



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

Communications Office  
Office of the President and Vice President  
Mihio Manus  
Michele J. Crank  
928.871.7000

## **PRESIDENT BEGAYE COMMENDS NAVAJO LAND DEPARTMENT FOR LAUNCHING CLOUD SYSTEM**

WINDOW ROCK, ARIZ.-On Tuesday, Sep. 13, the Navajo Land Department (NLD) launched the Navajo Nation System which is a cloud-based file and document storage system that has been specifically developed for NLD in collaboration with Andy Frain Services.

In 2006, NLD had a vision of automating their manual processes of filing documents said Mike Halona, Department Director for NLD. In looking at ways to automate it their system, NLD realized that security was a priority as their system holds federal land records.

“We looked at companies that had systems that surpassed the federal requirements. We were successful in building a partnership with the company Andy Frain Services,” Halona said. “They understood what we needed. We bought portals using their platform, while at the same time architecting the system to our needs and to our policies and procedures. No other software company was able to do this.”

The platform that was built is owned by the Navajo Nation and available to all programs and divisions.

“The launch today was to showcase and inform other programs and divisions that our platform is available to them. Everyone is looking for technological solutions. They deal with different companies and spend lots of money. What we have done is built this with the intention of having it applicable to other department’s needs,” Halona said. “We created it. We own it and we own the servers as well as the security component.”

Another aspect of the launch was to highlight the Land Title Data System for title records for the Navajo Nation. Halona said NLD finished an electronic version of tracking 164 documents. Now, instead of a manual packet going from office-to-office, these documents can be submitted electronically so the intended recipients all receive them instantaneously.

“We created an app so that these documents can be accessed and worked on using tablets and laptops. This allows people to review documents whether they are in training or on travel or at lunch. They can go through and sign off on them,” Halona said.

The manual aspect of the 164 review process has caused approvals to be prolonged from months to even years, he said.

“These documents have a five-day review period. The supervisor is informed if documents are not opened on the third day,” Halona said. “This keeps accountability intact.”

Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye said the launching of the Navajo Nation System is a step toward automating a system that needs to work more efficiently. He commended Halona and NDL for initiating this cloud-based system for the Nation.

“It will save the Nation a lot of money,” President Begaye said. “People drive from far and wide just to bring their documents in to Window Rock.”

###