LeChee Chapter



Jerry L. Williams, President Sara Dale, Grazing Officer Revaline Yazzie-Tate, Chapter Manager

JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche, Vice-President Paul Begay, NN Council Delegate Rence Tsosie, Secretary/Treasurer

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AMENDED AGENDA

LeChee Chapter Meeting AGENDA

December 9, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. (MST)

- 1. Meeting Call to Order: Chapter President Jerry Williams
- 2. **Invocation:** By invitation
- 3. Announcements/Presentation: (please allow for 10 min. time limit)
 - A. NTUA Broadband Presentation NTUA Representative
 - B. LeChee Chapter Senior Citizen Council member updates/Richfield Dormitory & BIA School Member updates Denis Tsosie
 - C. Un-Branded Horse Buyers are in Tuba City Fair Grounds on December 17, 2019 @ 10:am to 3:pm
 - D. District One Grazing Committee Meeting December 11, 2019 at 9:am Kaibeto Chapter House.
 - E. Page Unified School District Christmas Break starts ½ Day Friday, December 20 and return to school on Monday, January 6, 2020.
- 4. Approving agenda for December 9, 2019 chapter meeting:
- 5. Approving Reading and Approval of November 11, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes:
- 6. Action items/Financial Report /Resolution(s): (Financial Reports are reported quarterly and hard copies are displayed at the front office).
 - A. #LC-120919A Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Approving the Carryover Budget for FY2020 in the amount of \$450,986.77
 - B. #LC-120919B Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Recommending Support and approval by the 24th Council (NNC) and the Office of the Navajo Nation President and Vice President (OP/VP) to request and dedicate 15% of the transaction privilege Tax (TPT) Generated on Western Navajo Nation for Infrastructure and Economic Development in the Arizona State Budget.
 - C. #LC-120919C Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Recommending approval for Funding for the LeChee Chapter House to Establish a Internet Services Connection and recommending approval for Easements for Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) to place and operate electronic equipment within the vicinity of the LeChee Chapter, Coconino County, Arizona to support this initiative.

- D. #LC-120919D Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Approving the addition of the LeChee Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Renee Tsosie to the National Bank of Arizona Bank Accounts, and any other Bank Accounts which is in the name of LeChee Chapter, and to become the primary signatory based on her current elected position, and this will take effective immediately.
- E. #LC-120919E Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Supporting and requesting Navajo Nation-Hopi Land Commission and other entities to assist Verna Bryant with housing assistance to her burnt down Joint Use Area (JUA) home located in upper LeChee, Arizona at Lot P.

7. Reports:

- A. Chapter Manager: Revaline Yazzie-Tate
- B. Chapter Officials: LeChee Chapter Officials: Jerry Williams, JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche, Renee Tsosie
- D. Grazing Representative: Sara Dale
- E. Chapter Council Delegate: Paul Begay
- 8. Next Regular Planning Meeting: January 6, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
- 9. Next Regular Chapter Meeting: January 13, 2020@ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
- 10. Adjournment:



And have a Merry Christmas and keep safe during this holiday season

LeChee Chapter



Jerry L. Williams, President Sara Dale, Grazing Officer Revaline Yazzie-Tate, Chapter Manager JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche, Vice-President Paul Begay, NN Council Delegate Rence Tsosie, Secretary/ Treasurer

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LeChee Chapter Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. (MST)

- 1. **Meeting Call to Order**: Chapter President Jerry Williams called the meeting to order at 5:32 P.M.
- 2. Invocation: Chapter Vice-President JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche
- 3. Announcements/Presentation: (please allow for 10 min. time limit) (Jerry Williams mentioned that we will take care of the Announcements/Presentation since we don't have a quorum yet. Only 15-chapter members currently).
 - A. NTUA Broadband Presentation NTUA Representative Jonan Charley
 - This has been presented to the chapter and at that time it was not approved, and the request has been modified to fit the community needs.
 - -There were only 15 chapter on the Navajo Nation that were selected to receive the Wireless Broadband Internet Services.
 - -Choice Wireless will provide the connectivity via Fiber or Microwave, with 24/7 service level agreement, eventually get a community library status.
 - -The current wireless services are very slow and very congested.
 - -The mission is to provide broadband to the chapter benefits with application for employment, Economic Development, Veterans/SNAP/TANF Assistance, improved quality of life with online shopping, emails, weather, news, sports, Education, Public Safety, and Health Care Facility.
 - -There are a lot of Community Resources available, which also could provide savings to the chapter.
 - -Non-Recurring cost of \$27,000.00 will be paid by Microsoft for all chapters who are interested.
 - -Service Level Agreement which guaranteed to be available 99.9% of the time
 - 8 hour time to restore service outage, during normal business hours, weekends, and holidays.
 - -See attached brochure for more information. (Attached to the meeting minutes for your review).
 - -Hughes Net is a shared internet services, so at times it is a lot slower on the connectivity. If the chapter were to covert over to a 501C agreement with the County or the State to build a local library the chapter would only pay \$39.00 per month for this broadband internet service. All the internet services is overseen by the Shiprock main office which is our data center, all repairs are done from there with just a phone call.

Question: Denis Tsosie – So these services are for the general public, is it like when you go to a hotel and get free wi-fi connection, and will it hinder the chapter in anyway?

Response - Jonah Charley, you are correct it is also for the public to use, and it will also filter out any bad stuff people try to search, it will not hinder the chapter wi-fi connection.

Question: JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche - Does the price agreement end after the 2-year agreement?

Response: Jonah – No the price will stay the same during the 2-year agreement.

Question: Jerry Williams – So the cost I calculated is \$9,540.00 is a onetime fee and then the monthly service charge for the broadband? And will this service be available to the community members?

Response: Jonah – Yes, and after the chapter gets the internet services, they can provide it to the community members here at the chapter house with public computers.

Comment: Jerry Williams – Salt River Project/Navajo Generating Station paid \$4 million to run Fiber Optic to the NGS Power Plant located on Navajo Nation, why can't NTUA just tie into the same system w/Southwest Communications Internet Services? This would seem to be the way to get the fiber optic internet services here in our community of LeChee. Jonah has brought up the timely process it would take to get the fiber optic here in LeChee.

Jonah Charley – This would be feasible, but we would have to wait until the 2 years' service agreement is over with. This would also give us time to contact SRP representative to make the fiber optic connections to service LeChee Community and maybe even go onto other communities on the reservation. Currently this fiber optic service agreement is protected by laws and agreements, also there is a lot of infrastructure and paperwork that will need to get started on before we could move forward with this action. I am not saying its not feasible, it will just take some time before NTUA can made the connections. But the Microwave side it is the best thing we could get out a lot faster than the current wireless connection everyone has. (See attached break down cost for the 2 year contract terms and conditions).

- We are working with Department of Justice to get them to make chapters a non-profit status, to have the chapters join the ERAE process will bring the cost down. We do have this in mind to help all the chapters be eligible for this process. We also have another type of services to provide 100 megabytes for emergency services which would make the chapter a command center, to help the with whatever type of emergency taking place at the time.
- B. LeChee Chapter Senior Citizen Council member updates/Richfield Dormitory & BIE School Member updates Denis Tsosie reported that the Senior Citizen building needs critical repairs. With the Senior Citizen remaining budget here at the chapter house could be utilized to make these repairs. The Senior Citizen Council will work with chapter manager to get estimates and a complete list of repairs as soon as possible. These funds are un-restricted money and we could utilize these funds to make repairs next month in January. We are having problems getting our EIN #. Senior Citizen is thankful to the chapter for taking care of the funds and working with us.

Richfield Dormitory & BIE School report – Dine Education is having a public hearing meeting soon and it will be brought to the Navajo Nation Council, and we would like the NN Council support on this

issue. The public hearing meeting is not to take over the schools but to keep Public Law ongoing. There have been numerous concerns and complaints on the ongoing operations at the schools. Such as: Falling Schools, Mismanagement at the District Level, Financial Corruption within the schools, need more local support. I will be presenting a draft copy of the Resolution in the January 2020 Planning/Chapter meeting, for our local support.

- C. Un-Branded Horse Buyers are in Tuba City Fair Grounds on December 17, 2019 @ 10:am to 3: pm. Sara Dale announced During this horse sale, this is for all senior horses you will need to provide Grazing Permits or Bill of Sale. You are also not allowed more than one horse on your annual tally count.
- D. District One Grazing Committee Meeting December 11, 2019 at 9:am Kaibeto Chapter House. The previous meeting was postponed due to lack of quorum which was scheduled last week.
- E. Page Unified School District Christmas Break starts ½ Day Friday, December 20, 2019 and return to school on Monday, January 6, 2020.
- F. Western Navajo Agency Council meeting will be held on December 14, 2019 @ 9:00 A.M. in Flagstaff Coconino Community College in the common area on Lone Tree Road.
- G. Navajo Generating Station impacted 15 chapters meeting. The first meeting took place at Twin Arrows. No representation from Window Rock of the higher up. Robert Black was here to host the last meeting here at LeChee Chapter. These meetings are ongoing, and we don't know when the next meeting has been scheduled.
- H. Give thanks to Dixie Ellis Tours for donating wood for all our elderlies and families who need wood during these cold winter nights. The wood was hauled to Wilson & Ada Lister home for pick up. Also, Carol Bigthumb donated the Christmas goody bags for the meeting tonight. The load from Carol Bigthumb have already been designated to individuals in the community. Please work with Carol for the wood.
- I. Navajo Nation Forestry Department They have banded the use of oak wood. This has come out in a memo and will be posted in the chapter lobby for public view.

4. Approving agenda for December 9, 2019 chapter meeting:

Motion to approve the agenda with the additional items under #3, F,G,H,I. by: Yvonne Bigman Seconded by: Denis Tsosie Vote: 26 yes 0 no 01 abstain motioned carried.

5. Reading and Approval of November 11, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes:

Yvonne Bigman - Motion to approve November 11, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes since it is also posted in the lobby for public view, also requested that action items on the meeting minutes be read by Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Renee Tsosie.

Second by: Denis Tsosie Vote: 26 yes 0 no 01 abstain motioned carried.

Secretary/Treasurer Renee Tsosie read only the action items on the November 11, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes.

6. Action items/Financial Report /Resolution(s): (Financial Reports are reported quarterly, and hard copies are displayed at the front office).

A. #LC-120919A – Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation.

Approving the Carryover Budget for FY2020 in the amount of \$450,986.77.

Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second by: Denis Tsosie

Vote: 31 yes 0 no 01 abstain Motioned carried.

Renee Tsosie – Summarized the FY2020 Carryover Budget, also we had a meeting with ASC, Milford Maloney who assisted and reviewed the budget. This will be posted in the chapter lobby for public view.

Denis Tsosie – Is it common to have \$450 thousand dollar Carryover? The Navajo Nation will notice that we as a chapter is not utilizing the funding, and they might just underfund us next year. From what I hear they can do that to chapters. We need to start using this funding for its intended purpose.

JoAnn Yazzie – Some chapters have a large Carryover of \$1 million dollars.

Jerry Williams – We will take that into consideration and look into the budget during our future Planning meetings. Please come out and attend our Planning meetings for your input.

B. #LC-120919B - Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation.

Recommending Support and approval by the 24th Council (NNC) and the Office of the Navajo Nation President and Vice President (OP/VP) to request and dedicate 15% of the transaction privilege Tax (TPT) Generated on Western Navajo Nation for Infrastructure and Economic Development in the Arizona State Budget.

Jerry Williams – Explained that there is \$44 million dollars generated annually and we are requesting 15% to come back to assist us with Navajo Nation to help with operating the chapters.

Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second by: Marietta Williams

Vote: 27 yes 01 no 03 abstain Motioned carried.

C. #LC-120919C - Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation.

Recommending approval for Funding for the LeChee Chapter House to Establish a Internet Services Connection and recommending approval for Easements for Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) to place and operate electronic equipment within the vicinity of the LeChee Chapter, Coconino County, Arizona to support this initiative.

Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second by: Irene Whitekiller

Vote: 25 yes 05 no 01 abstain Motioned carried.

Public Discussion: Yvonne Bigman asked is NTUA going to donate the Public Computers?

Response: Jonah Charley – This was in the prior plans to donate computers, but since it was not approved by this chapter back then, but there are 5 other chapters who will receive the computers. This resolution is for the infrastructure only.

Yvonne Bigman – Can you plan on donating computers in the next phase? And will the software be upgrading annually?

Jonah Charley – I can mention to my boss to see if the computers could be an option. And yes the software will be upgraded annually by NTUA.

Comments: Jerry Williams – The chapter has 2 public computers for the community members to utilize to seek employment or any type of financial assistance. There are time limits of 30 minutes and please be considerate while using these computers.

Comment: JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche – The reason our internet connections are slow in the community is because ERAE, a report was given during our meeting at Twin Arrows last week from Navajo Nation Technology IT department from Windowrock. We could change our computers to a library status to get better services and it is a continuous project from Navajo Nation Technology IT department. We have two public computers' here in the chapter lobby for public use but have to be removed due to community members abusing the usage.

Yvonne Bigman – We as a chapter should go to the 20 megabytes for a 2 year agreement only. What are we paying out for internet now?

Renee Tsosie - Monthly \$500 +.

D. #LC-120919D – Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Approving the addition of the LeChee Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Renee Tsosie to the National Bank of Arizona Bank Accounts, and any other Bank Accounts which is in the name of LeChee Chapter, and to become the primary signatory based on her current elected position, and this will take effective immediately. Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second by: Deidra Boone

Vote: 30 yes 0 no 02 abstain Motioned carried.

E. #LC-120919E – Resolution of the LeChee Chapter, Western Navajo Agency, Navajo Nation. Supporting and requesting Navajo Nation-Hopi Land Commission and other entities to assist Verna Bryant with housing assistance to her burnt down Joint Use Area (JUA) home located in upper LeChee, Arizona at Lot P.

Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second by: Elizabeth Nez

Vote: 29 yes 0 no 01 abstain Motioned carried.

Chapter Secretary/Treasurer – Renee Tsosie gave an updated report on this resolution request. Currently Verna is living in a home with no utilities and living with her grandson who is attending Page Unified School District. Verna's home has a wood burning stove, so she has been purchasing wood to keep the home warm. Working with Christine Gamble and Jeannie Bitsoie, these two ladies have been hosting fund raisers by having a Navajo Taco Sale and Yard Sales, at this time they have raised over \$1,800.00. But even this amount won't cover the materials need for repairs. Delvin Etsitty also has offered to purchase the materials and pay for the labor to make repairs to this burnt home. He knows of an electrician who could help re-wire the home to meet the standards. We are waiting on someone to put together an estimate of materials needed. Tulley Begay was selected to do the repair work. As a community need to come together and help Verna and her grandson out and rebuild her home. I will keep you posted on the progress. Home was built through JUA Program. Mr. Robert Black with Navajo Land Commission stated that she might be funded \$5,000.00 this all depends on funding. NTUA gave her an estimate in the amount of \$800.00 to get all utilities working again.

Elizabeth Nez – Why don't we use the Emergency Assistance or the Housing Discretionary Fund in the amount of \$700.00 to help pay NTUA to reconnect her utility services when the renovation has been completed. We need to give her the help with the assistance.

JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche – All JUA recipient's sign an agreement to have insurance coverage. We have a lot of people who need repairs, and there is a large list, and been ongoing from the previous administration. Made a house visit to Mae Esplain and she is really in need for repairs.

Jerry Williams reports that he will be presenting in the upcoming months the O'Halleran Bill for community support. Just for your information.

- 7. **Reports:** (Chapter President Jerry Williams handed the meeting over to Vice-President JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche at 8:40 P.M. due to his long travel to Phoenix for employment).
 - A. Chapter Manager: Revaline Yazzie-Tate No report, not in attendance to tonight's meeting

B. Chapter Officials: LeChee Chapter Officials: Jerry Williams – No report

- JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche – Update on the NGS impact and closure, reported that there is no communication on behalf of JT Willie who is the Navajo Nation appointed person to oversee the impact and the closure of NGS.

Been busy with meeting on the renewal of the Quad lateral Agreement, which is due in 9 months from now. Since Jerry Williams is not here, we have to do a lot of the meetings and attend these meetings.

- There was a meeting in Window Rock with Antelope Point Marina and the Navajo Nation Vice-President and Department of Justice and the President of Swift Corporation, which us chapter officials tried to attend, but were told by the assistant that it was a closed-door meeting. This was disappointing to us. After the meeting we meet in the parking lot with APM said they just updated us on future projects such as the Campground, Dry Storage, and that's what the meeting was about the upcoming renewal agreements. We have been having meetings with the five chapters surrounding us. We meet to make changes on the current agreement and hopefully we can get these inserted in the new upcoming agreement with Navajo Nation.
- Currently working on the Rural Addressing which was never completed. Attended 2 trainings with MC Baldwin who is over the Rural Addressing on Navajo Nation with Department of Community Development. We need to start working on the Right-Of-Way along State Route 89 and 98 to complete the Rural Addressing on the maps. We were told there is a box stored somewhere in the chapter house with all the information on the Rural Addressing. We will ask the chapter manager if there is such a box, if we find one the Rural Addressing will be a lot easier to complete. Verification of Residency letters cannot be done at the local chapter house anymore. These types of request need to be sent to Rural Addressing in Window Rock. We are requesting that all these types of trainings be held here in Western Agency instead of Window Rock.
- DOJ has asked us not to really have meetings or discussions with NPS due to their upcoming renewal agreement.
- Navajo Nation Drought Proposal This is almost complete; we need to turn in the final copy to Angela Cody who is currently working with all 5 chapters to complete.
- Renee Tsosie Veterans Will be having a meeting here at the chapter on Wednesday this week. I had requested a updated Veterans list of this community. The list was given to me and if you don't see someone you know that is a Veteran let me know so we can update this list for our Veterans.
- Attended Rural Addressing training in Window Rock with MC Baldwin, this is an ongoing project for me and JoAnn. I feel that we should use Google Maps to map our community instead of the NN Rural Addressing. The next NN Administration might go with another program to map out our community again. Who knows what this training will do for our community? There is also a box here in the storage that has information on the Rural Addressing for our community. I will look for this box and hopefully it completes our project for the Rural Addressing.
- The November 2019 Bank reconciliation was not presented; this will be presented next month in December once it has been completed.

- Was not able to meet with Chapter Manager to complete this reconciliation. I have requested the two chapters officials to have a meeting regarding the community projects, and any other upcoming events. Requested to have the meeting on January 6, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. before the Planning Meeting.
- D. Grazing Representative: Sara Dale \$200.00 for Super Tuesday Horse Sales (See Flyer in Lobby)
- Drought Meeting in Tuba City with Angela. Dry Ponds are lacking in the proposal.
- Water Department is also requesting the same information on the Dry Ponds.
- Dry Ponds let me know the locations so I can GPS them out for future funding assistance.
- Teach your young youth on what vegetation on the land we graze our livestock.
- So proud of our chapter for all the Talley Counts completed, and the way we work together. We are doing good as a chapter. Take care of your livestock and your Grazing Permits.
- E. Chapter Council Delegate: Paul Begay Thank you for allowing me to make a brief report tonight.
- LeChee Chapter meetings was changed to Thursday's and then back to Monday's and I am currently sitting on the HESE Committee which meets on Monday's and the Nabikiyatei Committee meets on Thursday, so I am busy, but make every effort to attend your chapter meetings. I do not appreciate our chapter President excusing himself right before my report. I as a Council Delegate am a very busy person, but I make the effort to make my reports, because that's what the people voted me in to do.
- I should be in a Conference in Henderson, Nevada today and tomorrow, but decided not to attend because HESE work session taking place these two days. Don't know why our Council Delegates continue to schedule conference, training and other meetings out of town. It's a real problem for some of the Council Delegates but continues to happen.
- Navajo Hopi Land Commission Next meeting is scheduled for January 2020 in Dilcon, Arizona. I will take the resolution you have passed tonight and present this to the committee. Me and Otto Tso will do what we can to seek some funding. Follow up report will be made.
- DODE Is trying to take over the BIE Schools, the leadership is the biggest problem. HESE is the oversight committee and we are continuously addressing the mismanagement and corruption of the schools on the Nation.

The Department of Education is trying to take over the BIE school system.

- -Western Navajo Waterline Project There are 3 sources of funding we are looking into and its an ongoing discussion for the Committee. Phase 1 is to start in the Spring of 2020, the total cost is \$87 million dollars, Phase 1 will take \$25 million. The following chapters will benefit from the Waterline Project: LeChee-Coppermine-Boadaway-Cameron-Coalmine-Marble Canyon- Leupp. Even the Aqua Fir waterline project is under discussion and in the planning stages. All these planning take time and a lot of effort from our behalf.
 - NGS Closure Heard the warehouse and the service building are the only two buildings that will be left for Navajo Nation to use. We are not informed from Window Rock, JT Willie when or where meetings are taking place. So we are left out of the discussions. We need better communication with JT Willie, who was selected from the President office to oversee this NGS

- Assets. As a chapter we need to request the Administration Building so we could change it into a Vocational/Training/Educational building for our people.
- Horseman Lodge in Flagstaff, Arizona was purchased by the NN and it will be changed into a Tribal Center for NN, there will be a C-Store, Restaurant, Cultural Center, Game Bedding. But no slot machines.
- No NN Flags are posted at the following locations where native American students attend. New Mexico Military and Page Unified School District. I have two NN Flags and they will get posted in the new year to come.

Next Regular Planning Meeting: January 6, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)

- 8. Next Regular Chapter Meeting: January 13, 2019@ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
- 9. Adjournment: 8:29 P.M.



And have a Merry Christmas and keep safe during this holiday season

MEETING MINUTES SUBMITTED BY RENEE TSOSIE, LECHEE CHAPTER SECRETARY TREASURER