

Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting
 Sunday, August 11, 2024 @ 1:00pm
MINUTES

I. Meeting Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 1:45pm by Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Sr., Council President

II. Invocation: Provided by Mr. Duane Keyonnie, Community Member

III. Roll Call

	i. .Present Absent	
Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Council President	X	
Mr. Wallace James, Council Vice President	X	
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer	X	
Mr. Patrick Yazzie, Grazing Official		X

**** Mr. Patrick Yazzie arrived after Roll Call**

IV. Announcements/Introduction:

1. American Legion Post 2019 Mtg – August 17, 2024 @ 1:00pm
2. Navajo Special Diabetes – Honoring the Gift of Heart Health;
 Every Tuesday 1:00pm-2:00pm
 August 06th to October 8th
3. Tsehootsooi Medical Center Update/Presentation – Mr. Roy Dempsey, Community Relations Outreach Specialist – Not present
4. Environmental Protection Agency – Illegal Dumping and Burning
5. Mrs. Elta Shepherd, Teacher – Cornfields Headstart – Not Present
6. Ms. Kathy Chee - Cornfields Community Baptist Church – Not Present at time of announcements
7. Other(s):

Community Quorum Discussion Topic:

What are your feelings about bringing the Virtual Chapter Meeting participation back to the Community since the Legislation 0255-23 was approved by the 25th Navajo Nation Council.

Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice President – explained to the Qourum in attendance of the open Discussion to share their thoughts:

RESPONSE/COMMENTS:

Judith Shirley – opposes bringing the Virtual Meeting back because people had a hard time when it was in place.

Mr. Jimmie Taliman, Sr. – Opposes and would like to keep it as it is today with no changes.

Joan Dalgai – Feels that it should depend on the weather, like during the winter time.

Bennett Dineyazhie – Is neutral to the idea.

Warren Thomas – Opposes, due to limited funds for personnel to set up equipment and we have residents who cannot obtain a good signal for internet services from their homes. It may be good for Council, but not for the Chapter level.

Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President – Is in support of what the Community feels. Just know that there will be a need for a Policy and Plan of Operation for the Chapter Administration. Tallying who participates will also be a challenge as well. The Navajo Nation Council also leaves it up to the Chapters and it communities.

Duane Keyonnie – Opposes due to in-person participation being more valid. He is in favor if the Pandemic does worsen again. Encouraged community members to continue to practice safety from home, washing your hands and keeping a fair distance in public.

Kathy Chee – She is in favor of keeping the meeting in-person and would also like to add that our Chapter Manager has too many tasks to keep up with as it is. Is in favor only if the Pandemic should worsen to when there is a need to consider the well-being of the Community.

Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager – This Virtual Meeting has been approved and added to Title 26 of the Navajo Nation. This does not include Chapter Officials, they have to be present for all meetings. Just keep in mind what kind of technological devices it will take and broadband is still needed throughout the community. We should not rely on technology because it can also fail, as it is today many of us depend on our cell phones to access information on the go. Think about it and if you feel it should be set in place, let the Officials know during the Planning Meeting so that it can be placed on the Agenda.

Joan Dalgai – Do you know how other chapters are experiencing the implementation of this use?

Alfreda Earle – Other chapters are still at the passing of the Resolution for acceptance at this time.

Jimmie Taliman, Sr. – He also reads in the Newspaper that there are some Chapters are having difficulty in obtaining quorum for their Chapter Meetings as it is.

Wallace James, Jr. – Now that majority has voiced their opinion in the matter, the Chapter knows where majority stand with the Legislation.

V. Approval of Agenda

M: Merle Chischillie **S:** Judith Shirley

VOTE: 19-0-03

There were no questions posed

VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: July 14, 2024

M: Bennett Dineyazhie **S:** Jimmie Taliman, Sr.

VOTE: 18-0-03

There were no questions posed, a copy of the Minutes from the July 14, 2024 were made available for attendees.

VII. Old Business:

1. Business Report July 2024: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

M: Judith Shirley **S:** Jimmie Taliman, Sr.

VOTE: 18-0-03

Report:

- Chapter is open for business as posted Monday through Friday
- Services are also open; the trash bin gets full really quick and it usually takes three days for the bin to be changed out due to Navajo Sanitation's schedule. There is about 2-3 pulls per month.
- When metal is disposed, they will recycle and funds deposited into General funds for the Chapter.
- The Chapter received a call from Division of community Development requesting a most recent sanitation invoice. The chapter forwarded the last Sanitation bill totaling \$6,000.00 that she hopes will be paid by DCD.
- Meetings are held with the Laborers of the Housing Improvement projects every Monday and they discuss the inventory documentation for materials used. They have completed 5 homes and one is near completion. The improvements range from flooring, roofing and siding, window replacement and doors. The workers come across other deficiencies in some homes while renovating a specific area. She is considering hiring another group to assist as Budget season is approaching.

- The Chapter truck was taken in for maintenance. The brakes are being replaced and should be ready tomorrow 08/12/2024.
- The Tractor now moves material needing a forklift. A forklift attachment was purchased for the tractor and now works well.
- Waiting for the next disbursement for ARPA funds. She is upkeeping with reports for ARPA projects. She submits pictures with her reports. She was falling behind and now up to the month of July for her ARPA expenditure reports. They used her project pictures for the DCD Newsletter for month of July.
- Some homeowners are coming forth to request materials to complete their own renovations. They are starting to allow this, but they have to keep good inventory of the materials used.
- Planning at this time; there is some funding lapsed from the last propane distribution and would like to have a second distribution. They are also planning to begin stocking fire wood for the Winter. The Chapter also has some funding left for another food distribution which she will work on scheduling.
- The chapter administration met with their Council Delegate James last week on Thursday 08/08/2024 regarding more funding available for ARPA projects.
- August 14th, Navajo Nation Code Talker’s Day – Chapter will be closed.
- QUESTIONS:
- Henry A. Yazzie – Homesite Lease application funds; His children are working on homesite lease for three of his children, is there funding available for Archeology Clearance Or a survey?
- Kathy Chee – where is the Housing Improvement at as far as percentage; how many applicants were there?
- RESPONSE: Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager
- The Chapter does have funding under Housing Decretionary Funds and an application needs to be submitted with three quotes for each applicant.
- There are 130 applicants, they are on the 6th home thus far. Then another issue came up about home not being occupied. Homes that are not occupied will be a least priority and will be scheduled until the end of the housing improvement projects are completed for the homes currently occupied.

2. Financial Report for July 2024 by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

M: Lawrence Sam

S: Kathy Chee

VOTE: 18-0-03

No Questions posed

- Cornfields Chapter – Statement of Revenues for the Month of July 2024

- o RESALE ITEMS-----\$4,948.83
 - Hay
 - Water
 - o RENTALS-----\$ 876.00
 - Tractor
 - o SERVICES----- \$3,267.75
- =====
- TOTAL \$9,092.58**
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- Cornfields Chapter Ending Balances as of 07/31/24

General Activities	\$4,743.23
Personnel Funds	\$28,234.58
Land Claims	\$3,524.38
Supplemental Youth Funds	\$235.67
Housing Discretionary	\$21,220.95

LGA Funds	\$2,364.69
Chapter Stipend Funds	\$10,354.47
Scholarship Funds	\$7,365.00
PEP Funds	\$6,714.40
Veterans Funds	\$7.62
Emergency Fund	\$2,897.70
NN CIP	\$21,812.68
NN Sales Tax	\$29,129.48
Unhealthy Food Tax	\$69,562.53
ARPA	\$252,641.67
TOTAL	\$460,809.05

3. **CF-AUG2024-62:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of July 2024 in the Amount of \$8,478.39.
M: Bennett Dinyazhie S: Lawrence Sam VOTE: 17-0-04
No questions posed

VIII. New Business:

1. **CF-AUG2024-63:** Approving and Adopting the Fiscal Year 2024 Summer Youth Employment Supplemental Fund in the amount of \$24,377.50.
M: Judith Shirley S: Bennett Dineyazhie VOTE: 18-0-03
Question:
Merle Chischilly - Are these funds for next year Summer 2025?
Answer:
Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager – There was enough funding to cover the Summer Youth Employment this year, so this amount will be for next year 2025. The Navajo Nation Council always places the Funding for Summer Youth Employment on their Summer Session each year, so the Chapter will save the amount for the following year. The current hourly rate for students is \$9.00 and College Students is \$10.00, parents are always questioning why the hourly rate is so low, but due the budgeted amount, the Chapter tries to employ as many students as they can.
2. **CF-AUG2024-64:** Supporting Resolution CFCLUP-C-AUG2024-001 for CLUP-C of Cornfields Chapter requesting the Navajo Nation Water Resources and Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture to conduct a Water Use Feasibility Study and Water Line Extension from the Ganado Lake Water Irrigation system with Resolution CFCLUP-C-AUG2024-001.
M: Merle Chichillie S: Bennett Dineyazhie VOTE: 19-0-03
QUESTIONS:
Warren Thomas – who initiated the Resolution and to explain.
Merle Chishillie – The Resolution came from a discussion with Farm Board to request a study for feasibility for water from Ganado Lake for the dry months during the planting season – 3-4 months of the year. The old wells that had been drilled are now dry and some underground casings have collapsed.
Joan Dalgai – What does the feasibility study for?
Merle Chischilly – the feasibility study will recommend water sources and provide a soil study
Jimmie Taliman, Sr. – commented that when he was with CLUP-C years ago they had requested this with Fish and Wildlife, but they were denied due to the water is recommended to be saved for the fish and recreational use of Ganado Lake.

Judith Shirley – Because the request is pertaining to community land use it is going through CLUPC. She is also with the Farmboard who is also trying to assist the farming activities for the Land-use Permittees.

IX. Verbal/Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James – No report
2. Chapter Officials
 - Mr. Morgan Cleveland, Council President – thanked the audience for participating in the Chapter Meeting. Grateful in sharing a meal.
 - Mr. Wallace James, Council Vice-President – Has been following-up on Resolutions for the past three months and the BIA. Will be meeting with AZ Department of Transportation and and in Washington DC as well.
 - Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Thanked all for coming to participating in their Chapter Meeting.
3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie
 - District 17 Grazing Meeting was held on 8/17/24 in Kin da li chii
 - Next District 17 Grazing Meeting will be held on September 03, 2024 9:00am Wide Ruins Chapter
 - 8/15/2024 Ft Defiance Agency Meeting at the WR Veterinary Clinic at 9:00am
 - Permittee Meeting will be scheduled for week of the 19th, will send out a texts and post a flyer at the chapter
 - FSA – Livestock Forage Program for 2024 is now taking applications. Reach the Apache County FSA office with further questions
 - Homesite Lease – there are new applicants that he is working with.
 - 2024 Livestock Inventory Count – currently at 56 permit holders
 - Tracking of Grazing Permits from the 1940s – Department of Natural Resources is continuing to encourage to have them verified.
 - All dog attacks are called in to the Office of Natural Resources and not Animal Control. Human attacks are priority over livestock attacks.
 - They are still working with permittees wanting to transfer their permits
4. Farm Board
 - Next Meeting: August 13, 2024 – Updating Farming Plot by GPS. Has been requesting an updated list of LUP from Nathaniel Sam.
 - Conservation Planner – Ed Harvery; was hired for GPS Mapping and Irrigation Feasibility.
5. CLUPC
 - Next Meeting: September 09, 2024 at 6:00 pm
 - 1 Vacancy, if interested, they need a Letter of Interest
6. School Announcements:
 - a. Ganado Unified Schools – Wallace James, Jr., School Board Clerk
 - Testing beginning tomorrow and all week
 - New Middle school Principal– Ms. Burns
 - New Athletic Direct – Frank Smith
 - Plans for new teacher’s homes
 - Increase in Student Enrollment
 - Extending Bus Routes for some areas
 - Cross walk in Burnsides are being constructed

- School will be asking for IDs when visiting the schools.
 - b. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Lucinda Godinez, Principal – Not Present
7. Other: None
M: Warren Thomas S: Kathy Nez VOTE: 15-0-03

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

1. Next Planning Meeting
Date: Tuesday – Tuesday, September 03, 2024 at 4:00pm
2. Next Regular Meeting
Date: Sunday – September 08, 2024 @ 1:00 PM

XI. Benediction: Mr. Henry A. Yazzie, Community Member

XII. Adjournment:

M: Merle Chischilly S: Elizabeth Jim VOTE: 15-0-03

Regular Chapter Meeting Minutes prepared by Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on Sunday August 11, 2024