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NAVAJO REVITALIZATION FUND

NRF REVITALIZATION BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 - 3:00 PM,
UNTF Offices - 151 E 500 N, Blanding, UT 84511 Virtual Option via Zoom -
<https://utahgov.zoom.us/j/85985413878> Meeting ID: 859 8541 3878
Link to meeting materials and audio recording -
<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/1005345.html>

Draft Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Evan Curtis, Chairman (Governor's Designee)
Silvia Stubbs, San Juan County Commissioner (Western Utah Navajo area)
Jamie Harvey, San Juan County Commission (Eastern Utah Navajo area)
Willie Grayeyes, Navajo Mountain Chapter President Pro Tempore (Utah Navajo Chapter President)

Designee board member for this meeting:

Herman Farley, Red Mesa Chapter President (Navajo Utah Commission Representative)
Mr. Farley was invited by the Navajo Utah Commission to attend in place of NUC Board Chair Kenny Victor.

Board Members Absent:

Kenny Victor, Teeec Nos Pos President (Navajo Utah Commission Board Chair)

Staff and Guests Present:

Paul Tonks, Assistant Attorney General and NRF Board Legal Counsel
Maury Bergman, Utah Navajo Trust Fund - Financial Manager
John Nakai, Utah Navajo Trust Fund - Construction Manager
Janice Bitsoie, Utah Navajo Trust Fund – Project Specialist
Rose Dandy, Utah Navajo Trust Fund – Project Specialist
Stephanie Holly, Navajo Utah Commission
Clarence Rockwell, Navajo Utah Commission - Executive Director
Mack McDonald, San Juan County Commission – Chief Administrative Officer
Jennifer Dominici, DWS Housing and Community Development Assistant Director
Paul Moberly, DWS Program Manager
Michael Mowes, DWS Program Specialist
Janelle Tsosie, Navajo Mountain Chapter – Accounts maintenance Specialist
Veronica Salazar, DWS Contract Analyst
Janell Quiroz, DWS Support Staff
Stephanie Johnson, DWS Financial Manager
Todd Andersen, DWS HCD Program Specialist



1. Welcome & Introductions

1.a Board Member Welcome

The Chairman, Evan Curtis, welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 3:12pm on Wednesday, June 25, 2025. He began the meeting by introducing himself. Chairman Curtis then jumped to item 1.b to have the new attorney introduce himself before coming back to the introduction of the board members and attendees. The board members and attendees were introduced and there was a quorum present with

Evan Curtis, Chairman (Governor's Designee)

Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, San Juan County Commissioner (Western Utah Navajo area)

Commissioner Jamie Harvey, San Juan County Commission (Eastern Utah Navajo area)

Willie Grayeyes, Navajo Mountain Chapter President Pro Tempore (Utah Navajo Chapter President)

Herman Farley, Red Mesa Chapter President (Navajo Utah Commission Representative)

1.b Welcome new program staff

The Chairman asked the new attorney assigned to support the Navajo Revitalization Board to introduce himself. Paul Tonks, Assistant Attorney General and NRF Legal Counsel introduced himself, said hello and gave a brief background of his experience.

2. Approval of Minutes [6:06]

2.a Approval of the minutes of the March 21, 2025, board meeting

The draft minutes from the March 21, 2025, Navajo Revitalization Fund Board meeting were presented. The chair called the question:

Commissioner Silvia Stubbs made, and board member designee Herman Farley seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the board meeting held on March 21, 2025. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, board member designee Herman Farley, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, board member Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. Board member Kenny Victor was absent.

3. Fund Report [7:00]

3.a Stephanie Johnson, DWS Financial Manager, reviewed the chapter's unallocated current balances (as of 6/24/2025)

Chapter	Available Balance
Aneth	427,159.24
Dennehotso	53,469.59



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Mexican Water	249,299.91
Navajo Mountain	360,332.75
Oljate	1,154,654.14
Red Mesa	203,100.85
Teechnospos	223,848.35
Non-Chapter	0
Interest	392,208.22

4. Board Business [8:44]

4.a Emergency response policy

Board discussion to help provide criteria to draft a board policy to allow flexibility for chapters to respond to unforeseen emergency situations.

Chairman Curtis stated that the board was currently without a policy for when emergencies arise as part of the board approved and funded projects. The Chairman asked Program Manager Paul Moberly to address the idea of an emergency response policy and asked that the board members have a discussion on the topic. His plan was for staff to take the discussion points provided by the board and then work on a draft for the board to hear and vote on at a future meeting.

Mr. Moberly addressed the board and shared a recent project emergency when the Navajo Mountain Senior Center's septic tank. The urgency of the situation sparked a conversation about how a project's scope of work might be adjusted to address an emergency so that funds already approved could be immediately put toward a solution. Mr. Moberly asked the board if they thought it would be a possibility to pursue having some kind of policy in place to help chapters when these emergency situations arise so that funds could be available quickly.

Commissioner Stubbs shared her experience with this referenced emergency and how difficult it was to work the emergency. She explained that it happened over a weekend, the project manager was traveling, and it wasn't until Monday that any response or movement could even begin. She continued relaying the struggles experienced, adding that complications continued to arise from the grease collection as well as the distance all the help (manpower) and needed tools/pumps etc. were from the center. She added that disposal became an issue as well. The remoteness of the situation turned what could have been a quickly addressed situation into a complicated emergency. With people depending on food and resources from this center and no way to quickly address and fix the problem. Commissioner Stubbs expressed a need and a desire to have a policy in place to help when a project has emergencies and to streamline the process to resolution with either accessible decision makers or something in place to work the emergency, forgoing the formalities, timely processes and decisions that could wait.

The Chairman asked for additional input.



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Mr. Herman Farley added that it is important to determine how unforeseen, or emergency, situations would be characterized to avoid delays. He asked that thought be given to incidents involving police and fire department reports as well as weather related matters. He shared examples of burned down dwellings and of extreme rain leading to washouts and road destruction. He expressed concern that getting clearance to start work after emergencies can be a problem. Mr. Farley asked to clarify whether this future policy would allow for flexibility in an emergency to access the chapters' funding quickly to remediate the emergency situation.

The board chair confirmed that Mr. Farley was correct and added that the board currently has no policy in place. He asked the board if they would like a policy and if they would like staff to work on drafting something for the board's review. He summed up, based on Commissioner Stubbs' and Mr. Farley's comments, that it did sound like the board felt there might be a need for such a policy. He also restated Mr. Farley's initial ask by saying that maybe a starting place would be to define what would constitute an emergency. He outlined other items that could be a part of the policy: what the process would be, as well as specific amounts or limits.

Mr. Willie Greyeyes shared that a concern for the really remote locations would need to be flexibility and consideration for purchasing goods and services in an emergency.

Chairman Curtis asked if anyone was opposed to having staff work on an emergency policy.

Mr. Herman Farley said that he wanted to make sure that the 7 Chapters would be able to give a support resolution of approval to the draft once it's in the works and before the board approves it.

The Chairman asked if the board would rather have the 7 Chapters determine whether to start drafting a policy and pass a resolution to give the board permission to that effect or would the board want to authorize staff to draft something and then have the 7 Chapters review it and determine if they want to have it be a policy. The board thought it would work for staff to draft something that could be reviewed by the board and then if approved they could take it to the 7 Chapters for review and approval.

The Chairman invited Mr. Paul Moberly to review a few thoughts that had been worked on by staff during the last emergency. Mr. Moberly shared a basic starting point of possibly allowing access to current project funds that have been allocated but not spent at the time of the emergency and according to the parameters set by the board. A reconciliation to make the project whole could then be carried out by the board at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. This would allow the emergency to be handled immediately, and the project budget could be fixed after the emergency had been addressed.

Chairman Curtis thanked Mr. Moberly for the initial thoughts and stated that it would be good to get the idea in a document where everyone could review it and offer input.



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Commissioner Silvia Stubbs added that she would like to see some procedure involved in this policy around an emergency line of report so there is a clear way to handle an emergency.

Mr. Herman Farley asked if the thought could be for an emergency set-aside of funds or if, in an emergency, funds could be automatically drawn from a chapter's allocations. He also asked for some thoughts around who could declare the emergency, whether it was chapter level authority or if it had to be a County, State or a Navajo Nation leveled declaration.

The board Chair and Mr. Moberly said that the board could draft a policy that works through that process and figures out what will work best. They said that the board can decide if they require some kind of declaration. They addressed the set-aside idea as one that would need to be researched and thought through. They confirmed that the board has the ability to draft their own rules and policies.

Mr. Willie Grayeyes imputed the ideas of a draft criteria of what would determine the decree of emergency, who could declare it and how they would measure it rather than going without any justification.

Commissioner Jamie Harvey echoed Mr. Grayeyes request for criteria and added that this definitely needs to be draft that everyone can have a copy of and time to review before taking action. He asked for a timeline.

The Chairman asked Mr. Moberly what the timeline looked like for staff to put together a draft. He asked if it could be ready for discussion and revision by the next board meeting in September. Mr. Moberly said his team could begin working on a draft with the ideas from this discussion of the board and Commissioner Harvey gave a thumbs up to idea of having something to review by the next meeting.

Board member designee Herman Farley made a motion for staff to take the ideas and discussion from the meeting and begin drafting an emergency response policy for the board to review. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jamie Harvey. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, board member designee Herman Farley, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, board member Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. Board member Kenny Victor was absent.

4.b [30:32] Report from San Juan County on Inclusive Employment Study funded 3/27/2024

Report from San Juan County on grant 24-03-27--SJC-806 (24-DWS-0510) for the Inclusive Employment Study funded by the NRF board on 3/27/2024. This funding was for the following:

- A. to improve diversification in government sector jobs in San Juan County.
- B. 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.



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C. to help potential applicants improve their situation and communities by applying at and being hired by local workplaces and government positions with higher wages and community benefit.

The board Chair, Mr. Evan Curtis invited Mack McDonald to share with the board the study's findings. Mr. McDonald gave an overview of the study that can be found on pages 10-11 of the meeting packet at this link <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/files/1290225.pdf> Mr. McDonald outlined some barriers to government employment by local Native American youth who might want to pursue jobs in the public sector. He talked through internet issues, low graduation rate, accessibility of job boards, understandability of job descriptions and other barriers. He then talked through the ideas and next steps of overcoming those barriers.

The board members expressed enthusiasm for the study and the work presented. They asked for copies of the study and distribution. They talked about other similar programs being run by the county and the high schools and encourage collaboration.

The Chairman invited Mr. McDonald to return to the board to provide an update in a year.

5. [58:36] Project Applications

In the interest of time, the projects were grouped and presented by Chapter instead in agenda order. They were also motioned and voted on in Chapter group instead of individually. The meeting took 5.b first, then 5.a, 5.c and 5.d together, next was the group of 5.e-5.h and lastly 5.i was addressed. The Chairman asked the program manager to give an overview of each of the projects and asked for board member questions and input with each project as well. The board did ask about the matching funds from UNTF and staff confirmed which projects have had the match approved and which projects are still pending approval. The projects are outlined in agenda order below and the actions taken on each project are at the end of section 5.

5.a Oljato - Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Tonya Yazzie

\$475 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Tonya Yazzie. UNTF is requested to match \$475.

5.b Navajo Utah Commission - Utah Chapter Housing Project

An additional \$145,000 requested to supplement the Utah Chapter Housing Project, matching funding from Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund and previously approved \$420,000 non-chapter funds, for construction of seven single-family homes in each of the seven Utah chapters.

5.c Oljato - Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Dawny Clark



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\$475 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Dawny Clark. UNTF is requested to match \$475.

5.d Oljato - New Home - Winifred Linda Atene

\$70,840 requested for a new 28' x 44' (1232 sqft) 3 bed / 2 bath home for Winifred Linda Atene. UNTF is requested to match \$70,840.

5.e Navajo Mountain - Archeological Clearance and Land Survey - Cleveland Drake

\$450 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Cleveland Drake. UNTF is requested to match \$450.

5.f Navajo Mountain - Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Katrina Kinsel

\$450 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Katrina Kinsel. UNTF is requested to match \$450.

5.g Navajo Mountain - Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Melinda Greymountain

\$450 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Melinda Greymountain. UNTF is requested to match \$450.

5.h Navajo Mountain - Senior Citizens Center Septic Cleanout

Requested assistance to clean out the Navajo Mountain Senior Center septic tank.

UNTF proposed option to:

1. Amend the scope of work on grant 11-09-26-NM-502 to include the septic tank cleanout, and perhaps include *Project Management Services and Architectural & Engineering Services for the Navajo Mountain Senior Center to be repaired and renovated and also to include the engineering work for the new waterline leading up the Senior Center.*

Current scope is includes: *Senior Citizens Center improvements.*



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5.i Expiring grants for renewal or closure

9 grants expiring on 6/30/2025 (see below)

Contract Number	Agency	Total Awarded Amount	Funds Drawn	Balance	Contract Start	Contract End
14-04-07--MW-559	Mexican Water Chapter	\$18,777.00	\$15,000.00	\$3,777.00	4/7/2014	6/30/2025
14-04-07--MW-560	Mexican Water Chapter	\$31,086.00	\$8,777.00	\$22,309.00	4/7/2014	6/30/2025
15-10-27--MW-600	Mexican Water Chapter	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	10/27/2015	6/30/2025
19-5-21--MW-701	Mexican Water Chapter	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	5/21/2019	6/30/2025
19-5-21--MW-702	Mexican Water Chapter	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	5/21/2019	6/30/2025
19-5-21--NM-704	Navajo Mountain Chapter	\$248,163.21	\$0.00	\$248,163.21	5/21/2019	6/30/2025
19-5-21--RM-706	Red Mesa Chapter	\$45,000.00	\$29,097.05	\$15,902.95	5/21/2019	6/30/2025
22-04-21--RM-770	Red Mesa Chapter	\$5,600.00	\$4,964.50	\$635.50	4/21/2022	6/30/2025
22-04-21--RM-772	Red Mesa Chapter	\$10,500.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00	4/21/2022	6/30/2025

On the matter 5.b the following action was taken: Board member designee Herman Farley made a motion to approve the request by Navajo Utah Commission for the Utah Chapter Housing Project for an additional \$145,000 to supplement the Utah Chapter Housing Project, matching funding from Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund and previously approved \$420,000 non-chapter funds, for construction of seven single-family homes in each of the seven Utah chapters. This motion included the transfer of the funds from the interest account to the non-chapter account. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jamie Harvey. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, board member designee Herman Farley, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, board member Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. Board member Kenny Victor was absent.

On the projects for Oljato 5.a Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Tonya Yazzie, 5.c Archeological Clearances and Land Survey - Dawny Clark and 5.d New Home - Winifred Linda Atene. Board member designee Herman Farley made a motion to approve the requests by the Oljato Chapter. This motion included 1. \$475 requested for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Tonya Yazzie, 2. \$475 for clearances required for homesite lease including archeological clearances, biological clearances, and land survey for Dawny Clark, and 3. \$70,840 requested for a new 28' x 44' (1232 ft²) 3 bed / 2 bath home for Winifred Linda Atene. This motion was seconded by board member Willie Grayeyes. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, board member designee Herman Farley, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, board member Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. Board member Kenny Victor was absent.

On the projects for the Navajo Mountain Chapter, agenda items 5.e-5.h which include four Archeological Clearances and Land Surveys in the amount of \$450 each for Dawny Clark, Winifred Linda Atene, Katrina Kinsel and Melinda Greymountain (with matches from UNTF) and a change of the scope of work on the Senior Center. Regarding the Senior center emergency that triggered conversation and action in agenda item 4.2 the request is to amend the scope of work on grant 11-09-26-NM-502 to include the septic tank cleanout, and perhaps include Project Management Services and Architectural & Engineering Services for the Navajo Mountain Senior Center to be repaired and



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renovated and also to include the engineering work for the new waterline leading up the Senior Center. Board member Willie Grayeyes made a motion to approve the requests by the Navajo Mountain Chapter. This motion was seconded by board member designee Herman Farley with a third from Commissioner Jamie Harvey. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, board member designee Herman Farley, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, board member Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. Board member Kenny Victor was absent.

No action was taken on item 5.i expiring grants for renewal or closure. Staff has not had a chance to meet with the chapter and trust fund to determine which of these contracts can be closed or will need to be renewed. The board chair asked that these contracts be considered at the next meeting after additional research has been conducted.

6. [1:11:21] Board Member Issues

6.a Schedule of next board meetings

- Q1 – September 19th 1pm (UNTF immediately following and lunch)
- Q2 (Oct - Dec)
- Q3 (Jan - Mar)
- Q4 (Apr - Jun)

7. [1:12:57] Adjournment

Chairman Curtis asked for a final motion to adjourn.

Board member designee Herman Farley made, and board member Willie Grayeyes seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried as approved with affirmative votes by Commissioner Silvia Stubbs, Kenny Victor, Commissioner Jamie Harvey, Willie Grayeyes, and Chairman Evan Curtis. The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 pm

Submitted by Janell Quiroz
Approved on _____