

KLAGETOH CHAPTER



PHONE: 928.652.2700 FAX: 928.652.2701 EMAIL: klagetoh@navajochapters.org

MAILING: Unit 42 HC58 Box 90
Ganado, AZ 86505

PHYSICAL: US HWY 191 Mile Post 397
Klagetoh, AZ 86505

PRESIDENT: LELAND NEZ
COUNCIL DELEGATE: LOMARDO ASERET

VICE PRESIDENT: LEON JACKSON
COMMUNITY SERVICE COORDINATOR: CLARENCE CHEE

SECRETARY/TREASURER: MAUREEN WOODMAN
ACCOUNTS MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST: LELA SANGSTER

GRAZING OFFICER: ALLAN TAPAHA
ACCOUNTS MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST: LELA SANGSTER

Planning Meeting

February 1, 2024 @ 9:00 am

Call-In Number: (657) 390-7993

Agenda

Invocation

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Reading and accepting the agenda
- IV. Reading and accepting the December 17, 2023 minutes
- V. New Business
 - a. Financial Reports
 - b. Resolutions
 - i. KLA 2272-01/2024 Amending Resolution KLA 2256-09/2023 by selecting three new Housing Discretionary Committee members to review and recommend selection of recipients for Housing Discretionary Financial Assistance.
 - ii. KLA 2273-01/2024 Requesting and approving ARPA Fund Transfer from Illegal Dumpsite in the amount of \$100,000.00, BIA Compound in the amount of \$200,000.00, and the Project Consultant in the amount of \$50,000.00 to increase the cost of Klagetoh Chapter Renovation/Construction upgrade totaling \$1,177,774.29.
 - iii. KLA 2274-01/2024 Recommending and approving Parent Advisory Committee member(s) for Ganado Unified School District.
 - iv. KLA 2275-01/2024 Supporting and Approving the Fiscal Year 2024 General Fund Carryover 2023 Distribution in the amount of Three Thousand One Hundred Five Dollars and Fifty-Six cents (\$3,105.56).
 - v. KLA 2276-01/2024 Supporting and Approving the Fiscal Year 2024 Navajo Nation Gaming Net Revenue Carryover 2023 Distribution in the amount of One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Sixty-Eight Cents (\$1669.68).
 - vi. KLA 2277-02/2024 Requesting and Approving an amendment to KLA-964-2004 to increase the Funeral/Burial Assistance from \$100.00 to \$150.00.

VI. Reports

- a. Council Delegate
- b. Chapter Officials
- c. Grazing Official
- d. Klagetoh Land Use Planning Committee
- e. Klagetoh Veterans Organization
- f. Ganado Unified School District

VII. Announcements

- a. 02/01/2024 Planning Meeting @ 1:00 pm
- b. 02/04/2024 Klagetoh Veterans Meeting @ 1:00 pm
- c. 02/14/2024 KLUPC Meeting @ 9:00 am
- d. 02/18/2024 Regular Meeting @ 1:00 pm

VIII. Adjournment

KLGETOH CHAPTER



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Planning Meeting

February 1, 2024 @ 9:00 am

Call-In Number: (657) 390-7993

Minutes

Invocation: Maureen Woodman

- I. Call to order at 9:53 a.m. by Leland Nez.
- II. Roll Call - only virtual attendees.
- III. Reading and accepting of the agenda – Leland Nez read through the agenda and no additional comments were made on the agenda.
- IV. Reading and accepting the December 17, 2023 minutes – Maureen elected to read the minutes until the regular chapter meeting and request for acceptance of the meeting.
- V. New Business
 - a. Financial reports - Maureen will present the December 2023 financial reports at the Regular Chapter meeting and request for acceptance of the reports.
 - b. Resolutions
 - i. KLA 2272-01/2024: Amending Resolution KLA 2256-09/2023 by selecting three new housing discretion committee members to review and recommend selection of recipients for Housing Discretionary Financial Assistance. **Notes:** Leland Nez explained that Edison Roan and Laverne Joe are still on the committee and Clarence Chee recommended selecting at least two other committee members. He explained that Natasha Roanhorse, the CHR was selected as a member to this committee but she was denied by her employer due to conflict of interest. There will be one appointment with one person as standby during the absence of one committee member.
 - ii. KLA 2273-01/2024: Requesting and approving ARPA Fund Transfer from Illegal Dumpsite in the amount of \$100,000.00, BIA Compound in the amount of \$200,000.00, and the Project Consultant in the amount of \$50,000.00 to increase the Klagetoh Chapter renovation budget to \$1,177,774.29. **Note:** This money will go toward the renovation project
 - iii. KLA 2274-01/2024: Recommending and approving Parent Advisory Committee member(s) for Ganado Unified School District #20.
 - iv. KLA 2275-01/2024: Supporting and approving the fiscal year 2024 General Fund carryover 2023 distribution in the amount of Three Thousand One Hundred Five Dollars and Fifty-Six cents (\$3,105.56). **NOTE:** Leland explained the definition of a carry over.

- v. KLA 2276-01/2024: Supporting and approving the Fiscal Year 2024 Navajo Nation Gaming Net Revenue Carryover 2023 Distribution in the amount of One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars and Sixty-eight (\$1,669.68). **NOTE:** Leland explained how carry overs are distributed accordingly by the administrative staff based on needs for daily Chapter Operation.
- vi. KLA 2277-02-2024: Requesting and approving an amendment to KLA-964-2004 to increase the Funeral / Burial Assistance from \$100.00 to \$150.00. **NOTE:** Leland explained how funeral expenses are getting higher so that is the reason behind the increase of financial assistance, No comments were made on this topic.

VI. Reports

- a. Council Delegate – Delegate is not present
- b. Chapter Officials: Leland reported that the Fort Defiance Agency Meeting took place at Houck Chapter and he will report the information at the regular meeting. Leon Jackson also stated that he will do the same at the chapter meeting. Maureen reported that she didn't attend the January meetings in person due to an injury to her arm. She has not gone through the January financial reports but will get it done before the regular meeting. She will check the FAF and follow up on the checks for verification that all procedures were followed. She is concerned about the audit report that is coming up, especially the corrective action to the housing discretionary committee needs to be resolved. Other issues are the PEP progress reports are in place. She mentioned that a progress report was given to the administration, a form that was used for PEP reporting to Window Rock. She stressed a need to push the ARPA projects to keep things moving. Maureen elaborated on the status reports received from those who are working on getting the projects done. She recommended sending a memorandum to Council Delegates that represent the seven Chapters within District 17 regarding the urgency of adherence to the timeline for ARPA expenditures and to recommend to fully support the completion of the projects. She mentioned there are some upcoming meetings scheduled and she will make an effort to attend these meetings.
- c. Grazing Official, Allen Tapaha reported District 17 Grazing meeting will be at Wide Ruins Chapter House on February 05, 2024. The Veterinarian is sponsoring a free castration on February 8 and 9 at Tse Bonito, NM. Then on February 13, 2024, dog and cat vaccination in exchange for canned food at the Veterinarian place in Tse Bonito, NM. They are treating cats, dogs, horses, and cows only. The rest of the report will be given at the chapter meeting.
- d. Klagetoh Land Use Planning Committee – no CLUPC member present for today's meeting.
- e. Klagetoh Veterans Organization – Jean Payton reported they meet every other month and the last meeting was in December 2023. The next meeting is this coming Sunday, 2/4/24 at 1:00 p.m. They have a lot of questions about the new management at the Navajo Nation Veterans office. She reported quite a few Veterans passed on recently, so they will be looking at their budget to see if there can be some type of assistance. She commented that the Tuba City veterans organization overspends their budget so they took money from other veterans organization's budget to cover this over expenditure. The Navajo Nation is not reporting correctly on the housing assistance throughout Navajo Nation Chapters. For the Klagetoh area, there are 20 people who received home visits for assessments. On Tuesday, they will do another home visits to finish up the list of veterans requesting assistance through ARPA Regional Fund. Leland asked about Mateo's statement on selecting new officers. Jean reported that there has to be a motion

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for a vote of no confidence at the Veterans before it is introduced at the Chapter meeting. In the meantime, they are not moving on this because they have not had anyone speak up at the meetings. Elections are every two years and they had their elections in the summer of 2023.

- f. Ganado Unified School District: there is no representative present or on the teleconference line.
- g. Community Service Coordinator: Clarence reported on ARPA funding allocated for the landfill. He reported that the Navajo Nation EPA got involved and they need to conduct additional testing for soils for ground water contamination. When hazardous waste is removed or moved, EPA has authority to oversee disposal and they ensure the land is cleaned and safe for users and occupants. The expenditure plan for all ARPA deadlines was Monday, 1/29/24. There was no reply, guidance, and recommendations from DCD and ASC. As a result of this, Clarence moved to recommend moving \$350,000.00 into the Chapter renovation budget. This recommendation was drafted in a Memorandum form and all the Chapter Officials concurred in agreement to transfer funds. It was reported the Chapter received \$35,000.00 for emergency funds. The ASC is requesting for distribution of the \$35,000.00 among identified line items by today. He stated an audit was mentioned and Klagetoh's lack of following housing discretionary policy was noted. Therefore, the Chapter administration is working to correct these findings. There is a housing discretionary orientation on Friday, 2/2/24 for those who are interested. The missing committee members need to be replaced so this committee can begin making decisions. There are still six audit findings that need addressing. He is recommending and encouraging community members to attend the chapter meetings to keep things moving.

- Stenson Wauneka commented that Community members request for Navajo Nation funds for burial assistance and then they come to the Chapter for financial assistance. The funeral donation needs to be revisited to identify if it's going toward the actual funeral expense or if the donation is going toward the food. He was concerned that there is no section on the agenda for community input. **NOTE:** Clarence stated we assist with \$100 and the pricing keeps climbing yearly. The funeral donation check is written directly to the Mortuary.
- Maureen Woodman commented that St. Michaels Association for Special Education the school hands out vouchers for food. Recently they moved the food voucher to T&R. This is a good idea and it's worth looking into. The funeral assistance should be kept with the funeral homes and it's getting costly. We're recommending \$150.00 but the community may recommend a higher amount.
- Stenson Wauneka explained some of the expenses involved with funerals such as transport, body preparations, etc., are additional expenses that family has to pay for and the Navajo Nation assists with \$2,500.00. He stated that Funeral homes charge extra to do weekend funerals and he recommended doing a public education on avoiding extra expense by telling the family to refrain from weekend funeral services. He recommended doing a sample budget for funeral arrangements to give the community members an idea of some of the expenses.

- Maureen asked how to address other community members being buried in Chapter cemetery. She stated that Ganado Chapter put a stop to non-community members being buried at their cemetery. There were two community members buried here from Wide Ruins. She recommended reviewing our Memorial Park policies and procedures to see if we need to make amendments to it. She can understand Klage-toh members who live elsewhere, but maintain their voter registration with the Chapter who get buried at the memorial Park Stenson stated that Chinle, Fort Defiance, don't allow outside members and they charge a fee for burial plots. Maybe the Chapter will charge a fee for the digging of the grave to cover expenses of the equipment. There is no aftercare, a lot of people are still grieving.
- Leland Nez reported that this topic came up at the Fort Defiance Agency Council Meeting. He reported that policy is different between chapters as some require a fee and others don't. Some chapters are open to burials and others are limited. However, veterans are an exception in some instances and others still apply a fee regardless of whether they are veterans or not. Mr. Halona provided clarification during the meeting and stated the 110 chapters should not be charging anybody for burial. Chapter members cannot be denied burials because they are Navajo and have a census number with the Navajo Nation. Mr. Halona acknowledged that communities need to work on re-establishing cemeteries within their chapters to accommodate their constituencies. Leland reported traditional burials can be slightly modified by making a makeshift box for the burial in lieu of direct burial. He commented that regarding the increase in the amount of the Chapters' assistance, the cost for funeral expenses will continually increase by the year. Leland talked about audit justifications associated with assisting families in times of need is hard to justify on how the funds were used, if the check is addressed in their name. Leland also mentioned that some people are asking for the cemetery to be unlocked so people don't have to keep asking for the cemetery to be unlocked. Maybe we should change the gates out at the cemetery to allow public access. Stenson reported that he sometimes leaves the cemetery unlocked for people to access the cemetery. He asks the community members to keep the gate closed to keep animals from going into the enclosure. He recommended fees be paid for the operator and for the back hoe. The Chapter assists with the chapter usage and the operator is a separate person. The cost to pay the operator is embedded in the costs so the operator can be paid for their time.
- Clarence: Chee responded that social services gets money from the Federal to assist with burial assistance. The Chapter contribution for families is out of the general budget and is not given to the chapter specifically for burials. The money the Chapter assists with is money that is coming from selling water, trash payments, and other services which fund the assistance for burials.
- Maggie Roanhorse elaborated and talked about some of the changes which happened to the funeral assistance program at the Navajo Nation level. Community members all have varying financial situations so there has to be flexibility. She supports the installation of a revolving turnstile but recommends keeping the cemetery gates locked. Once the animal gets in there they trample everything. We still need control

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of it to keep it maintained. The cemetery is nice compared to other communities and we will maintain it. She stated Stenson marks off the area so people bury their loved ones in an orderly fashion.

- Extensive conversation regarding burial services provided by companies who service our area.

VII. Announcement was read by Leland Nez

- 02/01/2024 Special Meeting at 1:00 p.m.
- 02/04/2024 Klagetoh Veterans Meeting at 1:00 p.m.
- 02/14/2024 KLUPC meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- 02/18/2024 Regular meeting at 1:00 p.m.
- Clarence announced on 2/21/24, St. Mary's Food Bank will be onsite and the Chapter will start distributing food boxes around 11 AM. Need at least two to three more people to help with distribution. We will have a small training early in the morning on how to handle the food. There was a meeting in Crown Point where the Chapter Officers were updated on their Chapter related information. Leland further elaborated that the main officials from Window Rock didn't show up for the meeting. It appeared the main concern was the status of the ARPA projects. The individuals who attended this event were looking for updates on their ARPA Projects and on CHID modular home numbers and they wanted information on the exact number of modular homes.

Public Input: Stenson Wauneka recommended a follow up on U.S. 191 highway. He stated that the Traffic is getting worse with an increased number of semi-trucks, and people making or creating turnouts. There are vehicles being hauled through here and they speed through the community. Maybe we need to increase the size of the signs on the highway and the Chapter should request a portable scale to check the weights of the trucks which pass through here. U.S. 191 is a surface road and is not engineered for heavy hauls. The road by the store needs to be modified so as to control the traffic going into and out of the store's parking lot. He was concerned about the amount of water being taken by community members. The water is chlorinated and is not good for animals so the people need to be educated about using the water from the watering station for livestock. NTUA limits the water to human consumption only. Maybe the recommendation is to sell the water only on certain days.

Maggie Roanhorse: reported on the Veterans committee activities. She requested for the item to be put on the agenda. The veterans are meeting only four times a year. They didn't get anything from the Presidents, Agency, Council and the Veterans so they need to work on this issue. She encouraged those in attendance to share with other veterans about the meeting on Sunday. They will receive an explanation on Sunday regarding the Veterans issue. She also requested to get rid of some dogs at the compound. Maureen said we can do a letter to them to get it removed. Discussion ensued regarding contracting within the Veterans organization. The discussion also entailed the BIA compound clean up and how the debris can be used elsewhere and are reusable. She reported that there was a lot of stuff that could be used at the old BIA compound.

Clarence Chee commented on U.S. 191 highway on how children get on the bus at the chapter house turnoff. His recommendation is to put up street lights which run off solar so there is lighting. Also recommends bus shelters for students. He also elaborated on the licensed scale used by ADOT. He has not further commented on the water as it has already been designed to meet the needs of the community. There is a line

from Ganado to here so Wide Ruins can have water. The water line extends as far as the mesa and needs to be extended towards Chambers. There needs to be additional wells to meet the growing demand for water.

VIII. Adjournment at 12:40 by Leland Nez

Submitted By: X Maureen Woodman.



Chapter Secretary-Treasurer

(Please except my electronic signature)

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