



LeChee Chapter

Jerry L. Williams, President
Sara Dale, Grazing Officer
Vacant, Chapter Manager

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

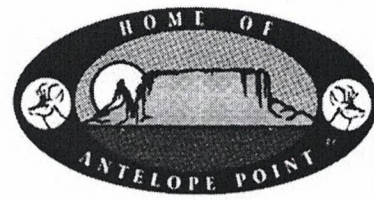
P.O. Box 4720 Page, Arizona 86040 P: 928-698-2805 F: 928.698.2803 E: lechee@navajochapters.org

LeChee Chapter Meeting AGENDA

February 10, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M.

1. **Meeting Call to Order:**
2. **Invocation:**
3. **Announcements/Presentation: (please allow for 10 min. time limit)**
 - A. Dixie's Lower Antelope Canyon Tours – Renee Tsosie
 - B. PUSD Impact Aid, Community Concerns– Representative from Page Unified School District
 - C. NHA – Kermit Yazzie
 - D. Korean Church Organization - Kee Yazzie Hwang
 - E. Navajo Power – Kelvin Long
 - F. Community Garden – Florida Tracey and Eddie Kent
 - G. 2020 NN Economic Summit- April 28-30, 2020 @Twin Arrows Casino Resort
4. **Review and Adoption of the Agenda**
5. **Reading and Approval of January 13, 2020 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-02102020A – RESOLUTION OF THE LECHEE CHAPTER, WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY, NAVAJO NATION RECOMMENDING APPROVING THE LECHEE CHAPTER TAX ORDINANCE FOR UTILIZATION BY LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT – CERTIFIED CHAPTERS.**
 - B. **#LC-02102020B – RESOLUTION OF THE LECHEE CHAPTER, WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY, NAVAJO NATION PROPOSING THE LECHEE CHAPTER TO PAY FOR THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE COMMERCIAL SITE ON NAVAJO ROUTE N-22. THE CORRIDORS OF 330 ACRES SET ASIDE FOR COMMERCIAL USE. THE AMOUNT IS \$34,073.56 TO CONDUCT THE ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDIES. LECHEE CHAPTER HAS SOME FUND TO DEFRAY THE COST.**
7. **Reports:**
 - A. **Chapter Officials: LeChee Chapter Officials:** Jerry Williams, JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche, Renee Tsosie
 - B. **Council Delegate:** Paul Begay
8. **Next Regular Planning Meeting:** March 2, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
9. **Next Regular Chapter Meeting:** March 9, 2020, @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
10. **Adjournment:**

LeChee Chapter



Jerry L. Williams, President
Sara Dale, Grazing Officer
Vacant, Chapter Manager

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

P.O. Box 4720 Page, Arizona 86040 P: 928-698-2805 F:928.698.2803 E: lechee@navajochapters.org

LeChee Chapter Meeting AGENDA

February 10, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M.

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Jerry Williams called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M. (MST)
2. **Invocation:** Irene Whitekiller, Community Member
3. **Announcements/Presentation: (please allow for 10 min. time limit) Food was provided by Navajo Power, and everyone will be served.**
 - A. Dixie's Lower Antelope Canyon Tours – Renee Tsosie, announced upcoming event at Lower Antelope Canyon. Community is invited to attend a practice for Flash Flood Evacuation Drill on Saturday, February 22, 2020 @ 2:30 P.M. (MST): Location Indian Route 222, Page, Arizona. A flyer will be posted in the Chapter lobby for more information.
 - B. PUSD Impact Aid, Community Concerns– Representative from Page Unified School District, Elouise Goatson – Reported on the following with community members:
 - The current Superintendent of Page Unified School District, Rob Varner will be resigning this school year. We are in search of a new Superintendent. There will be a superintendent search advisory board committee, you will need to fill out the forms to be on the serve on the advisory board. They are going to hold a meet and greet to talk with the candidates. Committees will be made of representatives from our chapter houses also, community members of Page. We welcome all PUSD staff, students to serve on the committee to help select a new superintendent. Forms will be left here at the chapter for those individuals who would like to serve on this committee. These forms will need to be turned in by the end March. In the month of April, the interviews will start taking place. All instructions on the form.
 - Impact Aid this will be presented by Rob Varner in the March Planning meeting and presented to the chapter meeting the same month. Mr. Varner got very ill with the flu and was not able to attend the meeting tonight. He will have a slide show presentation next month, and he will have the Terry Mauer who is the PUSD Human Resource Director to answer some questions about hiring practices.
 - Impact Aid is a Federal program designed to: Reimburse the local school district for taxes lost when land is removed from local tax rolls due to federal activity which pay the federal share of the cost to educate students enrolled in a local school district due to federal activity. Indian Trust or

Treaty Lands, Military Installations, other Federal Property Land Ownership, and Federal Low Rent Housing. This funding pays for fuel for all transportation, such as bus, vans, maintenance vehicles, teacher salary, special needs, teacher aids, administrator's, electricity, water/sewer, building repairs. To name but a few. There are currently no Bonds toward Impact Aid. Years ago, when Mr. Walker was Superintendent, he was aware the Impact Aid was not used it would pay for part of the property taxes for people who lived in the City of Page. So, he went to work and made changes on how the Impact Aid funding go all back to the PUSD. This Impact Aid was a misunderstanding from the community members. Other school on the Navajo Nation use their Impact Aid to pay for housing on the school campus. We here in Page don't have that luxury to have that program for our teachers. The cost of rent is a big problem here in the City of Page, it cost to much, and we lose good qualified teachers to Navajo Nation Schools.

- Dee McKerry, PUSD School Board Member – Impact Aid paid \$50 million and after the closure of NGS the amount will surely go down, we are not sure how much less, this will not affect us now it will next school year. The Navajo Nation pays \$15 million and now \$5 million dollars and most of the funds go towards teacher's salary and administrative cost to operate the school district. We all know it is hard to recruit qualified teachers to work for us due to lack of housing, and the pay is so low with such a high demand from the state. We are down our count on student 2000, and I am sure it will go down again.
- Question: JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche – Why don't we have native teachers or administers staff? Why don't we have more qualified native teachers? I am aware that there are a lot of substitute teachers, and by law you can't have that for special needs kids. These are concerns from our community. We did meet with Rob Varner and asked some of the same questions I am asking now. Why are we a school district that have low test scores, which identifies us a failing school? Why not send our staff to be training at other successful schools to see what programs they are using and learn from them? Beyond textbook was what was being used. The new teacher emersions use to take place when new teachers came on staff, this would help the teachers understand what our kids must go through on a daily living on the reservation. Why do we test our student in the month of April? By this time the students have already checked out and don't do well on their testing, these date needs to be changed. You as a school board member you could find out why we are failing test score school. It a big concern on about the low-test scores.
- Response: Dee McKerry – Superintendent said natives don't apply or they don't meet the qualifications of the position. Low Test Scores, at the state level there are new bosses. Yes, we are failing school. During our search for superintendent we would like to hire a good one, so the focus is to bring up the test scores and finding new programs to help the teachers in the classroom with the curriculum for our whole school district. The curriculum has been in for over 6 years, and that has yet to be changed. We have problems with behavior, and how to effectively discipline students and stay within our guidelines as a school district.
- Comment: Jerry Williams – We can complain from a community, but we all need to get involved if we want to see change. When I was serving as a school board member, the teachers always wanted

to know why reports need to be done, instead of reports the teachers need to use that time to teach the students. If there are no further questions we can move on the meeting. Thank you for coming out and presenting at tonight's meeting.

Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation- Christine Granger introduced herself, she is will Sane /Sart a program serving sexual assaulted victims by proving a comprehensive medical treatment and confidential forensic evaluation by nurse experts through coordinated community response. I have more information if you have any questions, I am set up here to talk with you. I also brought some swag to hand out.

C. NHA – Kermit Yazzie - – Reported the following with two other representatives that are taking care of the Proposed 30 Rental Units.

- The 30 rental units have been proposed over several of years ago.
- Construction Service Project will know more information on the updates of the progress of these 30 units coming up.
- HUD eligibility requirements for home ownership, public rental, and scattered homes are all income based. I have brought 25 applications and will leave it here at the chapter house. The more applicants we have the more we see a demand for more NHA homes. There is also a list of the required documents you will need to apply.
- Scattered NHA homes come with a 25-year lease agreement so if you get delinquent on your mortgage payment, you will lose your house and the HSL, it can be given to another family member, then if they don't qualify it can be assigned to the next person who applies and qualifies for the loan payment. That's the only problem people have with scattered home projects.
- Scattered homes will need to have infrastructure within 1,500' from where the home will be built.
- There were only 3 applicants for home ownership or public rentals within the LeChee Chapter community. I will leave 25 applications here for those who want to apply, applications need to be turned in at the Tuba City office.
- It cost a lot of money to build one scattered home, so recommend building a subdivision or public rental units.

D. Korean Church Organization - Kee Hwang (Yazzie) – Is the Pastor with Coppermine Community Church here to announce on June 15, 2020 the Korean church from New Jersey Crew will be hosting a free Health services which will give haircuts, nail manicure, messages, RN onsite to take vital signs, and take family portraits. This event will take place at LeChee chapter house, it is a free event, so please let people know and come out and participate. Will keep you updated on this visit. There will be about 6 Korean workers that day. We all enjoy providing this service to local communities. It was a successful event last year. I will leave a phone number to those families that need minor home repairs, you can contact myself and plan. You will need to provide the material I will provide the labor. Thank you.

E. Navajo Power – Kelvin Long, Dan Rossen, Gabriel, and Leonard Chee

-Dan Rossen, Co CEO reported that over 1-1/2 years ago this was presented to the chapter members and was tabled due to lack of information to the community. Currently we are working with Grazing

Permit Holders. Mission of Navajo Power was to maximize the Economic Growth and generate revenues for the LeChee community. We are looking for 5,000 acres to develop 500 kilo watts this would be paired with large battery storage of 200 megawatts. The land is hard to find here in LeChee, this would be a historical area if we were to develop. We are Navajo Owned. 80% of revenues always goes back to community projects. We are a for Profit Corporation we give back to the community. There will be at least 10 employees to oversee the Solar Panel Project, it will also be very low maintenance.

Kelvin Long – Our group will continue to work with the chapters and discuss future solar project and the numbers at the next Planning meeting in March. We can help the chapter with creating a NON-Profit, have an open discussion to make future.

Leonard Chee – You have a community member that works with us, Christopher Deschene.

Paul Begay – Navajo Power is collaborating with the Hayolcolth Committee. Maintenance for the solar panels are expensive. Council is hoping this will work. Yes, we need to support our Navajo Entrepreneurs.

Sara Black – There are a lot of flags out along highway 98. Was this completed by Navajo Power?

Eddie Kent – Who is giving up the 5,000 acres of land, and it's a lot of land to request.

Gabriel we are hoping to build the communities trust to continue our relationship. Navajo Power is a Public Benefits Program Committee. Everything starts from the communities, that's why we are starting up with this approach.

Murphy Alex, Community Member – Why not just start out small and build the solar power plant at NGS, since they have a lot of land. Show the community and convince community members.

F. Community Gardens – Florida Tracy and Eddie Kent

Florida Tracy the agenda has TCRHC, just for your information this is not affiliated with TCRHC. This community garden is a volunteer effort from Patricia Kent and other volunteers. This is help community members sustain good healthy food diet. We welcome community members to volunteer in developing this garden. The sight selected is the late Clara Clark garden in lower LeChee, her son Alfred Clark has agreed to the use of the old garden.

Eddie Kent – If we were to sell any veggies or fruits, the money would go back into the garden to help with maintenance cost, materials to build, and water.

Yvonne Bigman suggested to use the old Senior Citizen garden site here on the chapter boundaries.

Irene Whitekiller – made a short announcement for the Page Middle School boys/girls basketball team making it the finals. Ambrose Henderson will make the announcement.

Ambrose Henderson is the head coach. Announced that the team has made the NAC tournament down in Phoenix and is requesting for donations to support our native students. The funding will pay for meals and rooms for the students. This is the first-time middle school teams have ever participated in NAC tournaments. The entry fee is \$350.00 and due on February 17, 2020 if we pay this before the due date, we get a \$100.00 off the entry fee.

G. 2020 NN Economic Summit- April 28-30, 2020 @Twin Arrows Casino Resort

4. **Review and Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion: Irene Whitekiller Second: Maretta Williams

Vote: 26 yes 0 no 03 abstain Motion Carried.

5. **Reading and Approval of January 13, 2020 Chapter Meeting Minutes:** Motion: Irene Whitekiller

Second: Yvonne Bigman Vote: 33 yes 0 no 02 abstain Motion Carried.

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

- A. #LC-02102020A – RESOLUTION OF THE LECHEE CHAPTER, WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY, NAVAJO NATION RECOMMENDING APPROVING THE LECHEE CHAPTER TAX ORDINANCE FOR UTILIZATION BY LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT – CERTIFIED CHAPTERS.**

Motion: Irene Whitekiller Second: Lou Tso Vote: 38 yes 0 no 02 abstain Motion Carried.

- B. #LC-02102020B – RESOLUTION OF THE LECHEE CHAPTER, WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY, NAVAJO NATION PROPOSING THE LECHEE CHAPTER TO PAY FOR THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE COMMERCIAL SITE ON NAVAJO ROUTE N-22. THE CORRIDORS OF 330 ACRES SET ASIDE FOR COMERCIAL USE. THE AMOUNT IS \$34,073.56 TO CONDUCT THE ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDIES. LECHEE CHAPTER HAS SOME FUND TO DEFRAY THE COST.**

(Jerry Williams – Indicated that Navajo Oil and Gas will pay for half of the cost, so the cost to the chapter would be \$16,500.00. The amount on the resolution should be \$33,000.00 and not the \$34,073.56.)

Motion to Table this resolution due to lack of information: Irene Whitekiller Second: Yavone Bigman

Vote: 15 yes 01 no 06 abstain Motion was table no further discussion

7. **Reports:**

- A. Chapter Officials: LeChee Chapter Officials:** Jerry Williams, JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche, Renee Tsosie

Jerry Williams – Attended a meeting with SRP & Contractor's, they are looking to hire 8 labor, Warehouse, 2 office personal, and a data entry clerk.

- ADOT will start working on the Horseshoe bend turning lane and additional constructions are planned to start up soon.

- A turn out or round about is needed at N-22 at the Antelope Point Road.

- Attended a future chapter projects meeting in Coppermine today with Council Delegate Begay and other surrounding chapters.

JoAnn Yazzie-Pioche – Attended the NN 2020 Census Summit at Twin Arrows. They are hiring census takers, and they will start training, these are paid positions, starting at \$16.50 an hour, also pay for mileage .57.5 cents per mile. All census takers will have a cell phone, plans are to pair up two census workers. They are recommending not to register with Ancestry.com. This count helps with Federal dollars in keeping federal programs operating, and funding for communities. We need everyone to be counted. There will be flyers in the chapter lobby for more information on the 2020 Census Count.

- February 15, 2020 there is Democratic Voter Registration rally, need to register to vote, there will be a large turnout at the rally.

- Attended the meeting in Coppermine with Council Delegate Begay. A lot of information was shared with us and very informative.

- Update on Quadrilateral Agreement with the Buffer Zone, DOJ is still moving forward with the planning. We will keep you posted.
 - Western Water Line Project update, the chapter needs to gather more information to get water rights. The agreements expire Sept 2020. All the water rights were signed off over 50 years ago by leaders who were not aware of what they had agreed to back then. More less not educated.
- Renee Tsosie – Next month the chapter budget quarterly reports are due, and the reports will be printed on the back of the agenda. I will give the time over to Paul to make his report since he has early travels to Window Rock tomorrow.

B. Council Delegate: Paul Begay

- A meeting was planned to have all 5 chapters I represent at Coppermine Chapter, a lot was covered, and a lot of good information was provided by the departments that came in from Window Rock. We plan on scheduling these types of meetings every 2 months, plans are to invite different departments to come out and meet with the chapters, so this can eliminate some of travel for chapter officials, also to get departments to come out and visit our communities and see what our needs are for our member, and bring out the resources from Window Rock.
- **Here are some of the items that were discussed:**
- Quadrilateral Agreement updates by DOJ.
- Corona Virus came from mainland China, statistics were provided during the meeting.
- NTUA Siahasin Project, there are a lot of project requests from the chapters, ie. Streetlights,
- Navajo Veterans Administration – Provided updates on the new staffing in Western Navajo Agency office, and also looking for more help in Window Rock Central office. The Veteran Council is very active in Eastern Agency. There will be event in Tuba City Agency for all the WNA Veterans. Dates and time will be coming forth.
- Western Water Line Project is an ongoing. The talks on this project needs to start at Window Rock at the speaker’s office. The purest water is underground in Shonto, Arizona.
- \$65 million project was added to the corridor to Antelope Canyon, they will come in Phases 1,2,3 & 4. \$25 million has been identified starting this spring of 2020.
- Navajo State Gaming Sub Committee – LeChee is the prime spot to start up Economic Growth. There are a lot of tourist locally and it year-round.
- NDOT – Gary Silversmith addressed the maintenance of Navajo Nation roads maintenance continuously i.e. Bridges, culverts, striping, potholes, drain lines.
- Murphy Alex expressed his gratitude of thanks to Paul for the all the work he puts into being a Council Delegate. Keep up the good work and our prayers are with you.
- Question: Is the Navajo Nation members ever going to receive a per-capita pay from any of the Casino’s? Paul- I am sure we never will, we have to many members. Other tribes can receive it, but our tribe is too big. The Hopi tribe could plan on developing a Casino here in Page, we need to start planning on these types of economic growth soon, otherwise the Hopi Tribe will take it right under us and build one on their own. Navajo Nation can own/operate 7 gaming casinos, currently NN is operating 4 in the United States.

8. **Next Regular Planning Meeting:** March 2, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
9. **Next Regular Chapter Meeting:** March 9, 2020, @ 5:00 P.M. (MST)
10. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by: Denis Tsosie at 9:15 P.M.

REMINDER! DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME START MARCH 8TH, 2020, MOVE YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD. ALL CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE HELD ON MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME.

Chapter Meeting Minutes submitted by: Renee Tsosie, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee Tsosie".