



American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS

"Respect, Harmony, and Beauty"

**NATIONAL COUNCIL TELECONFERENCE
May 3, 2011**

Welcome and Roll Call

- a. Additional agenda items** – Add NCAI to the agenda per Ciro's email.

Meeting began at 11:05 AM MST.

Voting Members: Ciro Lo Pinto (late due an all-employee association teleconference with the NRCS Chief), Gina Kerzman, Levi Montoya, Leota Burnett, Stacy Kimble, John Whitney, David Pesicka, Ralph Goh

Non-Voting Members: Harold Bryant, Blythe Koyiyumtewa, William Parrish

Not Present: Jack Lewis, Edie Morigeau, Carol Crouch

Approval of April Minutes

Review action items from previous minutes – Updated and completed

MOTION: 05-3-2011-1: Minutes were reviewed by all participants, updates were provided to the action items with one correction/addition to the minutes. Motion was made to accept the April 2011 minutes.

Motion made by: Leota Burnett

Motion seconded: Levi Montoya

Motion passed: Unanimously

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

NHQ Tribal Liaison Report – Edie Morigeau

Edie was not available for the teleconference.

National AI/ANEPM Report – Carol Crouch

Carol was not available for the teleconference. (Carol indicated she will email the AI/ANEPM report to Blythe for inclusion in the minutes.)

2011 Conference Update – David Elliott (planning committee's reaction)

David Elliott was not available for the teleconference.

Treasurer's Report – Harold Bryant/William Parrish

- a. **Monthly report** – The AIANEA Elders Memorial Endowment Fund has been established. Harold shared the details of the account. Made contact with Art Muller of OTCAC regarding scholarship program, payments will be made directly to the recipient.
- b. **Other communications** – There is an important need to promote the newly established Elders Memorial Endowment Fund.

Action Item: Promote contribution for the AIANEA Elders Memorial Endowment Fund to the AIANEA members and others. **In progress. Harold will provide an update in the June report.**

MOTION: 05-3-2011-2: Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report.

Motion made by: John Whitney
Motion seconded: Leota Burnett
Motion passed: Unanimously

MOTION: 05-3-2011-3: Motion was made to move all the 2010 interest gained and dividends earned in the endowment funds that would have been used for Elders Travel for the 2011 Conference, to be re-invested into the Elders Travel Fund.

Motion made by: John Whitney
Motion seconded: Leota Burnett
Motion passed: Unanimously

Action Item: Harold and Blythe will make contact this week to finalize the wording for Motion 3 above. **Complete**

Reports on Standing Committees

Levi reported that he contacted all the 2010 committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for updated participation.

Action Item: Levi will compile the final AIANEA Committee lists and send to the NC and Yvette Dulle. **Report reviewed but not completed, notification from others still pending.**

Visioning

- a. **Leadership and Mentoring** – Next teleconference will on May 16, 2011. Anyone who would like to contribute as a mentor or a committee member, please contact the committee.

Elders – Tanya

Tanya was not available for the teleconference.

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is conducting roundtables to gain input across the country related to the conservation, protection, and enhancement of the nation's soil, water, and related natural resources as authorized under the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act (RCA). NCAI is assisting USDA to gather tribal people's unique perspective to help guide the future of NRCS policies, programs and conservation practices for the benefit of the tribes' and nation's natural resources. We are in the process of conducting roundtables and interviews with tribal experts on conservation issues that tribes have on their lands.

Understanding that we may be able to still bring this up on your Board's conference call, it would help us immensely, if your membership can help us identify 4 – 6 key technical experts on Indian land conservation issues that we can interview by phone or in person. Interviews with key resource experts in the field with specific knowledge of American Indian/ Alaska Native natural resource conservation will form the basis of the preliminary report.

If you happen to have any questions or need more information please feel free to contact me at the address below or also Sherry Salway Black, Director of NCAI Partnership for Tribal Governance at 202-466-7767, ext 212, her email address is sherry_black@ncai.org

I've also attached our announcement on our ONR – Our Natural Resources Website for your convenience at <http://www.ournaturalresources.org/events/>

A list of names was developed today by region for AIANEA members who may be able to contribute to this effort.

Action Item: Gina will forward the recommended list of names of AIANEA members to Ciro and he will send a letter/make contact with the individuals to see if they are interested in participating in this effort with NCAI. **Complete.** (Some individuals have contacted Rose Whitehair (NCAI). Rose will also make contact with AIANEA individuals.)

Miscellaneous

Ciro provided an update on the teleconference he attended today regarding the present situation and the future of association training conferences.

Review of Action Items from current meeting

Blythe reviewed all the action items with the NC.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, June 7, 2011 - the first Tuesday of every month at 2:00 PM EST

Meeting adjourned at 12:39 PM MST

Respectfully Submitted by,
Blythe Koyiyumptewa, Secretary