

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' STANDING COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2023

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DERRICK WATCHMAN TO THE NAVAJO NATION GAMING ENTERPRISE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM TO FILL THE GAMING MANAGEMENT OR GAMING OPERATIONS EXPERIENCE POSITION

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (Enterprise) Board of Directors (Board) are subject to confirmation by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee. 5 N.N.C. § 1707(C). See also CO-72-18.
- B. The Navajo Nation Council has legislative oversight over the Enterprise. 5 N.N.C. § 1718.

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. On Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1707(C), the President of the Navajo Nation shall select Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors members. President Nygren selected Derrick Watchman to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors. The Navajo Nation President's letter of appointment of Mr. Watchman is attached as **Exhibit A**.
- B. On Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1707(D), "*Composition. At least one member shall be a Certified Public Accountant; at least one member shall possess a Juris Doctorate; at least two members shall have a preference of 12 years executive level management, minimum of 7 years experience in mid-level gaming management or gaming operations; and at least five members be enrolled members of the Navajo Nation.*"
- C. At all times the nominees and the Directors shall possess the following qualifications: (1) shall have demonstrable knowledge of Class II and Class III gaming operations and work experience in the gaming industry; (2) shall be at least 25 years of age; (3) shall possess a bachelors and/or graduate degree, preferably in finance, accounting, marketing, economics, management, law or related fields; (4) shall have a minimum of seven (7) years mid-level management experience; preferred experience will take into account 12 years of mid-

level or executive experience; (5) not be a board member of a Navajo Nation-owned corporation, enterprise or authority; and (6) shall not be a public official or public employee of the Navajo Nation. 5 N.N.C. § 1707(G). See also CO-72-18. Mr. Watchman's letter of interest and résumé are attached as Exhibits B and C.

- D. Each appointee for the position of the Board of the Enterprise shall obtain a Gaming Facility Operator's License from the Gaming Regulatory Office before submission of the appointment to the Naabik'íyáti Committee for confirmation. 5 N.N.C. § 1707(H). Mr. Watchman's Gaming Facility Operator's License attached as Exhibit D.
- E. The Board shall consist of nine members and at least five members shall be enrolled members of the Navajo Nation. 5 N.N.C. §§ 1707(B) and 1707(D). See also CO-72-18. Mr. Watchman's Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood is attached as Exhibit E.
- F. Mr. Watchman possesses the qualifications to be a Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board member and will fill one of the positions required by 5 N.N.C. § 1707(D) that states "at least two members shall have a preference of 12 years executive level management, minimum of 7 years experience in mid-level gaming management or gaming operations."
- G. Mr. Watchman's appointment term is for a four-year term. He shall hold office until the qualification and selection of his successor. 5 N.N.C. §§ 1707(F) and 1707(I).

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to 5 N.N.C. § 1707(C), the Navajo Nation hereby confirms the appointment of Mr. Derrick Watchman to serve on the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors for a four-year term beginning at the certification of this resolution and will fill the position of one of the members who have executive level gaming management or gaming operations experience.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the 25th 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 14 in Favor, and 02 Opposed, on this 12th day of October 2023.



Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Chairwoman
Naabik'íyáti' Committee

10/17/2023

Date

Motion: Honorable Danny Simpson
Second: Honorable Steven R. Arviso

Chairwoman Crystalyne Curley not voting



The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*
Yideeskáądi Nitsáhákees **RICHELLE MONTROYA** *VICE PRESIDENT*

June 14, 2023



Derrick Watchman
P.O. Box


Re: Official Appointment to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors

Dear Mr. Watchman,

I am pleased to appoint you to the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise Board of Directors. I am confident you have the background, experience, and education to represent the interest of this Administration on this Board of Directors. This appointment is subject to confirmation of the Naabik'iyáti' Committee.

I appreciate your desire to serve the Navajo Nation and the Navajo People. If there are any questions, please contact Patrick Sandoval, Chief of Staff at (928) 871-7244.

Sincerely,


Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

Derrick Watchman
P.O. Box



June 1, 2023

President Dr. Buu Nygren
The Navajo Nation
Office of the President and Vice President
P.O. Box 7440
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Re: NNGE Board of Director's Board Member Application

Greetings,

I am submitting my interest in becoming a Board of Director for the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise. I understand most of the NNGE board members have expired terms.

I meet the qualifications required of Board members and am able to apply for a gaming license with the Navajo Nation and State of Arizona. My resume is attached for reference.

I am most interested in Navajo gaming as it provides jobs and adds to the Navajo economy that is especially important for economic success. The future for gaming will be challenging for gaming and with my background I will be able collectively with fellow board members and management position gaming for success, growth, and meeting its obligations.

I look forward to the opportunity and would welcome the appointment. I am able to discuss and meet with appropriate Navajo Nation representatives about my interest at any time.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derrick Watchman".

Derrick Watchman

Attachment

DERRICK WATCHMAN, MBA

P.O. Box

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QUALIFICATIONS

- 35 years of professional experience in Gaming & Hospitality, Tribal Government, Banking, Finance, Tribal Economic Development and Tribal Business industries.
- 13 years senior level positions in the Investment Banking industry.
- 7 years of CEO, CFO experience with multi-property tribal gaming & resort organization.
- 8 years' experience as Chief of Staff and senior level positions with tribal nation and departments.
- 2 years' experience with the US Department of Energy - Director of Indian Affairs - Washington, D.C.
- 2 years' experience in professional advisory services including gaming and banking.
- Experience with banking and finance sourcing, capital expansions, financial planning, start-up of a Section 17 federal corporation, casino improvement planning, tribal affairs advisory services, economic development planning, and financial system platform development.
- Fulfilled key leadership role in development of Navajo Nation's gaming assets, capital development, acquisition & structuring of gaming operations, human resources, marketing, legal, gaming compact and policy matters to support aggressive development and expansion of Navajo Gaming's four (4) casino/hotel start-ups.
- Provided leadership and management in all areas of staffing, personnel, administration, project management, information technology and economic development for 300 programs & departments.
- Managed major projects including implementation of a \$500M annual operating budgets.
- Experienced with tribal nation's executive duties to include implementation of policies & procedures, coordination of government services and management of negotiations on water, budget, financing, investment, banking, environmental and energy issues.
- Served as acting Director for Education department and coordinated external funded program budgeting and contract negotiations.
- Experienced with energy and electrification policy development.
- As CEO, redirected Navajo Gaming with a new financial operating performance improvement plan for the period of 2014 - 2016, gaming's profitability increased by more than 70% and job creation of over 1,500 jobs through the 4 casinos and representing a total capital investment of more than \$372M
- Named Top Arizona CEO by Arizona Business Magazine. Recognized as one of Arizona's Most Influential Leaders for successful launch of four diamond Twin Arrows Navajo Resort Casino.
- **Results-Oriented** - Provide timely guidance, mobilize necessary resources, delegate & hold team accountable and monitor progress through periodic financial reviews, management team meetings, reports and team- building to achieve goals within established deadlines.
- **Leadership** - Strong leader with collaborative management style and extensive experience serving on Boards of Directors, working in government agencies, serving committees as chairman or member and leading senior enterprise management teams.
- **Analytical** - Skills encompassing all aspects of finance, operations, enterprise management and ad hoc reporting from smaller programs & capital projects to large-scale developments.
- **Vision** - Highly accomplished in establishing short, mid and long-term visions for growth, diversification and development.
- **Communication** - Dynamic inter-personal communication skills bring clarity to vision and unite teams behind a shared understanding of goals & objectives.
- **Creative & Adaptable** - Very effective problem solver adept at relying on a combination of education, experience, analytical skills and intuition to develop actions plans and lead teams to success in accordance with time demands.
- **Team-Building** - Adept at assembling and building an effective team in compliance with the Navajo Preference in Employment Act utilizing people with varying skills, backgrounds and experience that complement the entire unit Value others through respect, solicitation of ideas & recommendations and interaction that builds trust- based relationships.
- **Software Systems** - JD Edwards, Bally, Sage X3 Accounting/Casino Systems

DERRICK WATCHMAN, MBA

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CAREER HISTORY

Sagebrush Hill Group, LLC - Window Rock, AZ **President**

01/2017 - Present

- Provide advisory, acquisition and development services related to banking, gaming, finance, and economic development. Recent projects include project financing acquisition for tribal retail gas station, managing creation of tribal section 17 corporation, tribal energy project planning and financing, economic development planning for non-profit, federal and state lobbying for several tribes, and financing services assessment.

Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise - Window Rock, AZ

10/2009 - 12/2016

Chief Executive Officer

01/2013 - 12/2016

Established in 2006 providing gaming entertainment within Navajo land to visitors and locals alike. Currently operating four (4) properties in New Mexico and Arizona, with over 2,800 slots, 32 tables, 9 pokers, 560 seat bingo, 200 room four-diamond hotel, 6 restaurants, and convention space and 1,350 employees.

- Senior officer in charge and leading the gaming & hospitality operations consisting of four casino operations and representing a total capital investment of more than \$372M.
- Redirected Navajo Gaming with a new financial operating performance improvement plan for the period of 2014 - 2016, gaming's profitability increased by more than 70% and job creation of over 1,500 jobs through the 4 casinos.

Chief Financial Officer

10/2009 - 12/2012

- Designed, constructed, staffed and opened four casino & hospitality enterprises in a five-year period during deepest US economic recession in history.
- Worked closely with Navajo Nation Gaming Regulatory Office to create comprehensive asset protection plan for surveillance, internal controls and compliance with Tribal-State Gaming Compacts.
- Worked directly with Navajo, state and federal agencies & institutions on the gaming compact, other matters including legal, financial, regulatory, economic, transportation, land acquisition, water rights and other matters.

Financial Consultant

04/2009 - 09/2009

- Engaged by Chief Executive Officer to assist with developing capital structure and securing financing to support aggressive development strategy for Navajo Nation's gaming & hospitality operations.

JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. - Phoenix, AZ

01/2002 - 03/2009

Senior Relationship Manager & Vice President

- Senior banking executive in JP Morgan Chase's Native American Banking Group.
- Responsible for banking relationships with Tribal casino / gaming operations, and other enterprises, and Native American Tribes across entire US.
- Served in key leadership role for bank lending more than \$1B to Tribes for casino/gaming & hospitality enterprises, economic development, critical support infrastructure and other facilities for serving the needs of Tribal membership.
- Worked directly with credit rating agencies, financial analysts, credit committees, other lending institutions, legal counsel and Tribal & enterprise leadership groups to structure & underwrite loans, provide financial advice & competitive analysis for gaming operations, development and construction development.
- Assisted with development of cash management programs for Tribal governments to effectively manage cash for gaming & hospitality enterprises, capital projects and Tribal programs.

Navajo Nation Executive Branch - Window Rock, AZ

1/2000 - 01/2002

Chief of Staff

Native American territory covering about 17,544,500 acres, occupying portions of northeastern Arizona, southeastern Utah, and northwestern New Mexico. This is the largest land area retained by a Native American tribe, with a population of roughly 340,000. The Navajo Nation has an elected government that includes an executive office, a legislative house, and a judicial system. The executive system manages a large law enforcement and social services apparatus, health services, Diné College, and other local and educational trusts.

- Reported directly to Navajo Nation President supervising day-to-day activities of Executive Branch's Directors and Supervisors.
- Provided leadership and management in all areas of staffing, personnel, administration, project

DERRICK WATCHMAN, MBA

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- management, information technology and economic development for 300 programs & departments.
- Managed major projects include implementation of a \$500M annual operating budgets.
- Performed executive duties to include the implementation of policies & procedures, coordination of government services and managed negotiations on water, budget, financing, investment, banking, environmental and energy issues.
- Served as acting Director for Education department and coordinated external funded program budgeting and contract negotiations, energy and electrification policy development, as well as state and federal lobbying and representation on the Native American Bancorporation Board of Directors.

US Department of Energy - Washington, D.C.

09/1998

12/2000

Director of Indian Affairs

12/1999 - 12/2000

A Cabinet-level department of the United States Government concerned with the policies regarding energy and safety in handling nuclear material. The Tribal Affairs focus serves to strengthen the Department's relationships and interactions with the Tribes. Offering unique insights into the way Departmental programs and policies impact the Tribes, this office serves as the central point of contact for interactions with Tribal governments.

- Responsible for enhancing quality of life, promoting economic opportunities and carrying out duties of protecting and improving energy assets of American Indians, Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives.
- Served as highest senior liaison between Dept. of Energy and Tribal governments.
- Proven track record of assisting Native American Tribes and businesses with achieving their stated goals in accordance with the highest standards of ethics, respect & integrity.

Program Chief of Staff

09/1998 - 11/1999

- Accountable for providing leadership and management in all areas of staffing & personnel, administration, project completion, information technology and development to improve the asset acquisition/disposition of the organization.
- Primary negotiator, project leader and manager of all special projects with duties including civil rights, EEO investigations, small business development, expanding the \$300M minority banking program and implementing minority community technical assistance programs.
- Increased community and business development projects in states where the Department is located.
- Expanded energy programs to Tribes including Indian preference power allocations.
- Worked with Tribes on electricity deregulation & renewable energy grant programs.

Wells Fargo Bank - San Francisco, CA & Phoenix, AZ

07/1995 - 08/1998

Assistant Vice President

- Commercial loan officer and relationship manager responsible for loan underwriting & documentation, credit scoring and approval, cash management advice and capital budgeting management to Indian Tribes, primarily tribal casinos.
- Worked closely with other banking & lending institutions on lock box transactions, real estate valuations, security purchases and vault storage for Tribes and their casino enterprises.

Derrick B. Watchman Consulting - Window Rock, AZ

06/1994 - 06/1995

Management Advisor

- Financial and management consultant to Tribes and private companies on Tribal tax planning, strategic planning, marketing & business planning, business start-up, Indian affairs relationship-building, investment monitoring, banking strategies and economic development.

Dine Power Authority - Window Rock, AZ

06/1992 - 05/1994

General Manager

- Managed and directed the bulk power and energy development enterprise of the Navajo Nation.

Navajo Tax Commission - Window Rock, AZ

05/1991 - 05/1992

Executive Director

- Responsible for directing tax division to include implementing tax-monitoring systems to improve cash flow and enforcement.
- Successfully negotiated major tax settlements netting the Navajo Nation over \$100M in back taxes.

DERRICK WATCHMAN, MBA

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Prudential Capital Corporation - Newark, NJ

06/1988 - 05/1991

Investment Manager

- Provided analysis and support of potential acquisitions, divestitures and investments to include all aspects of credit underwriting, due diligence, approval and closing processes as well as the hand-off to regional offices.
- Wrote investment policies, updated asset allocation policy, instructed fund managers - trust agents
- Developed & monitored the Nation's \$800M investment portfolio.

Navajo Nation - Window Rock, AZ

06/1984 - 08/1986

Budget and Evaluation Analyst

- Responsible for developing, organizing and preparing annual operating budgets for Tribal programs.
- Presented annual operating budgets to 88-member Tribal Council and developed "management by objective" models for Tribal programs so that progress and performance could be measured and evaluated.
- Conducted bi-annual program evaluations & audits to assess programs accomplishments relative to Tribal Charter.

EDUCATION

- Master of Business Administration (MBA) - University of California, Berkley, CA 1988
Finance and accounting concentration
- Bachelor of Science - Business Administration - University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 1984
Finance and accounting concentration
- Window Rock High School - Ft. Defiance, Arizona

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- University of Nevada Gaming - Executive Development Program for Executives
- NIGA Gaming Training Tracks
- Global Gaming Exhibition (G2E) Gaming Training Tracks
- Joseph Eve's Gaming Performance Analysis Training
- Chase Treasury Management Officer Training
- SBA Small Business Lending Intermediary
- Wells Fargo's Senior Credit Management Training Program
- Prudential Capital Corporation Credit and Financing Training Program
- American Public Power Association Energy Financing Workshops
- Talk Power, a Natalie Rogers public speaking program
- Duke University, Intermediate Accounting Review Course
- Chartered Financial Analyst Candidate Review Courses
- Management by Objective Training, University of New Mexico
- Department of Energy - Federal budgeting process courses

BOARD & SENIOR LEADERSHIP SERVICE

- Chairman of the Board - Grand Canyon Resort Corporation, the hospitality enterprise of the Hualapai Tribe's Grand Canyon West park
- Senior Executive Service Official - Appointed official for the United States Government in the U.S. Department of Energy
- Congressional Candidate - 2002 elections for the Arizona's Congressional District No. 1
- Commissioner - National Environmental Policy Commission headed by Congressman James Clyburn - Washington, DC
- Board Member - Native American Community Health Center, Phoenix, AZ
- Bank Board Director - Native American Bank, Denver, CO
- Chairman of the Board - National Center for American Indian Economic Development, Mesa, AZ
- Chairman of the Board - Navajo Forest Products Industries, Navajo, NM
- Vice Chairman - Navajo Nation Tax Commission, Window Rock, AZ
- Board Member - Arizona Rural Development Council, Phoenix, AZ
- Management Board Member - Navajo Tribal Utility Authority, Ft. Defiance, AZ

DERRICK WATCHMAN, MBA

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LICENSES

- Gaming License - Navajo Nation
- Gaming License - State of Arizona
- Gaming License - State of New Mexico

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Enjoy mountain biking, watching the latest movies and time with my family

Enrolled Member of the Navajo Nation



NAVAJO NATION GAMING REGULATORY OFFICE

Post Office Box 1970 | 47552 State Highway 264, Suite A

Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona) 86515

Phone (928) 871-6712 | Fax (928) 871-6713

www.nngro.navajo-nsn.gov

EXHIBIT

D

NAVAJO NATION GAMING REGULATORY OFFICE

TEMPORARY TRIBAL GAMING LICENSE

GAMING FACILITY OPERATOR

Temporary Gaming License Number

This certifies that

DERRICK BERNETTE WATCHMAN

has been issued a temporary tribal gaming license in accordance with the provisions of the Gaming Ordinances and Regulations of the Navajo Nation ("Tribe"), the Tribal-State Compact between the Tribe and the State of Arizona and State of New Mexico, and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. §2701 et. seq.). This temporary license is issued by the Navajo Nation Gaming Regulatory Office, the Tribe's regulatory gaming agency, pending the completion of a background investigation and determination of eligibility by the Navajo Nation Gaming Regulatory Office and if applicable, a determination of suitability by the Arizona Department of Gaming and approval by the National Indian Gaming Commission.



Lisa F. Tsosie, Licensing Manager
Navajo Nation Gaming Regulatory Office

07/31/2023
Date



NN-OMB

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THE NAVAJO NATION

Joe Shirley, Jr.
PRESIDENT

Ben Shelly
VICE PRESIDENT

UNACCEPTABLE IF ALTERED

CERTIFICATE OF NAVAJO INDIAN BLOOD

PART A (To be used if applicant is enrolled)

FORT DEFIANCE
AGENCY

JUNE 23, 2009
DATE

I certify that DERRICK BERNETT WATCHMAN is listed on the Navajo Indian Census Roll, dated
_____, Which is an official record of this office as being of _____ Degree Navajo
Indian blood, with Roll Number, _____, Date of Birth _____

RECORDED: FEBRUARY 14, 1964.

[Signature]
For VITAL STATISTIC MANAGER
Office Assistant

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS DOCUMENT
HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM THE OFFICIAL TRIBAL ROLL OF THE NAVAJO NATION.

NAVAJO OF VITAL RECORDS
THE NAVAJO NATION • P.O. BOX 3240 • WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

NAVAJO NATION

Naa'bik'iyati' Committee Regular Meeting

10/12/2023

03:26:05 PM

Amd# to Amd#	New Business: Item G.
MOT Simpson, D	Legislation #0217-23: Confirming
SEC Arviso, S	the Appointment of D.Watchman to
	the NNGE Board of Directors....

PASSED

Yeas : 14

Nays : 2

Excused : 5

Not Voting : 2

Yea : 14

Arviso, S
Begay, H
Begay, N
Charles-Newton, E

Claw, S
James, V
Johnson, C
Nez, A

Notah, N
Simonson, G
Simpson, D

Tolth, G
Tso, O
Yanito, C

Nay : 2

Yazzie, C

Aseret, L

Excused : 5

Crotty, A
Daniels, H

Jesus, B

Nez, R

Parrish, S

Not Voting : 2

Damon, S

Slater, C

Presiding Speaker: Curley, C