

Naabi OKs federal law enforcement contract

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WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – The Navajo Nation Council Naabik'iyati Committee thought they could tackle an agenda with 27 bills, but in the end, they had to call it quits after hearing one report and acting on three bills.

The Naabik'iyati approved Legislation 0009-17, which requests the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to adhere to the annual funding agreement for law enforcement patrol at more than \$21.1 million. The committee has final authority over 0009-17.

The Naabik'iyati also approved Legislation 0042-17, which designates the net proceeds of \$58.4 million received from a federal settlement with the Ramah Navajo Chapter to be deposited into the Sihasin Fund. The Council has final authority over the 0042-17.

But the committee tabled Legislation 0055-17, which also addressed the \$58.4 million Ramah Navajo Chapter settlement.

The tabled legislation sought to establish the Navajo Nation Public Safety System Fund Act of 2017 with the \$58.4 million.

The tabled Public Safety System Fund legislation moves to the Council, which has final authority over it, because Council and committee rules allow for tabled bills to continue moving through the legislative

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process.

And among the remaining 24 bills on the Naabik'iyati agenda is another bill that addresses the \$58.4 million Ramah Navajo Chapter settlement.

Legislation 0022-18, which Council Delegate Otto Tso is sponsoring, seeks to deposit the \$58.4 million into the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance.

Tso's bill and the other legislation that remain on the Naabik'iyati agenda will move to the committee's next meeting.

Agenda items

Some of the agenda items that will be on the next Naabik'iyati meeting agenda are:

- Legislation 0476-17, which would approve the Navajo Nation president's acceptance of a donation from the BNSF Railway Foundation for the tribal Veterans Administration.
- Legislation 0026-18, which seeks the appropriation of \$396,621 from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance for the Navajo Election Administration to carry out tribal elections.
- Legislation 0027-18, which seeks an appropriation of \$350,000 from the Unreserved, Undesignated Fund Balance to the Navajo Nation Museum for the Navajo Treaty of 1868 exhibit.
- Legislation 0018-18, which requests the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs to designate the Old Fort Wingate Army Depot, which includes the old vocational school, military barracks, original post cemetery,

horseshoe-shaped centennial memorial and "Shush Bi Toh," as a national monument

- Legislation 0490-17, which would approve and authorize the Navajo Transitional Energy Company to pledge 100 percent of the equity interest of the Navajo Nation in the Navajo Transitional Energy Company for securing credit or financing; consenting to the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs' approval of the mortgage as allowed by applicable federal regulation for the mine plant lease and Navajo Transitional Energy Company's rights-of-way; and rescinding prior Council action.
- Legislation 0492-17, which seeks the confirmation of the appointment of Loretta J. Danzuka to the Navajo Nation Labor Commission.
- Legislation 0502-17, which seeks the confirmation of the appointment of Reuben H. Mike as an appointed shareholder representative to the Naat'aanii Development Corporation.
- Legislation 0032-18, which seeks the confirmation of the appointment of Nate Lee as an appointed shareholder representative to the Naataani Development Corporation for a five-year term.
- Legislation 0504-17, which seeks the confirmation of the reappointment of former tribal Controller Mark Graham to serve on the Navajo Tax Commission for a three-year term.
- Legislation 0045-18, which establishes the Navajo Nation's legislative priorities for 2018 to the State of Utah.
- Legislation 0046-18, which establishes the Navajo Nation's legislative priorities for 2018 to the State of Arizona.