

**RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

REGULAR MEETING

**Wednesday, March 15, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

APPROVED AGENDA

PRESIDING: Honorable Brenda Jesus, *Chairperson*
Honorable Casey Allen Johnson, *Vice-Chairperson*

LOCATION: Navajo Nation Land Department
2B Taylor Road, Building #8966
St. Michaels, Arizona 86511

via Telecommunication***
Call-In Number: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 732-628-2566
Passcode: 86515

*** Due to Limited Space at the Navajo Nation Land Department, Access will be Telephonic for the Public. Space at the Navajo Nation Land Department is Limited to the Resources and Development Committee and Staff.

1. Call Meeting to Order; Roll Call; Invocation; and Announcements:

<input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Jesus (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Casey Allen Johnson (VC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shawna Ann Claw
<input type="checkbox"/> Rickie Nez	<input type="checkbox"/> Danny Simpson	<input type="checkbox"/> Otto Tso

2. Recognizing Guests and Visiting Officials:

3. Reviewing and Approving the Agenda:

M: S: V:
Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

4. Reviewing and Approving Journal(s): March 08, 2023 (Regular Meeting)

M: S: V:
Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

5. New Business:

- A. **Legislation #0033-23:** An Act Relating to Resources and Development, Health, Education and Human Services, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees and the Navajo Nation Council; Establishing the San Juan River Mitigation Fund; Directing that Monies Received from In Re: Gold King Mine Release in San Juan County, Colorado, on August 5, 2015, No. 1:18-md-02824 (D.N.M.) and Underlying and Related Actions be Deposited in the San Juan River Mitigation Fund After Reimbursement of Litigation Costs. *Sponsor: Honorable Rickie Nez*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- B. **Legislation #0034-23:** An Act Relating to the Resources and Development, Law and Order, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and to the Navajo Nation Council; Approving \$1,500,000 from the HOT/Tourism Fund for the Navajo Tourism Department, Amending 24 N.N.C. § 741 to Allow Revenue in the HOT/Tourism Fund to be Used by All Navajo Nation Programs for Tourism-Related Purposes, and Rescinding Resolution No. CS-45-22. *Sponsor: Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- C. **Legislation #0026-23:** An Act Relating to the Law and Order, Health, Education and Human Services, Resources and Development, Budget and Finance and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and the Navajo Nation Council; Amending CAP-35-18, as Amended by CJA-03-21, to Extend Síhasin Funds Reversion Deadlines for all Projects to 72 Months. *Sponsor: Honorable Danny Simpson Co-Sponsors: Honorable Helena Nez Begay, Casey Allen Johnson, and Cherilyn Yazzie*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- D. Approving a Leadership Meeting (Hybrid) with U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Navajo Nation Historic & Heritage Preservation Department on the Section 106 Process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) related to BIA and BLM's Joint Effort in Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement related to Oil and Gas Development for Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- E. Approving a Work Session (Hybrid) with the Division of Natural Resources, Navajo Environmental Protection Agency, and Freeport-McMoRan Inc. (Cyprus

Amax Minerals Company and Western Nuclear Inc.) on the Consent Decree and their Efforts to Remediate the Ninety-Four (94) Abandoned Uranium Mines on the Navajo Nation Post- and Pre-Pandemic, and the Current Status for Friday, April 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the Window Rock, Arizona Vicinity.

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- F. Approving to Attend the Navajo Nation’s Phase One (1) Trial in the Little Colorado River Litigation (*In Re the General Adjudication of All Rights to Use Water in the Little Colorado River System and Source*) for Monday, April 24, 2023 and Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in Phoenix, Arizona.

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

6. **Old Business: None.**

7. **Receiving Reports:**

- A. Report from the Office of the President and Vice-President’s Legal Counsel and Others on Navajo Nation Executive Order No. 02-2023 (Implementing the Navajo Nation Energy Policy of 2023). *Presenters: Bidtah Becker, Legal Counsel, Office of the President & Vice-President; W. Mike Halona, Acting Division Director, Division of Natural Resources; Rowena L. Cheromiah, Department Manager, Department of Minerals; and April Quinn, Principal Attorney, Natural Resources Unit, Navajo Department of Justice*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- B. Report from Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority’s Board of Directors (DOB) on Future Projects as it relates to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and American Rescue Plan Act Funding and Bonding Matters. *Presenters: Stanley Yazzie, President; Terrill Harvey, Vice-President; Ernest Hubbell, DOB Member; Wallace McGilbert, DOB Member; and Raymond Smith, Director, Human Resources, Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- C. Report from Division of Economic Development, Division of Natural Resources, Navajo Environmental Protection Agency, and Division of Community Development on the Division’s American Rescue Plan Act Budget Submittals to the Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Fund Office. *Presenters: Tony Skrelunas,*

Acting Division Director, Division of Economic Development; W. Mike Halona, Acting Division Director, Division of Natural Resources; Stephen Etsitty, Acting Division Director, Navajo Environmental Protection Agency; and Calvin Castillo, Acting Division Director, Division of Community Development

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

- D. Report from the Division of Human Resources on the Background Check as it relates to Prolong Process, which results in Losing Qualified Employees, and Recommendations on How to Resolve the Prolong Process. *Presenters: Debbie Nez-Manuel, Acting Division Director, and Nathaniel Brown, Deputy Division Director, Division of Human Resources*

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

8. Close of Meeting; Announcements; Adjournment. _____

M: S: V:

Roll Call Vote: Claw () Jesus () Johnson () Nez () Simpson () Tso ()

THE AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE: *The public is advised that the Navajo Nation Council Agenda and the Agendas of the Standing Committees are not final until adopted by a majority vote of the Navajo Nation Council or the Standing Committee at a Navajo Nation Council or a Standing Committee meeting pursuant to 2.N.N.C. §§163 and 183. Navajo Nation Council Rule of Order No. 7 and Standing Committee Rule of Order No. 8.*