

**NIHSDA Annual Membership Meeting  
Sheraton Oklahoma City Hotel  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Monday June 15, 2009**

**NIHSDA Members Attending:**

Aleutian/Pribilof Islands	Lummi
American Indian Children & Families	Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
EHS	Navajo-Central Office
Bishop	Oglala Lakota College
Caddo	Otoe-Missouria
Central Council of Tlingit-Haida	Port Gamble S'Klallam
Cheyenne River	Reno Sparks
Chickasaw Nation	Rincon
Colorado River Indian Tribes	Rural American Initiatives
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde	San Felipe Pueblo
Eastern Band of Cherokees	Sault Ste Marie
Fort Peck	Spirit Lake
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan	Taos Pueblo
Iowa Tribe EHS	Turtle Mountain
Kickapoo of Oklahoma	Washoe Tribe

**Call to Order:** Danny Wells, President, called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM CST.

**Welcome:** Danny welcomed the members to the meeting and gave special acknowledgement to Kickapoo for their 2nd tri-annual review with no findings.

**Introductions of NIHSDA Members Present - Regional Representatives**

**Others Present:** Kathryn Helsel, Toni Dobrec, and Nila Rinehart, CDI.

**Minutes of the Last Annual Meeting, June 24, 2008:** The minutes were reviewed by Secretary, Mavany Verdugo and examined for corrections. Mary Ellen Fritz questioned the mention of succession plan for Three Feathers Associates, wondering if there had been an announcement. Danny Wells explained that it was preemptive planning as we all age and put our houses in order in a timely fashion. Myrna Dingman moved to approve the minutes and Mike Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**NIHSDA's Annual Report For 2008:** The 2008 Association Accomplishments were reviewed for the membership. Danny Wells spoke about the Professional Development Program. Gil Gonzales explained the Fund Development Program and the implementation of the Marketing Program. Ann Belleau spoke about the objective to operate an effective advocacy and education program affecting early childhood development and education services in Indian Country, as well as further discussion of a succession plan for management services. Danny Wells walked us through the difficulty in

increasing membership in tough economic times. Danny also explained the collaborative agreements with key national advocacy groups. Mavany Verdugo talked about NIHSDA's update and support for governance operation. Mention was made of the 2008 donations and contributions from several tribes. Mike Williamson and Danny Wells explained that the Oklahoma Association charged a fee for their pre-service and donated that to NIHSDA. Francis Maney explained the Membership Growth and Development.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gil Gonzales, NIHSDA treasurer, reviewed the 2008 Revenue and Expenditures Report. Gil also presented the Accountant's Compilation Report. Jennifer Ramey asked us to consider Capacity Building Grants. It is a quickly approaching submission date, but TFA will look into it and report back at the next NIHSDA tele-meeting. Jennifer Ramey moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Myrna Dingman seconded. The motion carried.

**Membership Survey Results:** Ann Belleau reviewed and highlighted the membership survey results. NilaRinehart asked if we could request current members submit names of organizations that could become members, others that want to be connected. Jennifer Ramey suggested National Indian School Board Association. Myrna Dingman offered three critical reasons all programs should join: 1. The listserv is huge, current, compelling and accurate. 2. TFA is there when we call. They respond and are spot on correct with their information. The contract with them is much less than the value received. 3. Correct fiscal information is critical and TFA is reliable and current. Jennifer Ramey asked if NHTA would consider a discount so region 11 grantees could join both organizations. Toni Dobrec explained the complicated process for NHTA to consider this.

#### **NIHSDA's Membership Concerns:**

- Members wanted to know about the Centers for Excellence that were mentioned in the new Act. How will tribal programs be involved? It was explained that there will be 2 chosen. Amanda Bryans said that Craig Turner is inquiring the intent as there is so little money. NIHSDA fought for one so we would not be shoved into the states, so 2 is good!
- There are 4 people assigned for T/TA in the states of North and South Dakota and Wyoming providing services for all programs including Native American programs. Where is the equity? AED provides only one T/TA specialist and the coverage is sparse.
- What, how, who, why, are questions posed about the formulas for ARRA, COLA, Quality, and T/TA funds made available this summer. Kathryn Helsel answered with a lot of numbers and percentages.
- No one knew the PA 20 funds were going to increase. Some have received theirs already. It looks to be 50% - 70% arriving with the second allotment of funds after initial FAA arrives. Directors wish they and others knew about this so they could make better informed decisions about the T/TA funds they are applying for this summer.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM CST. Myrna moved to adjourn the meeting and Mike seconded. The motion carried.