



**RESOLUTION OF THE  
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE  
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

**(Approval of Tribal Council Meeting Briefs with Supporting Meeting Minutes)**

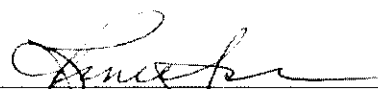
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) and 1(s) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article XI, Section 3, of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the Secretary of the Tribal Council is responsible for keeping and maintaining minutes of all Council meetings; and
- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article XIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the order of business requires a reading of the minutes; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council Secretary requested for approval of the briefs with supporting meeting minutes she prepared from the Tribal Council meeting held on May 6, 2010; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the White Mountain Apache Tribe to approve the briefs with supporting meeting minutes from the Tribal Council meeting held on May 6, 2010, as prepared and presented by the Tribal Council Secretary.


**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the briefs with supporting meeting minutes from the Tribal Council meeting held on May 6, 2010, as prepared and presented by the Tribal Council Secretary

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall govern.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on JUNE 2, 2010 duly adopted by a vote of NINE for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
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Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Mariddie J. Craig, Secretary of the Tribal Council

**WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE**  
**Fort Apache Indian Reservation**  
Whiteriver, Arizona  
Official Record of  
**Special Tribal Council Meeting**  
Thursday, May 6, 2010

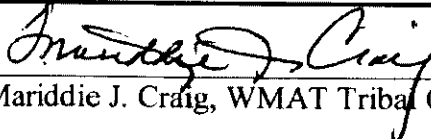
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*The Honorable Tribal Chairman Re-Elect Ronnie Lupe called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m..*

1. Opening Prayer provided by District IV Council Member Reno Johnson, Sr.
2. Full Quorum of the WMAT Tribal Council present. Roll Call taken by Mrs. Craig.
3. Resolution No. 05-2010-100 adopted appointing Mrs. Mariddie J. Craig as the Tribal Council Secretary with Mrs. Jessie W. Gushoney serving as the Assistant Tribal Council Secretary. Unanimous vote of 11 in favor and zero against.
4. Attorney Jim Palmer presented an overview and orientation of the Tribal Constitution to the Tribal Council pursuant to Constitutional mandate.
5. Resolution No. 05-2010-101 adopted restoring the Tribal Chairman's Executive Authority. Vote of nine in favor and two opposition.
6. Investigatory Findings presented by Attorney Troy Eid which resulted in the adoption of Resolution No. 05-2010-102 to terminate the employment of Tribal Treasurer Cathy Tate, Director of Enterprises Milfred Cosen, Human Resources Director Suzie Tenijieth, FATCO employee Chuck Peone, and Land Restoration Program Coordinator Doreen E. Gatewood for 2010 Tribal Election fraud allegations. Vote of six for and four against.
6. Resolution No. 05-2010-103 adopted to recover tribal gifted cars to outgoing Council members and to seize all future personal gain of tribal property. Vote of six for four against.
7. Discussion on tribal cars for the Council-Elect, Tribal Chairman, and Vice Chairman discussed. The Tribal Chairman acknowledged by the leadership to use his executive authority in proceeding with ordering vehicles for the 2010 Elected Officers of the Tribe.
8. Resolution No. 05-2010-104 adopted granting approval for the submission of a FEMA application as presented by Matthew Nozie. Vote of ten for and zero against.
9. Resolution No. 05-2010-105 adopted in the enrollment of S. Wilson. Vote: 10-0.
10. Proposed resolution tabled concerning the Cibecue Community Office structure and personnel. ( Rescinding Tribal Resolution Number 07-2006-258.)
11. Meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

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Prepared and Submitted by:

  
Mariddie J. Craig, WMAT Tribal Council Secretary

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE  
Tribal Council Secretary Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2010

At 9:30 a.m. the Tribal Chairman Re-Elect, the Honorable Ronnie Lupe called the Special Council meeting to order with a full quorum present. Tribal Council Secretary conducted Roll Call.

Chairman Lupe introduced Mrs. Mariddie J. Craig as the choice Tribal Council Secretary by detailing her work ethic and experience with the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Also introduced was Mrs. Jessie W. Gushoney. Chairman Lupe indicated Mrs. Gushoney held the role of the Vice Chairwoman's Chief of Staff and recommends approval for Mrs. Gushoney to work with the Tribal Council Secretary as an Assistant to Mrs. Craig in lieu of Mrs. Craig's present circumstances with her husband being hospitalized. Chairman Lupe further commented that Mrs. Craig's appointment and her Assistant be approved by the Tribal Council.

Mr. Rubert Lupe, District II Council Member made a motion to approve the Chairman's recommendation after stating he understands Mrs. Craig's need to take time out as necessary for her husband, but anticipates numerous Council meetings were forthcoming. Mr. Clinton Kessay, Jr. second the motion.

Vice Chairman Timothy Hinton raised a question of clarity on the appointment of Mrs. Jessie Gushoney, which is the issue of conflict of interest since Mrs. Gushoney's father is a member of the Tribal Council. Tribal Attorney Anthony Lee replied there would be no conflict if the immediate supervisor is not the father, but in this situation, the supervisor is Mrs. Craig.

There being no other questions, Chairman Lupe called for a vote: A vote of eleven in favor, no opposition and no abstention. ***Resolution No. 05-2010-100 was adopted appointing Mariddie J. Craig as the new Tribal Council Secretary with Jessie W. Gushoney as the Assistant Tribal Council Secretary.***

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From 9:55 a.m. to 10:35 a.m. Mr. Jim Palmer, the Assistant Tribal Attorney reviewed and provided an orientation on the WMAT's Tribal Constitution with all members of the Tribal Council. Some of the comments raised and no further discussion held were the following:

- \*Enrollment of tribal members; Is there a need to revise qualifications for enrollment?
- \*Did the Legal Department approved Contracts? Mr. Lee replied the Tribal Council approves Contracts, not Legal Department.
- \*Apache Tribal Member Rights Violations, warranting a Civil Rights provisions.
- \*Cost Containment Resolution No. 08-2009-292 raised for clarity.
- \*Sick Leave suspension of December 31, 2008, highlighted briefly.
- \*Voting in executive sessions? Mr. Palmer replied that ideally only discussions should be conducted in executive sessions.
- \*Who receive Council Resolutions? Mr. Anthony Lee stated resolutions are available to the public.

\*It was indicated a Financial Policies and Procedures are available for the WMAT, but no one has a copy of the procedures.

\*Election Code revisions must be completed by the Election Commissioners immediately within six months after an election, if the Commissioners were permitted to remain after an election.

\*Clarity requested on use of TR100 by traveling Council Members, Vice Chairman and Tribal Chairman. Mr. Anthony Lee explained that the non-use of TR100 meant the leadership would have to pay income tax on all their official business travels, however the Council was exempt from using TR100.

\*Walk-thru Resolutions requiring the Tribal Chairman's approval first, rather than how it had been handled previously. Procedures for the Tribal Chairman and Tribal Council Secretary was necessary to prevent the abuse and use of "Walk-Thru Resolutions".

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District II Council-Elect Mr. Clinton Kessay, Jr. introduced Tribal Resolution No. 04-2006-96 for Tribal Council review. According to Councilman Kessay, reference resolution was invoked to take away the Executive Authority of Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe, which he stated adamantly was wrong. Mr. Kessay repeated his comments that all organizations needed a structure, a chain of command in place and the White Mountain Apache Tribe did not have such a system when the Tribal Chairman's executive authority was stifled by resolution number 04-2006-96. After Mr. Kessay's presentation, he made a motion to return Executive Authority back to the Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe. Councilman Elect Mr. Justin Williams second the motion. Councilman Rubert Lupe encouraged all members of the Council to support this action and gave examples of tribal mismanagement and failure due to the lack of Executive Authority. Council discussion ensued regarding inequities and violations of tribal rights. After no questions were asked, Chairman Lupe called for a vote: the outcome was nine in favor and two against, Reno Johnson, Sr. and Arnold Beach. The general public in attendance cheered and complimented Councilman Alvin Declay for supporting the resolution. ***Resolution No. 05-2010-101 adopted restoring executive authority to the Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe.***

\* \* \* \*

At 11:12 a.m. an Executive Meeting was called by Chairman Lupe who introduced Troy Eid to the Tribal Council. According to Chairman Lupe Mr. Eid was the former Attorney General for the state of Colorado appointed by President Bush. Mr. Eid was hired by the WMAT to conduct an investigation on allegations of 2010 Election Fraud. A written report was provided to the Tribal Council and an overview of the report made by Mr. Eid. The detailed report indicated flagrant violations and abused trust by the employees: Cathy Tate-Tribal Treasurer, Suzie Tenjieth-Human Resources Director, Milfred Cosen-Director of Enterprises, Chuck Peone-FATCO Employee, and Doreen E. Gatewood-Land Restoration Program Coordinator. An exit from the Executive Council meeting occurred at 11:20 a.m. Tribal Council returned to its public meeting.

While in a public meeting, Attorney Troy Eid reported that the WMAT paid him Five Thousand Dollars to do the report. It was stated by one of the Council members that if a forensic investigation occurred, the result would be extremely serious. It was also highlighted that the five employees had every opportunity to clear themselves by cooperating in the investigation, but refused to do so. It was also noted that all five employees have an obligation to comply due to Federal involvement. (The US Postal Inspection Service and the FBI more specifically are involved.) According to Mr. Eid there were reports of retaliations, families harassed, fears by tribal employees. Quick discussion was held on tribal prosecution of the five employees, but it was recognized that the tribal system would not be harsh.

The Tribal Council agreed the Election Code needed to be revised and strengthened before the next tribal election. At 12:00 noon the report was completed. A quick summary was made by Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe in the Apache language and proceeded with Council action. Council Member Clinton Kessay, Jr. made a motion to terminate the employment of all five employees effective to the date of their suspension and if they seek employment with the WMAT in the future, they are to report directly to the Tribal Council for an evaluation and to seek appropriate redemption. Motion was second by Council Member Elect Kino Torino. ***Tribal Resolution No. 05-2010-102 was adopted by a vote of six in favor and four against to terminate employment of Cathy Tate, Milfred Cosen, Suzie Tenijieth, Doreen E. Gatewood, and Chuck Peone.*** Those voting in favor were Council Members Clinton Kessay, Jr., Kino Torino, Justin Williams, Cline Griggs, Gregg Henry, and Rubert Lupe. Those voting against were the Vice Chairman Timothy Hinton, Arnold Beach, Reno Johnson, Sr., and Alvin Declay.

Council Member Rubert Lupe made a final comment to the leadership and thanked them for their support. He cited an incident in which Council Member Arnold Beach made a motion to terminate Milfred Cosen's employment and that he Rubert Lupe had second the motion to suspend MCosen for five days for lack of accountability, and business decisions not being made. He commented that prosecuting the five employees would have made a difference.

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At 1:30 p.m. the meeting recessed and reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Financial update for tribal vehicles being purchased for incoming Tribal Council Members was discussed at length. Other issues of alleged fiscal improprieties and inequities were highlighted by the newly Elected Council. Salaries, Travel, Tribal Vehicles, Liabilities and gift giving for personal gain were discussed. Deputy Attorney Jim Palmer reported the outgoing Council already received their tribal vehicle titles and they cannot be reversed. In spite of the administrative action reported, Council Member Clinton Kessay, Jr. made a motion to have the outgoing tribal council members return their gifted tribal vehicles. Motion second by Council Member Kino Torino. A vote of six in favor and four against adopted ***Resolution No. 05-2010-103 to have the outgoing Council Members return their tribal vehicles.***

FEMA Mitigation Plan and FEMA Aid Application were presented by Matthew Nozie and Veneysa Johnson. The effort is to get a reimbursement of \$750,000 to the WMAT. Council Member Arnold Beach made a motion to approve request, second by Alvin Declay.  
***Resolution No. 05-2010-104 was adopted unanimously by a vote of ten in favor and zero against.***

***Resolution No. 05-2010-105 was approved to enroll Sanaa Wilson.*** Reportedly, the child was unable to get any assistance or help since she was not enrolled. The family is encountering legal problems over the child's placement out of state. Council Member Arnold Beach made a motion to approve the enrollment of Sanaa Wilson, second by Reno Johnson, Sr. Vote of ten in favor and zero against.

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Council Member Gregg Henry introduced Resolution No. 07-2006-258 for Council action. The resolution was about the Cibecue Complex Budget which is \$352,375 for operating a tribal office in Cibecue. Plans proposed were to release Judy Dehose as Executive Assistant and to replace her with Wilson Gregg. There were other personnel changes proposed. Many tribal members from Cibecue were in attendance to voice their concerns about change, that which they voted for they said. Allegations were being tossed about and the lack of support for tribal members. Additional allegations were made concerning the Council Elect. Mr. Gregg Henry made a motion to rescind the foregoing resolution and to adopt a replacement, motion second by Justin Williams. Vote of five in favor. Encouragement was made by the Vice Chairman and Council Member Cline Grigg to resolve the Cibecue matter appropriately. It was stated that the West Side of the Reservation was looked upon with admiration for retaining its culture and language, as such the business issue needed proper resolve. Considerable comments were being made at this time which interfered with a final vote and the end result was a heated debated. Matter eventually tabled for the next meeting. Final vote not called, the vote was nullified, when Council Member Gregg Henry withdrew his resolution.

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Chairman Lupe called for an adjournment and reminded the Tribal Council that they needed to act on appointing a Tribal Treasurer at its special meeting next week. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted and Prepared by Mariddie J. Craig, WMAT Tribal Council Secretary

