

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - THIRD YEAR, 2021

AN ACTION

RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL;
CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. JAMES BENALLY TO THE COMMISSION
ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT, FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, AS THE
NORTHERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee has legislative oversight authority over the Commission on Navajo Government Development and the Office of Navajo Government Development. 2 N.N.C. § 970.
- B. The Navajo Nation established the Naabik'íyáti' Committee as a Navajo Nation Council standing committee and as such empowered Naabik'íyáti' Committee to recommend all resolutions to the Navajo Nation Council on matters within the Committee's jurisdiction pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 701(A) (3).
- C. The Navajo Nation Council confirms appointments to the Commission on Navajo Government Development. 2 N.N.C. § 972(A) (5).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Commission on Navajo Government Development is a special entity created by the Navajo Nation Council with quasi-independent authority to accomplish the People's project of instituting reforms necessary to ensure an accountable and responsible government. 2 N.N.C. § 970.
- B. The Commission consists of twelve (12) members confirmed by and serving at the pleasure of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 972(A).
- C. Five (5) members shall be nominated from the five (5) agencies of the Navajo Nation. Each agency council shall nominate one (1) member from recommendations to be submitted by chapters in each agency, said nominee shall be either Chapter officers, local Government/Governance Commissioners, Grazing Committee/Land Board members, or School Board members. These members shall

serve a term of four (4) years from the date of confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 972 (A) (5).

- D. Commission members shall be chosen from among individuals who have demonstrated scholarship, a strong sense of civic interest, knowledge of Dine' history and cultural heritage, spiritual leadership, leadership in the Navajo government and abilities likely to contribute to the fulfillment of the duties of the commission. 2 N.N.C. § 972(D).
- E. Mr. James Benally has been nominated and recommended to the appointment, by Northern Navajo Agency Council Resolution NNAC-102-2021, **Exhibit A**, to fill the Northern Navajo Agency Council Representative position. Mr. Benally's letter of interest and résumé are attached as **Exhibit B**.

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION

The Navajo Nation Council hereby confirms the appointment of Mr. James Benally as the Northern Navajo Agency Council Representative, to the Commission on Navajo Government Development, for a term of four (4) years from the date of confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 24th 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 22 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 19th day of April 2021.


Honorable Seth Damon, Speaker
24th Navajo Nation Council

4.27.2021

DATE

Motion: Honorable Pernell Halona
Second: Honorable Wilson C. Stewart, Jr.

Speaker Seth Damon not voting



NORTHERN NAVAJO AGENCY COUNCIL THE NAVAJO NATION

NNAC-102-2021

**SUPPORTING AND RECOMMENDING JAMES BENALLY TO THE COMMISSION ON NAVAJO GOVERNMENT
DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR NORTHERN NAVAJO AGENCY.**

WHEREAS:

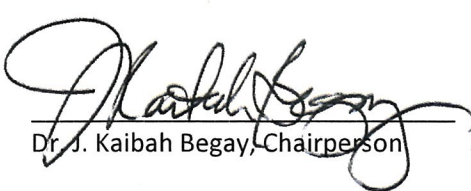
1. Pursuant to IGRD-269-05, the Northern Navajo Agency Council is a recognized political subdivision of the Navajo Nation and has the authority to advocate and make appropriate recommendations on behalf of the twenty (20) Northern Agency Chapters to the Navajo Nation Government, Federal, State, and Local entities for appropriate action; and
2. James Benally won the plurality of votes of candidates selected by the Northern Navajo Agency Council at a duly called meeting; and
3. The Northern Navajo Agency Council supports and recommends James Benally to the Commission on Navajo Government Development representative for Northern Navajo Agency.

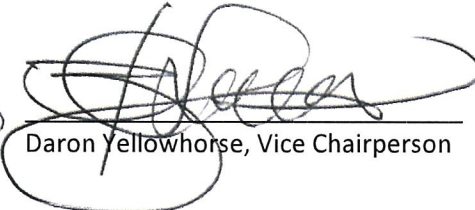
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Northern Navajo Agency Council supports and recommends the James Benally above as the Northern Navajo Agency Representative to the Commission on Navajo Government Development.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Northern Navajo Agency Council at a duly called meeting via teleconference at which a quorum was present. A motion was made by Hazel Sherman and seconded by Brenda Brown and the same was passed by a vote of 50 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstained, this 20th day of March, 2021.


Dr. J. Kaibah Begay, Chairperson


Daron Yellowhorse, Vice Chairperson


Matthew D. Tso, Secretary

March 24, 2021

Mr. Edward Dee, Executive Director
Office of Navajo Government Development
PO Box 220
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

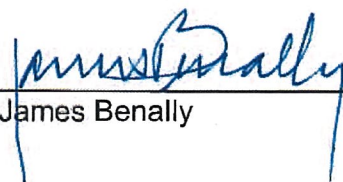
Dear Mr. Dee:

As you are aware of, I was recently elected by the Northern Navajo Agency Council to be the Representative to the Commission on Navajo Government Development. Inasmuch, prior to the government's pandemic shutdown, I visited your office on a number of occasions to discuss with your staff on the Nation's planned or proposals for governmental reform based on your office's public hearings and/or public comments provided by concerned individuals throughout the Nation.

I visited your office to gain what the public hearings and comments provided and how the Nation would seek to address those proposals or other inputs to reform our governmental functions and/or services for the betterment of our general population from the young to our elderlies and to those residing on and off Dine Bi Keyah. During those office visits with your staff, I provided a number of comments and proposals to clarify or enhance some of the proposals provided by the general public as I was thoroughly interested in our government's reform.

I know that the Nation's government reform will involve a lot of public discussions with the general public on their input on and off Dine Bi Keyah, and formulating those comments and input into acceptable formats and easily understood by all concerned. I also know that all proposed governmental reforms will need to be disseminated throughout the Nation to educate our general public to make sound decisions on their part to effect a workable reform to improve and offer better governmental services for our Navajo people, and I would like to a part of the process as the elected Representative to the Commission on Navajo Government Development for the Northern Navajo Agency and requesting your assistance and cooperation to effect my formal confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

Respectively,


James Benally

James Benally

PO Box : Newcomb, New Mexico 87455
Telephone: Email: jb.toda@gmail.com

Objective

Northern Navajo Agency Representative
Commission on Navajo Government Development

Elected Positions

Chapter President – Cove Chapter
Chairperson – Northern Navajo Agency Council
Commander and Vice-Commander – Northern Navajo Veterans Organization
Broad Member – Northern Navajo Agency Soil & Water Conservation District

Professional Experience

Navajo Nation - Division of Community Development, Window Rock, AZ | March 1998 - September 2018
Senior Environmental Specialist/Project Manager

- Direct departmental and programmatic activities
- Establish and define departmental and programmatic goals and objectives
- Oversee professional and technical professionals and administrative personnel
- Coordinate National Environmental Policy Act consultations with tribal, state, and federal agencies
- Seek internal and external funds
- Write and submit funding proposals
- Manage internal and external funded projects
- Maintain project schedules and key milestones
- Prepare and present project assessments and status reports

Navajo Nation - Division of Natural Resources, Shiprock, NM | August 1988 - March 1998
Reclamation Specialist II

- Plan, design, implement, and complete reclamation projects
- Coordinate National Environmental Policy Act consultations with tribal, state, and federal agencies
- Draft and finalize Environmental Assessments
- Seek and secure project funding
- Oversee internal and contractual personnel
- Provide technical assistance to construction personnel

State of Utah - Utah Power & Light Company, Moab, UT | January 1985 - August 1988
Associate Engineer

- Assist with planning, designing, construction of transmission lines
 - Coordinate and oversee transmission line construction activities
 - Other duties as assigned
-

Department of Defense - United States Air Force, Washington, DC | May 1975 - April 1979
Sergeant

- Honorable Discharge
-

Education

University of New Mexico - Mechanical Engineering | June 1981 - December 1984

San Juan College - Pre-engineering & Computer Science | August 1989 - May 1981

Aztec High School - Core & General Studies | August 1969 - May 1973

NAVAJO NATION

744

Navajo Nation Council Spring Session

4/19/2021

06:59:42 PM

Amd# to Amd#

Consent Agenda: Legislations

PASSED

MOT Halona, P

0270-19, 0011-21, 0031-21,

SEC Stewart, W

0059-21, 0063-21, 0070-21,
0072-21.

Yeas : 22

Nays : 0

Excused : 0

Not Voting : 1

Yea : 22

Begay, E

Daniels

Slater, C

Tso, D

Begay, K

Freeland, M

Smith

Walker, T

Begay, P

Halona, P

Stewart, W

Wauneka, E

Brown

Henio, J

Tso

Yazzie

Charles-Newton

James, V

Tso, C

Yellowhair

Crotty

Nez, R

Nay : 0

Excused : 0

Not Voting : 1

Tso, E

Presiding Speaker: Damon