

# Diné College Board of Regents Work Session Meeting Minutes

Diné College Board of Regents Work Session Meeting		Date: Thursday, February 3, 2018
Present:	Greg Bigman, Theresa Hatathlie, Dr. Tommy Lewis, Anderson Hoskie, Felisha Adams, Nelson BeGaye, Johnson Dennison (Quorum is not required for work session) <u>7</u> Regents in attendance.	Location: Flagstaff Diné D Conference Room Twin Arrow Resort & Casino
Absent:		Time: 8:00 a.m.

Agenda		
February 3, 2018 minutes approved on August 10, 2018. Motion by Regent Dennison, Second by Regent Toadecheenie. Vote: 6-0-0.		
I. <b>Call to Order:</b> Regent Bigman calls meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.		
II. <b>Roll Call:</b> Regent Dr. Lewis.		
III. <b>Invocation:</b> Regent Hoskie conducted the meeting prayer.		
<b>IV. Approval of Agenda</b> Motion by Regent Hatathlie to approve the agenda, Second by Regent Dr. Lewis. Discussion: Regent Bigman motions to add approved item #3 Debrief of Day 1 & 2 and add "I" History, under approved item 1.a., Second by Regent Hatathlie.  <b>Vote for amending motion: 7-0-0.</b> <b>Vote for approving motion: 7-0-0.</b>	<b>Follow-Up Action:</b>	<b>Responsible POC:</b>
<b>V. Approved Items:</b> 1.) <b>College Charter</b> a.) History Regent Dr. Lewis shares his personal knowledge of Diné College and its foundation. Concerned Diné (people) founded the idea of the college. The concern was from the observation of seeing the youth leaving the reservation to larger cities to obtain their education. The founding fathers, Guy Gorman and others recruited Dr. Bob Roessel for recommendation and the idea of community college came forth. Dr. Bob Roessel shared his knowledge of community colleges. The community college can offer certificate programs and academic programs. Another		

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founding leader is Mr. Yazzie Begay. The contribution of Yazzie Begay for advocating for NCC by providing a powerful prayer in the Navajo Language in Washington, DC. Peter MacDonald also spoke of the prayer and made a plea for the Diné. The origins developed from a concern of Dr. Guy Gorman considered “Father of Tribal College” & Dr. Bob Roessel set the stage for Diné College. The insight of the leaders help establish and develop pathway for federal funding to reach the Navajo Nation. CIT will be the technical college and NCC the academic college. Later both college names changed. CIT to Navajo Technical College then Navajo Technical University. NCC to Diné College.

Dr. Roessel, College President, shares his personal knowledge. The beginning of the started prior to the establishment of the college. The creativeness in working on a way for federal funding to reach the community through The Buy Indian Act. The planning for native soldiers with GI Bill available, who did not want to leave the reservation again.

- i. Mr. Eugene Charley expressed appreciation for the opportunity to share his experience as Diné College first graduates. He attended in 1968 and was a rodeo athlete as team captain and champion. Then he pursued studies at NAU. He appreciated Navajo language and culture courses offered at Navajo Community College. The staff were supportive. Mr. Charley expressed the importance of having a higher institution being close to home. He helped in the organizing of the Navajo Rodeo Cowboy Association, Indian Junior Rodeo Association, opened Eugene Charley Bull Riding School.
  - ✚ Regent BeGaye recognized guest as a champion in the All Indian Rodeo Cowboy Association. Lead the trail in developing professional pathway for rodeo. The Rodeo Cowboy Association (RCA) has evolved

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in the PRCA and moved into the professional ranks. This allowed an opportunity for our youth into the professional rodeo circuit.

b.) Mission, value, philosophy, principles, direction and goals

The SNBH was main discussion yesterday. The implementation into the academic perspective is important.

Prior discussions held with the possibility of a name change to University. The current discussion is to allow the name to remain. There was discussion of the possible creation of a law school within Diné College.

“The Foundation of Navajo Culture” by Dr. Wilson Aronlith. A digital copy of the book was provided to the Board of Regents. The publication was funded by Wisdom of the People Grant and includes items such as:

- Foundation of Diné Clan System
- Values
- Diné philosophy at home

c.) Amendments

A word document provided by legal referenced on-going tracked changes provided as digital copy. The discussion included in today’s agenda Items 1a, 1b, may be incorporated in the revisions for consideration.

Recess at 10:06 a.m. Resumed from recess at 10:24 a.m.

### 2.) College Foundation

#### a.) Overview of requirement

Discussion of structure, domicile for incorporation, and board membership. Documents were provided, such as example articles of incorporation, bylaws, and filing paperwork. The bylaws include

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conflicts of interest and paths to resolution for conflicts. This inclusion is an essential step in the application forms for IRS approval of a 501(c)(3) tax status for the corporation. The filing of the Articles required by the Business Regulatory Department of the Division of Economic Development to initiate the foundation. The bylaws are not filed with any agency and may be changed by the Board of Directors of the foundation under the terms of the Bylaws once they are adopted. A copy of the Navajo Nation Corporate Code with filing fee provided to the Board of Regents for review. A discussion of dissolving the Diné College Charitable Foundation and renaming to Diné College Foundation. A needed change of directors will include the standing board members coinciding with the approval date of the resolution and registered agent will be Dr. Roessel.

### **b.) Constraints and benefits**

The corporation may engage in business activities outside of the scope and mandate of Diné College such as entering into contracts for the benefit of the College, forming profit making business entities beneficial to the College, forming an alumnae association and planning activities for such association, and any and all other activities which might benefit the College.

- ✚ Dr. Lewis advised the purpose of the foundation is fundraising. He shares his previous experience as a Foundation President, that efforts are aligned with the mission. All members had to pay annual contribution.
- ✚ Regent Bigman states that all transactions would require support by MOU and resolution.

### **c.) Impact to Dine College**

The college is not limited to one foundation. Title III can support a position identified as a development position. If the foundation dissolved the raised funds will upon recommendation

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<p>of Attorney General most likely would be returned to the college.</p> <p>✚ Regent Bigman informs of a resolution to be presented at the next board of regents meeting.</p> <p>3.) <b>Debrief</b></p> <p>a.) Request for student survey conducted for dorm services.</p> <p>b.) Regent Hatathlie requests the college send the graduation invitations sent to VIP including Navajo Nation President ASAP.</p>		
<p><b>VI. Executive Session:</b> There was no executive session held for this meeting.</p>		
<p><b>VII. Next Meeting:</b> Board of Regents Regular Meeting Monday, February 9, 2018, 9:00 a.m. Proposed Location: Tsaile Campus, 620C Conference Room Tsaile, Navajo Nation (AZ)</p>		
<p><b>VIII. Adjournment:</b> Motion to adjourn by Regent BeGaye, Second by Regent Dr. Lewis. There was no discussion. <b>Vote: 7-0-0.</b> Meeting adjourned at 11:57 p.m.</p>		

*Respectfully submitted by: Michelle Cury, Diné College Board of Regents Executive Assistant*