



Navajo Nation Council – Office of the Speaker

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NEWS RELEASE:

Council Delegate Butler thanks voters of Tó’Nanees’Dizí Chapter for exercising right to vote in special election

Voters elect Angie Williams, Ben Davis to fill chapter vacancies on April 24

TUBA CITY, Ariz. — Navajo Nation Council Delegate Joshua Lavar Butler (Tó’Nanees’Dizí—Tuba City) thanks his constituents for exercising their right to vote during a special election at the Tó’Nanees’Dizí Chapter on April 24. Voters elected Angie Williams and Ben Davis to finish the current terms of the previous chapter officials on the Council of Naataanii.

The special election is the result of a year-long investigation of former chapter officials by the Ethics & Rules Office, which led to the removal of all five officials by the Office of Hearings & Appeals of the Navajo Nation.

Williams won the special election with 410 votes, followed by Davis with 402, Marie Acothley with 117, Melissa Natoni with 107 and Priscilla Kanaswood with 30. The two members will be sworn in after the 10-day grievance period, which ends May 4, according to the Navajo Elections Administration.

Williams said she is ready to work.

“After being sworn in, my role is to advocate and communicate the concerns of the people before a chapter quorum and to help identify the best interest of the people by promoting transparency and being accountable,” Williams said. “I will also bring attention and a voice to concerns related to the health and education of our community – since I have the experience, skills and education to do so.”

Davis said he was humbled by the vote of confidence.

“I am honored that the people of this great community have bestowed their faith and trust in me to help rebuild the local chapter government,” Davis said. “With my knowledge, skills, and the support of the community, we will once again rise above turmoil. I look forward to serving the community and look forward to a successful future.”

Council Delegate Butler is pleased with the people’s choice and looks forward to working with the new officials on various projects that have been idle.

“The people have spoken and they have indeed sent a message that they want new people in these chapter positions,” Butler said. “April 24 marks a new day and a first step in our chapter’s

future. It is certainly a step in the right direction. I look forward to forging ahead to elevate our chapter and to lead by example. I am also happy the new officials campaigned on the principles of promoting transparency and accountability – I will help them promote those ideals.”

The chapter has three vacancies left to fill and Butler explained that he will keep the community informed on the future special election dates.

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