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**American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS**

*"Respect, Harmony, and Beauty"*

**NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE  
September 7, 2010**

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen, Ciro Lo Pinto, Stacy Kimble, Levi Montoya, John Harper, Harold Bryant, Gina Kerzman, Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Carol Crouch (briefly)

Not present: Ralph Goh, Leota Burnett, Nels Liljedahl  
Meeting began at 11:04 AM MST.

**Approval of August Minutes**

**MOTION: 09-07-2010-1:** Motion was made to accept the August 2010 minutes.

Motion made by: John Harper

Motion seconded: Levi Montoya

Motion passed: Unanimously

**Action Item:** Blythe will provide the approved July minutes to Yvette Dulle to post on the AIANEA website. Complete

**NHQ Tribal Liaison Report – Edie Morigeau**

No report during the teleconference for this month.

**National AI/AN EPM Report – Carol Crouch**

AISES Conference Recruitment will take place in November. Please submit any vacancies/student intern opportunities to promote for students at the conference.

AIHM posters were sent to each state, should have been received by all. Question was posed to Carol as to why the AIHM poster is handled different from the other SEPM programs. First AIHM posters were 1991-1994 hosted in the Great Plains region. Any information that can be provided to Carol on the history of the AIHM posters will be helpful.

**Conference sponsorship levels update - Tanya**

Thank you to the National Council for approving the conference sponsorship levels. The approved Sponsorship levels have been forwarded to David Elliott for the 2011 conference planning, and to William Puckett, State Conservationist in Alabama. Dr. Puckett forwarded to other State Conservationists in the SE region.

**Action Item:** Tanya will determine the appropriate method to forward the conference Sponsorship levels nationally to all State Conservationists, possibly a national bulletin. Not yet complete.

**Purchase of annual Flicker photo site update – Ciro**

Use Yahoo email account address as the Flickr account address. First year of Flickr site is free but unsure if AIANEA's first year has been already used.

**Action Item:** Tanya will follow-up on the AIANEA Yahoo address to access the Flickr account and find out how much the association needs to pay to re-establish the account. Complete

#### **Treasurer's Report – Harold Bryant**

Harold is following up with a few late submittals of 2010 conference registrations. Harold provided an update via email to the National Council. Discussion took place regarding deposit accounts and funds based on Harold's treasurer's report.

- a. 2009 audit follow-up – Tanya  
Harold and Yvette have worked together to obtain a list of AIANEA members near Harold to assist with the audit. Ted Herrera will represent the Elders and possibly three more members within vicinity. AIANEA can assist with mileage for those participating in the audit.

**Action Item:** Harold will select the members to assist with the 2009 Audit and provide those names to the President, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. Gina will revise the Audit Committee list to include these temporary committee members. Complete, ad hoc committee members selected. Revising Audit Committee list not required, will be covered in C&B language amendment.

Tanya recommended having an external financial review for the 2010 AIANEA financial records and continuing them on a scheduled interval thereafter. Gina recommended looking into firms that are familiar with non-profit organizations, specifically. There is a website that lists CPAs that are familiar with non-profits.

**MOTION: 09-07-2010-2:** Motion was made to have an external review for the 2010 financial year to take place in 2011 and to take an additional bid in addition to the one Harold Bryant already received.

Motion made by: John Harper  
Motion seconded: Gina Kerzman  
Motion passed: Unanimously

Gina will take this discussion to the Constitution & Bylaws committee to include amended language to have an external review for now and future.

Proposed amended language: External financial reviews will take place at a minimum of every three years. The required financial information will be presented to a CPA or a reviewing firm in the first quarter following the end of the reviewing year.

#### **Investment Update – Harold Bryant**

Harold provided a report on current balance in the Memorial Scholarship Fund and will have a full report, including interest earned for all endowment funds by November. Discussion took place regarding proceeds from the 2010 conference and how those might be reinvested into endowment funds and/or other. Decisions will be made during the November teleconference.

Action: Harold will assemble and present an investment report in November. Council will make decisions for endowment investment based on Harold's report and final 2010 conference financial report.

#### **Action Items from 2010 Business Meeting follow-up**

- a. Director's Insurance – John Harper

Sent an example of the insurance to the NC via email. Depending on the number of council members, the cost of the insurance may vary.

**Action Item:** John will look into obtaining a quote from the insurance company for AIANEA for D&O insurance as well as general liability insurance. Complete

**b. 2<sup>nd</sup> person on bank accounts, status update – Ciro**

Bill Parrish has been contacted and has accepted the position. Harold will work with Bill directly to get the authorizations set up.

**c. Scholarship/Auction Committees**

Ideas were proposed at the Business meeting on improving the donations to the scholarship and auction. The committees will move forward to continue improving the participation.

Action: National Council will review the proposed actions recorded in the business meeting minutes. This will be a teleconference agenda item in October.

**d. Conference Proposals**

One conference proposal has been submitted to Ciro Lo Pinto from the East region, which is next in the region rotation for 2012. Any conference proposal will be accepted from any region at any time.

**Action Item:** Tanya will send an email to the membership to ask for conference proposals from any AIANEA region. Complete

**Tribal Issue Paper follow-up – Tanya**

Information was requested from Roylene for the tribal issue paper. Ralph Goh did forward to the DCs in Arizona that work with tribes. No further progress made.

Action: Tanya will follow up with Roylene to see what the status of the paper is and will follow up with Ralph to see if he heard from any DCs. Complete

**AIANEA Hide – Gina**

Discussion took place at the 2010 conference between the Elders for clarification of what information is needed to display on the hide. Louie and Marie Dick are waiting for submission of all information from the elders to complete the hide. As of the end of August, Gina has received all of the Elder's information with the exception of one Elder but that information is forthcoming.

**2011 Election**

The 2011 Election is coming up in November. Keep nominations in mind and submit those to be included on the ballot, after discussing with any potential nominees. Schedule: nomination form out to members by early October, election ballots out to members by early November, election results announced late November and new appointees will join National Council for the December teleconference.

**Action Item:** Tanya will look into the rotation schedule to determine what positions need to be filled in the upcoming elections and will send out a nomination form. Complete

**2010 Conference Wrap-up**

A 2010 conference summary will be developed by the end of September and provided to the 2010 conference participants and NRCS leadership.

**Action Item:** Tanya will forward the Business meeting minutes to the National Council. Complete

**Review of Action Items**

Items were reviewed by Blythe Koyiyumptewa.

**Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at 1:00 PM Central**

**MOTION: 09-07-2010-3:** Motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Ciro Lo Pinto

Motion seconded: John Harper

Motion passed: Unanimously

Tanya adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM MST.

**Respectfully Submitted by Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Secretary**