

# **NRF REVITALIZATION BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 11:00 AM

UNTF Offices - 151 E 500 N, Blanding, UT 84511

Virtual Meeting via Zoom: <https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/85985413878>

## **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

### **Board Members Present**

Evan Curtis, Chairman

Martha Saggboy, Mexican Water Chapter  
President, Representing Navajo Chapter  
Presidents

Silvia Stubbs, San Juan County  
Commissioner

Jamie Harvey, San Juan County  
Commissioner

Curtis Yanito, Navajo Utah Commission  
Chair (Arrived 11:20)

### **Staff and Guests Present**

Tony Dayish, Utah Navajo Trust Fund  
Administrator

Maury Bergman, Utah Navajo Trust Fund  
Financial Manager

Stephanie Holly, Navajo Utah Commission

Clarence Rockwell, Executive Director,  
Navajo Utah Commission

Chris Pieper, Assistant Attorney General

John Nakai, Utah Navajo Trust Fund  
Construction Manager

Cori Benally, Aneth Chapter Housing  
Specialist

Sarah Smith, DWS Contracting

Jennifer Domenici, HCD Assistant Director

Rose Dandy, Utah Navajo Trust Fund

Michael Mowes, DWS Program Specialist

Paul Moberly, DWS Program Manager

Preston Holiday

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Chairman Evan Curtis officially called the Navajo Revitalization Fund (NRF) In-Person Board meeting to order at 11:07 am, on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, in-person meeting at the UNTF Offices, 151 E 500 N, Blanding, UT 84511, with an electronic Zoom option.

Chairman Curtis asked for those in attendance and on zoom to introduce themselves, with board members going first, followed by others in the room and on Zoom. There was a quorum present with four board members in attendance at the beginning of the meeting, with Curtis Yanito joining at 11:20am.

### **2. Approval of Minutes [2:55]**

The draft minutes from the November 13, 2023 Navajo Revitalization Fund Board meeting were presented. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Harvey made and Martha Saggboy seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the board meeting held on November 13, 2023. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey and Chairman Evan Curtis, with Curtis Yanito absent.*

### **3. Fund Report [3:25]**

With DWS Finance Manager, Carver Black being absent, Paul Moberly reviewed the chapter's unallocated chapter account balances as of 3/25/2024:

<b>CHAPTER</b>	<b>AVAILABLE</b>
Aneth	359,426
Dennehotso	67,035
Mexican Water	249,162
Navajo Mountain	346,285
Oljato	950,721
Red Mesa	146,349
Teechnospos	169,100
Non-Chapter	-
Interest	296,892

Commissioner Harvey asked a question about the timeframe of the balances. Mr. Moberly answered that the balances continue and new allocations happen in late-Summer / early-Fall.

### **4. Board Business [5:40]**

#### **4.a Cancellation of Grant 718**

Mr. Moberly explained that Grant 718 for a wheelchair ramp for Armeda Benally for \$2,500 in grant funding was approved from an incomplete application at 1/21/2020 board meeting. The missing application materials were never submitted. Subsequently, the NRF board approved \$3,000 with completed application on 12/6/2022 for the same project (in grant 776).

Chairman Curtis asked for confirmation that the funding would be returned to the Red Mesa unallocated balance, which Mr. Moberly confirmed. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Jamie Harvey made, and Martha Saggboy seconded, the motion to approve the cancellation of grant 718. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, and Chairman Evan Curtis, with Curtis Yanito absent.*

#### **4.b Expired Grants – Renewals [7:35]**

Mr. Moberly presented the list of expired grants contained in the board packet, with the grants expired on 12/31/2023. The list contained suggested board actions for each, including renewal for two years. Commissioner Harvey asked the meaning of those grants which were listed with a suggested action of “close out.” Chairman Curtis shared the same question. Mr. Moberly explained that on those being closed with remaining balances, those balances would be reverted to the chapters unallocated fund balance, and that those listed as “close out” were completed. Tony Dayish made note that all the chapters were notified, and UNTF provided input on renewals as well. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Jamie Harvey made, and Commissioner Silvia Stubbs seconded, the motion to approve processing the grants as presented in the packet, renewing the expired grants as presented for two years and closing out those listed to close. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, and Chairman Evan Curtis, with Curtis Yanito absent.*

#### **4.c Grants expiring soon**

Chairman Curtis invited Mr. Moberly to review this item, and Mr. Moberly presented that the list of grants provided in the board packet was a courtesy notification that these would expire at the end of the fiscal year, 6/30/2024.

Curtis Yanito joined the meeting.

### **5. Project Applications [13:50]**

#### **5.a Non-Chapter - San Juan County - Inclusive Employment Study [14:10]**

Chairman Curtis invited Mr. Moberly to present the project. The project consists of \$30,000 requested for a program to improve the diversification in government sector jobs in San Juan County. Commissioner Stubbs described the background to the project, which is specifically to establish a clear path for Native Americans to become educated on opportunities that exist for employment in government sector jobs at an early age. Funds will be used for consultants to meet with Native American tribes and identify barriers to employment, for implementation, brochures, and recruitment materials. Chairman Curtis asked if the other funds listed in the application were matching. Commissioner Stubbs replied they were already used. Maury Bergman asked how the program was proceeding now. Commissioner Stubbs described the actions being done thus far. Commissioner Harvey indicated his support for the project and described one action resulting from the study thus far was youth involvement in the pledge of allegiance at commission meetings. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Silvia Stubbs made, and Martha Saggbay seconded, the motion to transfer \$30,000 of interest moneys approve the project as presented, with the stipulation that the consultant meets with Utah Navajo chapters and San Juan County regularly present the progress on the project. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggbay, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

#### **5.b Navajo Utah Commission - Change to Fiscal Agent - 23-09-15--NUC-795 [26:55]**

Chairman Curtis invited Mr. Moberly to present on the next two projects. Mr. Moberly presented that both projects were approved in September of 2023, and these changes were required due to contracting: DWS requires contracts for release of funds, but the original award recipient, the Navajo Utah Commission (NUC), couldn't sign contracts. The request from NUC is to have San Juan County as the fiscal agent/contract manager for the \$100,000 appropriated for the EIS for the Navajo Mountain / Oljato Road Project at the 9/15/2023 meeting.

**5.c Navajo Utah Commission - Change to Fiscal Agent - 23-09-15--NUC-796** is a request by the Navajo Utah Commission (NUC) to have the Utah Navajo Trust Fund as the fiscal agent for the \$300,000 appropriated for matching Olene Walker Housing Loan Funds constructing one home per chapter at the 9/15/2023 meeting, grant 23-09-15--NUC-796.

Chairman Curtis confirmed that these were to manage the contracts for the projects, then verified if San Juan County and the Utah Navajo Trust Fund were aware of these requests; representatives from both entities indicated in the affirmative. The chair called the question:

*Martha Saggbay made, and Commissioner Jamie Harvey seconded, the motion to approve items 5b and 5c together, as presented. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggbay, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

#### **5.d Aneth - Veteran's New Housing Construction - Matthew Jim [29:05]**

Chairman Curtis proposed that 5d and 5e be presented and motioned together. He invited Mr. Moberly to present on these projects, both from the Aneth Chapter for the same amount and project size. **Item 5d** is \$66,394.40 requested for the construction of a 28' x 44' (1,232 sf), 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home for veteran Matthew Jim with the UNTF matching \$60,000.

**5.e Aneth - New Veteran Home Construction - James Nez** is \$66,394.40 for the construction of a new 28' x 44' (1,232 sf) 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home for veteran James Nez with UNTF matching \$60,000.

Chairman Curtis confirmed with Mr. Dayish that both projects had been approved by the UNTF. Commissioner Stubbs voiced her support for the project. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Jamie Harvey made, and Commissioner Silvia Stubbs seconded, the motion to approve items 5d and 5e as presented. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

#### **5.f Mexican Water - Powerline Extension - Luke Sagg [30:45]**

Chairman Curtis asked Mr. Moberly to present the project. Mr. Moberly presented that the project is a \$2,770.50 request for the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority to construct an overhead powerline to the existing home of Luke Sagg. It also includes archaeological clearances and biological clearances, as those requirements were not in place when the homesite lease was obtained. UNTF is matching \$3,370.50.

Chairman Curtis confirmed with Mr. Dayish that the project was a new stand-alone project. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Jamie Harvey made, and Martha Saggboy seconded, the motion to approve the project as presented. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

#### **5.g Red Mesa - Scope of Work Change - Home Renovation, Betty Sitnajinnie [32:00]**

Chairman Curtis invited Mr. Moberly to present this request. Mr. Moberly presented that this request is to revise the Scope of Work from new roofing materials and vinyl flooring to the following: Install metal roofing and underlayment, replace any deteriorated parts of the roof plywood deck, replace up to 6 windows and repair areas around windows since the windows will be smaller, repaint exterior, repaint the interior of two bedrooms and living room area, repair wheelchair ramp so that the slope is no steeper than 1" per foot, add extension to metal roofing overhang on the front door covered porch, and if there is sufficient funds, build a small deck and stairs at the back door.

Mr. Dayish clarified the original scope and revised scope of work. Chairman Curtis asked Mr. Dayish about UNTF's involvement in the project. Mr. Dayish confirmed both their funding and work crews are involved in this project. Commissioner Harvey asked if the original funding for

the project was still allocated and without any change, to which Mr. Moberly confirmed. The chair called the question:

*Commissioner Jamie Harvey made, and Martha Saggboy seconded, the motion to approve the scope of work change for this project. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

#### **5.h Red Mesa - New Home - Franklin & Vonda Warren [34:03]**

Chairman Curtis asked Mr. Moberly to present the project. Mr. Moberly presented the request which is for \$67,267 requested for construction of a new 28' x 44' (1232 sf) 3 bedroom, 2 bath home for Franklin Jr. and Vonda Warren. UNTF is matching \$62,092. Commissioner Stubbs expressed her appreciation for these projects. The chair called the question.

*Martha Saggboy made, and Commissioner Jamie Harvey seconded, the motion to approve the project as presented. The motion carried as approved with unanimous affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Martha Saggboy, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Curtis Yanito, and Chairman Evan Curtis.*

### **6. Board Member Issues**

#### **6.a Oath of Office – Required [35:10]**

Chairman Curtis reminded that all boards and commissioner within Utah require an oath of office and reminded the board. He invited NRF legal counsel, Christopher Pieper to comment. Mr. Pieper commented that case law allows board members to act without the signed oaths of office, but that the constitution is clear in its requirement, and asked the board members to complete it. Chairman Curtis supported his comments.

#### **6.b Proposed Meeting Schedule [36:14]**

Chairman Curtis presented the proposed upcoming meeting dates.

Thursday, June 13, 2024 @ 11:00 (in person - Blanding)

Friday, September 27, 2024 @ 11:00 (in person - joint with UNTF board in Blanding) Friday, November 22, 2024 @ 11:00 (in person - joint with UNTF board in Mexican Water)

Mr. Clarence Rockwell stated that June 13 may be the start of the Governor's Native American Summit. Chairman Curtis expressed the desire to avoid having a meeting which overlaps that summit. Commissioner Stubbs asked how often NRF meetings; Mr. Moberly replied quarterly or more often as the board desires. Commissioner Stubbs discussed a

possible project for new computers for the Montezuma Creek library. She then asked a question about a well project in Navajo Mountain, which Mr. Moberly didn't know about or think NRF monies were involved.

Chairman Curtis discussed different times different times for the June meeting, then asked Mr. Moberly to figure out a time which would work for the board via email.

**7. Adjournment [42:20]**

Chairman Curtis entertained a motion to adjourn.

*Commissioner Harvey made and Martha Saggbay seconded, a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously as approved and the meeting adjourned at 11:49am.*

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Submitted by Paul Moberly