

CORNFIELDS CHAPTER REGULAR MEETING

SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2026

MINUTES

- I. Meeting Called to Order: By Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President at 1:35pm
- II. Invocation: Provided By Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President
- III. Roll Call (Elected Officials) – Roll Call provided by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

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

****Mr. Patrick Yazzie arrived at 2:20pm after Roll Call was taken****

IV. Announcements:

- 1. Navajo Nation Election Administration – Candidate Filing
 - OPENS: 04/09/26
 - CLOSES: 04/22/26
 - Primary Election: July 21, 2026 General Election: November 03, 2026
 - Cornfields Headstart will host Elections for Apache County Positions
- 2. Apache County Board of Elections – Mr. Larry Noble, Recorder
 - Candidates for Apache County and State of AZ.
 - Primary Election 07/21/26 and General Election to be held 11/03/26
 - Vote Centers are being established this year, Vote Centers will be able to accommodate a voter to cast their vote anywhere in Apache County, the Poll Officials will have access to look up registration on-line. Please reach out to the Apache County Voter registrar/office instead. Take care of your Voter Registration cards, laminate if you can.
 - If you are encountered by an individual in the parking lots of Bashas' or Lowes asking if you to verify your voter registration, please do not engage to have them take your information due to misinformation
 - If you move out of one community and relocate to another community, wait 30 days before changing your residential information.
 - Google Plus codes are used for Residential mapping.

Questions:

- Does the County Vital Statistics still come out to Ganado?
 - o April 14, 2026 – Vital Statistics at Ganado Apache County District Office and come out monthly, 9am-3pm.
- If a Person has no Birth Certificate, will that effect Voter's Registration?
 - o Location and witness can validate a birth if a person was not born in a hospital.
 - o A CIB can also validate a Date of Birth.
 - o The official rule has not been implemented for no birth certificate affecting current Voter Registration.

3. Tsehotsooi Medical Center – Ms. Tanya Bluehorse, HPDP Presentation

- Wellness/Fitness Program – Request for Services Form for presentations
- Services offered: Body Workout Programs, Health Expo Activities
- Events Offered: Mini Events ranging from 30 mins to 1 hour (fun runs, trail walks, etc.) Free with no membership enrollment

- Stroller walk events; for parents that have children that would like to participate with strollers. Next event to held on 4/29/26 Window Rock Facilities Maintenance Office
 - Soccer Camp –6/4/26 from 8am – 4pm
 - Run For Health 16k on 7/11/26 at Crystal Chapter House
 - Staff Contact information
 - Membership \$30/mo. With Discount \$15/mo.
4. Cornfields Community Earth Week Clean-Up; April 20-24, 2026
5. OTHERS:
- a. Kindahlichee Olta – Quarterly Report
 - Robin Harding; Business Manager/Acting Principal
 - Rochelle Cleveland; Administrator of Records/Instructional Coach
 - Pre-K to 6th Grade enrollment
 - Staff and roles within the school
 - Mission and Vision Statement – about 2 years old
 - 43 Staff employed and all have to pass a background check
 - They are in need of school bus drivers, a principal, part-time Security, and Behavioral interventionist
 - Total of 18 bus routes; 641 miles per day
 - Enrollment increased this year
 - All instructional staff are certified
 - Overview of functioning of the school and programs making educational activities proficient.

ANNOUNCEMENT – There is a kite stuck on the Utility Line behind the Trailer, NTUA has been called and might be shutting off power when removing it.*

V. Reading and Approval of Agenda

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

- Motioning Party would like to make a motion for a consent agenda to combine Items: VI, VII, and VIII due to possible utility shut off.
- Mr. Wilbur Smith – would like to add a Resolution pertaining to the Veterans Organization, motioning party and second motioning party accepts this add-on. **CF-APR2026-36** Supporting the Cornfields Veteran’s Organization to provide a mechanism to effectively communicate the unmet needs of Veterans living on or off the Navajo Nation and recommend to the Navajo Nation Government and the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration to meet needs and to assist Veterans with an effective and efficient dissemination of information to the Navajo Veterans regarding availability of resources.
- This Consent Agenda was re-explained in Navajo by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President for the attending Audience.
- The Consent Agenda was re-explained in the English Language by Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President.

VI. Approval of Last Regular Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 08, 2026

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

A copy of the Minutes from Last Meeting on March 08, 2026 was made available to attending constituents

VII. Old Business:

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

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

A written Report was provided to the attending constituents and Council Officials

VIII. New Business:

1. **CF- APR2026-30:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter General Activity Funds for the Month of March 2026 in the Amount of \$4,318.73.

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

The March General Activity Funds are reported as follows:

ACCOUNTS	AMOUNT
Resale Items	868.50
Rentals	575.00
Services	2,676.35
Miscellaneous	158.02
TOTAL	4,277.87

2. **CF-APR2026-31:** Accepting and Approving the Cornfields Chapter Financial Report for the Month of March 2026

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

Total Amount Reported ending March 31, 2026 was \$395,481.04

ACCOUNTS	AMOUNT
Chapter Activities General Fund	10,498.05
Navajo Nation General Fund	73,495.29
Land Claims Trust	1,173.37
Supplemental Youth Fund	24,223.32
Housing Discretionary Fund	12,823.97
LGA Grant Fund	10,684.60
Chapter Stipend Fund	26,596.81
Scholarship Claims Fund	3,630.00
PEP Fund	42,451.16
Veterans Fund	5,897.74
NN Sales Tax Funds	14,511.17
ARPA	98,892.53
Unhealthy Food Tax	70,603.03
TOTAL	395,481.04

3. **CF-APR2026-32:** Accepting and Approving the 2026 Navajo Nation Sales Tax in the amount of \$65,736.00.

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Norma Noble

VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

Amount to be Allocated as Follows:

Travel Expense	\$7,000.00
Operational Expense	\$10,500.00
Lease/Communications/Utilities	\$10,500.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$2,500.00
Contractual Services	\$27,236.00
Capitalized Expenditures	\$8,000.00
TOTAL	\$65,736.00

4. **CF-APR2026-33:** Support Resolution for Arizona HB 2306 Appropriation in the amount of \$665,500 for the Apache County Rural School Bus Route Enhancement and Soil Stabilization Pilot Project.

M: Ruthie Nez S: Norma Noble VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

5. **CF-APR2026-34:** Support Resolution for Arizona HB 2894 Appropriation in the amount of \$2,800,000 for from the state general fund in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the department of transportation to distribute to the northern Arizona council of governments for a rural school bus routes study.

M: Ruthie Nez S: Norma Noble VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

6. **CF-APR2026-35:** Requesting the Navajo Nation Animal control to assist the Cornfields Chapter community with an unannounced Dog Sweep immediately and quarterly through 2026.

M: Ruthie Nez S: Norma Noble VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

7. **CF-APR2026-36** Supporting the Cornfields Veteran’s Organization to provide a mechanism to effectively communicate the unmet needs of Veterans living on or off the Navajo Nation and recommend to the Navajo Nation Government and the Navajo Nation Veterans Administration to meet needs and to assist Veterans with an effective and efficient dissemination of information to the Navajo Veterans regarding availability of resources.

M: Ruthie Nez S: Norma Noble VOTE: 21 – 0 – 5

Included with Consent Motion

IX. Verbal and Written Reports

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James
 - Overview of his April 2026 Chapter Report
 - Legislation 0087-25 Increasing the minimum wage will be presented during the next NN Council Session. There was a recommendation for retro-active pay to October 2025, but consideration for fringe benefits would be the biggest cost.
 - For the next Council Delegate Term, Greasewood Springs Chapter will be added to his reapportionment plan
 - Draft Legislation – allowing the Chapters in moving funds within Chapter Accounts Questions:
 - Will there be a plan to build a new/bigger post office in the future?
 - o The St. Michaels Post Office Owner is the Regional Director, there is a contract with RBDO for seven years. Presently this is in Legal review.
 - Fort Defiance Veteran’s Organization – timely utility connection for all veterans across the Navajo Nation who are assisted with Veteran’s Homes through the Veteran’s

Administration. Operational Cost – Unmet needs budget request for this Fiscal Year in the amount of \$1 million.

- The RDC has been waiting for the Veteran’s Administration Director, Ms. Bobbi Baldwin to provide a report, she has not done so. So on tomorrow’s HESC Agenda, they will be discussing a subpoena to request a report.

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2. Chapter Officials

Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President

- Collaboration with the Chapter Manager and assisting to improve the teamwork.
- Dog problems in the community
- The Chapter Administration will be providing a suggestion on changing the Chapter Meeting Day from Sunday to give our Chapter Manager weekend time off.

Mr. Wallace James, Jr., Council Vice-President

- Elaborated on meeting with Chapter Meeting after the Planning Meeting on 04/07/26.
- Also touched on the Dog problems reported
- Also shared on the Illegal Dumping and encouraged all to be mindful not to dump their trash in undesignated areas.
- Thanked Honorable James for his advocacy on behalf of the community.

Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

- Reported on UTV Replacement
- Attended the FD Agency Meeting in Navajo, NM on 04/11/26

3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie

a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – May 4, 2026 – 9:00 am – Kindahlichii Chapter

b. Permittee Meeting – To Be Announced – Cornfields Chapter

c. Agency Grazing Meeting – April 15, 2026 – 9:00 am – St. Michaels Chapter

- Branch of Natural Resources personnel came to attend their Permittee Meeting. They reported on travel changes for their office due to budget constraints. They were told to foresee another cut in budget.
- 04/15/26 Agency Meeting at St. Michaels Chapter. The discussions will be around the ARMA – Agricultural Range Management. This is a study on the range forage, based on the outcome of this study, there might be cancellations or reductions of livestock totals on Permits.
- 04/21/26 1pm to 4pm Ganado Chapter – Public Forum on ARMA.
- 04/23/26 Fort Defiance Chapter – Public Forum
- 04/16/26 Indian Wells Chapter – Public Forum
- DNR Expo – April 28 and 29, 2026 Twin Arrows Resort & Casino

QUESTION:

- Is there a proposed date for Wool Buying this year? Is there any improvement plans on wool buying events?
 - This is a topic on the DNR Expo.
- Has a Resolution been proposed to have the funding for AIF to be allocated to the Local Chapter. The same for tallying sheep and goats to get an average dollar amount for the community.
- A community member shared that it is very disheartening to see livestock waiting for water a local windmill, please take care of your livestock. They also observed a horse that was injured and could not find anyone to report this to.
- 928-871-7041/6491 Natural Resource Dispatch Line to report any livestock related assist if a grazing official is not available.

4. Farm Board

a. Regular Meeting – April 15, 2026 at 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter

- b. Land-Use Permittee Training – April 21, 2026 at 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
- Advised to attend the Planning, Chapter Meeting, Grazing Meeting.
- Amendment to Title III
 - o Some amendments pertaining to Land Use areas; no homes should be established on LUP site, no junk should be stored on LUP sites, No Burial or Businesses should be established on LUP Site
 - o Upon the Death of an Assignee, the Land Use Permit will be cancelled, unless a Beneficiary is named.
- 03/21/26 – NRCS; Sadie Lister Soil Testing completed at four plots.

5. Veterans Organization

- a. Meeting: May 30, 2026 – Awards/Banquet Cornfields Chapter
- Mr. Wilbur Smith, Commander
 - o Flag – They will purchase a Flag for the Chapter since they have observed the flag is worn or not put up.

6. School Announcements:

- a. Ganado Unified Schools – Wallace James, Jr., School Board Official
 - Trump Administration Budget was received and there is a 65% cut, cutting funds for Impact Aid/Johnson O'Malley Project
 - 05/07/26 8a – 3p Parent Day hosted by the Indian Education Program
 - Slight Increase in Enrollment for 2nd Semester
 - 3rd-5th Sports program was approved by the Board
 - Board Election 6/16/26 to 07/26/26 – 3 seats; 7 potential candidates
 - School Grade to a B improvement
 - Recent funding request to the State of AZ for school renovation was denied.
 - Graduation rate will be at 90% this year. He will have the number of Students graduating this year for next month.
- b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative – Same information as shared by Mr, Wallace James, Jr.
- c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member
 - Regular School Board Meeting – May 10, 2026 at 10am
 - When road construction begins in May, they might have to change in the time schedule for student drop off.
- d. Kin Dah Lichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – Not Present

7. Others: NONE

M: Warren Thomas S: Wilbur Smith VOTE: 16 – 0 – 4

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

1. Chapter Planning Meeting: Tuesday; May 05, 2026 at 4:00 pm
2. Chapter Regular Meeting: Sunday; May 10, 2026 at 1:00 pm
 - Read by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer

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

XII. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President.

M: Warren Thomas S: Ruthie Nez VOTE: Majority Rules

Prepared and submitted by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary Treasurer on 04/12/2026