

**UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON**

- I. Meeting called to order 5:15 PM by Madame President Lynelle Lee
  
- II. Roll Call by Dora Smith
  - Council Delegate Rickie Nez
  - President Lynelle Lee
  - Vice-President Lisa Byrd
  - Secretary/Treasurer Dora Smith
  - Grazing Representative Roxanne Lee
  - Farming Representative Albert Lee
  
- III. Invocation by Lisa Byrd
  
- IV. Review and Approve the Agenda
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Christine Kee
  - Discussion as follows, Madame Vice President Lisa Byrd requested to move Presentation item f, Sharon Clahchischillige first on the Presentations, followed by Reports item a, Council Delegate Rickie Nez report as he will be excuse to attend San Juan Chapter's meeting. Madame Vice President also request to add two (2) resolutions to the agenda, Supports the Public Employment Program (PEP) of Temporary General Laborers to Perform Services the Benefit the Community or Chapter and Request for Budget Transfer funds withing the Land Claims Trust 03. Vice President Lisa Byrd also asked motioning parties that under New Business the items (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (h). and (i) to be voted on under the Consent Agendum. Lastly, Madame Vice President Byrd request motioning parties to remove item (g) under Presentations, that report will be done on Roxanne Lee's regular report time.
  - Vote: 14 in favor, 00 opposed, 06 abstained; 14-00-06 *Motion Passed*
  
- V. Approval of meeting minutes for Chapter Meeting held March 05, 2024
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Steve Barber
  - No Discussion
  - Vote: 18 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 18-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  
- VI. Old Business
  - a. None
  
- VII. New Business
  - a. Accepting March 2024 Budget report Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Dora Smith
    - Motioned by Alvis Kee, seconded by Robert Allen

UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON

- Discussion as follows, Gertrude Bedonie asked if the money in Fund 50 was taken back by the state? Alvis Kee responded that there was a total of \$400,000.00 that the state was willing to provide for the past Capital Outlay, that money must be sent back through the IGA process and that it would take several months. Right now, according to Rory Jaquez with CPMD out of Shiprock that who we work with on these types of projects, he said that is where the money is at and is going through the IGA process with the Navajo Nation to get reauthorized so we will then be able to use it for the addition to the senior center. So, the way it stands is that we have \$59,000.00 in our chapter account and will be looking forward to the other \$400,000.00. I am still trying to understand how the IGA works. The Navajo Nation uses these Intra Government Agreements to access these monies and the process does take some time.
- Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 01 abstained; 17-00-01 *Motion Passed*
  
- b. Accepts and Approves the Monthly Financial Reports (Balance Sheet, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, and the Budget to Actual) for the Month of March 2024. Sponsor Alvis Kee
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-376**
  
- c. Accepts and Budgets the Four Corners Power Plant of Arizona Public Service's Contribution of \$499.00 for Upper Fruitland Senior Center Elderfest Event. Sponsor Alvis Kee
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-377**
  
- d. Upper Fruitland Chapter authorizes Chapter Administration to transfer funds within the LGA Grant Fund 10 to purchase Computer Software for \$225.00. Sponsor Alvis Kee
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-378**
  
- e. Accepts and Approves Budgeting of \$1000.00 from the San Juan County Government Contribution to be equally divided between the Upper Fruitland Senior Center and the Veteran's Organization. Sponsor Alvis Kee

**UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON**

- Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-379**
- f. Upper Fruitland Chapter authorizes Chapter Administration to transfer funds within the N367- 562 RD Improvement into the Electric Expense \$2200.00. Sponsor Alvis Kee
- Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-380**
- g. Supporting the Upper Fruitland Desert View Church seeking to Update and Renew their Mission Site located North of Mile Marker 26.1 on Navajo Route 36. Sponsor James Freddy
- Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Alvis Kee
  - Discussion as follows, Laurence Bekise asked how many acres is the mission site? James Freddy answered that according to the draft he possesses the mission site is one and a half (1 ½) acres.
  - Vote: 27 in favor, 00 opposed, 03 abstained; 27-00-03 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04-381**
- h. Upper Fruitland Chapter authorizes Chapter Administration to transfer funds within the Land Claims Trust 03 Budget for Repair & Maintenance Buildings \$270.00. Sponsor Alvis Kee
- Motion by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04- 382**
- i. Supports the Public Employment Program (PEP) of Employing Temporary General Laborers to Perform Services that Benefits the Community or Chapter. Sponsor Alvis Kee
- Motion by Robert Allen, seconded by Nathan Jones Benally
  - No Discussion; Consensus Agendum
  - Vote: 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained; 17-00-02 *Motion Passed*
  - **FRUI 2024- 04- 383**

UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON

VIII. Introduction, Presentation or Recognition of Guests

- a. Candidate for Congress NM — Sharon Clahchischilliage, Congress introduced herself in Navajo, asked for votes from community members as a Navajo Representative for Congress, she stated Navajo is not represented with all issues and concerns among the Navajo people, she also stated that illegal immigration is affecting Navajo communities with syphilis, homeless, health problems and our education. Do it legally a lot are hiding on Navajo reservation. Sharon is against abortion; Navajos don't believe in abortion pregnancies. Major concern budget needs to increase, Congress wants to advocate for increase on budgets on Navajo Resources. She appreciates votes from the Community members for Congress.
- b. Amendments to the CLUP-C — Robert Allen, CLUP-C President report that they committee would be updating the Land Use Plan to reflect changes in Title 13 Navajo nation Burial Statute and Roadside memorial laws. He explained that the future cemetery will need to abide by these new policies, and it will be reflected in the Land Use plan as an amendment. He reports that the CLUP-C committee has been trying to complete the Land Use plan for the last 8 years and this needs to be done. Aaron King CLUP-C Vice President also explained that this change is simply an update, and they are trying their best to keep up with current burial laws. He expressed the need for the community to look at the Land Use plan and make their comments at the Chapter house. Laurence Bekise asked if copies of the Land Use plan can be given out to be read at home instead of having to read it at the chapter? Robert Allen said so far that is the only way they could do it because it would cost a lot to print those booklets. Albert Lee said that anytime you make those changes you need to let the community know and vote on this, the community is your bosses. President Lynelle Lee closed with a clarification on Robert's report, and she stated that CLUP-C is simply presenting the few amendments that the committee made to reflect the burial plots, cemetery and roadside memorials update from the Nation. CLUP-C have already done the two (2) hearings and they will leave the booklets here at the chapter for the community's review for the next thirty (30) days, the hearing held last year everything was presented in those booklets already. There were changes to the burial and additions to reflect the plots on homesites and cemetery. They are not changing the whole book, just those few regarding the homesite plots and roadside memorials.
- c. Capacity Builders, Inc Rape Prevention Coalition — Thomalisa Yazzie, Project Director report is to provide this Letter of Support for the **Coalition to Protect Our Tribal Relatives from Sexual and Domestic Violence** in pursuit of funding from the CDC through the grant application entitled, "Rape Prevention and Education: Enhancing Capacity for Sexual Violence Prevention among Tribal Coalition." We understand that Capacity Builders, Inc., a member of the Coalition, will be providing the primary support to develop and submit the grant application. We also understand the purpose of this program is to prevent sexual

UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON

violence perpetration and victimization by increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors. The goal is to promote health equity in prevention efforts and to foster meaningful engagement and coordination among tribal coalitions and State/territory Health Departments. The requirements are to build a tribal coalition to strengthen and build the infrastructure, to complete a primary prevention capacity assessment, to develop a prevention action plan, and to implement the plan and evaluate the progress. In addition, this program will address Indigenous Determinants of Health.

d. San Juan County Clerks — Arlenta Horse- Dickie, Bilingual Coordinator reported on Disseminate information regarding community election reported candidate filing for 2024 New Mexico Primary Election will be Tuesday June 4, 2024.

- Be a registered voter in San Juan County, New Mexico
- Not to be convicted of a felony.
- Reside in the county or district.
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be 18 years of age Major Parties for 2024 Election Cycle
- Democrat Party
- Republican Party
- Libertarian Party

Early Voting May 7-17, 2024, San Juan County Clerks

Tuesday, June 4, 2024, Office of Secretary of State, Santa Fe New Mexico Statewide Office

- e. Peacemaking Program Shiprock Office — Myron K. Begay, Traditional Program Specialist, ABSENT
- f. Missionaries for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- Day Saints — Elder Stevenson and Elder Fatongiatau report on ways to help your children succeed in school and feel loved. Teach and show your children that learning helps them become more like Jesus Christ. Help your children know they are children of God who can learn and grow. Talk to your children with love and kindness and help them keep trying. Tell your children you believe in them and always love them. Set goals with your children to help them use their time wisely. Help your children practice reading, writing and mathematics every day. Help your children study for school and exams. Speak with your children's teachers and others who help them learn.
- g. Spay & Neuter Report — Gina Keeswood, Community Member report was the last spay and neuter clinic they spay or neutered 210 cats and dogs with the non-profit organization Soul Dog. I can schedule people who need their animal spay or neutered in this community. In this community there is an overwhelming amount of abandoned unfixed animals either local or being dumped in Upper Fruitland, these dumping occur at the local NHA housings and at the chapter house tunnel. We're trying to educate people to take care of their animals, or they are liable to catch mange, distemper, parvo, and neoplasia, for some of these diseases there is no cure. Each time Soul Dog Rescue

UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON

comes to help with these services they pick up roughly 20 or more dogs just being stray. The Rescue that works with the Navajo Nation are not from this community and they come from all over the country to help the Navajo people with their animals. The minimal payment of \$20 for the services should be motivation to get your animals fixed, the fee is next to nothing. Albert Lee asked who we can call and who is responsible for these animals. Regina answered that the Navajo Nation has minimal services and animal owners need to take responsibility.

IX. Reports

- a. Council Delegate Rickie Nez, introduced himself in Navajo, mentioned Council Spring Session in April 15-19 daily, encourage members to attend or listen in. Legislation 0073-24 Student Youth Employment Program, 2.75 million will come out of the unreserved, undesignated fund balance for PEP, Summer Youth employment for summer. Government Bodies consist of Committees, to pass Legislation, Resolutions. Delegate Nez asked the community members to vote for Sharon Clahchilliage we need a Navajo representative in Congress.
- b. Chapter Manager Alvis Kee, No Report
- c. Chapter President Lynelle Lee, No Report
- d. Chapter Vice President Lisa Byrd reported that chapter officials continue to attend regular monthly farm and grazing meetings. Sec./Treas. Dora Smith and I attended a work session regarding burial laws, roadside memorials and the homesite flowchart on the Navajo Nation with Roderick Begaye Assistant Attorney General for the Navajo Nation, at that work session we chapter officials and CLUP-C were told to start informing the local public that burials are not allowed on the Navajo Nation anymore unless at a proper community cemetery, it makes no difference if the burial is prepared on or off the reservation because no burials are no allowed in private homesite sectors or where no land withdraw has been established. Cremation is not allowed to take place on the Navajo Nation and cremation remains are not allowed to be spread on the Navajo Nation they should be buried properly. The new policies for roadside memorials are that any existing roadside memorials are prohibited and will be removed by the Navajo Department of Transportation, this has been brought on by accidents caused by such roadside memorials. Regarding the homesite work session we attended but since the homesite still is on freeze we are unable to do anything accept listen to the process in which it takes for one to acquire a homesite on the Navajo Nation. Our homesites were frozen back in 2009 and policies were never created to open the freeze back up. We also had a meeting with Elizabeth Washburn our Administrative Services Center staff member who has been guiding the chapter regarding the Corrective Action Plan (CAP), we the chapter have had 6 finding in which we have worked hard to implement the appropriate corrective actions to remedy the issues. We also met with APS' rep Terry

**UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
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APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
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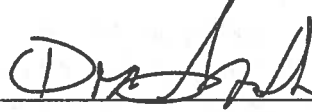
Dayish regarding plant updates, and he gave us information to the chapter regarding the Four Corners Respiratory Healthcare Project for the Upper Fruitland, Shiprock, Nenahnezad, Sanostee, San Juan, Hogback and Burnham Chapters to help people that are having breathing issues see if they can qualify for FREE services through HMA-Hawaii-Mainland Administrators. He expressed to the chapter to make sure to reach out if we need anything and more information can be given at your local chapter house. Lastly, I have been reaching out, making sure to include the other officials and Alvis Kee Chapter Manager, to the project coordinators and managers of the important projects like the N367 road project and the N36/Hwy371 intersection projects but have had no response to these emails. I will continue to reach out. If we don't keep the meeting moving on due to the chance of losing quorum.

- e. Chapter Grazing Representative Roxanne Lee report on the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual District 13 Spring Livestock Roundup/ Herd Health, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Rodeo Ground for the livestock owners in District 13, Nenahenzad, Upper Fruitland, San Juan, and Burnham Chapter. Roundup will feature Sheep & Cattle Vaccinations, Hoof trimming demonstration, Tally- Count. Presentations on Parasites and other Herd Health Topics.
  - f. Chapter Farming Representative Albert Lee report on Department of Agricultural needing an assessment with the chapter to get budget for the farmers needs that has to do with their farmland. We are responsible for our own pets, abandonment in our community theu bring disease to other pets. Not enough members attend farm permittee meetings to request seeds, fencing and getting prices to fix head gates that need fixing. Water Resource we removed not attending San Juan Farm Board meetings, Shiprock no longer recognizes them as an organization. We are in discussion to remove Sage Boy from the Irrigation Department.
  - g. CLUP-C President Robert Allen report on next CLUP-C meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.
  - h. Upper Fruitland Chapter IHS Representative Priscilla Yellowman, ABSENT
  - i. Veterans, ABSENT
  - j. Fairground Committee, ABSENT
  - k. Senior Center Representative Marylee Toledo, ABSENT
- X. Announcement
- a. District 13 Grazing Meeting — April 10, 2024 @ 1 PM, San Juan Chapter
  - b. Northern Agency Grazing Meeting — April 11, 2024 @ 9 AM, Gadii'ahi Chapter
  - c. Upper Fruitland 4-H Meeting — April 15, 2024 @ 5:30 PM, UFC Meeting Hall
  - d. Navajo Nation Council Spring Session — April 15-19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 10 AM (daily)
  - e. San Juan River Farm Board — April 15, 2024 @ 8 AM, UFC Meeting Hall
  - f. Navajo Nation Sovereignty Day & Earth Day — April 22, 2024
  - g. Community Diabetes Walk — April 24, 2024 @ 5 PM- 7 PM, Walter Collins Center
  - h. District 13 Grazing Vaccinations & Tally Counts for Livestock — April 27, 2024 @ 10 AM- 2 PM, Rodeo Ground

UPPER FRUITLAND CHAPTER  
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 09, 2024 @ 5 PM  
IN-PERSON

- i. Grazing Permittee Meeting — April 30, 2024 @ 6 PM, UFC Meeting Hall
- j. Next Planning Meeting: Wednesday, May 01, 2024 @ 5 PM In-Person
- XI. Next Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, May 07, 2024 @ 5 PM, In-Person
- XII. Adjournment at 7:36 PM
  - Motioned by Robert Allen, seconded by Laurence Bekise
  - Vote: 19 in favor, 00 opposed, 01 abstained; 19-00-01 motion passed

Minutes submitted April 10, 2024, by \_\_\_\_\_



Dora Smith, Secretary/Treasurer