



**The 22<sup>nd</sup> Navajo Nation Council — Office of the Speaker**  
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## **Council Delegate Lorenzo Bates Selected as Budget and Finance Subcommittee Chairperson**

*Delegate Jonathan Nez selected as Vice Chairperson*

**Window Rock, AZ** — On Monday, March 7, 2011, the Navajo Nation Council Budget and Finance subcommittee selected Council Delegate Lorenzo Bates (T'iistoh Sikaad, Nenahnezad, Upper Fruitland, Tse' Daa' Kaan, Newcomb, San Juan) as its Chairperson. Council Delegate Jonathan Nez (Tсах Bii Kin, Navajo Mountain, Shonto, Oljato) was selected to serve as Vice Chairperson.

"Mr. Nez and I are honored to lead this subcommittee," said Bates. "Our subcommittee is prepared to have the serious discussions necessary to guide the Navajo Nation through a tough period of shrinking federal, state, and tribal budgets. We must find ways to stretch each program dollar to ensure the people receive the services they need."

It is expected that both selections will be confirmed at the next Nabik'iyati' Committee meeting.

Serving on the subcommittee with Bates and Nez are Council Delegates Mel R. Begay (Coyote Canyon, Mexican Springs, Naschitti, Tohachi, Bahast'a'a'), Nelson S. Begaye (Lukachukai, Round Rock, Tsaile/Wheatfields, Tse Ch'izhi, Rock Point), Lorenzo Curley (Klagetoh, Wide Ruins, Houck, Lupton, Nahata Dzii), and Leonard Tsosie (Littlewater, Pueblo Pintado, Torreon, Whitehorse Lake, Baca/Prewitt, Casamero Lake, Ojo Encino, Counselor).

The Budget and Finance subcommittee is one of four subcommittees that are being established by the newly seated 24 member Navajo Nation Council. Once amendments are made to Title II of the Navajo Nation Code regarding the new Council committee structure, these subcommittees will be elevated to standing committees.

This subcommittee serves as oversight for the Navajo Nation Division of Finance and coordinates, oversees, and regulates the fiscal, financial, investment, contracting and auditing polices of the Navajo Nation. The subcommittee is also tasked with reviewing the annual budgets of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service and other departments and agencies of the federal government.

The next Budget and Finance subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2011.

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