

Cornfields Chapter Planning Meeting

Tuesday, March 04, 2025 4:00 PM

MINUTES

I. Meeting call to Order by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Chapter President Pro-Tempore at 4:14pm

II. Invocation – Provided by Ruthie Nez, Farmboard Member

III. Announcement/Introductions

1. Tsehootsoii Medical Center – Roy Dempsey, Community Relation Outreach
- Mr Roy Dempsey, present and requested to provide a presentation about Elder Self-Care.
2. Specialist Community Update – Regular Chapter Meeting 03/09/2025
3. Navajo Transitional Energy – Presentation on New Energy Initiative – Regular Chapter Meeting 03/09/25
4. Special Election – Monday March 11, 2025 6:00am to 7:00pm
5. Sage Memorial Hospital Mobile Clinic – 03/18/25 Cornfields Chapter –10a to 2p
6. Others:

IV. Approval of Agenda

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: 3-0-1

V. Old Business

1. None

VI. New Business

1. **CF- MAR2025-18:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of February 2025 in the Amount of \$9,146.79
M: Judith Shirley S: Lawrence Sam VOTE: 4-0-1
2. **CF- MAR2025-19:** Approving the selection of Poll Officials (3) for the 2025 Navajo Nation Special Election on March 11, 2025 at Cornfields Chapter; Fort Defiance Agency
M: Sharon Smith S: Ruthie Nez VOTE: 4-0-1
Poll Officials: Lenora Davis, Sandra Yazzie and Matilda Taliman
3. **CF-MAR2025-20:** Supporting and Recommending Approval of the Re-Authorization of Kin Dah Lichi'I Olta, Inc. a community controlled school as authorized by P.L. 100-297/96-561, for a period of three (3) years.
M: Lawrence Sam S: Judith Shirley VOTE: 4-0-1
4. **CF- MAR2025-21:** Requesting the Resource and Development Committee and Budget and Finance Committee to reappropriate unapproved Year 3 AIF Project

Plans (RDCD-40-22) Funding supported by the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources and Navajo Department of Agriculture in the Cornfields Chapter/Fort Defiance Agency community pursuant to Resolution CAP-16-24 and # N.N.C §§ 831-852.

M: Sharon Smith

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: 4-0-1

5. **CF-MAR2025-22:** Requesting the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, The Navajo Nation Department of Resource Enforcement and the Navajo Area Bureau of Indian Affairs Natural Resource to investigate reported cattle rustling crimes with the Cornfields Chapter Grazing District Units.

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Lawrence Sam

VOTE: 4-0-1

6. **CF-MAR2025-23:** Requesting the Navajo Nation General Land Development Department to Accept a Land Withdrawal approved for the James Family's Burial Plot located at 35.7333429 Latitude, 109.649135 Longitude within the boundaries of the Cornfields Council Government

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Lawrence Sam

VOTE: 5-0-1

1st Burial was in 1975 with others following laid to rest at this location.

Mr. Vince James, Honorable Council Delegate – given time to update the attending UDOT Projects – President Trump has placed a hold on all Federal Highway Projects TTIP – Cornfields Council Government was approved for funding.

FET – Funding was also approved.

Cost Share of Chapter Projects was also discussed at today's Roads Meeting held for Honorable James' Chapters.

Counties; Apache, Navajo and Coconino will be contacted for discussions for road improvement funding and collaboration.

Allocated amount of \$266,000.00 – Sunrise Low Water Crossing – Plans for the month of April 2025, a 72 inch culvert for temporary placement proposed. The permanent structure will be included with the N15 reconstruction.

Cattle Guards – From Burnside south, the existing cattle guards will be raised higher to prepare for the N15 Reconstruction. A new proposed construction start date is August 2025 for 7.2 miles to begin with.

\$4Million Contract – Wilson & Co and Dibble Construction; Cornfields includes the N15 Reconstruction.

\$248 Million lapse funding will go to other projects not yet identified.

Pot hole maintenance and restriping was discussed at the Roads Meeting today. Honorable James advocated to share the importance of pothole maintenance. Overall the roads across the Navajo Nation, N15 has heavy traffic and requires high maintenance.

RRR – Funding to be proposed to be transferred to Cornfields in the amount of 8.8 million for Cornfields to oversee for the five chapters instead of going through the Navajo

Nation Procurement Office. Since funds have been transferred to RRR funding it is considered General Funds for the Navajo Nation.

Discounted Feed – Department of Agriculture is selling Mineral Tubs to grazing permit holders and updated Tally Count for \$40 a tub. Sheep Tubs are available, cow tuns have sold out.

Honorable James dropped a Legislation for \$13 million shortfall for N15 Reconstruction

Dropped Legislation to the 5 member Board of Education

Dropped Legislation for \$3.5 million – Fort Defiance Economic Development

Another Legislation for Lane Filtering for Motorcycle Operators

Navajo Nation Comprehensive Budget was passed by the Navajo Nation Council, now forwarded to the Office of the President of the Navajo Nation.

03/06/25 HESC Meeting with Department of Dine Education, BIE – Discussion regarding background checks for all Board Members for all BIE Schools across the Navajo Nation.

03/07/25 Leadership Meeting with DPM for new Navajo Personnel Policy Manual.

Another Legislation forthcoming – Excessive leave balance to be back paid.

7. **CF-MAR2025-24:** Reauthorization for Greasewood Springs Community School
8. **CF-MAR2025-25:** Requesting 12 million Shortfall for N15 – to be forwarded to Council Secretary/Treasurer
9. **CF-MAR2025-26:** Supporting a repaving of the Ganado Post Office and Ganado School District Loop using an Apache County awarded funding in the amount of \$1 Million. – to be forwarded to Council Secretary/Treasurer
Consent M: Ruthie Nez S: Sharon Smith VOTE: 5-0-1

VII. Others: Meetings:

1. Regular Chapter Meeting – Sunday, March 09, 2025 1:00pm
2. Planning Meeting – Tuesday, April 01, 2025 4:00pm
3. Farm Board Meetings:
 - a. 2nd Regular Farm Board Meeting 03/10/25 9:00am
 - b. LUP Training 03/13/25 9:00am
4. Veterans Organization Meeting 03/07/25 9:00am
5. 03/12/25
6. Grazing 3/14/25 WR Vet 9am Agency
7. 3/17/25 Permittee Mtg – Dr. from Veterinary Clinic
8. 04/07/25 Dist 17 Wide Ruins Chapter 9am

Honorable James requested the Veteran's Organization to reach out to Bobbie Baldwin, Executive Director of Navajo Nation Veteran's Administration to provide a date they can meet with the other four chapters to meet at once for important updates.

VIII. Benediction: Provided by Mr. Lawrence Sam, Farm Board Member

IX. Adjournment – Mtg adjourned at 5:44 pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President
Pro-Temp.

M: Patrick Yazzie

S: Lawrence Sam

VOTE: 5-0-1

***** REMINDER – DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, 03/09/2025*****

Minutes Prepared by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on March 04, 2025