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

*"Respect, Harmony, and Beauty"*

**NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE  
February 16, 2011**

**Welcome and Roll Call**

- a. Additional agenda items** – No additional items.

Voting Members: Ciro Lo Pinto, Jerry Rouse (for Gina Kerzman), Levi Montoya, Leota Burnett, Ralph Goh, John Whitney, David Elliott (for John Harper), David Pesicka (late)

Non-Voting Members: Harold Bryant, Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Bill Parrish, Yvette Dulle, Ann Perales (late)

Not Present: Stacy Kimble, Edie Morigeau, Carol Crouch

**Approval of January Minutes**

**MOTION: 02-16-2011-1:** Minutes were reviewed by all participants, no additions or corrections made. Motion was made to accept the January 2011 minutes.

Motion made by: David Elliott

Motion seconded: Leota Burnett

Motion passed: Unanimously

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

**Review action items from previous minutes**

Action items were reviewed by Ciro.

**NHQ Tribal Liaison Report – Edie Morigeau**

No report submitted by Edie.

**National AI/ANEPM Report – Carol Crouch**

No report submitted by Carol.

**2011 Conference Update – David Elliott/Ciro Lo Pinto**

- a. **Contract** – Not yet been signed
- b. **Agenda** – Draft format after yesterday's planning teleconference, finalizing speakers (confirmed Tribal President).
- c. **Budget** – Will send out a proposed budget for the National Council to review prior to next month's teleconference.
- d. **Travel** – Tanya working on proposed budget for Elder's travel, work with Yvette to get conference information onto the AIANEA website. Tribe will run transportation to and from both nearby airports.
- e. **Speakers** – Confirming speakers

- f. **Youth** – Not having pre/post youth sessions. Youth will be incorporated within the main conference sessions
- g. **Elders** – Tanya working on budget/gifts for Elders. Loss of Elder Leland Debe
- h. **Auction** – Leota is coordinating auctioneer for live auction
- i. **Theme** – Email sent out today on conference theme with votes coming in. Information will be sent out once decided.
- j. **Attendance/registration** – Block of rooms set aside for AIANEA at hotel
- k. **Etc.** – If anyone needs a letter of support, Ciro will provide that from AIANEA

**Action Item:** David Elliott will send out the proposed conference budget for the National Council (NC) to review prior to next month's NC teleconference. [Tabled to March teleconference](#)

#### **Treasurer's Report – Harold Bryant/William Parrish**

- a. **Monthly report** – Payment made for 2011 liability insurance on a calendar year basis. Liability insurance may not cover the Youth portion of the conference.
- b. **Endowment funds status** – Met with the investment banker two weeks ago and provided the update today. Direct deposits can be made from employee payroll to the scholarship endowment fund.
- c. **Sponsorships (OTCAC, Feather sponsors)** – OTCAC provided a sponsorship to AIANEA in December 2010. OTCAC may provide a yearly sponsorship to AIANEA for the AIANEA scholarship. Discussion will continue between both organizations.
- d. **Other communications (insurance)** – If any reimbursable items need to be purchased by members, please let Harold know if any items are recurring versus one time purchases. AIANEA membership dues are slowing coming in, coordination between Harold and Yvette. Harold reviewed the different funds for investment.
  - a. AIANEA Feather Sponsorships – discussion took place over the status of the documents as distributed by Tanya in August 2010. During the August 2010 NC Teleconference, the NC unanimously voted to accept the feather sponsorship levels as drafted. Ciro sent out an email with the document, Leota provided follow-up emails.

**MOTION: 02-16-2011-2:** Leota made a motion to incorporate the AIANEA Feather Sponsorship Levels onto the AIANEA website, using the draft as previously approved.

Motion made by: Leota Burnett

Motion seconded: David Elliott

Motion passed: Unanimously

**Action Item:** Yvette will post the AIANEA Feather Sponsorship Levels to the AIANEA website. [Will post in March](#)

**Action Item:** Levi will work with Yvette to review the bylaws and contact all AIANEA committees to update member lists. [Yvette sent the template to Levi](#)

#### **Farm Bill and other programs**

##### **a. 2012 Farm Bill writing, review, edits – Ciro Lo Pinto**

Discussion with Roylene to combine the efforts of SEPM's, Tribal Liaisons and AIANEA members in contributing to the writing, review and edits to the 2012 Farm Bill. A good response was provided by NC members.

**Action Item:** Ciro and David will work together to provide feedback on the 2012 Farm Bill. Participation is open to all members. [In progress](#)

#### **Communications – Yvette Dulle**

- a. **Webpage** – a document was put together by Yvette to obtain a professional website developer to update the AIANEA Website. Table this discussion to next month.

**Action Item:** National Council members will review the "Website Needs" document and provide comments/feedback to Yvette. Yvette will look into possible price quotes and any additional information needed. Complete

- b. **Facebook – Stacy** – No discussion today.
- c. **Newsletter** – Yvette has received some articles, some NC bios and is awaiting an out-going letter by Tanya and an in-coming letter by Ciro.
- d. **Flickr** – No discussion today.

**Action Item:** National Council members will provide an update to Yvette for the online bios by February 25th. A few bios are still pending as of 03/01/2011

**Action Item:** Tanya and Ciro will provide their respective letters to Yvette for the upcoming newsletter by February 25th. In progress

### **2012 Conference Update – Ciro, John Whitney**

Foxwoods Resort/Casino in Connecticut has been selected for the 2012 AIANEA conference for the third week in June 2012. The Connecticut State Conservationist has been in contact with neighboring states for support.

### **Visioning**

No specific update provided at this time.

### **Elders**

- a. **Leland Debe** – Ann has been of enormous assistance to Norma Debe during this time. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
- b. **Elder scholarship fund** – Details and logistics of such account is being discussed.

**Action Item:** Ann will visit and work with Tanya on discussing the idea of an Elder Scholarship Fund with the Elders. An Elder's Teleconference is being scheduled as of 03/01/2011

### **Miscellaneous**

John Harper resigned as Southeast Regional Representative. A special election can be held or contact the next person who was also in the election when John Harper. Thank you to John for the contributions while serving on the AIANEA National Council.

**Action Item:** David will contact Jack Lewis to see if he is willing to step in as the Southeast Regional Representative. Complete

Levi mentioned that the donation of a hide is still in the works. Ann let Levi know that Leland has donated a Pendleton blanket as a gift for the hide.

### **Review of Action Items from current meeting**

Blythe reviewed the action items.

**Next Meeting – Discussion regarding scheduling of 2011 teleconferences. Propose to maintain original schedule of the first Tuesday of every month at 2 PM EST – Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 – Ciro**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM MST**

**Respectfully Submitted by Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Secretary**