



SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

**In Person and Electronic Meeting
September 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM**

AGENDA

The public will be able to view the meeting on San Juan County's Facebook live and Youtube channel

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments will be accepted through the following Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3125521102> or by One tap mobile +16699006833,,3125521102# US (San Jose).

There will be a three minute time limit for each person wishing to comment. If you exceed that three minute time limit the meeting controller will mute your line.

BUSINESS/ACTION

1. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EQUAL AND ADEQUATE LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR RESIDENTS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY

ADJOURNMENT

The Board of San Juan County Commissioners can call a closed meeting at any time during the Regular Session if necessary, for reasons permitted under UCA 52-4-205

All agenda items shall be considered as having potential Commission action components and may be completed by an electronic method **In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for this meeting should contact the San Juan County Clerk's Office: 117 South Main, Monticello or telephone 435-587-3223, giving reasonable notice**

**SAN JUAN COUNTY UTAH
RESOLUTION NO 2021- ____**

SUPPORTING EQUAL AND ADEQUATE LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR RESIDENTS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY

WHEREAS, San Juan County Board of Commissioners may pass ordinances, rules and regulations as “are necessary and proper to provide for the safety, and preserve the health, promote the prosperity, improve the morals, peace, and good order, comfort, and convenience of the county and its inhabitants . . .” pursuant to UT Code 17-53-223.

WHEREAS, the San Juan County Sheriff’s Department’s duties include preserving the peace and making lawful arrests, pursuant to UT Code 17-22-2.

WHEREAS, the San Juan County Sheriff’s Department has had previous agreements with the Navajo Nation and/or Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety to provide law enforcement services to San Juan County residents who reside within the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation.

WHEREAS, these previous agreements between the San Juan County Sheriff’s Department and the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety have expired.

WHEREAS, the San Juan County Commission is committed to providing for the safety, health and public welfare of all of the County’s residents and is aware the need continues to exist for law enforcement and peace keeping by San Juan County Sheriff’s Department, in coordination with the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety, to adequately protect the health and safety of those San Juan County residents residing within the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

SECTION 1: The County Administrator, in consultation with the County Sheriff, is directed to immediately negotiate a contract between the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety and San Juan County so that San Juan County Sheriff’s Department officers will be able to provide law enforcement and peace keeping measures to San Juan County residents that reside within the Utah portion of the Navajo Nation.

SECTION 2: The County Attorney is directed to assist the County Administrator in developing an appropriate contract between the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety and San Juan County consistent with the intent of this resolution. The contract shall be presented to the Commission for its review, amendment and approval before it is executed by the parties to the contract.

**PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2021.**

THOSE VOTING AYE:
THOSE VOTING NAY:
THOSE ABSTAINING:
ABSENT:

BOARD OF SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WILLIE GRAYEYES, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

LYMAN DUNCAN, COUNTY CLERK/AUDITOR

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer

38m ·

FROM THE NAVAJO POLICE DEPARTMENT 09.02.21

29 state and county officers and deputies take Navajo Navajo Department of Law Enforcement Officer's Oath of Office after completing cross commission training

WINDOW ROCK, AZ – On Wednesday, 29 officers and deputies representing the New Mexico State Police, McKinley County Sheriff's Office, Sandoval County Sherriff's Office, Socorro County Sheriff's Office, and Apache County Sheriff's Office gathered at the Tse Ho Tso Learning Center in Fort Defiance, Arizona, to take the Navajo Nation Department of Law Enforcement Officer's Oath of Office after completing the Navajo Nation cross-commission training.

A brief swear-in ceremony occurred Wednesday afternoon with officers and deputies recited the officer's oath of office and code of ethics before Navajo Nation Judge, Letitia Stover, who administered the oath virtually. The ceremony marked the completion of a two-day training facilitated by Sergeant Wallace Billie with the Navajo Police Training Academy.

The 16-hour training included topics on Navajo Cultural Awareness, Community Policing, Navajo Nation Bill of Rights, Criminal Jurisdiction, Criminal Code Title 17, NN Traffic Vehicle Code, Extradition and Detainment, Navajo SORNA, Navajo Police Districts and Courts, and Navajo Nation Children's Code Title 9.

During his remarks, Chief Phillip Francisco reflected on past challenges and the change made to address those issues, crediting his commanders and district leadership for their work and support in cross-commission efforts and partnerships.

"Today is a symbolism of working together and looking out for one another. I am optimistic about the future of our agency partnerships. I want to thank all the officers for their hard work and completing this training to be cross commissioned." Chief Francisco said. "We all face the same challenges and today is a step to strengthening our partnership by work together and removing obstacles that hinder our commitment to serving our communities."

In June, Chief Francisco initiated a quarterly meeting with state, county, tribal, and local police department leadership to allow for a direct and open discussion amongst the agencies.

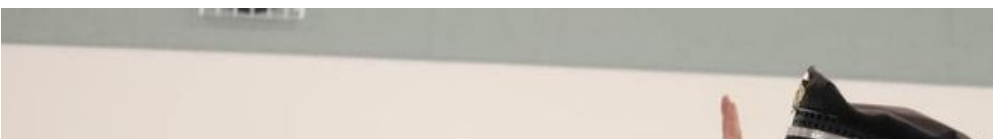
"Building partnership and having an open dialogue with our surrounding law enforcement departments is important. We are the largest tribal police department in the nation with a population of over 180,000 people with less than 200 officers." Chief Francisco said. "What affects us here on the Navajo Nation also affects our surrounding communities and vice versa. We need these partnerships in place to address and improved public safety for our shared communities."

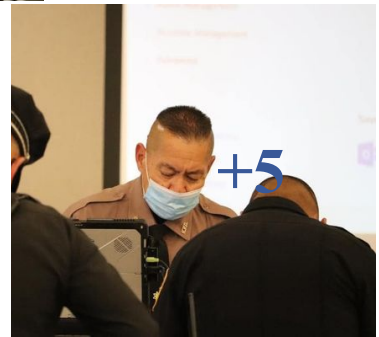
Establishing cross commissions comes after months of negotiation between the municipalities through a memorandum of agreement, once established and approved, law enforcement officers can take the two-day cross commission training to be commissioned officers of the Navajo Nation.

Since 2020, the Navajo Police Department has cross-commissioned 64 officers and deputies representing the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Coconino County Sheriff's Office, Navajo County Sheriff's Office, Apache County Sheriff's Office, Socorro County Sheriff's Office, McKinley County Sheriff's Office, Sandoval County Sherriff's Office, and the New Mexico State Police with the Gallup, Grants, and Farmington District.

Future cross-commission training is expected to include the Utah and San Juan County area.

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THE ANETH CHAPTER
ANETH, (NAVAJO NATION) UTAH



WESLEY JONES PRESIDENT
ELMERSON PHILLIPS VICE PRESIDENT
BRENDA BROWN SECRETARY/TREASURER

**RESOLUTION OF
THE ANETH CHAPTER**

AC-JUN-2021-086

SUPPORTING RESOLUTION FOR PETITION REQUESTING THE SAN JUAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ASSIST AND WORK WITH THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY / SHIPROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT IN PATROLLING WITHIN THE ANETH CHAPTER TRIBAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES LOCATED IN SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH.

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to Navajo Tribal Council Resolution No. CMY-23-79, the Aneth Chapter is duly certified and recognized as an official local unit of the Navajo Nation Government with all duties, responsibilities, and authorities conferred according to 26 N.N.C. § 1 et seq. and has the power and authority to enact plans and development goals that are in the best interest of the community and to recommend, support, and approve community related projects; and
2. Registered members of the Aneth Chapter, who reside on the Navajo Reservation and in San Juan County, Utah are registered voters of San Juan County (Utah) and participate in all County elections by casting individual votes for candidates running as San Juan County Sheriff; and
3. More than 53% percent of registered voters of San Juan County, Utah are enrolled members of the Navajo Nation; and
4. The Navajo Nation asserts Tribal Sovereignty and Tribal jurisdiction upon all enrolled members of the Navajo Nation who live and reside on the Navajo Reservation; and
5. The Aneth Chapter government and its citizens are located under the Navajo Nation Police District of the Shiprock Police Department located in Shiprock, New Mexico; and
6. Any criminal activity, traffic accident, domestic violence or non-medical emergency which require Tribal police response occurring on the Navajo Reservation and within the Navajo Nation boundaries must be reported to Shiprock Police District dispatch, and
7. The Tribal Police Officer response time is severely impacted by availability of officers, the priority of the incident and location. It is not unusual to wait over long periods of time, if not on the same day, to have a tribal officer arrive on to the scene and be able to respond to a reported incident; and

8. The Petition in place brings to attention four (4) alarming criminal activities on the rise, which are:
 - a. Vehicles being driven recklessly on roads
 - b. Homes being broken into and valuable personal belongings stolen
 - c. Elderly victims being targeted and at high risk of being attacked and harmed,
 - d. An increase in Drug dealers who are visible and present in the community.

9. The Petition in place provides recommendations and solutions, which needs to be heard and explored for further development and action between the San Juan County Sheriff's Office and The Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety.

- 10, The Aneth Chapter accepts and approves this request, which was presented during a monthly teleconference chapter meeting at which time a legal quorum was present.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Aneth Chapter supports the petition in place with an approved supporting resolution to be placed alongside the Petition in place to request the San Juan County Sheriff's Office to contact the Aneth Chapter Elected officers and schedule a public hearing as soon as possible so that the petition may be presented before the San Juan County Sheriff and an answer might be provided to the community on whether assistance in patrolling within the Aneth Tribal Government Boundaries located in San Juan County, Utah is possible; and

2. The Aneth Chapter supports the petition in place and requests the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety/ Shiprock Police Department to contact the Aneth Chapter Elected officers and schedule a public hearing as soon as possible so that the petition may be presented before the Shiprock Police Department and an answer might be provided on how coordination with San Juan County Sheriff's Office might take place to grant permission in assisting with patrolling within the Aneth Tribal Government Boundaries located in San Juan County, Utah; and


3. The Aneth Chapter requests a meeting to be scheduled between the Aneth Chapter Elected Officials, San Juan County Sheriff's Office and Shiprock Police Department to review and discuss the current MOU in place between the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety and San Juan County Sheriff's office to begin a revised draft MOU that may improve, benefit and enhance cross policing or shared policing based on public hearings held with the community; and


4. The Aneth Chapter desires to establish an updated MOU between San Juan County Sheriff's Office and the Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety which will meet the needs of the community and be presented before the Navajo Nation Council, Public Safety Committee, for final adoption and approval.


CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Aneth Chapter Membership at a duly called meeting at which a quorum was present and that same passed by a vote of 11 in favor, and 0 opposed and 2 abstained on this 22nd day of June, 2021.

Motioned by: Marion Filfred
Seconded by: Jamie Harvey


Wesley Jones, *President*
ANETH CHAPTER


Elmerson Phillips, *Vice-President*
ANETH CHAPTER


Brenda Brown, *Secretary/Treasurer*
ANETH CHAPTER