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

*"Respect, Harmony, and Beauty"*

**NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE  
March 1, 2011**

**Welcome and Roll Call**

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

Meeting began at 12:10 PM MST.

Voting Members: Ciro Lo Pinto, Gina Kerzman, Leota Burnett, Ralph Goh, Stacy Kimble, John Whitney, David Elliott (for Jack Lewis)

Non-Voting Members: Harold Bryant, Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Yvette Dulle, Richard Vigil, Carol Crouch (left early)

Not Present: Edie Morigeau, Bill Parrish, David Pesicka, Levi Montoya

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

The theme has been selected for the 2011 poster, will email out tomorrow.

Last year, AIANEA sponsored three scholarships in 3 different categories for the AISES National Science Fair (NSF). NRCS is also a major sponsor for the NSF and will be represented at the conference by NRCS Engineers/technical staff. Carol requests for AIANEA to determine if they can sponsor three scholarships for the 2011 NSF to be held at the end of March 2011. NRCS will provide 8 of the judges for the fair. Categories for last year's scholarships were: Engineering, Environmental Science and Plant Science. Carol recommends using the same categories up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Action Item:** Carol will mail the AISES NAISEF special award form to Harold for him to process the paperwork and payment. Complete

**MOTION: 03-1-2011-1:**

Motion was made for AIANEA to provide three scholarships to the 2011 AISES National Science Foundation with the same criteria as last year. Total amount is \$300.

Motion made by: John Whitney

Motion seconded: David Elliott

Motion passed: Unanimously

**Review action items from previous minutes**

Action items were reviewed by Ciro.

**Approval of February Minutes**

**MOTION: 03-1-2011-2:**

Minutes were reviewed by all participants, no additions or corrections made. Motion was made to accept the February 2011 minutes.

Motion made by: David Elliott  
Motion seconded: Leota Burnett  
Motion passed: Unanimously

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

### **NHQ Tribal Liaison Report – Edie Morigeau**

No report submitted by Edie.

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

**Contract** – has been signed by Ciro and delivered back to the Tribe

**Agenda** – will be sent out by the April teleconference

**Budget** – will finalize flight information/Elders travel

**Travel** – Elders travel will be finalized at upcoming teleconference/soon thereafter

**Speakers** – speakers are lined up, finalizing motivational speaker

**Youth** – incorporate youth session as part of the conference

**Elders** – Elder's teleconference is being scheduled in the next few weeks, breakout session will be conducted as it was at 2010 conference, and Elders gave permission to video the sessions

**Auction** – auctioneer was acquired from Georgia, items can be sent to David Elliott ahead of time, still need to work out some items such as possible raffle, request for donations from local tribes in your states, photos/videos to post online for bidding. David clarified that the Silent Auction will take place in the main conference meeting room.

**Theme** – "Native People...Our Life, Our Food, Our Traditions"

**Attendance/registration** – Hotel is now taking reservations, NRCS Chief's assistant has asked for meeting time with all Association Presidents possibly on Friday of conference

**Etc.** – Civil Rights director has asked for time on the agenda

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

**Monthly report** – Harold provided the update since the last teleconference

**Other communications** – visit with OTCAC to confirm if opportunities are available to all or Oklahoma students

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

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. Richard and Gina will be very helpful in this effort.

### **Communications – Yvette Dulle**

**Webpage** – Yvette received some quotes and emailed the quotes to the NC

**Facebook – Stacy** – suggest including on the upcoming newsletter. Leota, Yvette and Stacy will work together on AIANEA's Facebook account.

**Newsletter** – in progress, submit any articles to complete the newsletter

**Flickr** – Some members not able to access the account, need password.

**Action Item:** Leota will look for the Flickr account access information and provide to Yvette Dulle. Still Pending, verifying correct password

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

The contract from MGM Grand at Foxwoods has been sent to Ciro. He will review and has until March 31, 2011 to accept/not accept the contract. There is much to consider and discuss within AIANEA at this time.

John Whitney reviewed the current Planning Committee for the 2012 Conference.

**Action Item:** Any others that would like to volunteer for the committee, please contact John Whitney. On-going.

## **Visioning**

### **Elders**

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

Blythe reviewed the action items from today's meeting.

#### **Open Action Items from February 2011 Teleconference:**

**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

**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. Levi will review and work with Yvette on the updates.

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

**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. Completed (4/5/11)

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

**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

**Next Meeting** – maintain original schedule of the first Tuesday of every month at 2 PM EST – Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**Meeting adjourned at 1:47 PM MST**

**Respectfully Submitted by Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Secretary**