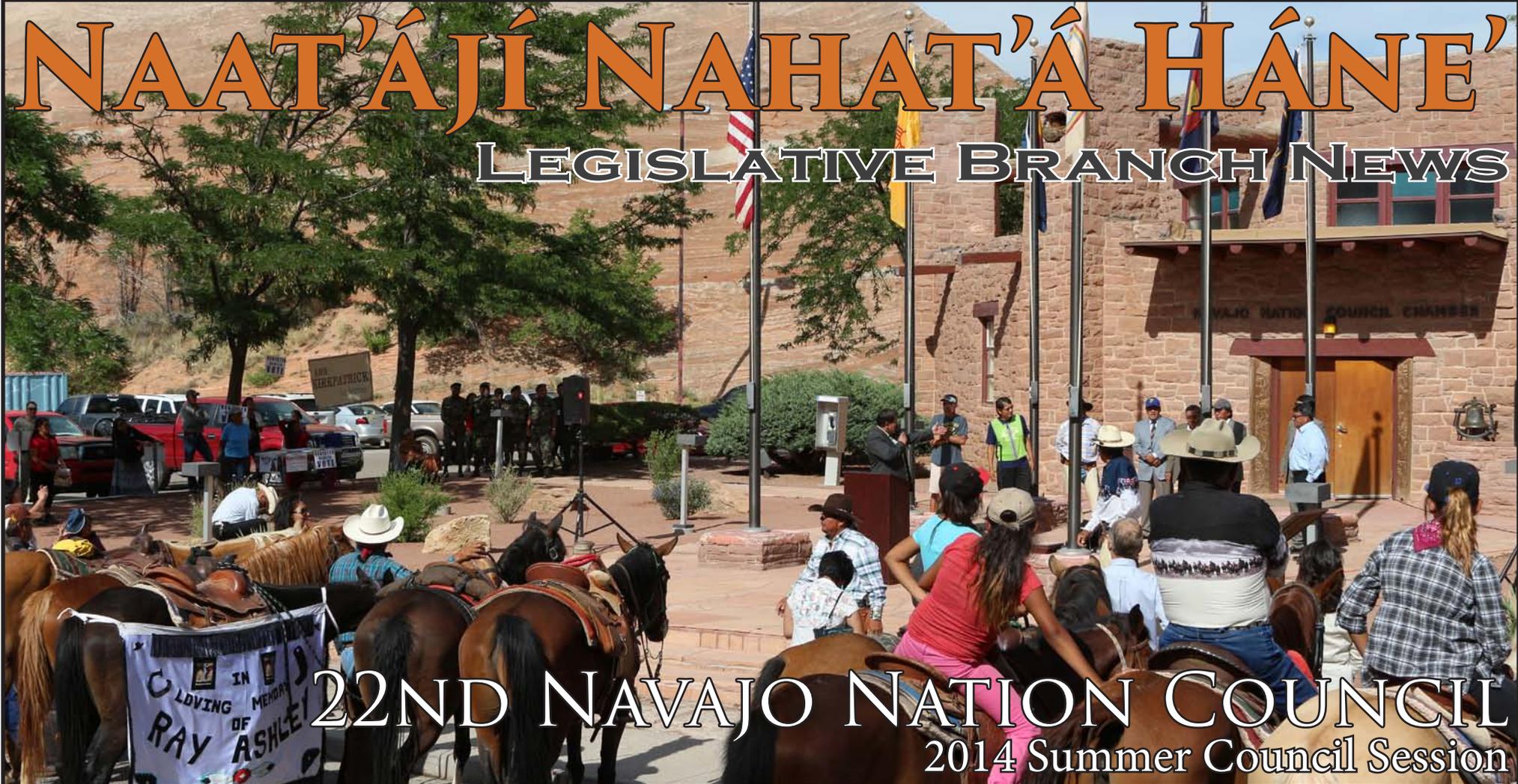


NAAT'ÁJÍ NAHAT'Á HÁNE'

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH NEWS



22ND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL 2014 Summer Council Session



NAAT'ÁJÍ NAHAT'Á HANE'
Legislative Branch News

22nd Navajo Nation Council

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Speaker Pro Tem's Message

Yá'át'ééh Diné Citizens and welcome to this edition of the Naat'ájí Nahat'á Hane' – Legislative Branch News. This document serves the purpose of providing the Navajo People a comprehensive overview of activities and legislative actions taken by the 22nd Navajo Nation Council during the Summer Council Session.

The Council began the summer session on the morning of July 21, by recognizing and honoring emergency and fire officials who exemplified tremendous service and dedication during the recent Asaayi Lake

Wildfire, which spread over 14,000 acres of land northeast of Navajo, New Mexico. Those recognized included the Navajo Hot Shots Crew, Southwest Area Management Team 3, Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management, Navajo Nation Forestry, Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture, as well as the many chapter and school officials who selflessly donated their time to assist in sheltering and providing services to our Diné Citizens.

I express my sincere appreciation to these individuals and entities that sacrificed

and went above and beyond to serve our Navajo People and to protect our land and livestock from further devastation. On behalf of the 22nd Navajo Nation Council, I say 'Ahé'héé' to each and every one of you, especially the brave men and women who fought the wildfire on the ground and risked their safety and their lives to protect our sacred land and our people.

I would also like to thank the many individuals who participated in the annual summer horse and bike rides to honor our past leaders and also to bring awareness to issues and



Photo: Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates

concerns that are important to our constituents.

This year, hundreds came together to take part in the

See **SPEAKERS MESSAGE**, Page 2

Council blocks proposed uranium recovery project

By Jared Touchin

On Day Two of the Summer Council Session, the Navajo Nation Council engaged in a two-hour long discussion to determine whether to rescind a resolution passed by the Resources and Development Committee in December of last year. The resolution acknowledged the right-of-way and surface use by Uranium Resources, Inc. for

the purpose of an in situ uranium recovery project in the community of Churchrock, N.M. and created a sub-committee comprised of two RDC members.

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churchrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau), who represents the Churchrock community,

asked for the support of his Council colleagues to prevent URI from developing the uranium recovery project.

"We need to follow the regulations. The regulations are [in place] to look out for our people," said Delegate Yazzie, who made reference to the largest radioactive spill in the U.S. which occurred on the Navajo

Nation in 1979.

Delegate Yazzie also referenced the Diné Natural Resources Protection Act of 2005 and the Radioactive Materials Transportation Act of 2012, stating that the two laws prohibit the proposed project from being developed on the Navajo Nation.

See **URI**, Page 2

Navajo Nation Council supports the permanent extension of the Indian Coal Production Tax Credit

By Jolene Holgate

For decades, the Navajo Nation has relied on its coal resources to generate vast amounts of revenue to fund programs that aid Navajo people such as education, public safety, social services, and chapter assistance.

In addition, coal has made way for outside entities to conduct business with the Navajo Nation, which in turn has increased economic devel-

opment and strengthened the Nation's autonomy in managing its coal resources, according to Speaker Johnny Naize (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood).

Speaker Naize sponsored Legislation No. 0090-14, supporting the U.S. Congress' Permanent Extension of the Indian Coal Production Tax Credit, which expired at the end

of 2013.

According to Anthony Peterman, energy advisor with the Office of the Speaker, the coal tax credit is given to outside companies that do business on Indian land and in return, receive tax credit money that returns back to the company, which provides an additional incentive for other energy companies to conduct business with the Navajo Nation.

"I am in support of this legislation, although there is concern about climate change and global warming, but at the same time, this is something we use heavily to generate revenue for the Navajo Nation and its people," said Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake).

Delegate Tsosie added that the tax credit eligibility should not only apply to outside energy companies, but should also extend to enterprises and entities owned by the Navajo Nation.

In response, Peterman pointed out that the coal tax credit would indeed benefit the Nation's newly-acquired coal company, Navajo Transition-

See COAL TAX CREDIT, Page 3

URI / Council rescinds uranium project and RDC subcommittee

From Page 1

Enacted in 2005, the Diné Natural Resources Protection Act banned uranium mining and processing on the Navajo Nation, while the Radioactive Materials Transportation regulates the transportation of uranium within the Nation's boundaries.

Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake), who sponsored the legislation passed by the RDC in December, said the Radioactive Materials Transportation Act does not specifically address the transportation of uranium.

"I would understand your argument if the law had said 'thou shall not transport uranium'—it doesn't say that," Delegate Tsosie stated. "At the moment, there is no physical transporting of uranium so there's no physical act being done as of today to transport uranium."

Delegate Tsosie also argued that the RDC acted appropriately and within the scope of its authority as outlined in Title II of the Navajo Nation Code.

Council Delegate Danny Simpson (Becenti, Crownpoint, Huerfano, Lake Valley, Nageezi, Nahodishgish, Tse'ii'ahi, Whiterock) continuously argued that the resolution passed by the RDC, acknowledging the right-of-way and surface use by URI, should have been brought before the full Council for consideration.

Speaking in favor of rescinding the resolution, Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Ts'ah Bii Kin) said he supports the "overwhelming" number of young Navajo people who have spoken out against the proposed project and against uranium mining in general.

"By nullifying this [resolution] we are saying 'no' to any future uranium exploration

on the Navajo Nation," stated Delegate Nez. "We need to all take a stand once again, to those major industries and companies throughout the globe and stay steadfast and say no more, enough is enough."

Council Delegate Katherine Benally (Chilchinbeto, Dennehotso, Kayenta) also expressed her opposition to the proposed uranium recovery project.

"I am absolutely against uranium development of any kind because I am from the community of Dennehotso, which mined uranium in the [1940's and 50's] so I have seen the consequences to this day,"



Photo: Council Delegate Danny Simpson speaks at a press conference organized by a group known as, "Concerned Diné Citizens" who advocated for the nullification of a resolution that would have allowed for Uranium Resources, Inc. to conduct a uranium development project in Churckrock, N.M.

said Delegate Benally.

Council Delegate Leonard H. Pete (Chinle) spoke in support of RDC's resolution, while cautioning his Council colleagues of the possible consequences should the situation end up in litigation.

"Have we really sat down and looked into the consequences?" asked Delegate Pete.

"Somewhere along the way, the wisdom of this Council, the common sense of this Council, the foresight of this Council is going to be tested."

Following the discussion, members of the Council approved Legislation No. 0091-14 with a vote of 18-3.

Speaker Pro Tem's message / thanks participants and youth

From Page 1

event, many of which had the opportunity to voice their concerns while having face-to-face dialogue with members of the Council.

I was particularly pleased to see many of our youth participate, including the Tour de Rez bike riders and the Dusty

Trail Riders group on horseback. I am very appreciative of your participation and for your willingness to bring forth your respective concerns and issues.

Over the course of the summer session, Council deliberated and approved a total of 12 legislations. Although

some may not agree with the outcomes, each legislation was carefully examined and thoroughly discussed in a prudent manner.

I am also pleased to report that our live-streaming audience continues to grow and to reach many people nationally

and internationally. During the summer session, we had over 2,000 viewers from 19 different countries tune in to the live-proceedings. The responsibility of keeping the Diné Citizens informed and engaged in their government rests on the shoulders of each of us as elected

leaders.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the 22nd Navajo Nation Council for their continued efforts to improve the lives of our Navajo People and for our great Navajo Nation.

Horse and bike ride kick off 2014 Summer Council Session

By Jolene Holgate

In the midst of hot-button issues on the Navajo Nation such as the feral horse roundup, uranium development, and the recent \$554 million award to the Nation from the federal government, horse and bike riders across Navajo Land prepared for a long and arduous journey to Window Rock. The annual event marked the kick-off of the 2014 Summer Council Session, in which Navajo lawmakers would make critical decisions on a number of key issues.

The challenging ride to the Council Chamber is an annual occurrence for the Nation's elected officials, carrying on a tradition that resonates with culture, government accountability, and the collective concerns of constituents throughout the Na-

Photo (below): Riders from the Eastern Navajo Agency who rode to the Window Rock from the base of Mount Taylor, N.M.



vajo Nation.

Vanessa Begay-Lee, the "trail boss" for this year's horse ride from the Eastern Navajo Agency, said the journey from Mount Taylor to the Council Chambers was intended to revitalize the age-old tradition of Navajo leaders that would ride chapter to chapter to hear the concerns of Diné Citizens. The former leaders would then take those concerns to Window Rock, serving as a voice for the people during regular council sessions.

Council Delegate Edmund Yazzie (Churckrock, Iyanbito, Mariano Lake, Pinedale, Smith Lake, Thoreau) joined the group on the ride and expressed his continuing support of the horse ride from the

Eastern Agency.

"In past horse rides, I talked with constituents, who were concerned with the Fort Wingate land area, and they told me to do my best to get that land back for Navajo, and I take that to heart," said Delegate Yazzie. "I am doing my best to fulfill their wishes."

Delegate Yazzie stressed that the importance of the horse ride allows him as a leader, to speak with his constituents and to carry on the tradition of advocating for his people's concerns.

In conjunction with the horse ride, delegates have also begun partaking in bike rides from their respective areas to the Council Chamber, such as the Tour de Rez coordinated by Tom Rigganbach and Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Ts'ah Bii Kin).



Photo (above): The Dusty Trail Riders and riders from Oak Springs, AZ arriving at the Window Rock Fairgrounds on July 20, beginning their journey from Navajo Mountain, U.T.

"We appreciate each and every one of you for promoting to live a healthy and active lifestyle, and that is what we have always been encouraging with Tour de Rez," said Delegate Nez.

The biking participants rode over 200 miles, beginning from Navajo Mountain, U.T. and going through communities such as Shonto, Kayenta, Chilchinbeto, Chinle, Ganado, and finally arriving in Window Rock the day prior to the start of the summer session.

Along with the Tour de Rez from the Navajo Western Agency, the Dusty Trail Riders also began their journey on horseback from Navajo Mountain. Group leader, Jimmy Black of Shonto, said the overall goal of the ride was not only to visit various communities, but to promote the importance of horses

in Navajo life and to exemplify how horses serve as the vessels in carrying the message of the Navajo people to their leaders.

On the opening day of the summer session, the riders proceeded to the Council Chamber from the Window Rock Fairgrounds where they were greeted by Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland), who provided a welcome message to the Navajo people stressing the importance of youth participation.

"It is important for the Navajo Nation to get the youth involved, and you see them here. They have ridden just as long, if not longer, and each year I see more of them on horseback and on bikes. I want to thank the youth for participating again and I hope you continue to take part in this longtime tradition," said Pro Tem Bates.

Pro Tem Bates also recognized the late Ray Ashley, a former legislative employee who often took part in the horse ride event. Horse riders from the Oak Springs community and the Dusty Trail Riders, led a rider-less horse with the group in commemoration of Mr. Ashley.



Photo (left): Tour de Rez participants arriving in Window Rock from the west, beginning from Navajo Mountain, U.T.

Coal Tax Credit / from page 2

al Energy Company, L.L.C., which now owns Navajo Mine, located near Shiprock, N.M.

Legislation co-sponsor Roscoe Smith (Crystal, Fort Defiance, Red Lake, Sawmill) said the bill is a collaborative effort with the Crow Tribe in Montana to support the extension of the coal tax credit. The Crow Tribe of Montana has an abundance of coal resources and relies heavily on it for revenue, similar to the Navajo Nation.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Council unanimously approved the legislation with a vote of 17-0, including one amendment to eliminate language in the bill pertaining to the Navajo Nation opposing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed carbon tax.

Delegate Smith stated that the proposed carbon tax is an issue which will be addressed in a separate legislation at a later time.

Navajo Nation anticipates \$554 million award from federal government

By Jared Touchin

On July 22, the Navajo Nation Council approved a legislation to amend a landmark agreement over the Navajo Nation's claims against the United States over the historical mismanagement of the Navajo Nation's trust assets, with claims dating as early as 1946.

The Council approved the agreement in principle on May 30. Following the approval, it was determined that the Navajo Nation had to also accept the current trust fund account balances as stated in the Periodic Statements of Performance for the period ending June 30, 2014.

Council Delegate Lorenzo Curley (Houck, Klagetoh, Nahata Dziil, Tsé Si áni, Wide Ruins), who chaired the Naabik'iyáti' Committee Trust Mismanagement Litigation Task Force, which was created to guide the Navajo Nation Department of Justice and outside legal counsel throughout the litigation said the legislation was necessary to "make matters very precise."

Other task force members include Council Delegates Russell Begaye, Charles Damon, II, Walter Phelps, Alton Joe Shepherd, Roscoe Smith (vice chair), Leonard Tsosie and

Dwight Witherspoon.

The Periodic Statements of Performance are delivered to the Navajo Nation from the federal government on a monthly basis to inform the Nation of the current balance in its trust fund accounts.

Under the terms of the agreement in principle, the Navajo Nation agreed to dismiss its lawsuit which was filed on Dec. 29, 2006 in the United States Court of Federal Claims. In return, the U.S. will award the Navajo Nation \$554 million, representing the largest single resolution in the more than 100

cases filed against the United States by American Indian tribes.

Sam Buffone, the lead negotiator from the BuckleySandler law firm, explained that upon approval by the Navajo Nation an expedited process will be in place to have the U.S. Department of Justice sign off on the agreement by the end of July.

Following federal approval, the Navajo Nation expects to receive the \$554 million award within 120 days.

Members of the Council's Naabik'iyáti' Committee

issued a directive to the Office of the Speaker to initiate public hearings regarding the use and/or investment of the anticipated \$554 million award.

Speaker Pro Tem Lorenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) said the Office of the Speaker will hold the public hearings in each of the five Navajo Agencies in the month of August. A tentative schedule is forthcoming.

Council approves supplemental funding for the 9-1-1 Emergency Response System

By Jolene Holgate

The Navajo Nation is the largest land-based tribe in the United States in one of the most remote areas in the country, which has contributed to the Nation's struggle to improve public safety emergency response times to Navajo communities.

Legislation No. 0103-14 secured supplemental fund-

ing to enhance the Nation's Telecommunications Commission's 9-1-1 Emergency Response System's services and anticipated shortfalls in its effort to implement the program, as well as expanding internet service in certain locations across the Navajo Nation.

Council Delegate Russell Begaye (Shiprock) ex-

pressed concern regarding the requested amount of \$697,480, which includes acquiring additional expertise and services for implementation.

"When the NNTRC first came to us, you told us you would have funding or seek funding from other sources," said Delegate Begaye.

NNTRC executive di-

rector Brian Tagaban responded saying that the 9-1-1 program is still relatively new and needed additional money to continue operation. Tagaban also noted that the program is continuing to seek additional funding from other sources.

Council tabled the legislation on July 22, requesting that the budget amount be re-

vised and include proper budget forms to reflect a reasonable amount.

On July 23, Council voted 16-0 to pass the legislation, with a reduced supplemental funding amount of \$570,310.

Nicole Johnny appointed to the Commission on Navajo Government Development for 2-year term

By Chrissy Largo

The Navajo Nation Council unanimously confirmed Nicole Johnny to serve as a graduate student representative on the Commission on Navajo Government Development, with a vote of 18-0. Originally from Crystal, N.M., Johnny graduated in May 2013 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Finance from Azusa Pacific University, located in Southern California.

It took an outspoken and determined professor who recognized Johnny's strong math skills from Azusa Pacific University, to talk her into pursuing a finance degree instead of a psychology degree.

"I started going for a psychology degree to be a clinical psychologist because I would see the children at the Crystal Boarding School and how badly their homes were for them due to alcoholism. It made me really feel for them," stated Johnny. However, she ended up switching majors because she realized that she had a "niche" for math.

"The way I view it is: the government belongs to the people. I'm really excited to bring out the business perspective to the Commission. Finance, business, and economics are pivotal and I wish more people would try to understand it,"

stated Johnny.

Johnny also touched on areas of focus that are of importance to her and described how growing up on the Navajo Nation played into the development of her understanding of certain issues.

"I think of the Navajo Nation's economy as a developing economy which relies solely on their natural resources as their revenue, such as coal. Then, you have developing countries like Japan, Korea, U.S., and Germany that rely on their manufactured goods or public service goods. Navajo Nation is not there yet," Johnny stated.

Growing up, Johnny experienced first-hand the effects that uranium mining had in her community. Her grandfather became ill from uranium exposure, which she says now allows her to sympathize with Navajo people on this issue.

"I grew up on the reservation. I definitely know about everything that is talked about in the Council Chambers. In the back of my mind, after I received my education, I wanted to come back to the Navajo Nation," Johnny added.

Johnny noted that she wants to offer a strong understanding and perspective from the financial standpoint when it



Photo (above): Nicole Johnny outside the Council Chambers.

comes to serving on the Commission.

"I want to see progress. I want to see improvement. For me, when I came back [to the Navajo Nation] and I had my

See NICOLE JOHNNY, Page 5

Navajo Nation Council refers referendum measure to “Empower the Navajo People”

By Jared Touchin

On the third day of the Summer Council Session, Council approved Legislation No. 0123-14, which will allow Navajo voters an opportunity to decide by majority vote whether to amend Title II of the Navajo Nation Code, to state that power originates from the Navajo People.

Additionally, voters will decide whether to change language to state that all powers not delegated are reserved to the people of the Navajo Nation.

Legislation sponsor Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Shonto, Navajo Mountain, Oljato, Ts’ah Bii Kin), said the proposed changes are long overdue and necessary to amend language in Title II imposed on the

Navajo Nation government dating back to the 1930’s.

“Through this legislation and our peoples impending vote on November 4, we have the opportunity to rewrite the laws to acknowledge what we already know—that is our people maintain all rights not delegated to the Navajo Nation Council—and they are the source of all power through their vote, their voices, and their initiative,” said Delegate Nez.

Council Delegate Leonard Tsosie (Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Counselor, Littlewater, Ojo Encino, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake) opposed the legislation, stating that it would create an imbalance in the Navajo government because

it only addresses the legislative branch, not the judicial or executive.

“I don’t think anybody is against having the Navajo people having a say in their government,” stated Delegate Tsosie, while urging delegates to vote against the measure to avoid the likelihood of litigation and to avoid challenges to the authority of the legislative branch due to the proposed language.

“This is a badly-worded referendum language that’s going to bring nothing by litigation—that’s what’s going to happen,” Delegate Tsosie affirmed. “It will cause the legislative branch of the Navajo Nation to be hobbled.”

Council Delegate Mel Begay (Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohatchi, Bahastl’a’a’) recommended further examination of the referendum language and suggested Council focus on other needs of the people.

“I think our people are asking for certain services and I know that for a fact,” Delegate Begay said. “They want scholarships, they want housing, they want power lines, they want water lines, they want road improvements—that’s what’s lacking. That’s what people want and what our people need.”

Following over an hour of discussion, Council members voted 14-6 to approve Legislation No. 0123-14.

Delegate Nez expects the referendum measure to be placed on the ballot during the upcoming Navajo Nation general election in November.

According to 11 N.N.C. §406 (A), the referendum shall pass if a majority “of all eligible registered voters who cast a vote” vote in favor of it and shall be deemed effective upon certification by the Navajo Nation Board of Election Supervisors.

“I think it’s time we allow the Navajo people to vote on the issue of whether the source of governing power is the people or the Council. Through this referendum, we can then gage the public — if further government reform needs to happen.”

Council confirms Malcolm P. Begay as probationary District Court Judge

By Chrissy Largo

On the final day of the Summer Council Session, with the vote of 18-0, Council members unanimously confirmed Malcolm P. Begay to serve as probationary District Court Judge under the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch.

In accordance with Title II of the Navajo Nation Code, the Law and Order Committee initially determines the qualifications of all applicants for judgeships through a thorough screening process. Those that are deemed qualified are forwarded to the President for appointment, which are then subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

Begay is from the community of Steamboat and a graduate of Holbrook High School. Five days after completing high

school, he entered boot camp for the U.S. Marine Corps., receiving an honorary discharge in 1990.

He attended law school at the Lewis and Clark College (Northwestern School of Law), located in Portland, Oregon. In 2009, Begay graduated with his Juris Doctorate and has since attained his Bar License with the Navajo Nation. Soon after, Begay landed a job with the White Collar Crime Unit and moved on to the Chief Prosecutors Office in Kayenta.

In addition, Begay interned for the Navajo Nation Supreme Court for the former Chief Justice and gained additional experience with the Office of Water Rights for the Gila River Indian Community. Begay also volunteered his time at

the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, working with their homicide unit.

Begay’s acknowledges that through his academic and work endeavors, his passion for public service grew steadily.

“My main goal after high school was to serve various capacities in the public realm. I’ve done so in the military. I’ve done so in the State of Oregon. Now, my intention is to remain on the Navajo Nation for the remainder of my life,” stated Begay.

“My background addresses a lot of areas of law. I have diverse experience on and off the Navajo Nation. In any academic or work setting, it must be able to address the needs of communities,” stated Begay.

Since November 2010, he has served as a staff attorney at the Chinle Judicial District, assisting judges in Shiprock, Kayenta, and Chinle, as well as the Navajo Nation Supreme Court.

“My reason for applying for the Navajo Nation Probationary District Court Judge position is because I do take this position seriously. Judges are required to be impartial. They are to respect the parties before them that have legal disputes,” stated Begay.

Immediately following his confirmation by the Council,



Photo (above): Malcolm Begay being sworn as a new Navajo Nation District Court Judge by Navajo Nation Supreme Court associate judge Eleanor Shirley on July 23.

Begay was sworn in by Navajo Nation Supreme Court Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley on the Council Chamber floor.

Begay will serve a two-year probationary period as mandated by Navajo Nation law.

Nicole Johnny / continued from page 4

degree, I started to question how many people that know about the stock market or know about investing. I believe that we can definitely strengthen in this area,” stated Johnny, who currently serves as an Associate Accountant at the Navajo Na-

tion’s Office of the Controller.

In February, the Health, Education, and Human Services Committee issued a public notice regarding the vacant position. Johnny submitted her application in late February and was later nominated by the HE-

HSC.

The Commission on Navajo Government Development is comprised of 12 members including representatives from each of the five Navajo Agencies, representatives from the three governmental branches,

as well as representatives from the traditional sector, Women’s Commission, Diné College, and one tribal standing committee.

With the confirmation, the Commission now has five vacant positions which include representatives from each of the

Nation’s three branches, Diné College, and the Navajo Women’s Commission. Johnny will serve a two-year term on the Commission.

2014 Summer Council Session Legislation Results

22nd Navajo Nation Council

*Chaired the discussion - only votes in the event of a tie

Legislation No. 0095-14:
Approving Amendments to 2 N.N.C. §§500 ET SEQ. and 2 N.N.C. §§701 ET SEQ.

Primary Sponsor:
Danny Simpson

TABLED - Referred back to the Resources and Development Committee and will return to Council after the committee has reviewed the legislation. (Tabling Vote Results)

Yea (12):
Nelson BeGaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Jonathan Hale
Speaker Johnny Naize
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Roscoe Smith
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
Dwight Witherspoon

Nay (9):
Mel Begay
Russell Begaye
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Kenneth Maryboy
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
David Tom
Edmund Yazzie

Not Voting (3):
George Apachito
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay

Legislation No. 0179-14:
Amending the Settlement Agreement between the Navajo Nation and the United States and Accepting the Current Trust Fund Account Balances as stated in the Periodic Statements of Performance

Primary Sponsor:
Lorenzo Curley

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (20):
George Apachito
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (4):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize

Legislation No. 0081-14:
Amending 12 N.N.C. § 1171, The Navajo Nation Veterans Trust Fund

Primary Sponsor:
Edmund Yazzie

TABLED
(Tabling Vote Results)

Yea (17):
George Apachito
Mel Begay
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Duane Tsinigine
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (3):
Nelson BeGaye
Lorenzo Curley
Leonard Tsosie

Not Voting (4):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize

Legislation No. 0090-14:
Supporting the Navajo Nation and the Crow Tribe's Combined and Collaborative Efforts in Energy; Supporting the United States Congress' Permanent Extension of the Indian Coal Production Tax Credit

Primary Sponsor:
Johnny Naize

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (17):
George Apachito
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (7):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Lorenzo Curley
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize
Jonathan Nez
Danny Simpson

Legislation No. 0091-14:
Rescinding, Repealing and Rendering Null and Void Resolution RDCD-69-13: Relating to Resources and Development; Acknowledging the Right-of-Way and Surface Use by Uranium Resources, Inc., of its Churchrock Properties Licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. SUA-1580; Authorizing a Subcommittee

Primary Sponsor:
Edmund Yazzie

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (18):
George Apachito
Elmer Begay
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Speaker Johnny Naize
Jonathan Nez
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
David Tom
Duane Tsinigine
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (3):
Leonard Pete
Roscoe Smith
Leonard Tsosie

Not Voting (3):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Jonathan Hale
Kenneth Maryboy

2014 Summer Council Session Legislation Results

22nd Navajo Nation Council

*Chaired the discussion - only votes in the event of a tie

Legislation No. 0103-14:

Approving Supplemental Funding from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance in the Amount of \$570,310 to Implement and Manage a 911 Emergency Response System

Primary Sponsor:
Danny Simpson

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (16):
George Apachito
Mel Begay
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (8):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Lorenzo Curley
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie

Legislation No. 0122-14:

Accepting the Fort Wingate Taskforce Memorandum Supporting H.R. 3822 The "Fort Wingate Land Division Act of 2014"; and Documenting The Navajo Nation's Support of U.S. House Bill H.R. 3822 The "Fort Wingate Land Division Act of 2014"

Primary Sponsor:
Danny Simpson

TABLED
(Tabling Vote Results)

Yea (12):
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Joshua Lavar Butler
Jonathan Hale
Speaker Johnny Naize
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (9):
George Apachito
Elmer Begay
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Kenneth Maryboy
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Danny Simpson
Leonard Tsosie

Not Voting (3):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Katherine Benally
Duane Tsinigine

Legislation No. 0123-14:

Referring a Referendum Measure on Amending 2 N.N.C. §102

Primary Sponsor:
Jonathan Nez

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (14):
George Apachito
Elmer Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Speaker Johnny Naize
Jonathan Nez
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (6):
Mel Begay
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Leonard Tsosie

Not Voting (4):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Katherine Benally
Kenneth Maryboy
Duane Tsinigine

Legislation No. 0134-14:

Confirming the Appointment of Nicole Johnny to the Commission on Navajo Government Development for a Two Year Term

Primary Sponsor:
Jonathan Hale

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (18):
George Apachito
Elmer Begay
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Speaker Johnny Naize
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (6):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Katherine Benally
Kenneth Maryboy
Alton Joe Shepherd
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie

Legislation No. 0147-14:

Confirming the Appointment of Quincy Natay to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors for a One Year Term

Primary Sponsor:
LoRenzo Bates

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (9):
George Apachito
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Mel Begay
Joshua Lavar Butler
Jonathan Hale
Walter Phelps
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom

Nay (7):
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Alton Joe Shepherd
Edmund Yazzie

Not Voting (8):
Elmer Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Lorenzo Curley
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
*Dwight Witherspoon

2014 Summer Council Session Legislation Results

22nd Navajo Nation Council

*Chaired the discussion - only votes in the event of a tie

Legislation No. 0148-14:
Confirming the Appointment of Tamara Begay to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors for a Three Year Term

Primary Sponsor:
LoRenzo Bates

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (17):
Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Joshua Lavar Butler
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Kenneth Maryboy
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (2):
Katherine Benally
Lorenzo Curley

Not Voting (5):
George Apachito
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
*Dwight Witherspoon

Legislation No. 0149-14:
Confirming the Appointment of Kristina Haskell to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors for a Three Year Term

Primary Sponsor:
LoRenzo Bates

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (17):
George Apachito
Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Kenneth Maryboy
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
David Tom

Nay (0):

Not Voting (7):
Elmer Begay
Speaker Johnny Naize
Roscoe Smith
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
*Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Legislation No. 0150-14:
Confirming the Appointment of Leah Claw to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors for a Three Year Term

Primary Sponsor:
LoRenzo Bates

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (11):
George Apachito
Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Jonathan Hale
Kenneth Maryboy
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (7):
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Nez
Alton Joe Shepherd

Not Voting (6):
Mel Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie
*Dwight Witherspoon

Legislation No. 0152-14:
Confirming the Probationary Appointment of Malcolm P. Begay as Navajo Nation District Court Judge

Primary Sponsor:
Russell Begaye

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (18):
George Apachito
Elmer Begay
Mel Begay
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Lorenzo Curley
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (6):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Nelson BeGaye
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie

Legislation No. 0158-14:
Changing the Name Sheep Springs Chapter to Tooh Haltsooi Chapter; and Amending 11 N.N.C. § 10(A)

Primary Sponsor:
David L. Tom

PASSED
(Simple Majority Vote)

Yea (16):
George Apachito
Mel Begay
Russell Begaye
Katherine Benally
Joshua Lavar Butler
Charles Damon, II
Jonathan Hale
Jonathan Nez
Leonard Pete
Walter Phelps
Alton Joe Shepherd
Danny Simpson
Roscoe Smith
David Tom
Dwight Witherspoon
Edmund Yazzie

Nay (0):

Not Voting (8):
*Speaker Pro Tem LoRenzo Bates
Elmer Begay
Nelson BeGaye
Lorenzo Curley
Kenneth Maryboy
Speaker Johnny Naize
Duane Tsinigine
Leonard Tsosie