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

AN ACTION RELATING TO THE NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE; RESCINDING NO. GSCF-2-92 AND APPROVING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE BUDGET MEETING PROCEDURES

#### BE IT ENACTED:

#### SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Naabik'íyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over the Office of Legislative Services and the Navajo Nation Executive Offices. 2 N.N.C. § 700(A), § 701(A)(2), and § 701(A)(5).
- B. References in the Navajo Nation Code and other official documents to the Government Services and Intergovernmental Relations Committee shall mean the Naabik'íyáti' Committee, as amended through Resolution No. CO-45-12.
- C. The Navajo Nation Code provides that "[e]ach oversight committee shall review and make recommendations to the Budget and Finance Committee concerning the budget in accordance with the annual budget instructions. The oversight committees may hold public hearings at each agency with programs under their oversight and take testimony on the budget. 12 N.N.C. § 840(A).
- D. Additionally, "[t]he oversight committees shall make recommendations concerning the budget and pass resolutions recommending appropriations and conditions of appropriations for activities within their respective areas of oversight to the Budget and Finance Committee pursuant to the time-lines established in the Budget Instructions Manual." 12 N.N.C. § 840(A).

## SECTION TWO. FINDINGS

- A. The former Government Services Committee approved Resolution No. GSCF-2-92, attached as Exhibit 1, adopting rules of procedure for budget hearings.
- B. In the interest of establishing uniform standing committee budget procedures for conducting the budget meetings pursuant to 12 N.N.C. § 840(A), the Naabik'íyáti' Committee wishes to adopt new procedures for conducting the FY2024 oversight budget meetings.

The Naabik'íyáti' Committee has reviewed and considered the proposed "OVERSIGHT SPECIAL COMMITTEE BUDGET PROCEDURES - FY2024 PROGRAM BUDGETS", attached as Exhibit 2, and finds that adherence to such Procedures will provide a more efficient review and recommendation process regarding the FY2024 Program budgets.

SECTION THREE. RESCINDING THE GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

- The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby rescinds Resolution No. GSCF-2-92.
- The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby rescinds any other Naabik'íyáti' Committee, Government Services and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, and Ethics and Rules Committee resolutions that approved budget hearing and budget meeting rules, procedures, or guidelines.

FOUR. APPROVING PROCEDURES FOR OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SECTION MEETINGS FOR APPROVING BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024

The Naabik'íyáti' Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves the Procedures for Oversight Committee Meetings for Approving Budgets for the Fiscal Year 2024, attached as Exhibit 2.

#### 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 15 in Favor, and 00 Opposed, on this 10th day of August 2023.

Honorable Rickie Nez, Chair Pro Tem Naabik'íyáti' Committee

8-11-23 Date

Motion: Honorable Shawna Ann Claw Second: Honorable Brenda Jesus

Chair Pro Tem Rickie Nez not voting



GSCF-2-92

Class "C" Resolution No BIA Action Required.

# RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

# Adopting Rules of Procedure for Budget Hearings

#### WHEREAS:

- 1. Pursuant to 2 N.T.C., Sections 341 and 343 (b) (6), the Government Services Committee (the "Committee") is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council and vested with the authority to serve as the oversight committee of the conduct and operation of the entities of the Navajo Nation not otherwise under the oversight of the other standing committees; and
- 2. Pursuant to 2 N.T.C., Section 185 (d), (1989 Amendments), the Committee is authorized, for the purpose of carrying out its purposes and authorities, to hold hearings and request the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of books, records, memoranda, papers and documents as it deems advisable; and
- 3. By Resolution BFJA-1-92, the Budget and Finance Committee of the Navajo Nation Council adopted the Fiscal Year 1993 General Budget Policies and Instructions, wherein the oversight committees may conduct oversight budget hearings; and
- 4. A set of Rules of Procedure to govern the Committee's budget hearings is necessary to have an orderly hearing process; and
- 5. The set of Rules of Procedure for the Budget Hearings, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A", will serve to facilitate an orderly and efficient budget hearing process.

#### NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby adopts the Rules of Procedure for Budget Hearings, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A".
- 2. The Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council further directs and authorizes that the Rules of Procedure for Budget Hearings shall become effective immediately upon passage and shall remain in effect until repealed or amended by the Committee.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Government Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 7 in favor and 0 opposed, this 11th day of February 1992.

hairperson

Government Services Committee

# Exhibit A

# RULES OF PROCEDURES FOR BUDGET HEARINGS

- Rule 1 The Chairperson of the Committee shall serve as the Presiding Officer for the hearing.
- Rule 2 All members of the Committee not otherwise precluded from participating shall be allowed to ask questions of presenters.
- Rule 3 Formal Rule of Evidence and Procedures shall not apply to the budget hearings. The Presiding Officer may exclude evidence that is irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious.
- Rule 4 All presenters shall be sworn and shall present testimony under oath.
- Rule 5 Presenters shall be given a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes for oral testimony.
- Rule 6 Presenters shall in addition to oral testimony be allowed to submit written testimony and any other documents and materials in support of their testimony. Such materials and documents shall be identified by the presenter.
- Rule 7. Testimony shall be pertinent to the issues identified by the Committee.

  Testimony shall not include matters which are currently in litigation or grievance process, except as is related to the financial impact.
- Rule 8 A written report with the budget recommendations and/or directives shall be rendered by the Committee in accordance with the established Fiscal Year budget process.
- Rule 9 All budget hearings shall be open to the public,



# OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETINGS

# **PROCEDURES**

# **FY2024 PROGRAM BUDGETS**

- 1. The Standing Committee Rules of Order are to be used for the oversight Budget Meetings. The only exception is Rule 8.
- 2. These Procedures suspend Rule 8 of the Standing Committee Rules of Order. The Order of Agenda Business for the Budget Meeting shall be as follows:
  - A. Call Meeting to Order; Roll Call; Invocation
  - B. Recognize Guests and Visiting Officials
  - C. Review and adopt the Agenda. The Agenda items shall only include budget legislations.
  - D. Close of Meeting; Announcements; Adjournment
- 3. The Budget Meeting shall be posted for a duration of five (5) consecutive work days.
- 4. The Committee may recess during the five-day meeting to provide time for amendments to be drafted and budget exhibits to be corrected.
- 5. The Committee is not required to swear in agents or other presenters, either from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) or Program staff.
- 6. After a budget legislation is motioned, OMB shall present a summary budget summary for each Program's budget before the Sponsor of the legislation starts their presentation. A staff member of OMB shall be available at each Committee Budget Meeting, either virtually or in person, to answer relevant questions and to clarify issues during the discussion.
- 7. The Sponsor of the budget legislation, and his or her agents, will have a maximum of 10 minutes, or other time period established by the Committee, to present the legislation. The Committee Chair, at his or her discretion, may increase the time period for the initial presentation of the legislation.
- 8. As with any legislation, the Committee Members may ask questions of the agents and OMB through the Sponsor. Questions to advisors, e.g., the Controller, Department of Personnel Management, should go through the Committee Chair.

- 9. The Office of Legislative Counsel (OLC) will provide fillable amendment forms to the Committee members to be used for amendments to the Program's detailed budgets and Conditions of Appropriations/Legislative Concern exhibits. The fillable amendment forms shall be submitted to the Committee Advisor.
  - Requests for amendments to the body of the legislation shall be handled the same way as other legislations and should be submitted directly to OLC.
- 10. The Committee Advisor is responsible for keeping a complete and accurate list of all proposed amendments to the detailed budgets, and providing the proposed amendments to the Program, OMB, the Controller, and to OLC.
- 11. When, and if, a proposed amendment to the Program's detailed budget is approved by the Committee, the Committee Advisor will add the approved amendment to Exhibit C. The Program(s) shall work with OMB to revise Exhibit B, when necessary, to reflect the approved amendments made to the detailed budgets and Exhibit C.
- 12.If amendments are made to a Program's budget, the Committee will table the legislation to give the Program time to revise its detailed budgets and prepare the filled-in Exhibits B and C. When the Program returns to the Committee with its revised detailed budgets and its completed Exhibits B and C, if additional amendments or corrections are needed, the Committee will go into a recess to allow the Program time to make the budget corrections in order to avoid tabling the legislation twice and permanently eliminating the legislation from the Committee's agenda.
- 13. Upon reconvening after the recess, if the Committee is not satisfied with any of the proposed amendments or with any of the revised detailed budget provided by the Program, the Committee may recess a second time.
- 14.As with any legislation, the Committee will vote on all amendments to each budget legislation and will vote on the main motion for each budget legislation for the divisions and programs that it oversees. A quorum of Committee members is required for each vote.
- 15. Final approved Oversight Committee resolutions serve as recommendations to the Budget & Finance Committee. The Oversight Committee, through the Chair and/or Vice Chair, or designee, shall present the adopted Oversight Committee resolution and final program budgets, with all amendments inserted, to the Budget & Finance Committee.

# NAVAJO NATION

Naabik'iyati' Committee Special Meeting

09:11:35 AM

Amd# to Amd#

Legislation 0189-23: Rescinding

PASSED

8/10/2023

MOT Claw, S SEC Jesus, B

No. GSCF-2-92 and Approving

Oversight Committee Budget

Meeting Procedures

Yeas: 15

Nays: 0

Excused: 3

Not Voting: 5

Yea: 15

Arviso, S Begay, H Begay, N Claw, S Crotty, A Johnson, C
Curley, C Nez, A
Damon, S Notah, N
Jesus, B Parrish, S

Simonson, G Simpson, D Tolth, G

Nay: 0

Excused: 3

Charles-Newton, E

Daniels, H

Slater, C

Not Voting: 5

Aseret, L James, V

Tso, O

Yanito, C

Yazzie, C

Presiding Speaker: Nez, R