

**Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting**  
**Sunday, June 08, 2025 @ 1:00pm**  
**MINUTES**

**I. Meeting Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President

**II. Invocation** – Provided by Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

**III. Roll Call**

	i. Present Absent	
<b>Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Patrick Yazzie, Grazing Official</b>	<b>X</b>	

**IV. Announcements/Introduction:**

1. Summer Youth Employment – High School/College – To be posted Thursday June 05, 2025, Closing Wednesday June 18, 2025, Interviews Friday June 20, 2025
2. Sage Memorial Hospital Cooking Class – Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – 11am-1pm
3. Office of Dine Youth, Youth Activities – Thursday, June 12, 2025 – 1pm-2:30pm
4. Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Outreach – Monday, June 16, 2025 – 10am-3pm
5. Tse Ho Tsoii Medical Center – Mobile Primary Care – Monday, June 16, 2025 – 10am-2pm
6. CHAPTER CLOSED, Juneteeth Day – Thursday, June 19, 2025
7. Food Handler's Training – Wednesday, June 25, 2025 – 10am-1p
8. Highway 264 – Summit Pavement Rehabilitation – Beginning 6/05/25 M-Th 6am-6pm, Friday 6am-2pm – 6 Mi. beginning MP459 to MP465
9. Kathy Chee, Cornfields Community Baptist Church19
10. Other(s) – No other announcements were made

**V. Approval of Agenda**

**M: Judith Shirley**

**S: Ruthie Nez**

**VOTE: 24 – 0 – 04**

Meeting Agenda was ready in its entirety by Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer  
No requests for additions or questions were posed

**VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: 05/18/25 Regular Chapter Meeting**

**M: Joan Dalgai**

**S: Lena Yazzie**

**VOTE: 25 – 0 – 05**

Minutes read by Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer.  
There were no corrections or questions posed.

**VII. Old Business:**

1. Business Report May 2025: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

**M: Ruthie Nez**

**S: Dedra Tsosie**

**VOTE: 25 – 0 – 07**

- Ms. Earle reported that she attended both the Planning Meeting and Regular Chapter Meeting for the month of May 2025.
- She is continuing to work with on ARPA expenditures relating to the Home Improvement projects within the Community. The carpenters and laborers are currently working in the North Sunrise Mesa and are currently finishing another home.

- The ARPA Team announces they will be conducting a Site Visit which will be scheduled.
- The Chapter continues to deliver water to community members who currently do not have running water. Since the beginning of the water delivery project, Indian Health Services had partnered to cover the water cost, but in the last three months, the water bill has not been paid so on 5/21/25 she met with Cpt. Allen who is overseeing the budget with Indian Health Services – the payments were discussed and she inquired if Indian Health Services would continue to pay for the water cost and he stated he would work on resolving the payments. Every month the water truck fills the underground Cistern tanks for several families.
- The Chapter Council Vice President position is still vacant, there were no candidates who applied for the recent special election. She will inform the community once the Position reopens for applicants.
- Title 26 Orientation that occurred in April 2025 provided a lot of information about the roles and responsibilities of the Chapter Officials and the Chapter Administration.
- Summer Youth Employment – Positions Opened on 06/05/25, Closing date is scheduled for June 18, 2025. Interviews are scheduled for June 20, 2025.
  - Requirements covered
  - Added a verification of enrollment due to previous applicants providing false information about attending school.
- The Chapter had close to 40 positions last year. The Chapter will separate student employment into 2 groups of 20. Group one to work the last two weeks of June 2025, and the second group will be scheduled to begin work the 1<sup>st</sup> week of July.
 

The Chapter is planning to have the students build outhouses. There have been inquiries for Outhouses and they have had this project in the past for the Summer Youth and they had did a good job learning to build them. The youth learn how to prepare their own Resume. They also invite presenters for presentations on various programs that can benefit them.
- Farming Demonstration – The Chapter Garden was planted last month – Corn and squash were planted. This is another area where students can learn to take care of the Garden in hopes they can begin planting at their own homes.
- CLUPC EDZO - Community Land Use Planning and Zoning committee. 2005 the CLUPC was implemented. They were to assist the Chapter for a period of five years and it went over the allotted time. The Chapter removed the last CLUP Committee last year and have now posted for an invitation for new applicants. So far, they have received one letter of interest.
- Summer Food Program – Breakfast and Lunch provided from Kindahlichii School.
- Partnership for Natives – provides various items. They will be delivering items on June 10<sup>th</sup> for first shipment and June 11<sup>th</sup> – Second Shipment. The Administration has decided to go with Railroad Cargo Container Rental for storing all donated items. Distribution will be scheduled according to staff schedules.
- FY2025 Budget – When the Navajo Nation approved the budget, the whole Navajo Nation was on a Continuing Resolution for budget, so the Chapter only received only half of the projected budget. The Chapter still has not received the second allocation.
- Veterans Courtyard - \$150,000.00 had been received for this project.
- Ms. Earle met with CPMD on Thursday 6/06/25 regarding Sihaasin and ARPA projects. She met with Stephanie. Ms. Earle explained the process to drawdown the funds allocated. She asked about the Veteran's Courtyard. Stephanie is requesting a Resolution for request to drawdown of funds. June 17, 2024 – The RRR funds were put in place and funds requested have not been granted.

#### Questions:

- Norma Noble – Community member – What happened to the Septic Cleaning requests?
- Ms. Earle – Responded that this was placed into the ARPA funding.
- Seraphina Bob – Community Member – Will they be informed of any changes to the water delivery service if in the event funding is exhausted with Indian Health Services?

- Ms. Earle – Responded by stating that Indian Health Services will continue to assist with covering the water cost for another two years, but yes, she will inform the families ahead of time if there should be any change.
- Tyrone Chee – he is aware that Cornfields Chapter is willing to support the surrounding Chapters with a Resolution when they request, do we ever get the surrounding Chapters support for any of our Resolutions?
- Alfreda Earle – Response is no. She has been requesting assistance with supporting letters for N15, but none have responded. Suggestion: To invite the surrounding Chapters to request their support with our projects.
- Tyrone Chee – Since the Chapter is receiving request from the Council Delegate to have our Chapter as a pass thru for Scholarship funds, we should request for support as a leverage for their request.
- Judith Shirley – Thankful for all that Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager does for the Chapter and the community. Has she met with the CHR in regards to Senior Social?
- Alfreda Earle – Responded to explain to the community what they Senior Social is and how she had recommended that a Policy be drafted for Liability Purposes. Tse Ho Tsooii Medical Center is willing to meet with the Chapter on 6/17/25 to draft a Policies and Procedures for the Senior Social.

2. Financial Report for May 2025 by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

**M:**

**S:**

**VOTE:**

a. RESALE ITEMS-----	\$3,342.99
Hay	
Water	
b. RENTALS-----	\$ 423.00
Tractor	
c. SERVICES-----	\$2,406.30
Trash	
Xerox/Fax	
	=====
TOTAL	\$6,172.29
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- Cornfields Chapter Ending Balances as of 05/31/25

General Activities	(2,725.32)
Personnel Funds	\$107,522.11
Land Claims	\$29,812.42
Supplemental Youth Funds	\$30,000.15
Housing Discretionary	\$19,342.95
LGA Funds	\$15,384.97
Chapter Stipend Funds	\$38,549.12
Scholarship Funds	\$12,203.50
PEP Funds	\$69,072.47
Veterans Funds	\$5,622.03
Emergency Fund	\$-
NN CIP	\$-
NN Sales Tax	\$197.33
Unhealthy Food Tax	\$56,079.31

ARPA	\$55,770.66
TOTAL	<b>\$436,831.70</b>

### VIII. New Business:

1. **CF- JUN2025-34:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of May 2025 in the Amount of \$6,377.37.

**M: Elizabeth Johnson**

**S: Ruthie Nez**

**VOTE: 23 – 0 – 04**

- Tyrone Chee, Council President asked why the reported Chapter Activity Funds does not match the amount on the Resolutions?
- Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager – The actual amount made is what is reported for the Financial Report and entered into the MIP system, the Resolution amount is usually lower due to the Sales Square used for payments via Bankcards, the Bank charges a fee at the end of the day for each debit/credit card is used for sales.

2. **CF- JUN2025-35:** Approving and adopting the Fiscal Year 2025 Navajo Nation Sales Tax Budget in the amount of \$64,716.00.

**M: Cecelia White**

**S: Lena Yazzie**

**VOTE: 23 – 0 – 06**

- Elizabeth Johnson, community member - requested a review of what the Navajo Nation Unhealthy Food Tax can be used for?
- Ms. Earle, Chapter Manager – The Navajo Nation Unhealthy Food Tax can be used for Sports -equipment, exercise equipment, walking events, any activity that promotes healthy lifestyles.

### IX. Verbal/Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James – Not present at this time.  
(Returning to his Report at the end of all reports.)
  - ARPA – The Council continues to plan the expenditure of the remaining funds.
  - COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET – Separation of the budget this fiscal year, the budget allocation should return to normal next fiscal year.
  - Honorable James has served a total of 22 years and will continue to bid for re-election for the new term.
  - Registered voters who did not vote in the last General Election will be purged from the new list. Please contact your local Election Administration to check your registration status.
  - Sage Memorial Hospital is working with NHA to acquire the Annie Wauneka Life Care centers for establishing new services in the community of Ganado and Cornfields.
  - Please be aware of barrels being sold at the local Flea Markets, elders are being told that if the barrel is washed three times, it should be good to use for water hauling. These containers were reported to have held hazardous material and should not be purchased to use for water hauling. EPA has been informed to look into it.
  - Darryl Bradley, Engineer with Navajo Department of Transportation informed Mr. James that he would like to be added to the Cornfields Chapter Meeting Agenda to provide a report pertaining to the N15 reconstruction for the month of July 2025.

#### QUESTIONS:

- Judith Shirley, Farm Board Member – Has the Company – Trinity made a commitment to start a business at the Deer Point Business Development?

- Honorable James responded to state that the Navajo Nation Regional Business Development is handling their application, Cornfields Chapter does not negotiate any business commitments because NNRBDO is in charge of the lease for the business.
- Ruthie Nez, Farm Board Member – asked about any updates regarding the N15 Reconstruction.
- Honorable James responded to state there is word surfacing that the proposed date of reconstruction beginning in August 2025 might be deferred but does not know the reason. Wait for the report from Mr. Bradley in July when he will be attending the Regular Chapter Meeting.

## 2. Chapter Officials

Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President – Provided an update on his participation with Chapter Administration activities. He is continuing to learn and thanks all for their patience with his efforts.

Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Provided a small update to report that no meetings were attended for the month of May, congratulated all who promoted, graduated from the schools and colleges.

## 3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie

- a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – June 04, 2025 – Greasewood Springs Chapter 9am  
July 07, 2025 – Cornfields Chapter 9am
- b. Cornfields Permittee Meeting – To be announced when scheduled
- c. Agency Grazing Meeting – June 16, 2025
- Ray Castillo, Dean Gamble came to their last permittee meeting on 5/29/25 who updated permittees on Update for Enforcement from Department of Agriculture.
- Will be scheduling inventory based on description of each animal tallied.
- He sent an email to Jessie Jim, Department of Agriculture – requesting paper, the inventory requires to have 4 copies – 1 for Permit Holder, 1 for Grazing Officer, 1 for Natural Resources and 1 for Department of Agriculture.
- Any animal taken for auctioning – any pending probate Permits will not be accepted for livestock inspection, you will be turned back by Branch of Natural Resources. Department of Agriculture still accepts the Letter of Probate.
- Branding recommended – by 6 – months of age. Any livestock still healing from being branded will be confiscated due to suspicion of theft during inspection.
- Bill of Sale – any livestock obtained from another person or you're giving a livestock to another person, you'll need a witness.
- Sending livestock with someone to Auction. You will need a notarized document. This notarized document should have the name of hauler and personal information to identify them.
- Any theft of livestock – there is a form for livestock that can be filed.
- Cornfields Chapter has a total of 124 valid/active permits.

## Question/Comment:

- Dickie T. Smith, Community Member – He commented on the -N-, the cows that are inventoried should all be inspected for the brand, the Grazing Official needs to see all the livestock in person. He also suggested that the Community Branding corral should be rebuilt so that livestock care activities can be held for the younger generation to learn. He also speaks on behalf of the older generation of the community to state they need assistance with shearing assist, maybe the Grazing

Official can recruit a group of young people who can assist the community with shearing sheep during shearing season.

- Joan Dalgai, Community Member – also reported that there are groups that are for hire in shearing, but she has attempted to schedule a group, they are too busy, they did not show and they won't answer their phones. They need help, maybe that chapter can help with hiring a group to shear.
- Lena Yazzie – also supports what Mr. Smith just spoke.
- Elizabeth Johnson, Community Member – commented on the report about branding all livestock with the -N-. She was planning to sell some cows this summer, now with the rule of adding the -N-, they will not pass the inspection if the branded area is still healing, is there an exception she can start this later?
- Cecelia White, Community Member – also supports what Mr. Smith spoke, she would like to see the younger generation learn how to shear, right now it is her generation that mostly still take care of the livestock because they enjoy it. She is grateful to have been instilled by her parent in learning how to clean the wool sheared from sheep and would rather clean the wool and profit personally from it instead of taking it to market.
- Mr. Alvin Yazzie, Community Member – also commented to reflect on how it used to be fun helping his relatives with shearing, but now there are not that many sheep being herded daily. Most sheep owners only have a few sheep that they keep penned and will feed them hay daily.
- Mr. Partick Yazzie, Grazing Officer – replied that the Navajo Nation livestock owners had parted with having to brand their livestock with the -N- when the license expired for non-payment. But since the Navajo Nation paid for the license, no one even bothered with using it until now. The -N- only identifies the livestock as coming from the Navajo Nation, and now with Department of Natural Resources states that the -N- can be grandfathered back in for the existing branded livestock, but they encourage the new brands at 6 months of age be included for a -N-. The next District 17 Grazing Meeting will be held at Cornfields Chapter, come and ask that question directly to find a solution for the -N- and sales.

#### 4. Farm Board

- a. Regular Meeting – 06/10/25 9:00 am Cornfields Chapter
- b. Regular Meeting – 06/13/25 9:00 am Cornfields Chapter
- c. Land-Use Planning – 06/17/25 9:00 am Cornfields Chapter
- Judith Shirley, Farm Board Member reported that they are still monitoring the crops That they planted because the of the soil and water needed. She encouraged all the younger generation to attend their Farm Board Meeting and to plant at the home gardens and also encouraged dry farming.
- Mr. Dickie T. Smith commented to support Mrs. Shirley, he stated that the younger generation need to learn farming for their own life sustaining efforts. He also disclosed that there used to be a water supply located east of the Chapter near Sadie Bahe's residence that could be rerouted to the Farming demonstration site.

#### 5. School Announcements:

- a. Ganado Unified Schools – School Board Official – No one present
- b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative
- Recognition of New Member – June Curtis/Kindahlich
- Parent Retreat/Work Session on June 10, 2025
- PAC to continue implementing Bylaws, Bylaws change annually and implement Policy and Procedures

- Johnson O'Mally Regional Mtg 6/24/25 and 6/25/25 at High Country Conference Center in Flagstaff, AZ.
- Fall Parent Event – 8/28/25
- Next PAC Meeting – Wednesday, 6/11/25 at 5:15pm, IEC Mtg to follow on same evening.

**QUESTION:**

- Norma Noble, Community Member asked if there was a response to the issue of the High School Crosswalk and security detail ?
- Honorable James, Council Delegate responded to report that he has not received a response.

c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member

- Summer School is in session
- Contract is being amended for construction
- Wilmet Construction will be contractor.
- Special Meeting tomorrow regarding finalizing the contract for construction
- Lucinda Godinez, former Principal of the school retired.

d. Kindahlichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – not present

6. Other: There were no Other Reports, by this time Honorable Vince James was present so time was given back to him for his report.

**M: Clarina Williams**

**S: Dickie T. Smith**

**VOTE: 21 – 0 – 01**

**X. Next Scheduled Meetings:**

1. Next Planning Meeting  
Date: Tuesday, July 01, 2025 4:00pm
2. Next Regular Meeting  
Date: Sunday, July 13, 2025 1:00pm

**XI. Benediction:** Provided by Honorable Vince James, Council Delegate

**XII. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President.

**M: Ruthie Nez**

**S: Melvin Chee**

**VOTE: Unanimous**

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Meeting Minutes prepared and submitted by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on 06/08/2025.