

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - Second Year, 2016

AN ACTION

RELATING TO HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND
NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING
THE APPOINTMENT OF LAVONNE TSOSIE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE
DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

BE IT ENACTED:

Section One. Findings

- A. The Navajo Nation President appoints a person as the Executive Director for the Division of Human Resources and the Executive Director reports to the President of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 1703(A)(1).
- B. The appointed Division of Human Resources Executive Director shall be under the general direction and guidance of the President of the Navajo Nation and the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council shall provide legislative oversight. 2 N.N.C. § 1701. See also 2 N.N.C. § 1705.
- C. The Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources shall have prior experience in managing the functional areas under the jurisdiction of the Division of Human Resources as represented by prior positions and private industries or a governmental agency. 2 N.N.C. § 1703(A)(2).
- D. The Navajo Nation President appoints LaVonne Tsosie as the Executive Director for the Division of Human Resources. Ms. Tsosie's appointment letter and resume are attached as EXHIBIT A.
- E. The Navajo Nation Council gave the Health, Education and Human Services Committee oversight over the Division of Human Resources. 2 N.N.C. § 401(C)(1).

F. A proposed resolution requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be assigned to the Naabik'íyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).

Section Two. Confirmation of the Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources

The Navajo Nation confirms the appointment of LaVonne Tsosie as the Executive Director of the Division of Human Resources.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 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 16 in favor and 4 opposed, this 20th day of April 2016.



LoRenzo Bates, Speaker
Navajo Nation Council

4/28/16

Date

Motion: Honorable Nathaniel Brown
Second: Honorable Davis Filfred



THE NAVAJO NATION

RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT
JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT



December 3, 2015

Ms. LaVonne Tsosie

Re: Appointment as Division Director to the Navajo Division of Human Resources

Dear Ms. Tsosie:

This serves to appoint you as the Division Director to the Navajo Division of Human Resources. This appointment shall take effect on Monday, December 7, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. and is subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

Your duties are outlined in the plan of operation for the Division. You shall be responsible for the administration and management of the Navajo Division of Human Resources and the supervision of all personnel. This includes ensuring compliance with all applicable Navajo Nation laws and policies.

Your salary shall be that established in the budget for the position. During this appointment, you will report to the Chief of Staff, President Begaye and Vice President Jonathan Nez. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Begaye".

Russell Begaye, President
THE NAVAJO NATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Nez".

Jonathan Nez, Vice President
THE NAVAJO NATION

Resume of LaVonne Tsosie

OBJECTIVE: Executive Director, Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources

WORK EXPERIENCE

Committee Secretary, Senate Indian & Cultural Affairs Committee, 52nd Legislature, New Mexico State Senate, Santa Fe, New Mexico (January 20th to March 21, 2015)

Served as Committee Secretary for the Senate Indian & Cultural Affairs Committee for the 52nd New Mexico State Legislature. Duties included preparation of committee agenda, memoranda, notices and tracking of legislative bills relevant to the Committee. The position also required maintaining a professional rapport with state, county, municipal, and tribal entities throughout the State of New Mexico, including Senators, Representatives, and the Governor's Office. Other duties included scheduling for Senator John Pinto, and advising him on the tracking of certain legislations in the House or Senate, and tribal legislatures. Further, duties included working with other Senate and House committees on the coordination of legislation and their staff and lobbyists.

Legal Counsel, Gentle Ironhawk Shelter, Blanding, Utah and Private Law Practice in Sander, Arizona (June, 2011 to present)

Serve as Legal Counsel to the Shelter on all domestic violence and related family law issues. Represent clients on various cases such on domestic violence, paternity, custody, divorce, guardianship, etc, in the courts of the Navajo Nation. The position requires knowledge of the Navajo Fundamental Law and accompanying doctrines, including extensive legal research and civil and criminal litigation in court. Other responsibilities include preparing and conducting presentation of Navajo law and applicable procedures upon request to various entities within the Navajo Nation including but not limited to social services, police districts, school districts, chapters, housing entities, and tribal departments. Also provide daily advice and guidance to clients and families, maintain professional rapport with the Courts and tribal, county, state, and federal entities; and assist the Executive Director in other legal areas upon request. On an administrative level, have one paralegal that assists in preparing minor legal pleadings and documents on cases.

Currently maintain a private law practice in civil and criminal cases in Sanders, Arizona.

Committee Secretary, Senate Indian & Cultural Affairs Committee, 51st Legislature, New Mexico State Senate, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Served as Committee Secretary for the Senate Indian & Cultural Affairs Committee for the 51st New Mexico State Legislature. Duties included preparation of committee agenda, memoranda, notices and tracking of legislative bills relevant to the Committee. The position also required maintaining a professional rapport with state, county, municipal, and tribal entities throughout the State of New Mexico, including Senators, Representatives, and the Governor's Office. Other duties included scheduling for Senator John Pinto, and advising him on the tracking of certain legislations in the House or Senate, and tribal legislatures. Further, duties included working with other Senate and House committees on the coordination of legislation and their staff and lobbyists.

Director, Office of Legislative Services (March 30, 2010 – May 10, 2011) Window Rock, Arizona

As *political appointee*, assigned to oversee the Office of Legislative Services including the Council Delegates' Office, Legislative Reporting, Ethics & Rules Office and Legislative Advisors which provides technical support and services to the eleven (11) standing committees of the Navajo Nation Council. Also facilitate services to the individual delegates of the Navajo Nation Council by conducting research, preparation of legislation, program budgets, various forms of correspondences, and representing the Office of Legislative Services on all budgetary matters. On other occasions, represent the Office of the Speaker on official matters within and outside the Navajo Nation and carry out other assignments by such office. On an administrative level, supervised 38 staff members and carried out the day-to-day functions of the Office of Legislative Services including preparation of all program personnel, budget, property, and procurement documentation.

Senior Prosecutor (November 24, 2008 – September 11, 2009) Office of the Chief Prosecutor, Navajo Nation Department of Justice

Assigned to the Chinle District Prosecutor's Office to prepare legal documents for child(ren) neglect, delinquency, termination of parent-child relationship, child(ren) in need of supervision including adult criminal cases in accordance with the Navajo Nation Children's and Criminal Codes and governing Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedures. The position also required knowledge of the Navajo Fundamental Law and accompanying doctrines, including extensive legal research, and civil and criminal litigation in court. Other responsibilities included preparing and conducting presentation of Navajo law and applicable procedures upon request to various entities within the Navajo Nation including but not limited to social services, police districts, school districts, chapters, housing entities, and tribal departments. Also provided daily advice and guidance to the police department and social services and maintained professional rapport with the Courts and tribal, county, state, and federal entities; and assisted the Chief Prosecutor in other legal areas or prosecutorial districts upon request. On an administrative level, supervised the district staff consisting of three (3) personnel including the prosecutor, Associate Juvenile Presenting Officer, and Legal Secretary and prepared all necessary program budget, property, and procurement information.

Staff Advocate (2005 to 2008) Navajo Housing Authority, Window Rock, Arizona

Assigned to eight (8) of fifteen (15) housing management offices throughout the Navajo Nation to receive, review, and prepare for litigation forcible detainer cases involving tenants or homebuyers according to Navajo Nation law and Supreme Court precedence. Also included defending NHA in administrative grievance hearings before a duly appointed Hearing Officer; reviewing NHA personnel grievance cases, Board resolutions, and enforcing the policies guiding each aspect of NHA. The position also required knowledge of the Navajo Fundamental Law and accompanying doctrines, including extensive legal research, and civil litigation in court. Other responsibilities included preparing and conducting presentation of Navajo law and applicable procedures upon request to various entities within the Navajo Nation. Also provided daily advice and guidance to NHA staff and maintained professional rapport with the Courts and tribal, county, state, and federal entities; and assisted the Chief Legal Counsel in other legal areas or management offices upon request. The position required the ability to work independently including extensive hours and travel.

Senior Prosecutor (May 8, 2000 – 2005) Office of the Chief Prosecutor, Navajo Nation Department of Justice

Assigned to the Ramah District Prosecutor's Office to prepare legal documents for child(ren) neglect, delinquency, termination of parent-child relationship, child(ren) in need of supervision including adult criminal cases in accordance with the Navajo Nation Children's and Criminal Codes and governing Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedures. The position also required knowledge of the Navajo Fundamental Law and accompanying doctrines, including extensive legal research, and civil and criminal litigation in court. Other responsibilities included preparing and conducting presentation of Navajo law and applicable procedures upon request to various entities within the Navajo Nation including but not limited to social services, police districts, school districts, chapters, housing entities, and tribal departments. Also provided daily advice and guidance to the police department and social services and maintained professional rapport with the Courts and tribal, county, state, and federal entities; and assisted the Chief Prosecutor in other legal areas or prosecutorial districts upon request. Also argued *Ramah District Court v. Eriacho* before the Navajo Nation Supreme Court. On an administrative level, supervised the district staff including the Legal Secretary and prepared all necessary program budget, property, and procurement information.

Retirement Officer (1996 – 1997) Retirement Program, Navajo Nation

Responsible for composing legislation, agenda, correspondences, budgets, and proposals related to the program, the oversight committee, actuaries, and investors.

Coordinated projects and program activities with the standing committees of the Navajo Nation Council, its Controller, actuaries, auditors, and investment advisors.

Chapter Secretary/Treasurer (1991 – 1995) Nahata Dziil Chapter, Navajo Nation

- Represented and advocated various needs and issues for a community of 478 people.
- Worked with tribal, county, state, and federal officials on issues affecting the community.

- Responsible for the Chapter Administration's property, finance, procurement, personnel management; and compiled all chapter resolutions, proposals, correspondences, minutes, and budgets

Legislative Assistant (1989 – 1994) Office of Legislative Services, Navajo Nation

Provide administrative/technical services to the Offices of the Speaker, Chief Legislative Counsel, Legislative Services and to individual members of the Navajo Nation Council by preparing proposals, resolutions, correspondences, and numerous writing materials. This also included a legislative staff assignment to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Navajo Nation Council requiring preparation of agenda, legislation, correspondences, proposals and minutes and coordination with tribal, county, state, and federal entities, to ensure accuracy and completeness of proposed legislation or reports. It was pertinent that I maintained professional rapport with county, state, and federal officials on a consistent basis.

EDUCATION

- Dine' College, Tsaile, Arizona: August, 1990 to Spring 1996 (68 hours)
- Northern Arizona University: B.S. in Political Science, May 04, 1999
- University of Oklahoma College of Law, Norman, Okla. (June 1999 – May 2000)

HONORS

- Recognized by the Navajo Nation Council for services rendered to the Navajo Nation. (1994)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Alumni, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona
- Member, Navajo Nation Bar Association

OTHER

- Domestic Violence Commissioner for Window Rock, Shiprock, Chinle and Pinon Family Courts (2006 – Present)
- Computer literate
- Bilingual in Navajo and English languages
- Strong organizational and writing skills
- Commissioner, Nahata Dziil Commission Governance (2012 – 2016)

REFERENCES

Hon. Senator John Pinto

Dr. Wilson Aronilth, Jr.

Judge Genevieve Woody