

**RESOLUTION OF THE
RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - First Year, 2023**

AN ACTION

**RELATING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF BENJAMIN BENNETT TO THE NAVAJO ENGINEERING AND
CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 500 (A).
- B. The Resources and Development Committee oversees areas such as roads and transportation, communication and utilities, economic and community development, commerce and trade, rights-of-way, public utilities, and housing. 2 N.N.C. § 500 (C).
- C. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council grants final confirmation of appointments to entities under the authority of the Committee requiring appointments. 2 N.N.C. § 501 (B) (9).

SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority is organized "[t]o engage in the general engineering and construction industry." 5 N.N.C. § 1972 (A) (1).
- B. The business and affairs of the Authority shall be conducted by a Board of Directors of seven directors. 5 N.N.C. § 1973 (A).
- C. The Board of Directors shall be appointed by the President of the Navajo Nation and confirmed by the Resources and Development Committee. 5 N.N.C. § 1973 (C). See 2 N.N.C. § 501 (B) (9).
- D. At least six directors of the Board shall be enrolled members of the Navajo Nation. Individuals with experience and/or education in the engineering, construction, architectural, legal, accounting, management, or other construction related

field shall be given preference for appointment to the Board. 5 N.N.C. § 1973 (D).


- E. The members of the board shall serve four-year terms. 5 N.N.C. § 1973 (C).
- F. The Navajo Nation President appointed Benjamin Bennett to serve as a member of the Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority Board of Directors.
- G. Appointment letter attached as **Exhibit A**; letter of interest attached as **Exhibit B**; résumé attached as **Exhibit C** and Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood attached as **Exhibit D**.

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT

The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council confirms the appointment of Benjamin Bennett to serve on the Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority Board of Directors, for a term of four (4) years beginning with the certification of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Resources and Development Committee of the 25th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Vanderwagen, New Mexico, Chichiltah Chapter, at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 04 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 27th day of September 2023.


Honorable Brenda Jesus, Chairwoman
Resources and Development Committee

Motioned: Honorable Otto Tso
Second : Honorable Rickie Nez



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

September 20, 2023



Benjamin Bennett

Re: Official Appointment to the Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I am pleased to appoint you to the Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority. I am confident you have the background, experience and education to represent the interest of this Administration on this Board of Directors. You will be replacing Mr. Stanley Yazzie, who has an expired end date of September 4, 2019. This appointment is subject to confirmation by the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.

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.

Ahéhee'

Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION



February 17, 2023

Dr. Buu Van Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION
P.O. Box 7440
Window Rock, AZ 86515

RE: Appointment to the Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority Board

Dear Dr. Nygren,

Please allow this correspondence to serve as my official letter of interest to become a member of the Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority Board. I am confident that I have the skills and experience necessary to be a productive member of the NECA Board.

Feel free to contact me if you require any additional information or if you have any questions about this request. I can be reached at _____ or email _____ I look forward to working with the Nygren-Montoya administration to advance the Navajo Nation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin Bennett", written over a horizontal line.

Benjamin Bennett

Benjamin Bennett

P. O. Box

WORK HISTORY

Council Delegate 23rd Navajo Nation Council 2015-2018; RDC Vice Chairman, NIIP Subcommittee, NACE Board Member, NOG Board Member, current

*Navajo Division of Transportation
Deputy Division Director*

*Department of Behavioral Health
Division of Health
Program Manager I*

*The Space Within (TSW),
Environmental Scientist. Consultant*

*Pacific Western Technologies
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Business Development Consultant*

*Department of Transportation and
Planning-Navajo Nation, Program
Director/Administrative Services Officer
III, 1995-2003*

*Department of Agriculture, Division of
Natural Resources-Navajo Nation,
Deputy Director, 1994-1995*

*Public Affairs Program, Division of
Natural Resources-Navajo Nation, Fair
Manager, 1992-1994*

*Navajo Superfund Program, Division of
Natural Resources-Navajo Nation,
Health Physicist, 1991*

EDUCATION

*Bachelor of Science, Biology,
Candidate, University of New Mexico*

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

*Certificate of Training: Bureau of Indian
Affairs, Environmental Document
Writing*

*Certificate of Completion: Shipley
Associates, Environmental Documents*

*Training Seminar: Transportation of
Hazardous Materials and Wastes; U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency
Regulations on the Handling of
Hazardous Wastes under RCRA
Guidelines*

*Training Program: U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency,
Pesticide Enforcement for Inspectors*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010-2014:

Served as Navajo Division of Transportation Deputy Director.

As the deputy director, supervised approximately 180 employees serving in different capacities for engineering, surveying, planning, operators and general staff in headquarters, as well as field staff in Dilkon and Pinon. During his tenure, along with other management staff, fulfilled direct funding agreement with FHWA and worked with intergovernmental governmental relations with various counties and other federal and state agencies. Also during my tenure with transportation we were able to implement and complete 54 road projects and bridge projects throughout the Navajo Nation.

Mr. Bennett has 32 years of experience in industry, consulting, and public works. He has provided project management on projects involving transportation, agriculture, environmental hazards, and regulatory compliance. He has served as a program director and administrative services officer on numerous Navajo Nation Department of Transportation and Planning projects throughout New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah. His professional experience includes holding presidential positions in local chapter communities; currently holds the President position of the Tse-ho-tso, Inc., a non-profit organization. In addition to his technical and management skills, he brings extensive experience in the development of legislations, policies, rules, and regulations relating to the Navajo Nation's transportation needs. Mr. Bennett has also served as a liaison for the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation and Planning to enhance coordination efforts with industry and federal, state, and tribal agencies.

Mr. Bennett is also experienced in environmental review, land withdrawal procedures, and right-of-way clearances of tribal trust lands. He has conducted and supervised numerous environmental site assessments as a consultant for the Navajo Nation.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE**Behavioral Health: (11 years' experience)**

Supervised 38 staff in the Fort Defiance agency Department of Behavioral Health which consisted of Tohatchi, New Mexico, Newlands, Arizona and Fort Defiance, Arizona out Patient Treatment Centers. Administered work assignments, reviewed job performance, coordinated staff activities and worked cooperatively with Clinical Specialist, Principal Substance Abuse Counselors at all administrative levels. Scheduled and conducted training for program manager/directors and supervisor level personnel. Administered and managed all personnel functions such as processing PAF's, maintaining personnel records and files, developing position descriptions, class specifications, recruitment and hiring of new staff and vacant positions. Ensure compliance with Federal and Tribal contractual requirements. Managed and evaluated all program services to ensure that quality services are consistently available and provided.

established/maintained cooperative working relationships and negotiated/implemented services MOU's with numerous outside referral agencies. Maintained administrative contact with the Office of the Department Director and the Office of the Substance Abuse/Mental Health in the development and implementation of a Drug Free Work Place environment. Planned for the further development of the Employee Wellness Program. Development strategies to increase employee participation and seek additional resources agencies to expand services activities. Prepared written monthly, quarterly and annual program activities, reports as required. Promoted and advocated the program by utilization of available media resources, promotional and advertising materials.

Community Associations: (9 years' experience)

- **Council Delegate: Crystal, Fort Defiance, Red Lake and Sawmill communities**
Served as Resources and Development Committee co-chairman, member of NIIP subcommittee, sponsored well over 30 pieces of legislation and as a member on RDC committee, heard over 400 requests and as a member of the 23rd NNC, we received over 1600 requests for legislation throughout the four-year term.
- **Chapter President, Fort Defiance Chapter**
As an elected official of the Fort Defiance Chapter, works with the local community in all aspects of ensuring the needs of the people are addressed. Works closely with the Navajo Nation government, the County government, and State and Federal organizations.
- **President, Tse-Ho-Tso Inc.**
Serve as president of this non-profit organization; work with other non-profit organizations as well as other chapters.
- **Blue Canyon Inc.**
Served as Chairman of the Board of this for-profit organization; work with businesses toward developing capacity building for the Fort Defiance community for economic self-sustainability.

Transportation and Planning: (9 years' experience)

- **Navajo Nation Department of Transportation and Planning**
Supervised up to 40 staff and oversaw the daily operation of the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation and Planning. Developed legislations, policies, and rules and regulations relating to the Navajo Nations transportation needs using feasibility studies and analyses. Implemented and monitored

program operations to ensure compliance with guidelines, regulations, and requirements of various funding agencies, the Navajo Nation, and state agencies. Directed and organized efforts to gather and disseminate information to appropriate agencies. Directed the development of methodologies used to raise revenues for the development of the Navajo Nation transportation system. Developed effective coordination and planning of all transportation priorities between the Navajo Nation and various entities. Prepared and recommended effective priority criteria for project schedules and five-year transportation plans for the Navajo Nation. Report on department activities, progress, and recommend to the Transportation and Community Development Committee to develop policies and guidelines concerning all modes of transportation within the Navajo Nation. Developed and maintained current computerized management and reporting system to manage and report department activities.

- **Pacific Western Technologies**

Worked as a consultant with PWT, marketing the services of the company, soliciting new customers geared toward the Navajo Nation government and organizations for geographic information systems (GIS) design and implementation in a wide variety of applications for programs of Transportation and Planning, Emergency Preparedness and other programs in housing and information technology. My responsibilities included coordinating projects and working as a liaison between the Navajo Nation as it relates to GIS assessments and IT infrastructure.

Environmental: (Over 15 years' experience)

- **Navajo Superfund Program, Division of Resources, Navajo Nation**

Prepared preliminary assessments of various abandoned mines and toxic waste sites on the Navajo Nation for consideration by U.S. E.P.A Superfund priority cleanup listing. Planned, organized, promoted and administered radiological safety programs. Surveyed and evaluated ionizing radiation hazards. Developed policies and procedures for the protection of personnel and the handling of radioactive materials. Assessed adequacy of protective equipment and clothing. Conducted frequent surveys and inspections to insure compliance with established standards. Advised technical personnel in the application of radioactivity calculations for shielding and decontamination procedures. Tested work areas for hazardous/toxic materials. Developed criteria for design and modification of health physics equipment to improve radiation protection. Advised public authorities on dealing with radiation hazards.

- **Western Gas Processors, Ltd.**

Prepared the Environmental Assessment for proposed application for a gas line right-of-way to transport natural gas, Apache County, Arizona.

- **Lower Greasewood Branch, Arizona**

Prepared the Environmental Assessment for the proposed mission site of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints at Lower Greasewood, Navajo County, Arizona.

- **Lower Greasewood Memorial Rodeo Club**

Prepared the Environmental Assessment for the proposed Lower Greasewood Memorial Rodeo Arena and related facilities, Lower Greasewood, Navajo County, Arizona.

- **Gap/Bodaway Chapter, Arizona**

Prepared the Environmental Assessment for the proposed withdrawal of six acres of tribal trust land for use as a New Bitter Springs Preschool in the Tuba City Agency of the Navajo Nation.

- **Church of Nazarene, Navajo Station**

Prepared the Environmental Assessment for proposed permanent improvements and additional expansion of the Navajo Station Church of Nazarene, Apache County, Arizona.

- **Glen Canyon Dam and Little Colorado River Recreational Area**

Reviewed and prepared the Environmental Impact Statement for the Glen Canyon and Little Colorado Recreational area as the Navajo Nation Fair Manager for the Division of Resources.

- **Shiprock Fairgrounds**
Supervised the environmental assessment for the Shiprock Fairgrounds, Shiprock Fair Board, in New Mexico.

Agricultural: (5 years' experience)

- **Department of Agriculture, Division of Natural Resources, Navajo Nation**
Administered multiple agricultural programs as a deputy director including cost sharing, grazing management, veterinary, range conservation, civil conservation, and tribal ranches. Worked closely with Farm Boards, Grazing Committees, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts while supervising 70 employees.

Public Relations: (Over 10 years' experience)

- **Navajo Nation Fair Manager, Public Affairs Program, Division of Resources, Navajo Nation**
Developed and implemented a tourism initiative for the development of park facilities and visitor centers for the Navajo Nation Tourism Center. Attended meetings related to environmental impact statements, environmental review, land withdrawal procedures, and right-of-way clearances of tribal trust lands considered for tourism development. Administered the annual Navajo Nation Fair events. Managed the Public Affairs Program including the Fish and Wildlife Program, Parks and Recreation-Tourism Department, Cultural Affairs, and the Navajo Nation Museum. Represented the Navajo Nation at professional meetings and trade shows and provided technical assistance to Region IX Associations at the Navajo Indian Rodeo Finals. Planned and implemented effective community events in coordination with public, tribal, and non-tribal organizations including Treaty Days, Hands Across America, Dokos Liid Day, and the Navajo Youth Fair.
- **Marketing Manager, Durango Center for Behavioral Health, La Plata County Hospital**
Utilized marketing and public relations techniques for planning, organizing, promoting, and administering referral development for LaPlata County Hospital within and surrounding the Navajo Nation and the greater Southwest. Implemented a liaison role between the Navajo Nation, other Indian Nations, and governmental agencies.
- **Native American Gaming Association**
Utilized strong public relations to assist various Indian Tribes with developing Indian gaming for the purpose of tribal sovereignty.



THE NAVAJO NATION

Jonathan Nez
PRESIDENT

Myron Lizer
VICE PRESIDENT

UNACCEPTABLE IF ALTERED

CERTIFICATE OF NAVAJO INDIAN BLOOD

PART A (To be used if applicant is enrolled)

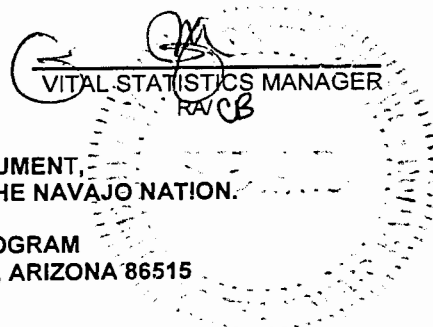
FORT DEFIANCE

AGENCY

DATE

I certify that BENJAMIN LOU BENNETT 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:



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

VITAL RECORDS & TRIBAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM
THE NAVAJO NATION ♦ PO BOX 3240 ♦ WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515

