

RAMAH NAVAJO CHAPTER

David Jose
President

HC 61, Box 13 Ramah, New Mexico 87321-9601
(505) 775-7130/7132
FAX (505) 775-7137

Jamie Henio
Council Delegate
Navajo Nation Council

Chancey K. Martinez
Vice-President

Tribal Office



Rodger Martinez
Member
Eastern Navajo Land Board

Dixie M. Begay
Secretary/Treasurer

VIRTUAL PLANNING MEETING MINUTES (COVID-19 Emergency)

TRIBAL OFFICE TELECONFERENCE CALL

Thursday, May 6, 2021 @ 9:00 am

Dial In Number: 12063314836

PIN: 697-446-879#

- I. Meeting Call to Order. Roll Call. President Jose calls the meeting to order at 9:18 am. Present: President Jose, Vice President Chancey Martinez (call in), Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer, Land Board Member, Rodger Martinez, Delegate Jamie Henio (call in). Other call in participant attaches.
- 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: President Jose read through the agenda.
Motion made by Chancey Martinez to approve the agenda with one addition: Propose Resolution No. 052106 - Review RNUA Plan of Operation on Board Members serving on the Committee, all Board Members term has expired and to select new Board Members. Motion seconded by Rodger Martinez. Vote: Approve 6, Oppose 0, Abstain 1.
- VI. Review of MINUTES: Virtual RNC Planning Meeting on April 1, 2021
Virtual RNC Regular Meeting on April 14, 2021
Move to Regular Chapter Meeting for approval.
- VII. Finance Report: (Written Report Only for Review) all financial reports 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
 3. RNSB, Inc. Finance Report.
 4. RNUA Finance Report if available.
- VIII. Condolence Resolution:(If any - otherwise N/A)
 1. Elton Pino – Unit 5
- IX. Introduction of Guests and/or Presenters: None.
- X. Reports:(Limited to Elected Officials Preferred)
 1. Chapter Officials; President Jose will give his report at the regular chapter meeting. Vice President Chancey Martinez - as a reminder to be prepared with project documents when the ARPA funds through. At this time there are no policies coming down from the Government. Encourage everyone to take care and continue to follow all protocols. Secretary/Treasurer, Dixie M. Begay reported on zoom meeting she participated; Community Health Steering Committee, Pine Hill ARPA with NN DCD staff, RNSB staff and Chapter

Officials/638. Housing Discretionary five applicants review and approval. Steering committee to review the Navajo Language translation for the surveyors, Investment meeting with Merrill Lynch in Albuquerque.

2. Rodger Martinez, ENA, Land Board Member. He listens in on Mike Halona's presentation to the NN NAABIK'IYATI Committee. He spoke mainly on the Trust Land/fee Land and with the Individual Indian Allotment land, landowners are responsible. Upon request he has completed tally counts for individuals. It has been expressed to follow protocols set by NN Department of Health. Grazing permits are being reviewed as well as Range Code and move forward for approval.
3. Jamie Henio, Council Delegate; The meeting with NN Division of Community Development (DCD) on ARPA funds with the assistance from the DCD staff to develop a priority in order. Council Delegate from Wester Agency along with other Delegates sign onto a legislation requesting 58 million dollars from Shihasin Funds to begin exploration of water pipeline. To use ARPA dollars when the funds come down. Another amendment in the amount of 220 million for water projects not identified under water projects i.e. Gallup, Kayenta pipeline. Approximately 3200 million not on water management list. These are all new water project that were presented to NAABIK'IYATI Committee. He contact David Nez, ED/RNSB on the school projects to add to the amendment on Legislation, Pine Hill water system, Jacobs well projects that are not part of Jason Johns listing. He would like Scope of Work; cost estimates etc. to amend this legislation, Dilkon water project is part of the amendment. He is requesting the documents as soon as possible so he can submit them to the Attorneys to review. NN Budget & Finance Committee is working on a budget calendar for this year's budget process. They are working on use of Permanent Trust Funds to be sign into Law for the next five years. This will take care of short-fall in Supplemental General Funds. He is on his way to Steward Indian School tour tomorrow. Eastern Land Commission is given the Wingate School given to Navajo Nation and he is thinking also how the Ramah Dorm buildings can be used for projects. President Jose stated since the meeting on ARPA took place, NN Council is getting ready with projects. Note to all staff on water projects, need pre-engineering study on the 500,000 gallons water storage tank be put on as one of the projects. Let's get all packages together for all these water projects to Council Delegate, get these in within a week.
4. Navajo Nation Division of Community Development - ASC Staff; Sonaltas Jim Martin reported on the meeting that took place in Pine Hill on ARPA with Dr. Yellowman and James Attakai. Their office are assisting all the chapters with the application/proposals and cautiously activating the chapter to go back in full operation. A problem occurred with WIND system on NN Budget, she apologizes, this has been corrected. For chapter to know a training from DOJ Rodgerick Begay for all chapters officials and staff on legal issues with five management system and other upcoming trainings. I.e. Risk Management, E-Rate/Internet. If Chapter need assistance contact Guarena Adeky. President Jose, RNC is still sanction and it's gotten worse @ 75%. He would like to see CAP by resolution and move forward. We are losing a lot of money due to sanction. The WIND system the budget it was good news then bad news for Sales Tax and Unhealthy Food tax. The correction was made through resolution to move forward to Regular Chapter meeting. For the trainings provided conflict occurs due to other zoom meetings from other agencies and unable to get on the trainings. E-Rate fiber will go from RNC to Pine Hill School; discussion took place on fiber line with local contractor, Oso Internet Solutions.

Guarena Adeky – Two resolutions to be ratified due to error. Deadline date May 31, 2021 to submit resolutions to ASC. The funds for Youth Employment in process, the Audit/CAP, and exit findings are being reviewed. She has been in this position for 6 months; she will provide more assistance to the staff. They have attended MIP training so they can generate reports. The need to focus on findings with the staff and Chapter Officials, at that time a request will be made for another review, it maybe a year to work through this. She announces weekly meetings to have Officials to participate, this is every Wednesday at 9 am, at these meeting questions and concerns can be address. Her office is in Window Rock and is available on email or phone. President Jose requests a timeline and how long it will take care of all administrative matters. As Officials we cannot breath or boss them around the staff. We want ASC to assist with the timeline and legal issues on the 10,000 gallon tank.

Brenda Yazzie, CSC, Progress updates for the following subject matters & Completion Rate/Project:

CSC stated she did not get the agenda until yesterday, she will report at the Regular Chapter Meeting. President Jose stated there are items added and other areas that need to be reported. Have all water projects on ARPA listing with expenditures etc. Be on top of all projects from your office.

- a. Revenue and expenditure report of all Chapter General Operating Fund Accounts?
- b. Revenue and expenditure report of Settlement Account Budget Ending 31Mar21?
- c. CAP in response to follow up review #2 by OAG?

- d. Ramah Navajo Community Cemetery?
 - e. Bond and Nicole Ranch land management plan?
 - f. American Rescue Plan Projects?
 - g. Resolution 062002 Archaeological Clearance for PS/Judicial land withdrawal?
 - h. Resolution 052002 Budgets Transfer of \$10,000 for Mt. View Well?
 - i. Housing Discretionary projects?
 - j. Chapter Renovation project?
5. Ramah Navajo Chapter - Office of Grants & Contracts; Darnell Maria, ED. All 638 programs are back on full schedule and still on precautionary measures. COVID 19 Leave has been lifted all programs are working from 8am – 5 pm. There are numerous projects to get them shovel ready they are still working on them so they can be move forward. Darnell and Mike Henio are on a committee with State of NM on 50 years water plan. The ARPA meeting with DCD, RNSB, RNUA, on projects, priority are water, electric, RNUA equipment. The RNDOT road projects are completed and as a note we need to understand if the projects are not funded the cost increases. On the E-Rate the proposed installation was reviewed. Need CSC cooperation to get the water projects in place. 638 have been supporting the CSC here but with other chapters they do not have this type of assistance. Chancey Martinez stated by regular chapter meeting we should have the expenditure report on hay sale etc.
6. Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc. Beverly Coho, member reporting this month. School continues, graduation coming up; May 11, 2021 Head Start will be having their promotion outside at the softball field, 8th grade promotion in planning, High School will be Friday, May 14, 2021 at 2pm. There are 21 seniors; 12 male and 9 female. Due to pandemic all activities will take place outside. Student enrollment at 332 presently. Recently sports activity was Okayed although the school experience delays, Cross Country meet – qualified to go to State, Volleyball games the girls played 8 games they qualified to go to State, no football this year, basketball for girls and boys were scheduled with other schools so students got to play. Boys qualified to go to State; they cancelled their first game with Magdalena. The girls' basketball team did not qualify. Not only participating in sports but other areas of education is very important such as student council, clubs developing physical being, cognitive, social, emotional health.th and learning environment provided by the teachers and coaches. RNSB Resolutions approved: 2021-2022 School calendar with 180 school days figuring in the Spring break, Holidays, and Graduation dates. Ramah FACE program applied for next year Grant in the amount of 289K. Maintenance contract on Trek Power Generator in the amount of \$1,600.00, and 187K. Monday Board Meeting for non-education programs on Monday. David Nez provided information on the continued infrastructure problem in getting funds to repair the electrical system, repair of water well and roads. He has paid attention to these areas and allocated a lot of his time doing this. He has been working on seeking funds for repairs and a comprehensive water proposal which is ready in the amount of 20 million to replace waterline and sewer. He would like to see the electrical replaced which is now 4160 current to convert to 25KB to last for many years. Thanks to Chapter Officials in setting up the ARPA meeting at this meeting he brought forth the electrical problem etc., provided a brief presentation for Dr. Yellowman, NN/DCD and James Adakai on electrical infrastructure problems, water line, campus buildings and funds needed, he has all documents pertaining to these problems. Dr. Yellowman with NN/DCD will contact the BIE/DFMC and James Adakai will keep the school in mind if funds become available. The school will continue to use the generator the cost will be forward for payment to the Government the deadline date for their response is May 9, 2021, either they approve or decline, if not approve a letter will go to them on cost. He would like to have the electrical problem taken care of first before buildings are renovated and the new gym will be required to be on a special ventilation system. It is good news from Jamie Henio, Council Delegate to provide all documents on electrical and water to get it on the legislation amendment. He extends his appreciation to President Jose to set up the meeting and everyone else that made the meeting possible, to have Dr. Yellowman and James Adakai in attendance with us, the generator supplies electricity to school buildings. Two allocations close to half a million dollars the Government will need to pay for using the Generator.
- Mr. Becker, Administrator/PH Clinic reported currently the State of NM color code guidelines changed; red, yellow, green and turquoise, majority are in the turquoise opening all business but reduce occupancy levels. The Navajo Nation still in the yellow with indoor dining. Vaccination rate at 40% and every week it increases by 5% if this continues it will remain turquoise. In avoiding another surge it will be difficult to maintain around the surrounding states and tribes until percentage increase its rate of vaccinating individuals. Currently working on can and cannot do clarification from CDC new guidelines COVID 19 has place on us. It's safe to eat indoors and gathering without mask. Variant from Brazil, South Africa, India seem to have the ability to

evade the Immune System which makes the vaccine less effective as far as containing transmission. Still effective for preventing serious disease as well as hospitalization, regardless of variant the vaccine won't protect us from that it's that the initial infection we catch and the ability to transmit to other people we think the vaccine is not suitable for that and asking for guidance on that.

Chancey Martinez stated last year it was mention to separate the school from clinic and move forward on this and have its own Health Board. Tohajilli is set up that way. Mr. Becker responded he has provided recommendations to Board of Trustees, David Nez and Alvin Raphaelito to weight out exact situation in separating organization and health center perform differently that would be part of School Board as a whole. There was a point in time during the Pandemic a benefit to having Health Center responded independently using those resources separate from School Board and RNSB. This question should be presented to RNSB and Chapter to carefully weight out what would benefit the community people more. President Jose would like a written recommendation to review then act on it.

Mr. Becker - There is currently a large surge in cases in India, 400K cases a day and million positive cases a day and 4K deaths and 24K additional hospitalization, health care system has collapse and operating as a wartime condition, individual triage are send home if there is nothing to be done at the hospital. A concern India variant going around that has similar allow to evade immune system and increase mutation transmission ability. There are individuals are vaccinated and one population not vaccinated. The concern that a new variant could emerge from India, could evade the current vaccine we are doing now. Plans are to have another push for the fall vaccination as soon as the booster becomes available, vaccinate entire community with third shot this fall, and vaccinate 6K people again. Next week expecting FDA approves Pfizer vaccine for the 12-18 year olds to be vaccinated; the following week the 17th they will begin vaccinating all children over the age of 12 with Pfizer. In September expect Pfizer to be approved vaccine for ages 2-11 year olds when this happens another mass vaccination event will take place to vaccinate all school age children, There may not be vaccine for under age 2 within this year or next year. Chancey ask about the booster shot which will be the third shot. Mr. Becker - If mass vaccination is to be done at the fairgrounds they can do 200/hour and at clinic 40/hour. This will be address by resolution at Mondays RNSB meeting. Have staff available on weekends and evenings to administer the vaccine to the entire community as quickly as possible. As far as who is going to be vaccinated it will not matter if you had the Pfizer, Moderna, or J&J. It's going to be one booster that will be administered. Sometimes this summer we are thinking about the formulation of Moderna, Pfizer and J&J will change, so those individual will be vaccinated toward the end of the year will not get a booster if they have been vaccinated, for ages 2-11 years old they may probably not need a booster. Now it is too early, next week vaccination for 12-16 years old with Pfizer will be conducted.

Gjermundson Jake stated his concern on changing the mass vaccination from the fairground to clinic; clinic parking is not sufficient causing bumper to bumper vehicle damage which occurred in the parking lot at the clinic. Ramah Navajo School Board needs to be aware of safety and concurring with the plans that involves the patients. Consider these areas of concern and plan accordingly between the clinic and RNSB. It's better at the fairground for mass vaccination. Appreciate Mr. Becker providing vaccination program and doing a good job. Mr. Becker stated that the clinic will not be used for mass vaccination and soon will use High School parking lot. The clinic has a schedule set up to do vaccination on Tuesday and Thursday. Dosages of vaccine given and temperature of storage determines the vaccination drives. Fairground will not be used due to weather changes. Vice President Chancey on separation of School and Clinic Board Members can be put on the regular chapter meeting. Darnell Maria, ED stated that it should be up to RNSB to make that decision.

Tucker Simons reported on having the Chapter assist in providing Economic Development Plan to go along with the Grant he is applying for. He has submitted the Native American Career Technical Education Grant application and hope they accept the application without the Economic Development Plan, he would still want the plan from the Chapter. If Chapter needs assistance he is willing to help. Current enrollment from K-12th is at 322 as reported earlier. The FACE program and Head Start enrollment number continue to increase. This week the students are logging in from home to take their NWEA test. They are working on Reauthorization; tomorrow morning they will have their first rehearsal process. The finals for seniors will be on 10th and 11th and getting ready for graduation and adapt to Navajo Nation response. Finals for the rest of the students will be May 17, 18, 2021 and students will be checking during that week, then go right into summer school. He was able to get the sports in this year, now track and softball to start. Students are qualifying for State in track. President Jose would like to look at his proposal/grant if he can share that with the chapter. Darnell Maria, ED/638 wants to know if the school has anything happening at the school. He has two grand kids on virtual learning this whole school year and they want to do other things at school. Mr. Simon's stated that Navajo

Nation Board of Education would like for them to stay at 100% virtual learning except Special Education students. They have students come to school all day or come in for two hours. The teachers are missing their students at the schools. David Nez, ED/RNSB added that DODE-Navajo Nation Board of Education at its meeting the hot topic was bringing the kids back to school due to losing a lot of Navajo Nation Tribal members to keep virtual learning with a vote of 6 to 5 this was tabled. They have requested information from all communities, so he spoke with Acting Superintendent/Principal Inferito to do another survey and invite all parents. Get what the parent's thoughts are and need information from the parents. With the enrollment at 322 students all the parents should be represented with the survey as DODE and NN BOE are asking for.

7. Ramah Navajo Agency; President Jose announce the new Director of Natural Resource with BIA Southwest Region is Beverly S.
8. Committees, Commissions, Boards; and Ramah Navajo Chapter – No Report.

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

XII. New Business: (Emergency Relief Items)

1. **Proposed Resolution No. 052101** Approving and adopting the updated fiscal year 2021 Special Revenue Fund Internal Sales Tax distribution and approving to budget in the amount of \$11,493.00 further rescinding resolution no. 032107 which had an amount of \$46,560.00 that was input into the Navajo Nation wind system in error.
Motion made by Dixie M. Begay to move this resolution 052101 and resolution 052102 to regular chapter meeting, second by Jamie Henio, Council Delegate. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1.
2. **Proposed Resolution No. 052102** Approving and adopting the updated fiscal year 2021 special internal revenue fund unhealthy food tax distribution and approving to budget in the amount of \$2,461.00. Further rescinding resolution no. 032108 which had an amount of \$11,546.00 that was input into the Navajo Nation wind system in error.
Motion made by Dixie M. Begay to move resolution 052101 and resolution 052102 to regular chapter meeting, second by Jamie Henio, Council Delegate. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1.
3. **Proposed Resolution No. 052103** Approving the request of Rochelle Charley for Residential Lease on the Ramah Band of Navajo Tribal Trust Land situated within and described as NW/4 NE/4 of Section 34, Township 08 North, Range 15 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Cibola County, State of New Mexico, containing one (1) acre, more or less, Grazing Unit 4.
Motion made by Gilbert Maria to move resolution 052103 and resolution 052103 to regular chapter meeting, second by Michael Henio. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 2.
4. **Proposed Resolution No. 052104** Approving the request of Melissa Garcia and Maynard Alonzo for Homesite Lease on Navajo Tribal Trust Land (NTTL) situated within and described as Section 33 of NE/4, Township 08 North, Range 15 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Cibola County, State of New Mexico, containing one (1) acre, more or less, Range Unit 4.
Motion made by Gilbert Maria to move resolution 052103 and resolution 052103 to regular chapter meeting, second by Michael Henio. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 2.
5. **Proposed Resolution No. 052105** Approving the Request of Grace Begay for Financial Assistance to Defray the Cost of Water Line Extension to her Residence in Unit 5 by Utilizing Navajo Nation Capital Improvement Fund Account.
Motion made by Gilbert Maria, second by Michael Henio to move this resolution to regular chapter meeting. Grace Begay stated she is still hauling water to her home and her vehicle is down. Gilbert Maria provided information along with RNUA; this area is in Unit 5, 165 lineal feet from existing four-inch water main. Total cost estimated by RNUA is at \$1600.00. Vote: Approve 5, Oppose 0, Abstain 1.
6. **Proposed Resolution No. 052106** Review of RNUA Plan of Operation, selection of new RNUA Board Members.
Motion made by Rodger Martinez, second by Dixie Begay to move this resolution to regular chapter meeting. Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 1.

XIII. Community Concerns: (If any)

Gilbert Maria, concern brought to his attention by an individual who requested assistance from Behavioral Health and its programs, they were told they are not taking clients with alcohol problems. Many of our community members are dealing with alcohol abuse problems. Police Department is call but no response for assistance. They are incarcerated overnight and out of jail the next day. They need service to the inmates while they are in jail, Counselors, Pastors to assist. Detention is under the 638 Grants & Contracts and funds are asked for how are these funds use for alcohol, drug abuse prevention program.

Darnell Maria, ED/638 stated that there is lack of service from Behavioral Health with no response. We need the support from RNSB programs.

David Nez, ED/RNSB would like from community members using RNC letterhead to submit their concerns, he will come up with a resolution from these programs. This also includes Probation Officer, Prosecutor. Police Department, Detention and 638 staff, along with the report he would like to see data.

Esther Jose, RN Court Administrator, she agrees with the concerns being address today, they are having problems in the housing areas such as selling of marijuana, alcohol, drugs etc. Update report on the Court Complex, she contact Edmund Yazzie, Council Delegate on documents she provided to him for the new court complex. Pending is the Archeology report she was recommended to get another contractor. Court is still functioning, the Prosecutor from Alamo/Tohajilli assist Ramah court. President Jose would like to get another Prosecutor on board for Ramah Navajo Community.

Faye Wilson, reported there has been several gunshots heard around the Pine Hill area, Police Officers were call their response time late. She is not in favor of separating the School/education from Health clinic.

Lucinda Pino, She would like to have Navajo Housing Authority to make a report at the Chapter Regular Meeting on their security program and curfew hours for their tenants.

XIV. Announcements:

1. May 6, 2021, Thursday – National Day of Prayer
2. May 9, 2021, Sunday – Mother's Day
3. May 10, 2021, RNSB, Inc. BOT Non-Education Meeting
4. May 14, 2021, Friday – Navajo Nation Police Officer's Day (Observed Holiday)
5. May 19, 2021, Wednesday – RNSB, Inc. BOT Special Meeting
6. May 31, 2021, Monday – Memorial Day (Observed Holiday)
7. June 1, 2021, Tuesday – Navajo Nation Memorial Day (Observed Holiday)

XV. Next Virtual RNC Regular Meeting.

Motion made by Dixie Begay, second by Rodger Martinez to schedule the Regular Chapter Meeting on Thursday - May 20, 2021 @ 10 am.

XVI. Adjournment:

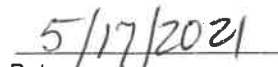
Motion made by Dixie M. Begay to adjourn, second by Rodger Martinez.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm

Vote: Approve 4, Oppose 0, Abstain 0.

Respectfully submitted,


Dixie M. Begay, Secretary/Treasurer


Date