



Val R. Panteah Sr.
Governor

Carleton R. Bowekaty
Lt. Governor

Virginia R. Chavez
Head Councilwoman

VACANT Councilperson

PUEBLO OF ZUNI

P. O. Box 339

Zuni, New Mexico 87327
1203-B NM State Hwy 53
Phone: (505) 782-7022

Fax: (505) 782-7202

www.ashiwi.org

505-782-7000 MAIN

Arlen P. Quetawki Sr.
Councilman

Eric Bobelu
Councilman

Ricky R. Penketewa, Sr.
Councilman

Arden Kucate
Councilman

Officially known as the Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Indian Reservation

March 4, 2022

Biography for Testimony Before U.S. House of Representatives Committee On Natural Resources
“Examining the History of Federal Lands and the Development of Tribal Co-Management”

Zuni Tribe - Lt. Governor Carleton R. Bowekaty, was born in 1980 in A:shiwi (Zuni Pueblo) located 150 miles west of Albuquerque, N.M. He has served on his Tribal Council since 2015 and as Lt. Governor since 2018.

At 41 years of age, he is the youngest member of Zuni's Tribal Council, a member of one of Zuni's ancient medicine societies, and the youngest tribal representative on the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition. Lt. Governor Bowekaty also serves as Zuni's representative to the Chaco Heritage Tribal Association.

Lt. Governor Bowekaty brings a uniquely hybrid perspective to his leadership drawing on his years of military service abroad as a counterintelligence officer (with three tours in Iraq), the traditional cultural knowledge shared with him by Zuni elders, his experience as a politician and countless hours interacting with federal and state agencies to advocate for more sustainable approaches to public land, water, health and education issues that impact his community.

Lt. Governor Bowekaty uses storytelling as a means of relating something that at once feels deeply personal but, in the telling, emerges as a thread that connects us all, Native and Non-Native, Democrat and Republican, human and the living world around us, to a common truth.

As a Zuni traditional practitioner, political leader, and devoted father of four, Lt. Governor takes the future of Bears Ears personally. In Bears Ears he sees both the footprints of his ancestors in the landscape, but also the promise of Zuni youth reconnecting to this landscape and engaging in experiences that root a sense of identity and cultural pride.