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Resources and Development Committee confirms appointment of Anna Sullivan to the Black Mesa Review Board as Shonto Chapter rep

WINDOW ROCK – The Resources and Development Committee on Tuesday confirmed the appointment of Anna Sullivan to serve on the Black Mesa Review Board for a term of four years.

The committee voted 4-0 in favor of Legislation No. 0455-12, which confirms Sullivan’s appointment to the board pursuant to 2 N.N.C §903(A). Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Ts'ah Bii Kin) sponsored the legislation.

The Black Mesa Review Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Navajo Nation Council to improve the quality of life for Diné families living within the boundaries of Peabody Western Coal Company’s leased area for mining operations on Black Mesa.

“I am pleased with the Resources and Development Committee’s unanimous decision to support the confirmation of Ms. Anna Sullivan’s appointment to serve as Shonto Chapter’s representative on the Black Mesa Review Board,” said Delegate Nez.

“The board, as well as the communities it advocates on behalf of, will unequivocally benefit from Ms. Sullivan’s education and her vast experience in working with both on and off-reservation Navajo families as a champion for their social service needs.”

Sullivan graduated in 2006 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Family and Consumer Science with an emphasis in Early Childhood from Southern Utah University. She also holds an Associate of Arts degree in Elementary Education and Liberal Arts from Navajo Community College, now Diné College.

Over the course of her career, she has held various community liaison and advocate positions with the non-profit organization Big Brothers Big Sisters in Farmington, N.M., Rural Utah Child Development – a Head Start entity – in Wellington, Utah, and the Kayenta Community School in Kayenta, Ariz.

Sullivan also served as a volunteer court appointed child advocate for abused and neglected children in the state of New Mexico in 2009 and 2010.

The Shonto Chapter nominated Sullivan to fill the board position, said Delegate Nez, which had been previously vacated due to the resignation of former board representative, Brett Isaac.

Shonto Chapter stated through a Sept. 17 chapter resolution that filling the vacancy was not only an exercise of their authority, but also an effort to provide “continued representation” for residents within the Shonto Chapter boundaries – specifically those impacted by mining activities.

The Resources and Development Committee has final authority on the confirmation.

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