



Navajo Nation Council – Office of the Speaker

Contact: Jerome Clark

Phone: (928) 871-7160

Cell: (928) 637-5603

nnlb.communications@gmail.com

www.navajonationcouncil.org

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NEWS RELEASE:

Speaker Johnny Naize Chaired and attended the meeting for Council of Large Land-Based Tribes

Las Vegas, Nev. – Speaker Johnny Naize (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood) attended the annual Council of Large Land-Based Tribes (CLLBT) meeting for which is he also the Chair.

Tribes represented at the Council of Large Land-Based Tribes meeting were Coleville, Cheyenne River, and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Membership into the Council may be extended to tribes who possess at least 100,000 acres of land.

According to the Charter of CLLBT, “The Council of Large Land-Based Tribes (Council) is organized as an association of the governments of sovereign Indian tribes and nations organized within their traditional homelands within the United States of America.”

Two of the purposes of CLLBT is to “support and uphold the sovereignty” of member tribes and to “foster the government-to-government relationship between the Council member tribes, the United State Government, and international governments.”

The CLLBT received a report on the Affordable Healthcare Act, Health Insurance Exchange, legislative agenda, and healthcare facilities from Vice-President Rex Lee Jim, Larry Curley (Acting Division Director of NDOH), Roz Begay, and Theresa Galvin.

Curley emphasized the need for the large land-based tribes to begin broadening the range of people they work with. “We ought to expand the number of people that we work, whether they are from our state or not, which also includes the various organizations,” he commented.

Speaker and Council Delegates present at the meeting emphasized the need for large land-based tribes to work together but also emphasized the need for the Navajo Nation Legislative Branch to work more closely and in unison with the Executive Branch on national and international issues and positions.

Although much of the discussion focused on issues related to health and legislative efforts of CLLBT, a concern was raised about the roads funding distribution formula used to determine the funding amount tribes will receive.

Council Delegates Edmund Yazzie, Elmer Begay, and Russell Begaye were also present at the daylong meeting.

The Navajo representation at CLLBT was an opportunity for Navajo leaders to offer their experiences as an example and it was also an opportunity to offer their support to other large tribes.

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