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## President Shelly executes line item veto, cites need to maintain UUFB



*President Shelly executed his line item veto authority to maintain an acceptable balance in the UUFB before leaving office. He funded more than \$12.8 million in projects across the Nation. (Photo by Rick Abasta)*

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.— Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly has executed his line item veto authority on Legislation No. 0089-15, which was requesting more than \$19.7 million in supplemental funding from the Undesignated, Unreserved Fund Balance.

The legislation had many projects listed, from power line extensions, chapter house construction, capital improvement projects, summer youth employment, public employment program, zoo aviary, water line extension, veterans and Navajo Transitional Energy Company.

President Shelly said, “When my administration first took office, the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance was in a deficit of more than \$22 million.”

He said the administration worked diligently to replenish the UUFB and maintained the tribal policy of keeping the balance above the 10 percent threshold.

“Therefore, my administration will not leave office with a deficit in the UUFB,” President Shelly said. “After careful consideration, I will exercise my line item veto authority.”

The Teesto Chapter request

for \$2,922,425 to rebuild their chapter house has been vetoed. The \$1,500,000 request for summer youth employment has been vetoed. The \$1,500,000 for the public employment program has been vetoed. The request for \$1,000,000 for veterans has been vetoed.

The president noted that the Teesto Chapter has an existing claim pending with Navajo Risk Management and said they need to proceed with the claim to resolve their funding needs.

“On behalf of Vice President Jim and I, we would like to express our appreciation to the Navajo Nation Council,”

President Shelly said. “As we end our duties, the fact that our administration was fiscally responsible leaves us with great pride.”

A total of \$12,859,429.21 of projects were approved and funded by President Shelly.

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