

RESOLUTION OF THE  
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE OF THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2015

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING THE  
APPOINTMENT OF FERN BENALLY AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FOREST  
LAKE CHAPTER TO THE BLACK MESA REVIEW BOARD

SECTION ONE. FINDINGS

- A. The purpose of the Black Mesa Review Board shall be to advocate for fair and just compensation for Navajo families within the five Navajo Nation chapters whose socio-economic and environmental interests are adversely affected or impacted by coal mining and related operations of Peabody Western Coal Company. 2 N.N.C. § 902.
- B. The Board shall consist of seven members, one of whom shall be a resident of the PWCC Lease area and shall be appointed by the Forest Lake Chapter. 2 N.N.C. § 903(A); *see also* Forest Lake Chapter Resolution attached as Exhibit A.
- C. Within 30 days of their appointment, each Board appointee shall be presented to the Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council for confirmation. 2 N.N.C. § 903(B). References in the Navajo Nation Code to the Government Services Committee shall mean the Naabik'íyáti' Committee, unless the amendments enacted herein or the context of previous law indicates otherwise. See CO-45-12, Section 5(A).
- D. If so confirmed, a Board member's term shall not commence until he or she is administered an oath of office by a judge or justice of the Navajo Nation courts. 2 N.N.C. § 903(B).
- E. The term of appointment for appointment of all Board members shall be four years. 2 N.N.C. § 903(H).


- F. The terms of the Board members shall be staggered. 2 N.N.C. § 903(A).
- G. Any Board member may be appointed for consecutive terms, but shall be limited to two consecutive terms. 2 N.N.C. § 903(H).
- H. Ms. Fern Benally has been appointed by the Forest Lake Chapter based on her qualifications, and is a resident of the PWCC Lease area. See Ms. Benally's Resume attached as Exhibit B.

**SECTION TWO. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT**

The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the appointment of Ms. Fern Benally to serve on the Black Mesa Review Board as a representative of the Forest Lake Chapter for a term of four (4) years.

**CERTIFICATION**

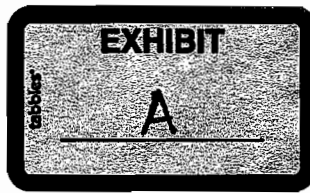
I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 12 in favor and 0 opposed, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.

  
Leonard Tsosie, Pro Tem Chairperson  
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

Motion: Honorable Tuchoney Slim, Jr.  
Second: Honorable Davis Filfred



**BEN SHELLY  
PRESIDENT**



## **FOREST LAKE CHAPTER**

Dwight Witherspoon, Council Delegate  
Helena Begay, President  
Fern Benally, Vice-President  
Brenda White, Secretary Treasurer  
Irene Begay, Grazing Representative  
Ella M. Benally, Community Service Coordinator

**REX LEE JIM  
VICE-PRESIDENT**

### **RESOLUTION OF THE FOREST LAKE CHAPTER OF THE NAVAJO NATION FLC- 15-04-00 OS**

**ELECTING AND APPROVING FERN BENALLY-CHAPTER VICE-PRESIDENT OF FOREST LAKE CHAPTER, AS THE NEW CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BLACK MESA REVIEW BOARD.**

#### **WHEREAS:**

1. The Forest Lake Chapter is a Navajo Nation governmental entity vested with authority and responsibility to represent and advocate and act on matters beneficial to community members; and
2. In the former years, the Forest Lake Chapter has always been allocated two representatives to serve on the Black Mesa Review Board, but since the Black Mesa Review Board just recently renewed its plan of operation that reduced the Forest Lake chapter representative membership to only one; and
3. The selection of Black Mesa Review Board representative was announced at its chapter meeting for two months to allow interested community individuals to make public their desire to serve the chapter; and
4. The Forest Lake Chapter, during its chapter meeting using the democratic nomination process, selected Fern Benally as the chapter representative to the Black Mesa Review Board; and
5. Fern Benally qualifies to serve on the board as a Chapter Official and a resident of the Lease Area.

#### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED THAT:**

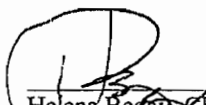
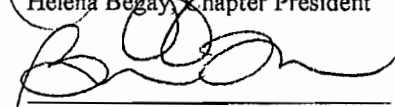
The Forest Lake Chapter hereby elected and approved Fern Benally-Vice President of Forest Lake Chapter, as chapter representative to the Black Mesa Review Board.

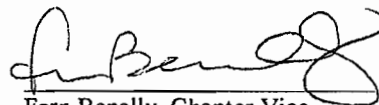
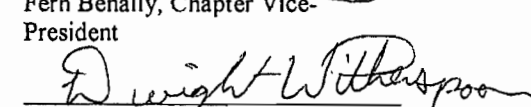
#### **CERTIFICATION**

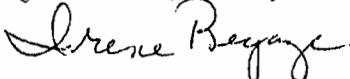
**WE HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing resolution was considered at a duly called chapter meeting at Forest Lake Chapter, Navajo Nation, in which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by vote of 24 in favor, 00 opposing and 08 abstaining on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015.

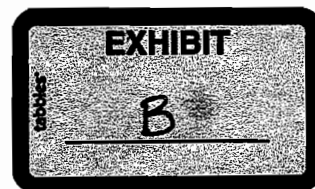
Motion by: Elsie Benally

Second by: Molita Riggs

  
Helena Begay, Chapter President  
  
Brenda White, Secretary/Treasure

  
Fern Benally, Chapter Vice-President  
  
Dwight Witherspoon, Council Delegate

 - DGC - Forest Lake



**FERN A. BENALLY**

P.O. Box

Kayenta, AZ 86033

Cell:

E-mail:

## **OBJECTIVE**

Selected by Forest Lake Chapter membership to serve on the Black Mesa Review Board as a representative and advocate for community members who live within and adjacent to the Peabody Western Coal Company and are adversely affected by Coal mining to promote projects that will benefit the region.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Board Member and volunteer of Black Mesa United-Dzilijiin Bee Ahota, Inc., a non-profit grassroots community development organization for more than six years
- Vice-President of Forest Lake Chapter, knowledgeable about the legislative process and identification of needs of the Chapter, and its community to support progress
- Draft plans and Resolutions in collaboration with Chapter administration, Senior Center, field experts, and community members
- Advocate for community needs, issues, and give reports detailing the status of Chapter projects
- Bilingual (English & Navajo), able to educate effectively with community members about water issues, roads and other infrastructure needs
- Provide guidance to individuals who have questions regarding community and chapter affairs

## **EMPLOYMENT & VOLUNTEER HISTORY**

**Forest Lake Chapter, Forest Lake, AZ**

January 2012 to Present

As Vice-President of the Chapter, I take an active role to promote the betterment of the Forest Lake Chapter and its community. I monitor infrastructure projects and attend meetings to become more knowledgeable about Navajo Nation laws, policies and procedures.

**Kayenta Unified School District #27 School Board, Kayenta, AZ**

January 2012 to Present

As a member of KUSD School Board, I am a team member, collaborating so we can determine the best way to enhance student achievement while considering holistically all aspects of children's being. I attend seminars and conferences so I can become more knowledgeable about my duties.

**Black Mesa United-Dzilijiin Bee Ahota, Inc., Black Mesa, AZ**

September 2009 to Present

As a Board member and volunteer, I am proactive and attend meetings, and identify community needs and concerns. I participate in public speaking on behalf of the local residents and engage in any activities that will improve their general welfare and benefit them positively.

**Kayenta Indian Health Service Health Center, Kayenta, AZ** September 2012 to December 2012

I was employed as a Temporary Hire for the facility's Seasonal Flu Clinic RN. My duties were to administer the annual Flu Vaccine and other necessary immunizations to patients who consent to the vaccinations. I educated the public regarding each administered vaccine.

**Travcorps & Cross Country-Travcorps** April 1995 to September 2010  
Malden, MA 01248-9104 or Boca Raton, FL 33431-0828

As a contract RN, I worked in diverse specialized hospital settings across the United States, with the multi-disciplinary healthcare team in providing quality patient care. I contributed to the healthcare professional's team function for the patients.

*(Note: Please note that Travcorps merged with Cross Country in 2003).*

**Cross Country Healthcare, Boca Raton, FL** October 1991 to April 1995

I worked in multiple hospital settings i.e., ICU, CCU, PCU, NTICU as a contract traveling RN in multiple patient care settings. As above, I applied my nursing education and experience to the best of my ability.

**Flagstaff Medical Center, Flagstaff, AZ** March 1990 to April 1991

I completed my ICU experience in this general ICU which was a Level I trauma center. The unit had a wide variety of patient populations including Neurological surgeries and Trauma. My responsibilities included primary patient care and shift charge RN.

**Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ** June 1987 to February 1990

At this facility I gained the general experience as a new graduate RN. I worked in a fast-paced setting with high patient turn-over. I developed my primary nursing care skills. As time passed, I worked as a team leader with LPN and CNA team members. I acquired delegation skills, patient care proficiency and professional communication with multi-disciplinary healthcare team. I advocated for my patients to receive the best quality healthcare.

## **EDUCATION**

**Grand Canyon University** September 1982 to May 1987

Major: Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Passed NCLEX exam for Arizona State and became a Licensed RN in July 1987.

Minor: Psychology

**REFERENCES:** Available upon request