



American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS

“Respect, Harmony, and Beauty”

**AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKA NATIVE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
FOR NRCS NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE
May 14, 2008**

Those present: Millie Titla, Dave Wise, Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen, Gina Kerzman, Shiraz Vira, Phillip Dixon, Harold Bryant, Carol Crouch and Ciro LoPinto joined teleconference 10 minutes late.

Invited Guests: Kurt Cates

Not Present: Carol Crouch, Buster Landin, Leota Burnett, Edie Morigeau, Yvette Dulle and Gina Kerzman

President, Millie Titla called the meeting to order at approximately **2:16pm CST.**

Approval of April Minutes

The April 2008 minutes were reviewed and approved by the National Council members.

MOTION: 05-14-2008-1: Motion was made to accept the April minutes.

Motion made by: Carol Crouch

Motion seconded: Dave Wise

Motion passed: Unanimously

Approval Treasurer’s Report

Tanya reviewed the Treasurer’s Report that was emailed prior to the teleconference. Tanya provided an overview of that report. Tanya also reported on the current interest rate of CDs that AIANEA currently have and that their expiration date is May 30, 2008. Deadline has been met for IRS paper requirements

MOTION 05-14-2008-2: Motion was made to accept the AIANEA April Treasurer’s Report.

Motion made by: Carol Crouch

Motion seconded: Ciro LoPinto

Motion passed: Unanimously

Action Item: Harold Bryant has been given charge/permission by the AIANEA National Council to investigate available interest rate on AIANEA existing CDs.

A. Treasurer Position – Harold Bryant has accepted the AIANEA Treasurer position.

B. Drum Budget – Tanya reviewed the cost \$400.00

MOTION 05-14-2008-3:

Motion was made to accept for AIANEA National Council to approve the proposal cost for AIANEA drum costs of \$400.00.

Motion made by: Carol Crouch

Motion seconded: Ciro LoPinto

Motion passed: Unanimously

Action item: Tanya will advise Herb that the drum cost has been approved by the National Council so they can move forward to build the drum.

NHQ National Tribal Relations Coordinator Report

Edie Morigeau was not on the teleconference for a monthly report.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws – Tanya reported that AIANEA had received no comments regarding the amendment to Constitution and Bylaws Article X-Elections-Item G.

Article X – Elections

Item G., amendment read as follows:

- G. All members of the National Council, including Officers, Regional Representatives, Secretary and Treasurer, must have, when nominated, and remain while in position, a current membership in good standing in this Association. Memberships shall be current effective the beginning of each year, which is January 1.

MOTION 05-14-2008-4:

Motion was made to accept for AIANEA Article X – Elections Item G.,
G. All members of the National Council, including Officers, Regional Representatives, Secretary and Treasurer, must have, when nominated, and remain while in position, a current membership in good standing in this Association. Memberships shall be current effective the beginning of each year, which is January 1.

Motion made by: Carol Crouch

Motion seconded: Ciro LoPinto

Motion passed: Unanimously

b. **Scholarship Award** – Kurt Cates reported that the AIANEA Scholarship committee had selected two scholarship winners.

c.

Action Item: Kurt Cates will get the article of the scholarship winners to be announced in the AIANEA newsletters with a short bio of the scholarship winners.

d. **Newsletter** – Yvette was not on the conference call; however, Millie did report that she is working on the newsletter and it will be coming out soon.

e. **Visioning Process** – Crystal and Ciro. Crystal was not on the conference call, however; Ciro provided an update on the "Visioning Process." Ciro reported next meeting will be May 15, 2008.

f. **2008 Conference** – Shiraz reported to the National Council that everything is coming together nicely for the 2008 conference. Meals and agenda are all on target. Millie reported that the National Bulletin regarding NRCS employee attendance to the National Conference. Millie reported that the AIANEA had sent requests for financial support for the annual conference. Tanya reported that the bags for the conference have been order and the bags have been shipped to Herb Webb, NRCS Montana and Herb will finalize the logos on the bags for the conference.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Elder's Committee Report** – Tanya provided a brief overview of the Elder's Committee meeting. The Elders are working on a theme for the Elders to develop the content for their break-out sessions. Elder's are requesting the NRCS State Conservationists of their State's help with the Elder's travel to the National Council.
- b. **Letter from Ted Herrera**- Tanya provided an overview of a letter that was received from Ted Herrera for the AIANEA newsletter.

Action item: Ciro and Harold will work together to extend an invitation to Ted Herrera to join the Vision Committee teleconference tomorrow, May 15, 2008.

Action Item: Harold will invite Ted Herrera to join the June AIANEA teleconference to discuss his letter.

- c. Other

Action Item: Harold will investigate getting the AIAENA logo for Millie. Harold will contact the company that formatted the AIANEA logo for the 2007 conference and follow-up with Millie.

Review of Action items

Action Item: Harold Bryant has been given charge/permission by the AIANEA National Council to investigate available interest rate on AIANEA existing CDs.

Action item: Ciro and Harold will work together to extend an invitation to Ted Herrera to join the Vision Committee teleconference tomorrow, May 15, 2008. Harold will invite Ted Herrera to join the June AIANEA teleconference to discuss his letter.

Next meeting –The next meeting is June 11, 2008. Call in information will be provided. 12:00 noon, Arizona time.

MOTION 05-14-2008-5: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Motion made by: Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen
Motion seconded: Ciro LoPinto
Motion passed: Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted by Carol Vallee Crouch, Secretary