



American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS

"Respect, Harmony, and Beauty"

AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKA NATIVE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION FOR NRCS NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE October 12, 2007

Welcome: David Elliott, AIANEA, President,

Those present: David Elliott, Carol Crouch for Dave Wise, Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen, Pat Green, Levi Montoya, Millie Tittle, Buster Landin, Ciro LoPinto, Cloyce Smith, Felix Nez and Leota Burnett.

Not Present: Dave Wise

President, David Elliott called the meeting to order at approximately **11:39 am CST**.

Approval of Minutes

The August minutes were reviewed and approved by the National Council members.

MOTION: 10122007-1:

Motion was made to accept August the minutes of the 2007 meeting.

Motion made by: Pat Green

Motion seconded: Leota Burnett

Motion passed: Unanimously

Treasurer's Report

Tanya reviewed the Treasurer's Report for August. Tanya provided an over view of the Treasurer's report.

MOTION: 10122007-2:

Motion was made to approve, as presented, the AIANEA August Treasurer's Report that were not approved at the September, 2007 AIANEA monthly teleconference.

Motion made by: Levi Montoya

Motion seconded: Pat Green

Motion passed: Unanimously

Tanya reviewed the Treasurer's Report for September. Tanya provided an over view of the Treasurer's reported.

MOTION: 10122007-3:

Motion was made to approve, as presented, accept the AIANEA September Treasurer's Report for the October 12, 2007 AIANEA monthly conference.

Motion made by: Ciro LoPino

Motion seconded: Levi Montoya

Motion passed: Unanimously

Region Reports

East Region – Ciro LoPinto reported the following;

Northern Plains Region – Levi Montoya reported the following;

Southeast Region – Pat Green reported the following;

West Region – Felix Nez reported the following;

Midwest Region – Buster Landin reported the following;

South Central Region – Leota Burnett reported the following:

Carol Crouch reported that the NRCS 2007 American Indian Heritage Poster (AIH) have been shipped to all NRCS States from the publishing company. A shipment of 4800 AIH posters has been received by NRCS Landcare and can be ordered from Landcare within a week.

2007 Annual Conference Update:

NHQ/Tribal Liaison: Edith Morigeau –Not present

Edith will not be attending the AIANEA annual conference

Proposal for OTCAC Scholarship

David provided a report regarding the OTCAC scholarships. The National Council approved to accept \$1000.00 for the AIANEA scholarship fund. Tanya reported that AIANEA has already received the \$1000.00 from OTCAC. David reported that the National Council had approved OTCAC's scholarship proposal for four scholarships to be offered to a member of NRCS Alaska Native Employees Association (AIANEA) who is pursuing a degree in the field of conservation, a higher educational degree or to take courses to improve job skills or meet job requirements.

AIANEA Elections

2008 Elections: West, Southeast, Midwest, and 2nd Vice President

David reported the nominations are being accepted and will be accepted until November 20, 2007 for regional representatives in the **West, Southeast and Midwest regions and 2nd Vice President**.

David reported that as of October 12 nominations have been received as follows; (2) for 2nd Vice Chair, (1) Midwest (3) West and (0) for the Southeast region.

Proposed Constitution and Bylaws amendments

David Elliott reported that the Constitution and Bylaws amendments were posted 8-15-2007 and mailed to members on 9-7-2007 and the AIANEA received no comments and the constitution are now official and Yvette will post shortly to the website. Final copy adopted Constitution and Bylaws amendments will be mailed to all members.

2007 Annual Conference: Photos and DVD

David Elliott opened discussion regarding the photo and DVD. Carol Crouch reported that the photo and DVD are completed. Yvette has a copy of the photo and DVD. Yvette will post the photos on the AIANEA website.

[MOTION 10122007-4:](#)

Motion was made to send a copy of the AIANEA 2007 conference DVD to all attendees and paid general members and a CD of the photos be mailed to AIANEA Elders.

Motion made by: Leota Burnett
Motion seconded: Ciro LoPinto
Motion passed: Motion

Action Item: Tanya will work with Yvette to get the copies made of the DVD and photo CD and will get them mailed to all conference attendees, paid general members and AIANEA Elders.

2009 Annual Conference

No proposal has been received to date. David Elliott reported the Chief Lancaster is supportive of the NRCS professional associations. Chief requested that the Presidents of the NRCS professional Presidents work together to plan their 2009 conferences in the same city.

AISES Sequoyah Fellow

David Elliott reported that there has been a request to continue to support the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) by continuing the proposal submitted by Carol Crouch on how the AIANEA could support AISES in delivering their mission to provide educational and career opportunities for American Indian students across the Nation. The proposal is for AIANEA to continue their support to AISES by making a donation through the AISES Sequoyah Fellowship. AIANEA would make the contribution to AISES through the Sequoyah Fellowship by honoring an AIANEA Elder of the association to receive the Sequoyah Fellowship membership as an award for the commitment to education and expanded knowledge through American Indian communities and students. The award will presented at the 2008 AIANEA annual conference.

[MOTION 10122007-5:](#)

Motion was made to continue the to support AISES through the AISES Sequoyah Fellowship donation of \$1000.00 to honor AIANEA Elder, Norman Lopez, who will receive the 2007 Sequoyah Fellowship at the 2008 AIANEA Annual Conference Awards banquet and funds will be taken from the AIANEA general fund.

Motion made by: Ciro LoPinto
Motion seconded: Carol Crouch
Motion passed; Motion passed Unanimously

AIANEA Lifetime Member Jackets

David reported that Herb Webb had gotten the following prices for the lifetime member jacket;

- ✚ \$68.00 plus \$12.00 = \$80.00 with small logo on front only
- ✚ \$45.00 plus \$12.00 = \$57.00 light weight jacket
- ✚ For large logo on the back of either jacket \$35.00
- ✚ To add name on front \$4.00
- ✚ Set-up fee 100.00 large logo on the back

After discussion among AIANEA National Council; members decided to gather the data and develop a letter to present to the members so a decision can be made on the type of jacket, shared cost by member, if the jackets can be ordered in any quantity, at any time and on line.

Action item: David will follow up with Herb and develop a letter for members regarding the lifetime jacket.

AIANEA National Council Teleconferences

David Elliott opened discussion regarding moving the AIANEA teleconference to a different day other than the second Friday of each month and to leave the same beginning time.

MOTION 10122007-6:

Motion made was made to move the AIANEA teleconference from the second Friday of each month to the second Thursday of each month; to begin on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at 11:30 AM CT.

Motion made by: Leota Burnett
Motion seconded: Cloyce Smith
Motion passed: Unanimously.

Other Business

David Elliott opened discussion on the new scholarship application. A copy of the new scholarship was in the 2007 Annual conference agenda.

MOTION 10122007-7:

Motion made was to accept the AIANEA new scholarship application as it was presented in the AIANEA 2007 annual conference agenda.

Motion made by: Carol Crouch
Motion seconded: Cloyce Smith
Motion passed: Unanimously

David Elliott recognized AIANEA American Indian Heritage Month poster Chair, Carol Crouch and her committee for an excellent job on the 2007 AIH poster. Carol updated the National Council that the posters have been received by NRCS Land Care and will be accessible to anyone who would like to order the poster. Email regarding the poster accessible from Land Care will be sent to all SEPMS and Public Affairs offices.

AIANEA policy for teleconferences; National Council regional representatives must select an alternate to represent the regional representative at the AIANEA monthly teleconferences should the elected regional representative not be able to attend the teleconference. The alternate must be an AIANEA member, in good standing, from the region.

MOTION 10122007-8:

Motion made was made to accept the policy that an elected National Council regional representative must select an alternate to represent the regional representative at the AIANEA monthly teleconferences should the elected regional representative not be able to attend the teleconference. The alternate must be an AIANEA member, in good standing, from the region.

Motion made by: Leota Burnett
Motion seconded: Cloyce Smith
Motion passed: Unanimously

Review of Action items

Action Item: Tanya will work with Yvette to get the copies made of the DVD and photo CD and will get them mailed to all conference attendees, paid general members and AIANEA Elders.

Action item: David will follow up with Herb and develop a letter for members regarding the lifetime jacket

Next meeting – November 9, 2007

Adjourn and Next Meeting

The next meeting is on **Thursday, November 8, 2007 at 11:30 am CST**. Call in information will be provided.

[MOTION 10122007-9](#)

Motion made that the October 2007 AIANEA meeting be adjourned at **1:pm**.

Motion made by:

Motion seconded:

Motion passed: Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Carol Vallee Crouch, Secretary