



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 11, 2012

**MEDIA CONTACTS**  
Jerome Clark | 928.637.5603  
Carmenlita Chief | 928.255.3428  
nlnb.communications@gmail.com

## **Council tables Fiscal Year 2013 Comprehensive Budget, Budget and Finance to consider Continuing Resolution**

WINDOW ROCK – The 22<sup>nd</sup> Navajo Council convened on Sept. 10 to consider Legislation No. 0376-12, which was seeking to adopt the Navajo Nation Fiscal Year 2013 Comprehensive Budget; however, after a lengthy discussion in executive session, council voted to table the legislation.

Speaker Johnny Naize (Low Mountain, Many Farms, Nazlini, Tachee/Blue Gap, Tselani/Cottonwood) stated, “The council tabling the Comprehensive Budget legislation was not a matter of indecision or lack of unity, but, instead, the tabling was a matter of protecting the nation’s credit rating and to allow time to seek options in providing more funding to chapters for capital improvement projects.”

As part of the motion to table, council will address the five year capital projects plan, completing the nation’s audits, evaluating set asides, assessing interest earned on principle, gaming, non-recurring revenue, oil and gas revenue, and the proprietary fund.

Council Delegate LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tiis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse’ Daa’ Kaan, Upper Fruitland), when asked if he supported the motion, said, “I do support the tabling motion for the reasons discussed. Mind you colleagues, it is up to us to pursue the five year plan. The Office of the Controller and Department of Justice will need to work together to get an audit completed as quickly as we can and get it back to this council.”

“The continuing resolution will allow council sufficient time to address the Capital Improvement Plan and to complete an audit which has been delayed as a result of a court order restricting access to Administration Building #1,” added Speaker Naize.

Access to Administration Building #1 is restricted since black mold—a serious health concern for personnel—was discovered in the building and has also restricted access to financial documents necessary to complete an audit.

Speaker Naize said he was confident with the decision of council and he felt that the council acted wisely and in the best interest of Diné citizens.

The continuing budget resolution, Legislation No. 0377-12, was posted to the Navajo Nation Council website on August 30 for the five-day bill hold. It currently sits with the Budget and Finance Committee.

As it is currently written, the legislation indicates that the council “resolves that all Navajo Nation Government divisions, departments, offices, programs and Navajo Nation chapters shall receive 1/2 of their Navajo Nation FY 2012 general fund, proprietary fund, and fiduciary fund allocations for operation of the Navajo Nation government.”

When adopted, the continuing budget resolution will begin on October 1, 2012 and apply no later than March 31, 2013. The waiver of 12 N.N.C § 849 (B) will be in effect until council adopts the Navajo Nation Comprehensive Budget of Fiscal Year 2013.

The Budget and Finance Committee has not announced when it will consider the continuing budget resolution. Legislation 0377-12, the continuing budget resolution, will also have to be considered by the Naa’bik’iyati’ Committee and the Navajo Nation Council.

###

For news on the latest legislative branch activities, please visit [www.navajonationcouncil.org](http://www.navajonationcouncil.org)