his call-in reported on his health and still in the hospital for one month and should be home soon. We will all work together and move forward, only way we can do is to work with all committees, school officials and officials.
2. Rodger Martinez, ENA, Land Board Member- He will be attending a meeting tomorrow March 5, 2021, all their meetings are virtual. For new members an orientation will be scheduled at this meeting. Here at Ramah Navajo Chapter, he has individuals coming in for home site lease and/or residential lease.
3. Jamie Henio, Council Delegate; The comprehensive NN budget last year presented to President Nez, he vetoed line-item Lapse funds requests that was to meet unmet needs of different Navajo Nation programs. Line item vetoed included chapter allocation -\$420,000.00 also Council budget, Speakers office, B&F committee and Resource Development Committee. Through the work session Council Delegates develop Legislation for B&F by the Attorneys. Last week the Legislation approved 0006-2 sponsored by Speaker Damon. They prepared a Bill to recoup the funds for Speaker, Council and B&F funds. The Bill was developed to start the process moving on this. President Nez request to add as amendment he line item vetoed \$750,000.00 chapter allocation his statement is that chapter staff didn't get hazard pay. The main thing was to get chapter stipend for whole year so there will be no shortfall. Other was the hazard and special duty pay was not paid out. This was debated and approved last week. He worked with Darnell and staff Sharleen Yazzie to get numbers for hazard special duty pay for Police Officers. That was the focus on the Navajo Nation DPS he request to work with this to get the amendment in the amount of \$660,000.00 for Ramah Navajo Police Officers, Corrections Officers and Dispatch working through Pandemic. He introduces this at NAABIK'YATI where many debates happen trying to derail whole allocation. Next time have all documents be prepared and ready. Special session it pass with a vote of 18 – 4 now waiting on President Nez signature to consider the Bill or line item veto on the add on. Hope that the Ramah Navajo Department stays intact and not be line item veto. If approved we need to get payment out. The question why is Ramah Navajo Chapter separate it goes back in history we were able to capitalize on contracting with BIA. As an amendment Delegate Charles-Newton to support Deb Haaland once confirmed they want her to make Navajo Nation priority. Delegate Amber Crotty added to consider the Missing Murderous women and children. He put language in to support Ramah Navajo Chapter to remain automatous to have Deb Haaland support RN Agency efforts to leave it intact and leave as is the form of Government. To have our Agency remain as is. The other report is the second CARES ACT in the Senate right now. We anticipate more funds; we need to be ready for that. We also need to have a letter or notification from Federal Government that Ramah was not eligible for Cares Fund. We need to make sure to have the document available. At least that it was in this language and this Bill we need to make a copy to sow Council that Ramah Navajo even though we get direct funding, 638 that we still are not eligible for funds it only goes to recognized Tribe. We need this documentation handy to include with all other requests this goes for the RNSB as well need addition fund for projects. There is a Drought Relieve funds resolution going through by Delegate Wilson Jr. Approximately 70 million, be ready with windmill projects, dirt dams etc. for community livestock. He will put in an amendment in for Ramah Navajo Chapter he will need the documents so Legislative Council can draft a Legislation.

4. Navajo Nation Division of Community Development - ASC Staff; No one call in.  
 Brenda Yazzie, CSC, Progress updates for the following subject matters & Completion Rate/Project:  
**(Brenda Yazzie CSC, will provide a written report at the Regular Chapter Meeting).**
- a. Revenue and expenditures of NN Emergency Relief Fund? In Negative -\$4,204.77
  - b. OAG follow-up of audit review? All Documents requested send to AG resp. pending.
  - c. Ramah community cemetery A&LS? Gilbert Maria will have more information.
  - d. Bond and Nicole Ranch land management plan? JJClacs plans to come out to do soil testing.
  - e. Hay purchase? Effective 2.17.21 Renew Hay Resale P & P w/approved RNC Resolution No. 022111.
  - f. Resolution 072007 Emergency Bathroom Addition Projects? No Project Scheduled as of today.
  - g. Resolution 062002 PS/Judicial-Land Survey/Arch? No new information since the arch clearance.
  - h. Resolution 052002 Mt. View Well Budget Transfer of \$10,000? No Resolution on this, not sure if President Jose work with RNUA on this. No information provided to CSC.
  - i. Resolution 092003 Residential Lease site A&LS Assistance? CSC received 10 applications all pending. CSC is backlog on this.
  - j. NN CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan update. All requests went into Window Rock, but was labeled disallowable from this information only the heavy equipment were purchase through another funding sources based on this information the chapter is receiving minimal PPE supplies, etc. Other Chapters are receiving large orders. The supplies are stored in the livestock training center with the assistance of Natural Resources Staff, the items will be distrusted along with food distribution
5. Ramah Navajo Chapter - Office of Grants & Contracts; Darnell Maria, Acting ED did not have now new updates. He announced that offices will reopen come Monday. A memo is forthcoming on this.
6. Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc. 1. Ramah Navajo Health Assessment meeting to come up with priority health issues. Discussion on childhood issues, obesity, pandemic issues within household, lack of housing, limited water service. To get data surveys are to be done throughout the community either through internet, door to door how are we going to collect data? This information will be use to request funds from Indian Health Service and other funding sources. He will be signing a letter to receive these funds how are we going to use culture/Navajo language through the school. Announce to the public on the surveys this will be done. Assistance will be needed from the Ramah Chapter to get information out. 2. Electricity problem on Pine hill campus. BIA/BIE Department of Facility Management own the buildings and they are not addressing this emergency situation. No meetings have been set and how do cost share happen – no response from DFMC/BIA. He reached out to the Congressional Delegation with letters and a meeting. Primary electrical line to be relocated this line is unable to remove it is burned. Their previous contractor surveyed and reported a new line to put in and new trench. This contractor stops the work. BIA/DFMC will hire their contractor to survey and re-design the electrical work. The present contractor the school hired has their own equipment, Engineer designing to do the work. They are only requesting the funds from BIA/DFMC to do the work. He will have a resolution for the RNSB to approve and ask RNC to support this resolution. Students are still on virtual learning, no internet connection for some students and minimum knowledge in internet. This problem affects the Clinic, school, staff housing, and Behavioral health. 3. Mass vaccination continues, Indian Health Service has done a good job to vaccinate and ahead of schedule. Mr. Becker, Pine Hill Health Director gave an update on mass vaccination every Thursday at the clinic. Two days out of a week 50-70 shots are given giving a total of 200 vaccinations at School Farm. Thanks to Police Department and Ramah Navajo Department of Transportation, Officials and RNSB Members. Surrounding community is part of the mass vaccination to limit exposure of COVID 19. Moderna vaccine for those > 18 years old and vaccine for 16 & 17 years given to those with medical condition, those participating in sports, more concern in this age group. The mass

vaccination will wrap up in March or April. They will booster shots in the fall for everyone. Recently started Saturday mass vaccination in Pine Hill, Zuni Indian Health Service will be at Zuni High School on Saturday and Sunday. They provided 1400 vaccine and 1200 are enrolled with Pine Hill Clinic, they have vaccinated the majority of the people.

Marlene W. RNSB Member expresses her thanks to Mr. Nez and Mr. Becker for their reports. Board had their education meeting; re-enter in hybrid class, this will be up to the parents, they updated and approve activity athletic Handbook and students are practicing.

President Jose asks Mr. Nez with all the infrastructure problems at Pine Hill School what your school Attorneys is doing to assist. How do they feel about this infrastructure major problem? Recommendation to School is to have a meeting with Attorneys. He acknowledges a Thank you to Mr. Becker for the vaccination clinics and booster shot in August. Keep working hard. Response to President Jose question, Mr. Nez gave highlight of how he has work with BIE Grant schools back in 1970 and how changes have taken place. He would have the schools go through safety inspection periodically and here in Pine Hill last safety survey was back 1960 – 1970. He wrote letter to BIE/DFMC on this safety inspection problem. The BIE/DFMC came out to do inspection with clipboard; he was told the water on campus was turn over to the School back in 1972. He needs support from RNC to get in on the meeting with Attorneys. BIA/DFMC has not responded to Congressional letters they are ignoring the letters.

Mr. Jose, get things done through meetings, the resolution from RNSB will be supported by RNC. RNSB can declare a local emergency. Beverly Coho, RNSB Member reemphasize working together through Attorneys. Mass vaccination supported and service received from Indian Health Service throughout the communities. A positive report from Council Delegate Jamie Henio adds an amendment to the NN Legislation to keep Ramah Agency under Southwest Regional.

7. Ramah Navajo Agency; No Report.

8. Committees, Commissions, Boards; and Ramah Navajo Chapter – No reports.

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

1. **RNC Resolution No. 022101** Approving to defray the cost of power line extension and waterline extension hookup to the residence of Della Martine in Unit 5 of Ramah Navajo Community utilizing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fund/Settlement Funds.

Motion made by Dixie Begay, second by David Jose to move this resolution forward as written out. Waterline extension can be completed by RNUA so that should remain in the resolution.

Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.

2. **RNC Resolution No. 022103** Approving and Requesting to Defray the Cost of Land Survey and Archaeological Clearance from the FY 2021 Navajo Nation Capital Improvement Fund to Expedite the Approval process of said Residential Lease on Individual Indian Allotment (IIA) Original Owner Guy Jake, Allotment No. 722-36097-A for Latoya Niki Yazzie.

Motion made to table this resolution until all documents are approved, incomplete right now, by Dixie M. Begay, second by Rodger Martinez. Resolution tabled – no discussion.

3. **RNC Resolution No. 022105** Approving and Adopting the Ramah Navajo Chapter Range Code. Motion made by David Jose to have the CLUP review/discuss and make final decision to the RNC defer this back to CLUP committee. This motion second by Dixie M. Begay. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.



XII. New Business: (Emergency Relief Items)

1. **Proposed Resolution 032101** Approving and requesting to defray the cost of land survey, archaeological clearance, powerline extension and waterline extension hookup to existing residence of Cynthia Dubois in Unit #4 a parcel of land situated within the SW/4 of Section 11, Township 08 North, Range 15 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian in vicinity of Pine Hill, County of Cibola, State of New Mexico containing one (1) acre, more or less. To utilize the FY 2021 Navajo Nation Capital Improvement (CIP) Fund/Settlement Funds.

Rodger Martinez stated that there are two families living in the area at least ½ mile from proposed site. He will make a follow-up on this resolution with the family to prevent future disputes.

Motion made by Rodger Martinez, he will make a follow up with the family and if everything is ok it will remain on the agenda for regular chapter meeting, second by Dixie Begay.

Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.

2. **Proposed Resolution 032102** Proposing to be approving and support resolution to fund Ramah Navajo Chapter in the amount of \$468,585.08 from the Sihasin Trust Fund for Ramah Navajo Chapter's three Heavy Equipment purchases.

Motion made by Dixie Begay, second by Rodger Martinez to approve this supporting resolution.

Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.

3. **Proposed Resolution No. 032103** Amending Resolution No. 022106 to provide scholarship assistance for (14) fourteen eligible students who have completed all required documents for Spring 2021 Semester. account number 09-6833-041155-170 (NN Scholarship) and account number 09-6833-03015-170 (Settlement Funds) will be used at \$500.00 for each eligible student. The COVID-19 Pandemic has greatly impacted the students to take classes on-line requiring internet services to complete their virtual on-line classes and to limit the spread of COVID-19.

**Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie Begay open for discussion.** Lucinda Pino, Tribal Office Manager ask the question again why were the Direct Payment Request (DPR) for the 10 students not process at \$200.00 each as approve last month? Brenda Yazzie, CSC stated that the original resolution had 20 and 25 students and only 14 students had complete application and approved to be funded. She did receive the DPR but no agenda, minutes of the Scholarship Committee meeting and no sign in sheet were attach to the DPR. The resolution stated 20 but 10 students were approved and not all 14 students. To supplement the students Financial Assistance, we have the Settlement funds as well as Navajo Nation funds. This way we are able to fund the students at \$500.00 each, and that's how the amended resolution was develop. Brenda CSC stated she herself do not attend the committee meetings. Resolution No. 071711 confirming the committee members: Mary T. Coho, PH High School Counselor, Lola Jim, Director for PH Scholarship/employment training program, Lucinda Pino, Tribal Office Manager and Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer and alternate member Brenda Yazzie, CSC/NN. Lucinda Pino stated that 10 student's application reviewed there are 8 new students and 2 continuing students, these students turn in all their documents before the announced deadline. Navajo Nation budget \$2,140.81 was to be use at \$200.00 each for 10 students giving a total of \$2,000.00. Darnell Maria, Acting ED and previous RNC Official stated it is proper for Brenda CSC to have all documents to process payments and what is \$200.00 today school is expensive and to recommend the \$500.00 each for the students, not only include those approve but include those that were not included. Proceed forward with \$500.00 per student instead of \$200.00 each. President Jose-At this planning meeting today the committee approves the first amount and a second to increase the amount. The communication is lacking as recommendation from the committee. Have committee finalize the resolution and come up with proper document that will address the beginning to the end. This to be done before chapter meeting refer this back to Scholarship Committee.

**Rodger Martinez made a motion to reaffirm this resolution to go back to Scholarship Committee then back to Chapter Meeting, second by Dixie Begay.** Delphino Antonia, community member ask what the protocol is how these funds are to be used. Right now most of the students are on Long Distance Learning and not in-class learning. He mention the cost of internet service, computer etc. Vice President Martinez stated yes, there are costs involved such as buying/paying for internet service, paper, ink etc.

Brenda Yazzie, CSC recommends to have Lucinda Pino to set up a meeting with Scholarship committee before the Chapter Meeting. Lucinda Pino mentions that some have received their hardship money and income tax as well. **Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.**

- 4. Proposed Resolution No. 032104** Amending Resolution No. 061907 to include an addendum to the approved Independent Contractor Agreement between "Contractor" JJ Clacs & Company and Ramah Navajo Chapter. On March 13, 2020 Executive Order No. 001-20 was issued by the Navajo Nation President and Vice-President to shut down all Government Offices due to COVID-19 Virus therefore, halting Chapter Projects. Addendum amount of \$4,200.00 to cover drilling costs/fees due to the COVID-19 pandemic still in effect. Capital Outlay Funds: 09-6520-041153-170 and Settlement Funds: 09-6520-031015-170 to be used.

**Motion made by Dixie Begay to move this resolution to regular chapter meeting, seconded by Rodger Martinez. Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.**

- 5. Proposed Resolution No. 032105** Amending Resolution No. 092011 Proposing to approve and appropriate by transfer of \$1,000,000.00(one million) between account line items within Chapter General Operating Funds from Settlement Revenue Balance toward Allowable Costs of Projects. (attachments are included)

**Motion made by Dixie Begay, second by Rodger Martinez to move this resolution to regular chapter meeting. Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.**

- 6. Proposed Resolution No. 032106** Amending Resolution No. 101606 to approve and appropriate by Transfer of equal amounts from the (4) Four Investment Category Plans to invest the amount for the highest rate of return on investment (ROI) with the assistance of the Navajo Nation During this time of COVID-19 pandemic that is still in effect. (attachment are included)

**Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie Begay, open for discussion.** There are four investment categories within the investment plans. Recommend to request advice from Navajo Nation and move it through the NN Budget & Finance Committee for approval. Darnell Maria, Acting ED to review the amount and put the correct amount in the resolution. The 1 million dollars was taken out of the 5 million so the exact amount to be reported. President Jose, with the 5 million prior to making it final the amount is figured less than 5 million dollars. With this anticipation he would like the assistance from CSC and Darnell to come up with exact figures we have. Arizona Banking returns \$53,000 interest. Delinquent amount through chapter 11 bankruptcy they are still returning funds – there has been no report on this. The request of the administrative staff to report the amount we received through interest and bankruptcy figures. He requests to have the information with exact figures by time/date/5 million amount and make adjustments using the 1 million to us. He agreed on the investment with Navajo Nation and Arizona Banking. **Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie Begay to move forward to regular chapter meeting. Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.**

7. **Proposed Resolution No. 032107 082001** Approving to Enter into Independent Contractor Agreement (hereto as Agreement) is made Effective March 5, 2021, by and between the Ramah Navajo Chapter (Recipient) of HC 61, Box 13, Ramah, New Mexico 87321 and Virango, LLC (contractor) of 34 Lost Trail Rd., Roswell, New Mexico 88201. In said Agreement (Attached hereto and Incorporated herein as Exhibit A), the party who is contracting to receive the services shall be referred to as "Recipient" , and the Party who will be Providing the Services Shall be referred to as "Contractor" .

**Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie Begay to move to regular chapter meeting.**

The cost amount has change from the August Chapter meeting approval. This is a new contract that needs to be signed. Vice President Mr. Martinez received the sign contract by the Contractor, this document to be shared with President Jose and his signature. Lucinda Pino through email an update on the price quote was received. Survey of site has been completed and there is a question if Archaeological survey has been done. Brenda Yazzie, CSC stated that the tower area was surveyed and she has not received an invoice from Genevieve Pino for doing the Archaeology survey. Vice President Martinez request to CSC Brenda Yazzie to get all services paid; archaeological and surveys. Vote: Approve 3, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.

XIII. Community Concerns: (If any)

Ruby Frank – She was to report on Resolution 062002, Judicial Land Survey/Arch a report will be given at Regular Chapter Meeting. She express to everyone to be safe, take care and stay home. Use all precaution; we now hear of a new variant. Under Presentation Esther Jose will report.

XIV. Announcements:

1. Proclamation recognizing the month of February 2021 as "Pet Spay and Neuter Awareness Month" the Navajo Nation has established animal control laws to protect the health, safety, and property of people and address responsible pet ownership and over population, disease and neglect of animals.
2. March 6, 2021, Saturday – ENAC, Eastern Navajo Agency Council Mtg (TBA)
3. March 9, 2021, Tuesday – CLUPC Meeting by Teleconference Call at 9:00 am
4. March 14, 2021, Sunday – Daylight Saving Time Begins
5. March 17, 2021, Wednesday – St. Patrick's Day
6. March 20, 2021, Saturday – Spring Begins
7. March 28, 2021, Sunday – Palm Sunday

XV. Next Meeting: Chapter Planning Meeting – TBA

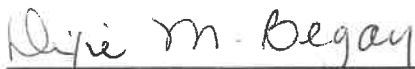
**March 17, 2021**

**@ 10 am**

**Vote: Unanimous approved by Officials**

XVI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am

Respectfully Submitted by;



Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer



Date