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Dec. 23, 2015

For Immediate Release

On Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2015 the Gallup Independent Newspaper published an article with inaccurate information titled "Budget befuddlement: St. Michaels Chapter approves wrong carryover budget, moves forward (Dec. 22, 2015);" which is misinforming the St. Michaels Community.

The Housing Committee budget was not passed. It was tabled at a community member's request. There was no reason stated for the motion to table the budget but the voting members of the community supported the motion.

News Reporter Marley Shebala claims to have retrieved the budget from Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Gloria Smiley; which was attached to a resolution. However, the policy and procedure according to the Navajo Nation Code, Title 26, is to submit the budget with a passed resolution in a package along with the minutes from the meeting.

The Records Management Policies and Procedures states that the Chapter "Secretary/Treasurer shall turn over to the St. Michaels Chapter Manager, within ten (10) working days, any official actions by the St. Michaels Chapter Membership, including all resolutions, minutes and other official documents, for proper record keeping and for carrying out any St. Michaels Chapter directive(s)."

There are no supporting resolutions supporting the Housing Committee budget.

The Chapter Administration budget for \$830,422.33; which is the carryover for the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund, did pass with majority vote. The vote to pass this budget is have the chapter move forward with payments.

For more information and/or to schedule an interview please contact St. Michaels Chapter Community Service Coordinator Donna Whitehair at 928-871-7842 or e-mail [stmichaels@navajochapters.org](mailto:stmichaels@navajochapters.org).