

Resolution of the San Juan River Farm Board

SUPPORTING THE “ROCKY MOUNTAIN FARMER UNION” IN FUNDING A TWO-DAY WORKSHOP ON THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE NAVAJO NATION SAN JUAN RIVER IRRIGATION SYSTEM(NNSJRIS), FOR THE PURPOSES OF ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF EACH ENTITY ROLES, AND TO FACILITATE A DISCUSSION IN OPTIONS/SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE NNSJRIS FOR THE FUTURE FOOD SUPPLY OF THE NAVAJO NATION, ENTITIES SUCH AS, THE BUREAU OF INDAIN AFFAIR, THE OFFICE OF THE NAVAJO NATION PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT, THE 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL, THE NAVAJO NATION JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, ALL NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN MANAGING OF THE NNSJRIS (THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT, ETC.), THE SAN JUAN RIVER DINETH WATER USERS INC, AND CHAPTERS WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA (UPPER FRUITLAND, NENAHNEZAD, SAN JUAN, TSE DAA KAA, SHIPROCK AND GADIIAH)

WHERE AS:

1. The Farm Boards of the Navajo Nation were established by the Navajo Tribal Council Resolution CAU-51-80 and Advisory Committee Resolution CJA-1-81;
2. In accordance with Title 3, NNC 61-69, the Farm Boards are the legislative bodies within the Navajo Tribal Government with the responsibility of recommending improvements and developments of farmlands;
3. Pursuant to “The Plan of Operation of the Farm Boards”, Title 3 65, Powers, paragraph J, The San Juan River Farm Board (SJRFB) has the powers to develop, review and implement short and long plans for the rehabilitation, improvement, operation and maintenance of irrigation systems;
4. Pursuant to “The Plan of Operation of the Farm Boards”, Title 3 65, Powers, paragraph K, SJRFB has the powers to cooperate and enter into agreements, consistent with applicable Navajo Nation laws, with Navajo Nation, private, and federal agencies to carry out programs for the construction, rehabilitation, improvement, operation and maintenance of any irrigation structure or system;
5. In 2010, the Navajo Nation (NN) concluded a water rights settlement gives NNSJRIS a maximum irrigated acreage of 12,165 acres and 66,730 acre/feet of water/year;
6. Per a Position Statement of San Juan River Farm Board, the Farm Board advocates for maximum utilization of Navajo tribal water rights to support tribal food sovereignty;
7. According to a report entitled “Feeding the Tribe,” the Navajo Nation San Juan River Irrigation System uses only 22.7% of the irrigable water settlement acres. The report stresses attention is needed to rehabilitate the soft infrastructure to ensure irrigation water delivery in a timely manner to present and future Navajo farmers;
8. The Rock Mountain Farmers Union recognizes that Native American/Indigenous producers face distinct structural challenges in accessing land, capital, agriculture programs and services, therefore encourage the view of current future federal agricultural policy, and programs meant to serve all producers in order to ensure Native producers particular needs are addressed and equal access is provided, per their policy’s; and
9. The San Juan River Farm Board members have intimate and detailed understanding of local farm plot conditions and farming activities on NNSJRIS.

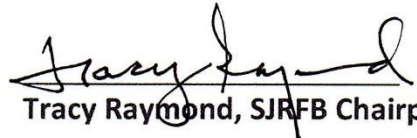
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The San Juan River Farm Board respectfully support the "Rocky Mountain Farmers Union" in funding a two-day workshop on the management and operation of the Navajo Nation San Juan River Irrigation System, for the purposes of enhancing understanding of each entity roles and to facilitate a discussion in options/suggestion to improve NNSJIRIS for the future food supply of the Navajo Nation entities such as the Bureau of Indian, the office of the Navajo Nation President and Vice President, the 24th Navajo Nation Council, the Navajo Nation Justice Department, all Navajo Nation Department involved in managing of NNSJIRIS (the Department of Agriculture, Department of Water Resources, Department of Water Management, etc.) , the San Juan River Dineth Water Users INC, and Chapter within the project area(Upper Fruitland, Nenahnezad, San Juan, Tse Daa Kaan, Shiprock, Gadiiah).

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the San Juan River Farm Board at a regular called meeting by phone conference (Due to the COVID-19), at which a quorum was represent and that the resolution was passed/denied by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstained, this is the 4th day of January, 2022.

Motioned: **Beatrice Reafeather, Shiprock FB**
Second: **Lavone Garnenez, Tse Daa Kaan FB**


Tracy Raymond, SJRFB Chairperson