



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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Resources and Development Committee certifies the Casamero Lake Chapter's Five Management System

WINDOW ROCK—On Wednesday, the Resources and Development Committee approved the certification of Casamero Lake Chapter's Five Management System policies and procedures.

In accordance with 26 N.N.C. §101, the Navajo Nation's 110 chapters are required to develop, adopt, and operate under the FMS to ensure accountability in areas such as accounting, procurement, record keeping, personnel, and property management.

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake), who represents the Casamero Lake Chapter, said the certification represents progress for the chapter officials and the community members.

"Although my name is on the legislation, it was the efforts of the chapter officials to make it happen," stated Delegate Tsosie.

Chapter president Fernie Yazzie joined Delegate Tsosie during Wednesday's presentation, and thanked current and former Casamero Lake Chapter officials including, chapter coordinator Sharon Wellito for their tremendous efforts to gain certification, a process that began in 2005.

RDC chair Council Delegate Alton Joe Shepherd (Jeddito, Cornfields, Ganado, Kin Dah Lichíí, Steamboat) commended the chapter officials and urged them to remain diligent and consistent in order to remain compliant with the FMS.

"Look at this as the beginning of the first step to local governance," stated Delegate Shepherd. "This is not the end of your hard work."

Prior to certification, the chapter underwent a three-month review by the Navajo Nation Office of the Auditor General to determine whether the chapter met its objectives, as defined by the Local Governance Act.

On Feb. 17, Auditor General Elizabeth Begay issued a memo to the RDC, recommending governance certification for the Casamero Lake Chapter.

The small community of Casamero Lake is located approximately 18-miles southeast of Crownpoint, N.M. The RDC serves as the final authority for Legislation No. 0081-15.

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