

**Minutes of the
UNTF Dineh Advisory Committee Meeting**

Thursday, June 08, 2023 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Base Location: 151 East 500 North, Blanding, UT 84511

Hybrid Meeting: Teleconference Mtg/ In Person Blanding GSB

Teleconference Meeting: Google Meet

meet.google.com/kan-ezbg-rrz

Join by phone:1+ (443) 461-5715

PIN 551 459 403#

MEETING AGENDA

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER Melvin Capitan, Jr, Chair

Melvin Capitan Jr. called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. Five committee members were in attendance when the meeting was called to order constituting a quorum. Stanley Nez arrived at 1:57 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

- Aretta Begay, Vice Chair, Teechospos
- Rebecca Benally, Secretary, Red Mesa
- Jamie Harvey, Aneth
- Melvin Capitan, Jr. Chair, Aneth
- Anna Mae Jim, Naatsis' Aan
- Stanley Nez, Blue Mtn Dineh Community (Arrived at 1:57 p.m.)

2. Recognition of Guests and Staff

- 1. Tony Day UNTF Staff
- 2. Maury Bergman UNTF Fin Manager
- 3. Taylor Whitman, Office of the State Auditor
- 4. Caleb Tindall, Office of the State Auditor
- 5. John Nakai, UNTF Project Manager
- 6. Rose Dandy, UNTF Staff
- 7. Janice Bitsuie, UNTF Staff

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 24-25, 2023 Combined DAC and BOT Meeting

April 28, 2023 DAC Special Meeting OSAP

The DAC reviewed the minutes of the meetings held March 24-25, 2023 and April 28, 2023. No changes were recommended by the committee members.

Jamie Harvey motioned to approve the March 24-25, 2023 minutes as presented. Rebecca Benally seconded and all committee members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, Vote: 5-0-0.

Jamie Harvey motioned to approve the April 28, 2023 minutes as presented. Anna Mae Jim seconded and all committee members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, Vote: 5-0-0.

C. UNTF FY-22 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

Auditors

Taylor Whitman and Caleb Tindall from the Office of the State Auditors presented the fiscal year 2022 financial statement audits report. There were no significant findings that were noted or recommended. The two presented information on the Required Communications comments of the audit to the committee. The financial statements reflected the respective financial position of UNTF. One minor notation was the change of the asset classification of Cash to Pooled Cash and Investments on the Statement of Net Position.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Outstanding Senior Award Program / Skylyn Bitsinnie (Oljato/Dennehotso) \$900.00

There was a recommendation during the previous DAC meeting that Skylyn Bitsinnie should also be awarded for the Outstanding Senior Award Program (OSAP) due to the committee members' concerns regarding inconsistencies in the scoring matrix. The reason for the suggested amendment was because of unclear expectations for receiving extra points for multiple reference letters and a feeling of inconsistent scoring from one evaluator to another evaluator. It was recommended that Skylyn should also be awarded at that time because of the omission of information regarding points for extra documents. The recommendation for approval could not be made during the previous meeting because the item was not on the agenda it could not be voted on at that time so it was placed on the June 08, 2023 meeting agenda. The committee recommended for approval for Skylyn as the final OSAP recipient they recommended that going forward the evaluation committee should have more educational professionals that will be consistent evaluators. The selection committee did have two representatives from USU Blanding. Tony Dayish reported that the DAC members were invited to participate on the selection committee but one member was able to participate so thanks to Jamie Harvey for helping on this year's OSAP interviews. Note: \$100.00 was already awarded to Skylyn Bitsinnie in the previous meeting, so \$900.00 is the amount being approved to reach the OSAP amount of \$1,000.00

Rebecca Benally motioned to recommend approval of an additional \$900.00 Award for Skylyn Bitsinnie as an OSAP Award Recipient. Anna Mae Jim seconded and all committee members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, Vote: 6-0-0.

2. Naatis' Aan / Student Enrichment Request / Nav Mtn H.S. \$1,639.74

The Naatsis'Aan Chapter is requesting \$1,639.74 from the Student Enrichment allocation to be used to help with expenses on an educational trip to the Utah Museum of Natural History and the Hansen Planetarium-Clark Dome Theater in Salt Lake City, UT. The UNTF Administration presented this request on behalf of the school and reported that there were six students that qualified for the UNTF Residency requirement. Rebecca Benally asked if this was approved by the school board because it was her understanding that the district did not allow for overnight stays. Staff reported that they did not know the answer to that question and that they would send an inquiry to the school. All documentation was in order and the UNTF staff recommended approval.

Jamie Harvey motioned to approve the funding for the Student Enrichment program as presented. Aretta Begay seconded and five committee members voted in favor of the motion and Rebecca Benally chose to abstain from the vote. The motion passed with a Vote of: 5-0-1.

3. Naatis'Aan 28x44 New House Leonora Lameman Veteran's Housing Fund \$5,280.00

The Naatis'Aan Chapter is requesting \$5,280.00 from the Veteran's Housing fund to be used to complete a Veterans house for Leonora Lameman/ Bryan Sloan. When the house was originally approved for funding, the cost to build was significantly less. Since prices have increased during the interim, especially during the Covid-19 timeframe, the need for an additional \$5,280.00 from the UNTF Veterans Housing fund is being requested by the Chapter. When the initial proposal was submitted, the maximum amount for Veterans at that time was \$45,000 and with subsequent requests, the Veterans Housing amount for this client is now at the new maximum of \$60,000.00. A request for an additional \$23,406 from the Navajo Revitalization Fund (NRF) is also being made so that the UNTF work crews can completely finish this house. All documentation is in order and the UNTF staff recommends approval.

Rebecca Benally motioned to approve \$5,280.00 for Leonora Lameman as presented. Anna Mae Jim seconded and all committee members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, Vote: 6-0-0.

4. UNTF FY-24 Annual Budget Maury Bergman

Maury Bergman presented the Fiscal Year 2024 UNTF Annual Budget for review and approval. The Revenue budget consisted of a total projected revenue of \$5,267,300. Next was the Expense budget where the significant lines items were highlighted such as Building Maintenance, Chapter Projects, Big Projects and Veterans Housing. The total proposed Expense budget for the year is \$4,951,500 where \$1,375,000 is for Chapter Projects, \$950,000 for Big Projects and \$160,000 for Veteran Housing. Staff also reported that \$690,000 was budgeted for a boiler replacement (heating system) and landscaping at the UNTF-owned Blanding State Government Services Building. All other line items were similar to previous years with minor adjustments. The Chapter Projects allocation was \$1,375,000 which was distributed according to the chart located in the budget packet that has a base amount for each Chapter and then the balance divided according to the Chapter population census.

Aretta Begay motioned to approve the FY-24 budget as presented. Jamie Harvey seconded and all committee members voted in favor of the motion, none opposed, Vote: 6-0-0.

E. REPORTS

1. DAC Member Reports DAC Members

Melvin Capitan Jr. reported that progress is on-going for the Aneth 24-acre development to building new chapter buildings and a court and police building. He also reported that the transfer station is ready to be built and the community center in Montezuma Creek got ARPA funding from the tribe.

Jamie Harvey commented on the proposed Aneth Justice Court building that will be built on the 24-acre site. He also questioned if plans from another project could be reused on this or other projects instead of having an architect redesign completely, or if the plans belong to the architect and not available for other projects because this is one of the issues that is surrounding the court building project. Jamie also

announced that a clean air initiative is being fostered by local powers that would provide new electric vehicle charging stations in Blanding. He recommended having charging stations in each of the Utah Chapters as well during these discussions. Mr. Harvey also recommended installing street lights in Montezuma Creek at populated areas such as Family Dollar to help curtail vandalism and repair the lights on current street lights. Jamie added that there have been many meetings on getting better internet services on the Reservation and one of the barriers is the lack of land availability and obtaining approval from the Chapter and grazing officials.

Stanley Nez commented that he would like to see better safety measures for kids due to the shortcomings that were exposed by the COVID outbreak and also to implement more preventative measures for future pandemics. He also had a concern about the division between Blue Mountain Dine' Community and West Water Community and that they seem to be divided and not working together. Tony Dayish said that the West Water Group has been functioning as a collection for their development to solve problems like trash removal, lot designation etc., but was still a part of the BMDC and needed to operate as such. For any funding approvals, it has to be approved by the BMDC.

Anna Mae Jim reported she was going to meet with the Chapter officials to discuss the housing application process and also the old UNDC Buildings to see who really owns them and what can be done with them. She requested a flowchart from UNTF so she can present them at the meeting.

Rebecca Benally discussed the need for fiber optic internet services on the reservation and that the Navajo Nation has been slow to participate in funding efforts in San Juan County, Utah. She mentioned that a new company, Starlink, is now available on the reservation and she has heard that it has been working well.

Aretta Begay had no report from Teecnospos Chapter other than there was hope to open a gravel pit but because of a lack of funding that opportunity has ceased but that the Chapter still has plans to pursue that goal in the future.

2. Financial Report

Maury Bergman

Maury Bergman reported that the current assets of the Trust Fund as of May 31, 2023 was \$85,416,043 and that the total investments were \$78,253,016. Royalties received year-to-date were \$3.99 million.

3. UNTF Education Report (written)

Dorothy Phillips

Tony Dayish reported in Dorothy Phillips absence that as of the end of spring semester 74 students had been awarded financial aid for \$179,087 and that \$67,429 had awarded from the USU Endowment fund leaving a balance of \$753.74 that will be rolled over into the fund for future awards.

4. UNTF Project Manager Report (written)

John Nakai

John Nakai reported on the new Blanding City well that is currently being drilled that will be a resource of water not only for the town, but will provide extra capacity to serve the West Water Community.

5. UNTF Housing Report

Tony Dayish reviewed several of the current housing projects and their progress that are listed in the meeting packet.

6. UNTF Administrator's Report (written)

Tony Dayish

Tony Dayish discussed all of the items in detail that were listed in his Administrator's report in the meeting packet.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Dineh Advisory Committee Members

Rebecca Benally read a letter of intent from the Red Mesa Chapter president, Herman Farley, that the focus of the Chapter is to continue to work on prioritizing housing requests, the new administration building, road improvements, and the new recreation center. Rebecca also reported that the Family Dollar Store in Montezuma Creek had been thriving and consistently ranking in the top three stores in the district for sales.

G. NEXT MEETING

1. Thursday, August 03, 2023 Hybrid Meeting, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

H. UNTF Administration DAC MEMBER TO NEXT UNTF BOARD MEETING

1. Board Meeting held June 22, 2023, Teleconference
2. Board Meeting held August 18, 2023 Teleconference

Anna Mae Jim motioned to approve Melvin Capitan Jr. to attend the next board meeting to be held on June 22, 2023 and Rebecca Benally to attend the August 18, 2023 board meeting. Stanley Nez seconded the motion and all voted in favor, none opposed. 6-0-0

I. ADJOURNMENT

Rebecca Benally motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 p.m.