

Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting
Sunday, September 14, 2025 @ 1:00pm
MINUTES

I. Meeting Call to Order : 1:37pm – Mtg was called to order by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President.

II. Invocation – Provided by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President

III. Roll Call

	i. Present Absent	
Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President	X	
Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President	X	
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer	X	
Mr. Patrick Yazzie, Grazing Official	X	

IV. Announcements/Introduction:

1. Tse Ho Tsoii Medical Center – Topic: Ask me Three – Mr. Roy Dempsey, Health Educator
 - Presentation was provided to attending audience.
 - For the month of August there were 367 persons tested positive for COVID.
 - As of this month – September, the count is again at 67 so far.
 - Three important questions to ask you Health Care Provider to remain informed of your health
2. El Paso Natural Gas – Ms. Sheyenne Love, Tribal Relations and Mr. Victor Dee, Kinder Morgan
 - Mr. Dee is present for this meeting along with Johnathan Garcia, Analyst
3. Apache County District II – Quarterly Presentation – Ms. Estelle Benally, Admin. Coordinator
 - Ms. Nichole Curley presented on behalf of Apache County District II.
 - Provided a report to show what Apache County has maintained for Cornfields Chapter in the last quarter.
 - Apache County Maintains 19.8 miles of road for Cornfields Community, there are no additional routes to be added to the current road maintenance schedule. If a different route is recommended by a community, that length of road will be traded from an existing maintenance route.
 - Fiscal Year begins in July of each year.
5. Other(s) – none

V. Reading & Approval of Agenda

M: Cecelia White

S: Victoria Begay

VOTE: 20 – 0 – 14

- The Agenda was read into record by Mr. Wallace James, Jr. Council Vice-President

VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: 08/10/25 Regular Chapter Meeting

M: Linda Holigay

S: Clarina Williams

VOTE: 24 – 0 – 11

- Minutes read in into record by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer
- No question or corrections posed.

VII. Old Business:

1. Business Report July & August 2025: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager
 - The Chapter Administration remains open during hours of Operation to provide services
 - Letter of Verification for families are provided for the community members
 - On-going services; Water, Laundry, Hay \$17.75 per Bale
 - ARPA – Home Improvement projects. Roofing; Chapter has to pick up all old material.
 - Collaborating with the Chapter residents to complete their own Home Improvement.
 - Home Improvement with ARPA
 - o There were 108 applicants – 44 Homes completed, 64 Homes pending
 - o Those coming forth that did not apply within the time frame are placed on a waiting list.
 - o 27 homes are completed, 22 homes agreed to complete their own home improvement, 17 homes completed
 - The Chapter is on its last draw down of funding for ARPA funding. The submitted request is still being reviewed. They may have to wait until the beginning of the new FY. Total amount they are waiting for totals \$217,000.00
 - Septic Cleaning – was given to EPA and will be scheduled to follow up with this week. All submitted applications will remain there.
 - Navajo Nation has not forwarded the Chapter Budget for the new Fiscal Year, this has not been approved. This is for FY2026.

M: Dana Eldridge

S: Linda Holigay

VOTE: 26 – 0 - 14

Comment:

Ruthie Nez is requesting a list of names with amounts spent on each home renovation to present, Response:

Alfreda Earle responded to state that she can provide the amount, but she cannot share the names of the individuals due to confidentiality.

Comment:

Ruthie Nez – further stated that back in July – The Council Delegate made a comment to state that the community has a right to see a list of home improvement applicants and cost of each project.

2. Financial Report for July & August 2025 by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

M: Linda Holigay

S: Jimmy Taliman, Sr.

VOTE: 24 – 0 - 12

The financial report provided in this report was for July and August 2025.

3. **CF-AUG2025-46:** A resolution supporting El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG) in seeking a new right-of-way (ROW) grant for the Continued Operation and maintenance of existing Natural Gas Pipelines and related facilities within the Cornfields Chapter Jurisdiction

M: Jimmy Taliman

S: Linda Holigay

VOTE: 16 – 1 – 19

(10 minute time limit)

Victor Dee and Johnathan Garcia of Houston, TX

Mr. Garcia provided hand-outs that provided information pertaining to the present scope of work provided by Kinder-Morgan pertaining to the maintenance and duties they are responsible for.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Dana Eldridge: Community Member introduced herself and stated that she is a researcher and did some research on her own. In all Ms. Eldridge stated her recommendation to the community to request to review the present lease that had been put in place 20 years ago and to incorporate a

new bargaining context to request Kinder-Morgan to assist with money set-aside to be used toward road improvements.

Substitute Motion made to table this resolution to revisit the present lease:

M: Dana Eldridge S: None

Substitute Motion dies, back to Main Motion

VIII. New Business:

1. **CF- SEPT2025-49:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of August 2025 in the Amount of \$6,039.33.
M: Judith Shirley S: Ruthie Nez VOTE: 22 – 0 – 13
No questions posed.
2. **CF-SEPT2025-50:** Reappointing the Supervision of Ms. Alfreda Earle, Cornfields Chapter Manager by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President.
M: Ruthie Nez S: Brenda Thomas VOTE: 17 – 0 – 18
Signature for Council Vice-Preident. No questions posed.
3. **CF-SEPT2025-51:** Requesting Apache County District II to adopt the road maintenance for N9205 from Hwy191 to N15 through Navajo Station.
M: Judith Shirley S: Elizabeth Johnson VOTE: NONE
Mr. Julius Elwood provided information pertaining to the current Road Inventory Routes and if the Chapter is requesting a new route, a new route can be negotiated every 10 years during Census year. At this time, Apache County cannot adopt any new routes.
Judith Shirley rescinds her motion. Elizabeth rescinds her Second.
Motion to delete this Resolution off of the Agenda
M: Ruthie Nez S: Linda Holigay VOTE: 18 – 0 – 17

IX. Verbal/Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James – Not present
2. Chapter Officials
Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President - Comment
Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President – No Report
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – No Report
3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie
 - a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – October 06, 2025 9:00am Kindahlichee Chapter
 - b. Joint Permittee Meeting – September 09, 2025 9:00am Ganado Chapter
 - c. Agency Grazing Meeting – September 15, 2025 9:00am NDOT Conference Rm
Livestock Inventory – Deadline is September 30, 2025.
USDA Forage Disaster Program – Tally Sheet and Grazing Permit
Apache County see Martha Begay – Apache County USDA Office
Joint Permittee Meeting – Ganado Chapter
Fall vaccine – plan for the season. Blackleg, 8 way, etc.
Fire Restriction – rescinded for Stage I and II.
New screw worm – new world screw worm, now in Mexico coming into Texas.

Continue to remain vigilant with deworming.
Hay purchasing reimbursement – Apache County is requesting business seller's name and cell number. How many #s are the bales of hay and date of sale.

4. Farm Board

- a. Regular Meeting – September 09, 2025 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
- b. Land-Use Planning – September 16, 2025 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
Tuesday Lacey Salabye – discussed their role from Department of Agriculture.
Ms. Jym from Department of Agriculture reported to them that they really do not need
To have two Farm Board Meetings per month, so they are trying to have 1 meeting per month.
Joint Farm Board Meeting – November 20, 2025 – 9:00 am Many Farms

5. School Announcements:

- a. Ganado Unified Schools – School Board Official - Wallace James, Jr.
2 lightening strikes close to building last week, school had a traditional prayer
Was known across the state as a "D" school. But they are back up to a "B" grade
Homecoming October 27 – 31st – Team hosting – WR Scouts, Theme not yet picked
55% complete in demolishing the old middle school.
- b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative
2 mtgs on Wednesday
New Indian Policies and Procedures
Due to the budget cuts, JOM uses to fund each student at \$90 each student, and the new
rate is \$9.00 per student.
Losing Count in schools due to sports
But this is being changed by a new sports program
- c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member
Mr. Lindblad, Principal for Greasewood Springs School dropped off a report that was
shared with the audience. The school's renovation will begin tomorrow 09/15/2025.
- d. Kin Dah Lichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – Not present

6. Other(s): None

M: Melvin Chee

S: Elizabeth

VOTE: 22 – 0 – 0

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

1. Next Planning Meeting – Tuesday, October 07, 2025 4:00pm
2. District 17 Council Mtg., October 08, 2025 6:00pm – Cornfields Chapter
3. Fort Defiance Agency Council Mtg., October 11, 2025 9:00am – Naschitti Chapter
4. Next Regular Meeting – Sunday, October 12, 2025 1:00pm

XI. Benediction: Provided by Judith Shirley, Farm Board Member

XII. Adjournment: 5:20 pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President

M: Cecelia White

S: Linda Holigay

VOTE: 22 – 0 – 0

Minutes were prepared and submitted by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on September 14, 2025.