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**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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Josett D. Monette
Cabinet Secretary

Seth Damon
Deputy Secretary

**MEETING MINUTES
TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND BOARD
Regular Board Meeting
February 28, 2025
11:00 a.m.**

Location: NM Indian Affairs Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico - Held virtually via Zoom. The public viewed the meeting by using the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9844259412?pwd=DhES8Jyp5vXLrhIJzWBtUfQoB3aRRw.1&omn=84002177953>

Voting Members Present

Sara Rhoton, NMED Designee
Carmen Morin, DFA Designee
Janet Johnson, NMDOH Designee
Mark Thompson, Pueblo Representative
Michael Vonderheide, NMFA Designee
Nathan Notah, Navajo Nation Representative

Non-Voting Members Present

Gretchen Tsosie, ABQ IHS

IAD Staff Present

Maureen Ayers, TIF/CO Manager
Delilah Tenorio, IAD General Counsel
Jeffrey Christianson, TIF/CO Administrator
Vanessa Gutierrez, TIF/CO Administrator
Tsoniki Crazy Bull, TIF/CO Administrator
Monica Cordova, TIF/CO Administrator

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chairperson Josett Monette was unable to call the meeting to order, as she was at the Round House for the Legislative session. Maureen Ayers, TIF/CO Manager, called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. following roll call and an establishment of a quorum.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Board Member Mark Thompson moved to approve the meeting agenda, which was seconded by Board Member Nathan Notah. The motion to approve was passed by a majority on roll call vote.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2025

The Board approved the meeting minutes from the TIF Board Meeting held on January 21, 2025. Mark Thompson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, which was seconded by Nathan Notah. The motion to approve was passed by the majority on roll call vote.

IV. No Cost Extension Requests (One Year Extensions)

- a. **To'Hajiilee Chapter Water Project – 609-21-TF08** - Jason John and Andrew from Souder Miller Associates (SMA) made the presentation. The delay in expenditures is related to the complexities associated with getting the rights-of-ways across private lands, approving a water lease for the project, and additional internal processes to align the various funds and agreements with the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority.

The Navajo Nation's plan for project completion within the extension period will continue with on-going construction. They will submit NOO request for the remaining balance to NMIAD for TIF funds – February 2025. The Chapter will submit contract amendments internally for Navajo Nation processing – February 2025. Execution of contract amendment - April 2025, with complete construction in December 2025, and with 4 months of schedule buffer provided for any unforeseen conditions. The TIF grant close-out upon expenditure of TIF funds – prior to April 2026.

Mark Thompson made a motion to approve the NCE for 609-21-TF08 to go through April 26, 2026. Nathan Notah seconded the motion. The motion to approve was passed by a majority on roll call vote.

- b. **Crownpoint Chapter Water Project – 609-21-TF16** – Rita Capitan, Crownpoint Chapter President, Aaron and Andrew from SMA are requesting a 12-month extension because of several factors and challenges. This project is co-funded with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation funds as part of the Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project. The US Bureau of Reclamation required additional cultural resource compliance before releasing funds. This process is now approved, allowing the Navajo Nation to begin construction. Nathan Notah made a motion to approve the NCE for 609-21-TF16 to go through May 4, 2026. Carmen Morin seconded the motion. The motion to approve was passed by a majority on roll call vote.

- c. **Taos Pueblo North Pueblo Infrastructure Plan – 609-23-TF32** – Shawn Duran and Kinney Crispin presented for NCE, and they reported all COVID projects were complete. The Pueblo had a shortage of staff and bidding challenges. With a GIS/GPS Specialist and additional staff in place, they are now prepared to move forward with future projects.

Mark Thompson made a motion to approve the NCE for 609-23-TF32 to go through October 20, 2026. Nathan Notah seconded the motion. The motion to approve was passed by a majority on roll call vote.

V. Pinedale Chapter 20-TF10 Expired 5/14/24

- a. Unpaid Pay Request 10/9/2023 PR#5 \$242,848.73 – a timely payment request was submitted to the IAD, yet this payment was not made. IAD is seeking approval from the TIF board to pay the request using balances in TIF Infrastructure expired projects fund.

Nathan Notah made a motion to approve the payment to the entity using the funds remaining in the current infrastructure fund balance. Carmen Morin seconded the motion. The motion to approve was passed by a majority on roll call vote.

VI. Next meeting Discussion

Chairperson Monette, who was able to join the meeting via phone at this point in the meeting, mentioned that the TIF Portal has been extended to March 31, 2025, Chairperson Monette shared that NTPs met with Legislators to discuss the uncertainty of receiving Capital Outlay funds. It is recommended that NPTs apply via the TIF portal for funding. The next meeting will focus on TIF application presentations. An email with proposed dates will be sent.

VII. Adjournment

Chairperson Monette adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.