

Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting
 Sunday February 08, 2026 @ 1:00pm
MINUTES

- I. **Meeting Call to Order:** Mtg was called to order at 1:21 pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President.
- II. **Invocation:** Provided by Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-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

***Mr. Patrick Yazzie joined the meeting at 1:43pm

- IV. **Announcements/Introduction:**
 1. Mr. Roy Dempsey, Community Outreach Presentation, Tsehotsooi Medical Center – Not Present
 2. Mr. Sami Kivien, Owner – Build Well Contracting, GoliathTEch, Honka
 Shared information about a new way of building structure/homes – Prefabricated Homes that Start at \$300.00 per sq. foot. Products used are Wood from Finland, steel stilts and joists to complete the foundation. They will have a model home in Toyei which can be seen by people interested.
 3. Maureen Woodman, Ina Noggle; Klagetoh Chapter – Introduced herself. She is present here to Explain the Resolution on our Agenda CF- FEB2026-19.
 3. Other(s):
 - Linda Nelson, NNOPVP – FD Agency Representative is present to observe the meeting.
 - Tashena Chee, Patricia Becenti; Sage Memorial Hospital – PRC Dept.; Patricia Becenti explained briefly in the Navajo Language what Purchase Referred Care is all about.
 - Wilbur Smith, Cornfields Veterans Organization – would like to add two Resolutions for approval By the community.
 - Lula Nez; shared two concerns. The first concern is the hiring of relatives in the Administration. She and her daughter are looking for employment and are interested in being hired even if for housing improvement. Her second concern is her observation of Mobile homes being delivered to families in the community, she would like to be considered due to her grandchildren moving back in with her and her current home being too small.
 - Lamonte Smith raised a Point of Order regarding the Resolutions requested to be considered for the Veteran’s administration, but was deferred to make comment upon the Approval of the Agenda by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council Preident.

V. **Reading & Approval of Agenda**

M: Ruthie Nez S: Tashena Chee VOTE: 17 – 1 – 1
 Read by Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President

- Lamonte Smith, Community Veteran raised a comment to state that the Resolutions requested for consideration to add by the Cornfields Veterans Organization should not be considered due to it not being presented at the Planning Meeting.
- Ruthie Nez, Cornfields Veterans Organization Secretary responded to Mr. Smith’s comment to state there was a Veterans Meeting held on Friday, February 6th, 2026 when this Resolution was passed.

The announcement was brought forth at the Planning Meeting to report that a Resolution would be coming forth.

- Lamonte Smith stated that he was not informed nor notified of this meeting and therefore did not attend.

The Motioning Parties do not wish to remove the Resolutions added to be passed in the Agenda read.

VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: 1/11/26 Regular Chapter Meeting

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 2

Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary made copies of the Minutes from Regular Chapter Meeting 1/11/26 and asked if attending quorum preferred the minutes to be read. Mrs. Judith Shirley made a motion to accept the Minutes as provided.

VII. Old Business:

1. Business Report January 2026: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

M: Judith Shirley

S: Elizabeth Johnson

VOTE: 20 – 0 – 2

- Ms. Earle reported that the Chapter Administration is open and working on various projects At hand. She continues to work on the ARPA Projects which will be ending this year.
- The Chapter Administration is open Monday through Friday from 8a-12p and 1p-5p.
- The Chapter currently does not have any Livestock Hay available. They will be sending for more from NAPI.
- The Chapter has Wood Hauling and Resale Permits available for a fee.
- The final Disbursement was received, although it was very difficult to reach the individuals who oversee the funding release, she was able to have the funds transferred. The amount was received was in the amount of \$250,000.00. The same Laborers were continued. There were two positions opened and filled as the positions were advertised.
- There are pending project in the RRR. One of them is to proceed with the septic cleaning project.
- There was a food distribution with products from NAPI; Potatoes, Blue Corn, Yellow Corn, Beans, Flour. The disadvantage of this was there were reports that Potatoes were found along side the road.
- 01/14/26 – AZ Legislative Day – Met with Representatives Peshlakai and Tsosie regarding the Sunrise Low-Water Crossing to request more funding.
- An Email is expected from the AZ Department of Transportation for submission of documents to be considered for additional funding.
- 1/29/26 – Address Navajo/E911 – Meeting regarding plans to move forward with Rural Addressing and Physical Addressing roads. The Chapter received the supplies to start the installation of signs. The Summer Youth will have a Project ready for assist with this project once the names on signs are completed.
- Safe Water-Drinking Water – At the end of the month, when there is one week left, the Chapter reminds the constituents, but they leave and lock their property. A day or two later they will call the Chapter staff and become upset.
- Navajo Mine – Coal assistance. There is still plenty of Coal available of needed. There are also tickets available for truck loads.
- Moving Forward; complete ARPA Projects, Once Bids are Open to select a vendor, the list of names will be completed.

- N15 Project, an ADT – Pavement counter Strip was placed to count traffic for consideration of widening the road.
- Monday 02/02/26 – the hill, North of Cornfields along N15 eroded.
- Cornfields Chapter will be reinviting a Business Development – that would like to set up a business at the Deer Point Development.
- To address the Comment of the hiring process for the Current ARPA Home Repair and Renovation. To further address the hiring of the Administrative Assistant’s Spouse and Son, there was documentation to address no direct supervision or time keeping to be provided. It is very hard to find reliable employees and the Chapter Manager is familiar with those interested applicants who have been hired prior and were release due to their attendance or alcohol use.

QUESTIONS:

- Melvin Chee, Community Member – you mentioned how the Men were hired, what about the women who are working in the Office?
- Jerome Shirley, Community Member – Also commented, that there is Nepotism that he sees in the Chapter Administration, his nephew was also let go of because he got into a physical altercation with the Administrative Assistance’s son, the son is still working.
- Honorable Vince James, Council Delegate interjected to comment that his suggestion would be to file a complaint with the Office of Rules and Ethics and suggested the Council President to cease further comments.
- Ms. Alfreda Earle closed questioning to state that the comments are leading to disclosing confidential information and will not participate in answering any more questions.
- Ruthie Nez, Community Member – commented to state that she is thankful to work with Ms. Earle, she is thankful for all the services that are provided.
- Elizabeth Johnson, Community Member – Would like to share with quorum that as her experience as the previous Chapter Manager, she can say that she know what it is like to
- Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Responded to explain that there are protocols in reporting a dis-satisfaction, reminding the quorum that a Resolution was passed where they voted to have the Council President be the assigned Chapter Official to supervise the Chapter Manager and therefore to put their complains/concerns in writing to him where issues as such can be addressed.

VIII. New Business:

Judith Shirley changes her Motion to a Consent Agenda

Ruthie Nez seconds the Motion

VOTE: 18 – 0 – 3

All Resolutions pass. The consent agenda was made due to members of quorum starting to leave.

- 1. CF-FEB2026-16: Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter General Activity Funds for the Month of January 2026 in the Amount of \$3,113.32.**

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent vote 18 – 0 – 3

ACCOUNTS	AMOUNT
Resale Items	816.40
Rentals	314.00

Services	1,817.35
Miscellaneous	135.27
TOTAL	3,083.02

2. **CF-FEB2026-17:** Accepting and Approving the Cornfields Chapter Financial Report for the Month of January 2026.

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent vote 18 – 0 – 3

ACCOUNTS	AMOUNT
Chapter Activities General Fund	6,364.11
Navajo Nation General Fund	91,009.79
Land Claims Trust	8,673.68
Supplemental Youth Fund	24,223.32
Housing Discretionary Fund	12,823.97
LGA Grant Fund	17,929.50
Chapter Stipend Fund	32,628.49
Scholarship Claims Fund	3,830.00
PEP Fund	52,837.99
Veterans Fund	6,081.31
NN Sales Tax Funds	21,293.59
ARPA	153,628.39
Unhealthy Food Tax	70,239.03
TOTAL	501,563.17

The Spreadsheet for accounts will be attached to the Resolution submitted.

3. **CF-FEB2026-18:** Approving and Adopting the FY26 Navajo Nation Unhealthy Food Tax budget in the amount of \$13,794.00

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent Vote 18 – 0 – 3

4. **CF-FEB2026-19:** Supporting the Nahata Dzil Commission Governance, a Chapter within the Navajo Nation "Indian Country", request to the Apache County Board of Supervisors and the Arizona Department of Liquor and Control to Deny the Application to sell Alcoholic Beverages at the Cheiftan Mobil Located at 1-40 & Hwy 191 Exit 333 Chambers, AZ, 86502.

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent Vote 18 – 0 – 3

5. **CF-FEB2026-20:** A Resolution of the Cornfields Chapter, a Certified Chapter of the Navajo Nation, supporting and approving the N15 Road Improvement project from the Turnabout at Burnside, Arizona to Greasewood Springs, Arizona Authorizing Chapter Officials to Coordinate Actions necessary to Advance Project Development, Right-of-Way, and funding.

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent Vote 18 – 0 – 3

6. **CF-FEB2026-21:** Supporting the Cornfields Veterans Organization for Resolution titled : Requesting Cornfields Chapter, to support Cornfields Veterans Organization Recognizing the Navajo Nation Council Legislation CO-53-25, an amendment to the Navajo Nation Veterans Act, Section Three, Sub-Section 1034-A, and Sub-Section 1034.B

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent Vote 18 – 0 – 3

7. **CF-FEB2026-22:** Supporting the Cornfields Veterans Organization for Resolution titled: Requesting the Cornfields Chapter Community to Request the Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren and the 25th Navajo Nation Council to Continue Supporting and to Retain Ms. Bobbie Baldwin in Her Current Position as Executive Director for the Navajo Nation Veteran Administration

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: Consent Vote 18 – 0 – 3

IX. Verbal/Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James - Provided a written report and excused Himself due to his cough.
2. Chapter Officials
Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President – Provided a written report
Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President – Provided community assessments for the month of January and also attended the AZ Legislative Day to advocate for the N15 project.
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer – Provided continued support to sign documents for the Chapter Administration.
3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie
 - a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – March 02, 2026 – 9:00 am – Cornfields Chapter
 - b. Permittee Meeting – To Be Announced – Cornfields Chapter
 - c. Agency Grazing Meeting – February 13, 2026 – 9:00 am – St. Michaels Chapter

BNR – The possibility of a shutdown is not so, they will be present at the next District 17 Grazing Meeting on March 02, 2026

Livestock Inspections will require the Official Grazing Permit, if Probated; you will need a certified copy with a seal to be present during inspection. A letter from BNR should also be accompany.
4. Farm Board
 - a. Regular Meeting – February 10, 2026 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
 - b. Land-Use Permittee Training – February 12, 2026 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter

Judith Shirley, Chair – Cornfields Farm Board is idle at this time.
5. Veterans Organization
 - a. Meeting: To Be Announced/Posted
6. School Announcements:
 - a. Ganado Unified Schools – Wallace James, Jr., School Board Official
As President of the Ganado Unified Schools:
02/12/26 The Ganado High School Girls Basketball Team will promote to play at Arcadia High School in Phoenix in the – Copper Bracket
2/5 2/6 – school closed due to chicken pox outbreak and buildings had to be sanitized.
High School Crosswalk – Along with the N15 crosswalk plea for a crosswalk. The N15 renovation begins after the cattleguard, therefore a separate request is being worked on.
 - b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative

There have been no meetings for the last two months, therefore no reports.

- c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member
Increase in students; additional 10 students came. The construction is continuing by various projects. Next meeting is scheduled for 02/11/26.

- Regular School Board Meeting – Feb. 11, 2026 @ 9:00 am

- d. Kin Dah Lichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – No report

7. Other(s):

M: Judith Shirley

S: Elenita Begay

VOTE: 14 – 0 – 1

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

- 1. Next Planning Meeting – Tuesday, March 03, 2026 4:00pm
- 2. Next Regular Meeting – Sunday, March 08, 2026 1:00pm

XI. Benediction: Provided by Wilbur Smith, Community Veteran

XII. Adjournment: Adjourned at 4:38pm.

M: Judith Shirley

S: Ruthie Nez

VOTE: 14 – 0 – 1

Prepared and Submitted by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on 02/09/2026.