

(The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 3:30 P.M., March 23, 1951)

CHAIRMAN:

We haven't got much time for the Council's work this afternoon. It is getting late and they would like to discuss this grazing now so the resolution will now be read to the Council, and I think it has to do with another postponement so the interpreter will now read the resolution.

INTERPRETER: Reads Grazing Resolution (See Appendix for Resolution)

HOWARD GORMAN:

Without any debate, I make a motion that we go ahead and approve the resolution the way it is written.

WILLIS MARTIN:

I second that motion.

CHAIRMAN:

The motion is made by Howard Gorman and seconded by Willis Martin that the Council approve this resolution as read and all those in favor of this resolution as read may show by standing. There are 67 in favor and none opposed.

(San Juan River)

There is a hearing on the San Juan River on the 27th of March, 1951, in Washington in the Secretary of the Interior's office. It is our river, the Navajos', and some of the people from the Rio Grande Valley they want to take part or more of the San Juan River to which we are very much opposed. We feel that the San Juan River is our river so this resolution is that I got an invitation from the Secretary of the Interior to be present at the conference and I would like to take the Resources Committee Chairman and also the Advisory Committee member from Shiprock, the water user. So, this resolution is short and has to do with that. I believe we are not arguing very much on the reservoir being built. We do like to stand on our rights to the San Juan River. I told the Tribal Attorney to make a statement for us on which we will stand when we get to Washington.

INTERPRETER: Resolution is read and also letter to be sent to Senate and House. (See Appendix for Resolution and letter)

CHAIRMAN:

I think the first resolution which was read and this letter is about the same thing. Are there any comments?



WILLIS MARTIN:

Superintendent, Chairman, Councilmen and friends: What I said awhile ago is this resolution and the letter which have been read to us are things that everybody thinks about. The way the letter has been read, I am sure there is no need for discussion on this resolution and letter, therefore, I make a motion on this resolution that we pass it.

SAM GORMAN:

I second the motion.

BILLY BECENTI:

I want to ask some questions about this matter and also make a brief remark on it. I just want to restate the motion here, it is acceptable for me and to us to act on it as read.

PETER YAZZA:

I want to make a statement in regard to this resolution. This meeting to be held in Washington, will it take in only the Navajo Tribe? The reason I ask is because the State of Arizona has been successful in keeping the San Juan River because the California people were pretty strong about these waters, too, but I hear there is a very successful lawyer to keep the San Juan River to supply the Arizona people. I was wondering whether the whole State of Arizona was taking part in this meeting in Washington.

CHAIRMAN:

I would like to say that there is a lawyer by the name of Mr. Humphreys from California. He has been dealing with the San Juan River for a good many years and I understand he will be there, as well as those people in Arizona who are interested in the San Juan River. So it means more than the Navajo people are being represented there.

The motion is made by Willis Martin and seconded by Sam Gorman that the Council vote on the resolution and also the letter to the Senate and the House. All those in favor of approving this resolution and the letter to be sent to the House and the Senate may show by standing. There are 60 in favor and none opposed.

(Well Drilling Program)

CHAIRMAN:

There is a water shortage all over the reservation and there have been complaints about the stock water being dried up. I think this resolution has to do with it and it will be read to the Council now.