

RESOLUTION OF THE  
RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
of the 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Fourth Year, 2022

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; ENDORSING THE PLAN OF  
OPERATION OF THE WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee was established as a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 500(A).
- B. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 500(C), the Resources and Development Committee shall exercise oversight over water, land, grazing, environmental protection, cultural resources, agriculture, livestock, wildlife, roads and transportation, air transportation, communications and utilities, information technology, chapter activities, economic and community development, commerce and trade, gaming, rights-of-way, minerals, public utilities, telecommunication, and housing.
- C. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. § 103(D)(4), the Western Navajo Agency Council comprised of eighteen (18) certified Navajo Nation Chapters, agree to address, and undertake common goals and interests for the benefit of the Western Navajo Agency Chapter.

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Western Navajo Agency Council is composed of duly elected chapter officials comprising eighteen (18) certified chapters of the Navajo Nation with authority to advocate, promote and support common goals and interests of the respective chapters. The Navajo Nation certified chapters within the Western Navajo Agency are as follows:

- |                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Birdsprings/Tsi dii To | 10. Lechee         |
| 2. Bodaway/Gap            | 11. Leupp          |
| 3. Cameron                | 12. NaaTsis' Aan   |
| 4. Chilchinbeto           | 13. Oljato         |
| 5. Coalmine Canyon        | 14. Shonto         |
| 6. Coppermine             | 15. Tolani Lake    |
| 7. Dennehotso             | 16. To'Naneesdizi  |
| 8. Kaibeto/Kai Bii To     | 17. Tonalea        |
| 9. Kayenta                | 18. Ts'ah Bii' Kin |

- B. The Western Navajo Agency Council at a duly called meeting at NaaTsis' Aan Community School, Navajo Mountain, Navajo Nation (Arizona), approved their Plan of Operation, attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and request approval by the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- C. The Navajo Nation Local Governance Act ("LGA"), 26 N.N.C. §§ 1 et seq., was enacted for the purpose of recognizing governance at the local level. The LGA provides for certification of chapters. 26 N.N.C. § 102. After chapter certification, the chapter may exercise listed powers. 26 N.N.C. § 103(D)(4). The listed authorities include entering into agreements with other chapters, entering into intergovernmental agreements, and entering into contracts with the Navajo Nation. 26 N.N.C. § 103(D). The Resources and Development Committee endorsement of an agency council does not alter LGA purposes, certification requires of authorities.

### SECTION THREE. ENDORSEMENT

The Resources and Development Committee hereby endorses the establishment of the Western Navajo Agency Council that is comprised of eighteen (18) Navajo Nation certified chapters to advocate for, encourage and promote community project support, and interact with other local governments, as further described in the Plan of Operation attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

### SECTION FOUR. CONFORMANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

The endorsement of the Plan of Operation of the Western Navajo Agency Council does not waive the purposes, requirements, and authorities of the Local Governance Act, 26 N.N.C. §§1 et seq.

CERTIFICATION

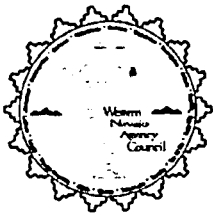
I, hereby, certify that the following resolution was duly considered by the Resources and Development Committee of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, (Navajo Nation) Arizona, at which quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RNZ', is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Rickie Nez, Chairperson  
Resources and Development Committee  
Of the 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Thomas Walker, Jr.

Second: Honorable Herman M. Daniels, Jr.



# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

HANK STEVENS  
President

TERRY WILLIAMS  
Vice-President

SARAH SEIM  
Secretary



EXHIBIT

A

## RESOLUTION OF THE WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL RESOLUTION N0: WNAC18-03-OBA

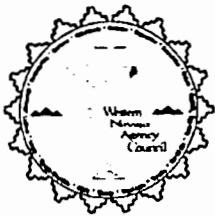
### WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL REQUESTS AND/OR AFFIRMS APPROVING THE PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL AND REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL.

#### WHEREAS:

1. The Western Navajo Agency is an association of duly elected Chapter Officials of eighteen (18) certified Navajo Nation chapters that advocate, promote and support common goals and interests of the respective Chapters; and,
2. The Western Navajo Agency Council is comprised of elected officials from eighteen (18) Navajo Nation Chapters in the Western Navajo Agency and has the responsibility and authority to address matters and projects that will benefit the 18 chapters of the Western Navajo Agency of the Navajo Nation; and,
3. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 500, the Resources and Development Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council serves as the oversight authority over chapter government and related matters and is empowered to approve plans of operations; and,
4. The Western Navajo Agency Council at a duly called meeting on September 16, 2017 introduced the plan of operation to the membership as a 1<sup>st</sup> reading; and,
5. The Western Navajo Agency Council held a special work session on October 21, 2017 to amend certain provisions of the plan of operation from the 1<sup>st</sup> reading; and,
6. The Western Navajo Agency Council at a duly called regular meeting on December 16, 2017 presented the final plan of operation to the membership which voted unanimously to approve the plan of operation.

#### WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL CHAPTERS

BIRDSPRINGS/TSIDII TO'II ~ BODAWAY/GAP ~ CAMERON ~ CHILCHINBETO ~ COALMINE CANYON  
COPPERMINE ~ DENNEHOTSO ~ INSCRIPTION HOUSE/TS'AH BII'KIN ~ KAIBETO/KAI'BII TO ~ KAYENTALECHEE ~  
LEUPP ~ NAVAJO MOUNTAIN ~ OLJATO ~ SHONTO ~ TOLANI LAKE ~ TONANEESEDIZI ~ TONALEA



# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

HANK STEVENS  
President

TERRY WILLIAMS  
Vice-President

SARAH SLIM  
Secretary



## NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOVED THAT:

1. The Western Navajo Agency hereby approves the plan of operation for the Western Navajo Agency Council and requests approval from the Resources and Development Committee of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Navajo Nation Council.

## CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was properly presented at a duly called Western Navajo Agency Council meeting at NaaTsis' Aan Community School., Navajo Mountain, Arizona, where a quorum was present and passed with a vote of 28 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstained on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

Hank Stevens, President  
Western Navajo Agency Council

Motion: Martha Tate

Second: Angie Cody

## WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL CHAPTERS

BIRDSPRINGS/TSIDII TO'II ~ BODAWAY/GAP ~ CAMERON ~ CHILCHINBETO ~ COALMINE CANYON  
COPPERMINE ~ DENNEHOTSO ~ INSCRIPTION HOUSE/TS'AH BII'KIN ~ KAIBETO/KAI'BII TO ~ KAYENTALECHEE ~  
LEUPP ~ NAVAJO MOUNTAIN ~ OLJATO ~ SHONTO ~ TOLANI LAKE ~ TONANEESDIZI ~ TONALEA

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

### CHAPTERS

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*Birdsprings – Bodaway/Gap – Cameron – Chilchinbeto – Coalmine – Coppermine – Dennehotso – Kaibeto – Kayenta Lechee – Leupp – NaaTsis'Aan – Oljato – Shonto – Tolani Lake – To'Naneesdizi – Tonalea – Ts'ah Bii' Kin*

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## PLAN OF OPERATION

### I. ESTABLISHMENT

- A. The Western Navajo Agency Council is hereby established under the Legislative Branch of the Navajo Nation Government and certified by the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council Resolution through Resolution No. (\_\_\_\_\_).
- B. Pursuant to 26 N.N.C. Section 103 (D)(4), the Western Navajo Agency Council is recognized and established as an association of elected Chapter officials and other Navajo Nation elected officials representing eighteen (18) certified Navajo Nation Chapters, who agree to address and undertake common goals and interests for the benefit of the Western Navajo Agency Chapters.

### II. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE(S)

- A. The eighteen (18) Chapters comprised of the Western Navajo Agency Council shall assist local Chapter government(s) in the region with issues and concerns within their jurisdiction and administer, address their needs with communication, planning, policy making, coordinating, advocating, by promoting community projects support, interact with other local government(s) and providing technical assistance.
- B. The eighteen (18) Chapters comprised the Western Navajo Agency Council shall be recognized as a Governmental Body to promote, advocate and affirm documents on major issues affecting the Navajo Nation Chapters to the Navajo Nation Government, Tribal Entities, Federal, State, Counties and Private Entities.
- C. The eighteen (18) Chapter comprised of the Western Navajo Agency Council shall have the authority as a Governmental Body to address issues of concerns from Local Chapter Governments and expediting documents to appropriate Navajo Nation Government, Tribal Entities, Federal, State, Counties and other Private Entities.
- D. The objectives of the eighteen (18) Chapters comprised of the Western Navajo Agency Council shall be:

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

1. Advocate for and ensure that the sovereign status of the Navajo Nation and Local Chapter Governments is maintained and strengthen through collective support.
2. Preserve and protect the Chapter membership's immemorial teaching, traditional and cultural values while integrating innovative concepts and government reform into the current government system.
3. Collaborate and evaluate ways to achieve Accountability, Representation, and Responsibility at Local Chapter Governments.
4. Analyze and assess developments for improving the Navajo Nation infrastructures and capabilities for enhancement of local service delivery.
5. Promote encouragement and support to members of Local Chapter Governments by affirming and expediting resolutions and important documents to the Navajo Nation, Federal, State, Counties for the benefit of the Navajo People.
6. Establish, safe guard, maintain important documents to collaborate and communicate with Local, Navajo Nation, State, Federal, Counties, other entities and authorities on matters related to improving the Health, Safety, Education and Welfare of the Western Navajo Agency Local Chapter Government Membership.

### III. MEMBERSHIP

- A. **Members.** The Western Navajo Agency Council is comprised of the Chapter Presidents, Chapter Vice-Presidents, and Chapter Secretary/Treasurers of the following certified Navajo Nation Chapters located in the Western Navajo Agency:

1. Birdsprings/Tsi dii To ii
2. Bodaway/Gap
3. Cameron
4. Chilchinbeto
5. Coalmine Canyon
6. Coppermine
7. Dennehotso
8. Kaibeto/Kai Bii To
9. Kayenta
10. Lechee
11. Leupp
12. NaaTsis' Aan
13. Oljato
14. Shonto
15. Tolani Lake
16. To'Naneesdizi
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# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

- B. **Members-at-Large.** Members-at-large shall consist of other elected officials representing Western Navajo Agency Chapters, such as: Navajo Nation Council Delegate, Grazing Officer, Board of Election Supervisor, and Farm Board member.
- C. **Selection of Officers.** The membership shall select a President, Vice-President and Secretary of the Western Agency Council. Selection shall take place at a duly called meeting and certified by resolution.
  - a. Officers shall be selected by a nomination and acceptance process, whereby a person is nominated for a vacant position and accepted by the person that is nominated.
  - b. If more than one person (s) are nominated for a vacant position, a voting process shall be used to force a run-off election to fill the vacant position.
  - c. The Agency Council membership may use the secret ballot method for voting to ensure that all votes are accounted. The membership may use other methods if they should desire to so.
  - d. Prospective candidates for the vacant positions will have an opportunity to address the membership to campaign for their votes.
  - e. All votes shall be counted by a representative from the Navajo Election Administration to ensure accountability.
- D. **Term of Office.** The term of office shall be four (4) years, ending on the last business day of January, unless otherwise requested by the membership. The term shall be concurrent with the term of their elected chapter office.
- E. **Resignation.** Any officer of the Western Agency Council may resign by tendering their resignation in writing to the membership with a copy to the Officers.
- F. **Pro-Tempore.** In the event of an unexpected vacancy of any office, the membership, at a duly called meeting, shall select a pro-tempore to fill the unexpected vacancy until a successor is nominated and voted in.

## IV. ENUMERATED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. **The Eighteen (18) Chapters comprised of the Western Navajo Agency Council shall:**
  - 1) Work cooperatively with the respective Navajo Nation Government entity and/or the Division of Community Development by providing timelines for task and projects as they directly relate to the objectives set forth in this Plan of Operation and prioritizing the Chapter governance certification as required by 26 N.N.C. 102 and 103. This authority shall not include the supervision of Program Directors and other DCD Entity personnel.



# **WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL**

## **Plan of Operation**

- 2) Establish and maintain a mutually respectful partnership with the Navajo Nation Programs, Federal, State, Counties, Private Entities and Community Members.
- 3) Affirm and encourage support resolution to the Navajo Nation Council, Navajo Nation Council Standing Committees, Federal , State, Counties, and other entities on community projects, funding and other matters pertaining to the welfare of the Navajo People.
- 4) Advise, provide documents, and recommend to the members of the Western Navajo Agency Council all matters pertaining to issues on Sovereignty, Water Rights, Civil Rights, Cultural and Traditional Preservations etc.
- 5) Seek consultation with members of the Western Navajo Agency Council, Navajo Nation Council Standing Committees, Federal agencies, State, Counties and other entities on available funding/grants for improving community development.
- 6) Appoint and recommend membership to Transportation, Education, Health, Community Development, Traditional/Cultural committees of the Navajo Nation Council Standing Committee, Federal agencies, State, Counties and other entities.
- 7) Affirm and support legislation that effect the local Chapter government to the Western Navajo Agency Council, Navajo Nation Council Standing Committees, Federal agencies, State, Counties and other entities.
- 8) Adopt Rules of Order for conducting Western Navajo Agency Council meetings and procedures for conducting elections of officers, and voting procedures.
- 9) Motivate and encourage participation from all Western Navajo Agency Council members, by providing information relevant to the members by emails, text message, social media or by mail.
- 10) Request guidance from the President/Vice-President of the Navajo Nation, the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council, Standing Committees of the Navajo Nation Council, Office of Government Development regarding major development and issues affecting the Navajo Nation Government and the local Chapter Governments.

## **V. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS**

### **B. The President shall:**

1. Preside over all Western Navajo Agency Council meetings, consult with Vice-President and Secretary and the respective member Chapters, in preparation of the agenda for each Western Navajo Agency Council meeting(s).

# **WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL**

## **Plan of Operation**

2. Certify all official documents and resolutions approved by the Western Navajo Agency Council.
3. Work cooperatively with the various District/Regional Council (s) to ensure that all respective actions are appropriately communicated to the appropriate agencies of the Navajo Nation Government, Federal, State, Counties, other entities and local Chapter government(s).
4. Adjourn or Postpone a Western Navajo Agency Council Meeting in the event of:
  - a. Lack of Quorum
  - b. Disorder at the Meeting
  - c. Unforeseen Emergency
5. Vote in case of a tie.
6. Call Emergency or Special Meeting.
7. Follow up with Tribal, Federal, State, and County Government or their agencies on progress on resolutions, ordinances, recommendations, proposals, and projects of the Western Navajo Agency Council.

### **C. The Vice-President shall:**

1. Automatically assume the duties and responsibilities of the Presidency in the absence of the President during the Western Navajo Agency Council meeting.
2. In the event of an unforeseen situation, assume delegated duties and responsibilities for the President for a reasonable time.
3. Assist the President and Secretary in preparation of meeting agenda, and counter sign resolutions.

### **D. The Secretary shall:**

1. Maintain and complete accurate records of all Western Navajo Agency Council meeting and activities.
2. Assist the President and Vice-President in preparing the agenda.
3. Prepare and finalize all resolutions, proposals, letters and other important documents for distribution to appropriate agencies.

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

4. Implement deadline (Date/Time) for submitting resolutions, proposals and other important documents to be presented during the Western Navajo Agency Council Meeting. Prepare the final agenda for Western Navajo Agency Council meeting..
5. Take the minutes of the Western Navajo Agency Council meeting and record in detail all resolutions, votes and other official action(s) of the Western Navajo Agency Council.
6. Follow up with the President and Vice-President on all referrals of resolutions, proposals, correspondence and other related matters.

## VI. MEETINGS

- A. **Meetings.** The Western Navajo Agency Council shall conduct meetings, special meetings, or any number of meetings as deemed necessary.
  - a. **Regular meetings.** Regular meetings shall be held on a quarterly basis. A time, date and location may be designated at the discretion of the membership.
  - b. **Special meetings.** Special meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the membership provided that written or verbal notice is given to all members at least 48 hours prior to the proposed meeting date.
  - c. **Work Sessions, Task Force, and Special Committee meetings.** Work sessions, task force and special committee meetings supporting the Western Navajo Agency Council's mission / purposes may be scheduled on an as needed basis.
  - d. **Executive Committee meetings.** At the discretion of the President with consultation with the executive officers, an executive committee comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer and other(s) ( at the discretion of the President) may meet to discuss emergency matters, meeting agenda items or other matters that may affect the Western Navajo Agency Council.
- B. **Meeting Location.** Western Navajo Agency Council meetings shall be conducted within the boundaries of the Western Navajo Agency. Any meeting(s) outside the Western Navajo Agency shall be approved by a majority vote of the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- C. **Notice of Meeting.** Notice shall be made by verbal or written notice – i.e. email, radio/newspaper, PSA announcement, flyers / posters, etc. 48 hour notice shall be provided.
- D. **Meeting Minutes.** Meeting minutes shall be prepared by the agency Secretary to record all actions of the Western Navajo Agency Council. Meeting minutes shall be distributed to the membership for compensation of members.
- E. **Meeting Compensation.** A meeting stipend shall be paid to each member attending an entire Western Agency Council meeting based on the availability of the members chapter funds / budget pursuant to Section VIII of this WNAC Plan of Operation.

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

### VII. QUORUM

- A. **Quorum.** A simple majority (10) of the Western Navajo Agency Chapters shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business. Members-at-large are NOT counted in the establishment of a quorum. If at any time during the meeting the quorum is lost, such shall be stated in the minutes and no further action shall be taken.

**Voting.** Any action taken by the Western Navajo Agency Council shall require a simple majority vote of the Membership in attendance. Actions may be voted upon by voice or hand vote unless any seated Member demands a roll call vote or secret ballot vote.

- B. **Conflict of Interest.** A Western Navajo Agency Council member shall disqualify himself or herself from participating in the discussion and action on any matter regarding the member has a conflict of interest in accordance with the provisions of the Navajo Nation Ethics in Government Law.

### VIII. COMPENSATION

- A. Upon the availability of funds, the Western Navajo Agency Council members shall be compensated for attending the entire Western Navajo Agency Council meetings.
- B. The claim forms shall be prepared and verified by the President and submitted to the respective (18) Chapter Official(s) along with a Sign-In Sheet (when available for distribution) to verify attendance for compensation.
- C. The attendance or sign-in-sheet may be submitted to the 18 Chapters for distribution upon request from the local member Chapter government.

### IX. AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Regular meeting agenda.** The Western Navajo Agency Executive Committee shall upon consultation with each other prepare the regular meeting agenda based upon the requests for resolution and presentations received by the Secretary.
- B. **Resolutions.** All requests for resolutions to be acted upon by the Western Navajo Agency Council shall be received no later than three (3) business days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting date. All resolutions shall be submitted to the Secretary electronically in Microsoft Word format on the WNAC letterhead. The sponsor shall be responsible for providing an adequate number of hard copies for the membership to consider.
- C. **Agenda Format.** The all meeting agenda(s) for the Western Navajo Agency Council shall be formatted in the following manner:
- a. I. Call to Order
  - b. II. Roll Call
  - c. III. Invocation
  - d. IV. Welcome Address ( Host chapter)

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

- e. V. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
- f. VI. Recognition of Guest(s) and Visitor(s)
- g. VII. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- h. VIII. Unfinished Business
- i. IX. New Business/Action Items/Resolutions
- j. X. Reports
- k. XI. Announcement (s)
- l. XII. Next Meeting
- m. XIII. Adjournment

## X. PROCEDURAL RULES FOR MOTIONS

- A. The Western Navajo Agency Council may adopt standard rules for conducting meetings:
  - 1. Upon presenting the agenda, minutes, reports and resolution(s), and/or issue(s) of the Western Navajo Agency Council meeting, President shall request a motion to accept the matter before the Western Navajo Agency Council membership and recognize a second to the main motion.
  - 2. Only members of the Western Navajo Agency Council (Chapter President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Grazing Committee, and Council Delegates) are authorized to vote on matter coming before the Western Navajo Agency Council.
  - 3. Upon receiving a motion and a second to the main motion, the President shall provide an opportunity to respective members of the Western Navajo Agency Council to address the matter before them.
  - 4. Any member of the Western Navajo Agency Council may propose an amendment to the main motion which would require a second. The Western Navajo Agency Council membership shall vote on the proposed amendment motion. If the amendment motion passes, it shall take precedence over the part of the main motion subject to a proposed amendment. Only one motion to amend the main motion shall be on the floor.
  - 5. Any member of the Western Navajo Agency Council may propose a substitute motion and if it passes, it shall take the place of the main motion. The substitute motion shall be seconded and voted on.
  - 6. Any member of the Western Navajo Agency Council may propose to table the legislation or issue before the council. The motion to table the matter shall be seconded and voted on. If the tabling motion passes, it shall take precedence over other motion. Tabling motions are not debatable.
  - 7. All members of the Western Navajo Agency Council shall promote respect for one another and consideration of time allowed during presentations and collaboration.

# WESTERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL

## Plan of Operation

Members shall be allowed only once to speak on a particular subject that is before the membership. Insolent conduct and treatment shall not be allowed.

8. The Western Navajo Agency Council President, Vice-President and Secretary are prohibited from making main motion and second motion. They may debate on a resolution that is before the floor considering the officer is not in a conflict of interest.

## XI. DEFINITIONS

**Attendance:** means to be present

**Association:** A gathering of people for a common purpose

**Chapters:** are units of local governments which are political subdivisions of the Navajo Nation

**Certified Chapters:** a chapter organization in each chapter precinct that elects delegates to the Navajo Nation Council.

**Meeting minutes:** a record of all action taken at a duly called meeting.

**Chapter official:** the President, Vice-President, Secretary / Treasurer of a certified chapter government

**Resolution:** a document recording the official action taken by the membership at a duly call meeting.

**Navajo Nation Law;** means Navajo statutes, administrative regulations and Navajo Common Law.

**Technical Assistance:** means services rendered by the central Navajo Nation government with respect to the authority to be exercised by the Chapters.

**Work Session:** a meeting to address major issues more effectively.

## XII. AMENDMENTS

The provisions herein may be amended based on recommendations and a majority vote of the membership of the Western Navajo Agency Council.

