

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET**  
Tracking No. 0011-19

**DATE:** January 29, 2019

**SUBJECT: AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF GARRETT SILVERSMITH AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this legislation is to confirm Garret Silversmith as the Director of the Navajo Division of Transportation.

**This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate review the proposed resolution in detail.-**

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: 2019  
Website Posting Time/Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Posting End Date: 02/09/19  
Eligible for Action: 02/10/19

Resources and Development Committee  
Thence  
Naabik'iyáti' Committee  
Thence  
Navajo Nation Council

1 PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
2 24<sup>TH</sup> NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL – First Year, 2019

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 

5 (Prime Sponsor)

6 TRACKING NO. 0011-19

7 AN ACTION

8 RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE NAVAJO NATION  
9 COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF GARRET SILVERSMITH AS  
10 DIVISION DIRECTOR FOR THE NAVAJO DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION

11 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 12 A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102  
13 (A).  
14 B. A proposed resolution requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be  
15 assigned to the Naabik'iyáti' Committee. 2 N.N.C. §501(C)(1).

16 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 17 A. The Navajo Nation President recommends Garret Silversmith as the Division Director  
18 of the Navajo Division of Transportation. The appointed Division Director is  
19 confirmed by the Navajo Nation Council. See CAP-13-13 (2013).  
20 B. The appointed Navajo Division of Transportation Division Director serves at the  
21 pleasure of the Navajo Nation President. CAP-13-13 (2013).  
22 C. The Navajo Nation President appoints Garret Silversmith as the Division Director for  
23 the Navajo Division of Transportation. Mr. Silversmith's appointment letter and  
24 résumé are attached as Exhibit A.  
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1 **SECTION THREE. Confirmation of the Division Director of the Navajo Division of**  
2 **Transportation**

3       The Navajo Nation Council confirms the appointment of Garret Silversmith as the  
4       Division Director of the Division of Transportation.  
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# THE NAVAJO NATION

JONATHAN NEZ PRESIDENT MYRON LIZER VICE PRESIDENT



January 15, 2019

Garrett Silversmith  
Post Office Box  
Heams Canyon, Arizona 86034

**RE: Appointment as Division Director for the Navajo Nation Division of Transportation**

Dear Mr. Silversmith:

The Nez Lizer Administration was elected on a mandate of change for the Navajo Nation. This change involves appointing qualified, motivated, and experienced individuals who will move the Navajo Nation forward by Working Together to serve the Navajo people. This letter shall serve as a formal notification to your appointment as Division Director for the Navajo Nation Division of Transportation (NNDOT). This appointment will take effect on January 15, 2019 at 12:00PM. Please note that this position is subject to confirmation by the Navajo Nation Council.

Your duties as director are outlined at 2NNC §13-1 and CAP 13-13. You shall be responsible for the administration and management of the Division of Transportation and supervision of all applicable personnel. This includes ensuring compliance with all applicable Navajo Nation laws and policies.

Your salary will be that of the current budgeted salary for the position. Throughout the appointment, you will report to the Chief of Staff under the Office of the President and Vice President. Again, we thank you for your willingness to serve the Navajo people. Ahe hee.

  
Jonathan Nez, President  
THE NAVAJO NATION

  
Myron Lizer, Vice President  
THE NAVAJO NATION

P.O. Box .  
Keams Canyon, AZ 86034

928 688 6887 (cell)  
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# Garret Silversmith

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**Objective** To actively continue my thorough involvement within the transportation field.

**Professional Experience** 2016 to Present **Executive Director** Navajo Division of Transportation  
Window Rock, Arizona  
Supervisor: President Russell Begaye  
Vice President Jonathan Nez

- Oversee staff of approximately 130 and a budget more than \$60 million.
- Developed Navajo Nation's transportation priorities, goals, and plans with assistance from elected leaders and community members.
- Oversee the reorganization, expansion, and decentralization of the division.
- Interface and represent the Nation's transportation interest before the federal government, as well as county and state governments.
- Effectively managed the planning, development, operation and sustainment of a variety of transportation services and programs that address the needs of the Navajo Nation chapters/communities.

2012 – 2016 **Supervisory Highway Engineer** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Chinle, Arizona  
Division of Transportation  
Supervisor: Mr. Herby Larsen

- Effectively supervised a staff size numbering in excess of 18 employees.
- Supervised and planned work for subordinates, established priorities and prepared weekly staff schedules for its completion.
- Worked collectively with an emphasis on public involvement for upcoming new construction and/or maintenance of highways, gravel roads, and bridge projects.
- Represented the Chinle Agency Division of Transportation at Chapter House, County, State, and Federal meetings.
- Oversaw the implementation of a Fiscal Yearly Maintenance budget in excess of 1 million dollars.
- Fully participated in the creation and submittal of all Agency minor road and drainage structure designs.
- Provided technical assistance in all aspects of transportation infrastructure to State, County, and/or Tribal entities.

2003 – 2012  
**Civil Engineer** Bighorse Engineers, St. Michaels, Arizona  
Supervisor: Mr. Max Bighorse

- Completed all aspects of civil engineering low volume highway design, rural, and urban subdivision street/road designs, and street/highway drainage & site development drainage designs.
- Successfully accomplished all phases of design for airport runway & site designs, housing subdivisions, and residential/commercial water & sewer utility systems.
- Supervised topography land surveys, boundary retracements, street and highway construction staking & layout projects.
- Participated in contractor and subcontractor pre-bid sessions, construction progress meetings, and final project construction inspections.
- Coordinated with Federal, State of New Mexico, State of Arizona, and Navajo tribal entities on all aspects of contracted design projects.
- Knowledgeable and actively used the AutoCAD 2009 Land Desktop design software, Topcon GPT-3007W Total Station, and Topcon FC-200 Data Collector

2004  
**Substitute Teacher** Cedar Unified School District, Jeddito, Arizona  
Supervisor: Ms. Patricia Dowd (Principal)

- Served as a Substitute Teacher for all grade levels from Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Instructed classroom subjects ranging from Math, Reading, English, History and Science.

2001-2002  
**Staff Engineer** Nations Gas Technologies, Inc., Navajo New Mexico  
Supervisor: Mr. Lupe Rosetta, (505) 777-2291

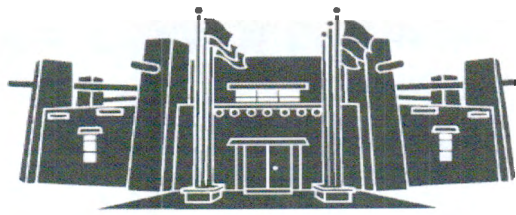
- Supervised and managed entire office/field staff numbering from 6-15 employees with the daily administrative and field operations.
- Sought potential jobs ranging from water, sewer, propane, and natural gas.
- Participated extensively in all construction phases of residential and commercial projects from start to finish.
- Lead office progress and project coordination meetings.

1996-2001  
**Project Engineer** Navajo Housing Authority, Fort Defiance, Arizona  
Supervisor: Mr. Max Bighorse, (928) 729-6371

- Developed estimates, budgets, and project scheduling of new/existing street & drainage construction within housing subdivisions.
- Involved extensively in the completion of 25 major street construction housing subdivision designs within the Navajo Reservation.
- Participated extensively in site land surveying and civil engineering design of new streets construction and street rehabilitation projects.

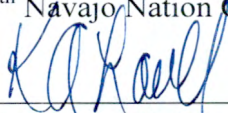
- As an Acting Technical Design Manager, occasionally supervised the daily operations of office staff numbering from 20-30 employees.
- Participated in contractor pre-bid sessions, construction progress meetings, staff coordination meetings, and final inspections.
- Coordinated with Federal, State of New Mexico, State of Arizona, and Navajo tribal offices on all aspects of current and past design projects.
- Actively participated in public housing subdivision meetings and Navajo Chapter House meetings on the Scope of Work portion of upcoming street design projects.
- Collectively and with other staff, created a NHA street maintenance program and design standards specifications manual.
- Knowledgeable and actively used the Sokkia Leitz Set3B Total Station and Sokkia SDR33 Data Collector.

Education	1993	New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico <b>Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering</b>
	1994-1995	University of New Mexico, Gallup, New Mexico AutoCAD I, AutoCAD II, and AutoCAD III computer aided drafting classes
	2006	University of New Mexico, Gallup, New Mexico AutoDesk Land Desktop design software class
Volunteer	2012	Navajo Nation Treaty Days Rodeo, Window Rock, Arizona Rodeo Arena Helper
	2004- Present	St. Joseph Catholic Church, Keams Canyon, Arizona Lecturer (Readings)
	2005 – 2010	St. Joseph Parish Council, Keams Canyon, Arizona President
	2001 – 2002	Community Land Use Planning Committee, Navajo, New Mexico Red Lake Chapter
	2001 – 2002	Boys and Girls Club, Navajo, New Mexico Secretary/Treasurer
	1996	Tony Dorsett Touch Down Football League, Gallup, New Mexico Assistant Football Coach



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mark Freeland  
24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council

FROM:   
Kristen Lowell, Principal Attorney  
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: January 29, 2019

SUBJECT: **AN ACTION RELATING TO NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEE AND THE  
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF  
GARRETT SILVERSMITH AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE NAVAJO  
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge.

**Please ensure that this particular resolution request is precisely what you want.** You are encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, “the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration.” 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution.