

CORNFIELDS CHAPTER REGULAR MEETING

SUNDAY October 11, 2026

1:00 PM

MINUTES

- I. Meeting Called to Order: Meeting was called to Order by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President at 1:23pm.
- II. Invocation: Provided by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President
- III. Roll Call (Elected Officials)

	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	^2:05P	XX

-Mr. Wallace James, Jr – Council Vice-President had informed the Officials during the Planning Meeting that he would not be attending this meeting.

^Mr. Patrick Yazzie arrived to join the meeting until after Roll Call was taken.

IV. Announcements:

1. Kenneth Cooper, Guest – Share words of Appreciation

Presentation Provided:

- An In-Law of the Cornfields Community – Spouse of Mrs. Sharon Todacheenie.
- Background in Human Resources and various programs throughout the Navajo Nation.
- Our Society reflects how we all emulate on how we are treated by our superiors.
- He has been treated very kindly by the Chapter Staff.
- He had Mr. Bob Yazzie complete some work for their residence using the Tractor and he has learned that he is only compensated half the hourly rate in the state.
- He is advocating that the Chapter Staff x 4 positions for Merit Pay at \$1,200.00 per staff based on their job performance.

2. Others:

- Elizabeth Johnson, Community Member – Would like to request to discuss a plan to continue water delivery for a fee since the Safe Water Drinking Program under I.H.S. was discontinued. Ms. Johnson will wait to discuss this until Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager has done her Monthly Report.

V. Reading and Approval of Agenda

M: Judith Shirley

S: Elizabeth Johnson

VOTE: 23 – 0 - 02

The Agenda was read into record by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer. There were no corrections or additions voiced.

VI. Approval of Last Regular Chapter Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2026

M: Clarina Williams

S: Melvin Chee

VOTE: 23 – 0 - 03

The Minutes from September 13, 2026 was read into record by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer.

There were no questions posed, but a comment was added by Mr. Tyrone Chee to indicate that the Grazing Official was mentioned as Council Delegate in reading the minutes. This was a verbal error.

VII. Old Business:

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

M: Judith Shirley

S: Marilyn James

VOTE: 23 – 0 – 4

- Thank you to the Chapter Officials for providing the meal today.
- Services and Operations were continuous throughout the month of September.
- The livestock water will be shut once the temperature drops to freezing.
- Worked on Carry-over budget for the FY ending and prepared for the new Fiscal Year budgeting.
- End of September, a Special Meeting was held. The Special Meeting was held to approve the carry-over budget for Fiscal Year ending. The Officials waited for an hour until Quorum was reached.
- It was brought up at the Planning Meeting if Community Members that were assisted financially come back before the people during the Regular Chapter Meetings to express their appreciation. Ms. Earle encouraged the community's participation at the Planning and Regular Meeting.
- Safe Drinking Water Program – A program that was funded by Indian Health Services informed the Chapter that the funds had depleted. Indian Health Services has assisted the Chapter for a period of 5 years since through the COVID pandemic. The Chapter obtained a Water Truck and was used to deliver water to families that have a Cistern System. The Majority of the water recipients are elderly women. All the water invoices provided by NTUA were submitted to Indian Health Services whom paid the invoices. In September, the water was shut off from NTUA. The Chapter was informed by I.H.S. that they could no longer assist with covering the cost of water due to depleted funding. The Chapter had provided 12,000 gallons per month. This concern was explained to the Chapter Officials who decided to continue the water delivery, but Ms. Earle had to re-consider due to the increasing price of Fuel. She is willing to continue the water delivery beginning in November and use funds from the 01 Account-Chapter General Funds, but cautioned that there will come a point in time when funding will not be able to cover the cost.
- Ms. Earle also assists with addressing the road conditions from the recent rain storms. The route leading from North of Sunrise to Toyey was extensively damaged due to erosion, Ms. Sharon Smith also reported that she traveled route recently and stated that there needs to be more advocacy on fixing the erosion problem. The Chapter also uses this route to deliver water in that area.
- Community Heating Source Program will be assisting with Coal beginning next month, the Chapter will have Coal Tickets available.
- CLUP positions are still vacant, an encouragement for the community to apply was shared.
- Upcoming Elections; Navajo Nation Presidential Election. Oct 19, 2026 is last day to Register to Vote and Oct 30th – last day to cast your ballot at the Navajo Nation Election Office.
- Enlight of the Presentation by Mr. Cooper earlier and recognizing the Staff, she has been placed in this position in 2015 when the former Chapter Manager retired. She has been diligently working to learn the process of the Chapter's day-to-day functions through sometimes difficult situations. She enjoys her position and does more than what her job description details. She would like to state that she did not encourage Mr. Cooper to speak on their behalf.

COMMENTS:

- Elizabeth Johnson, Community Member - Has Ms. Earle ever had a raise since 2015? She requested for the Council President to look into this matter and remedy the intent.

- Melvin Chee, Community Member – How can the Community member request to use the Wood Splitter?
- Marliyn James, Community Member – Appreciates all that the Chapter Manager does on a daily basis, she witnesses that daily.

RESPONSE:

- Ms. Earle to Mr. Chee – the wood splitter can be used by the community for a fee, all the Chapter equipment needs to be rented due to liability.
- Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager – Reported that she was asked at the Planning Meeting last month to invite the Presidential Candidates and Council Delegate Candidates for a Meet and Greet before the Election. There has been no response from either candidates for the Navajo Nation President until recently. She has been informed by Mr. Justin Jones' campaign supporters that he would like to come to the meet the community on October 18, 2026 at 3:00pm. Ms. Earle encouraged the community members to attend and ask questions about their plans in their platform. Crystaline Curley's campaign manager has not responded to the request. It was also discussed during the Planning Meeting that if all Candidates confirm the Facility usage fee will be waived, but since there is only one Candidate a Facility Usage form needs to be submitted.
- Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President – commented on the the Water Delivery henceforth, he suggests that maybe one month the Chapter can assist and the following month the Community Member can pay a fee, then for Position funding for the Chapter Manager, he will be discussing this during the process of implementing the new budget allocated to the Chapter.

VIII. New Business:

1. **CF-OCT2026-01:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter General Activity Funds for the Month of September 2026 in the Amount of \$6,379.11.

M: Elizabeth Johnson

S: Dickie T. Smith

VOTE: 18 – 0 – 7

The Resolution was read into record by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer. There were no questions posed.

2. **CF-OCT2026-02:** Accepting and Approving the Cornfields Chapter Financial Report for the month of September 2026.

M: Ruthie Nez

S: Elizabeth Johnson

VOTE: 19 – 0 – 3

BALANCES ENDING 09/30/2026

Chapter Activities General Fund	\$6,379.11
Navajo Nation General Funds	\$2,464.83
Land Claims Trust	0.00
Supplemental Youth Funds	\$4,284.58
Housing Discretionary Funds	\$11,433.42
LGA Grant Funds	\$9,358.16
Chapter Stipend Fund	\$6,701.27
Scholarship Claims Fund	\$130.00
PEP Funds	\$7,146.15
Veterans Fund	\$78.32
Emergency Fund	\$48,293.00
Navajo Nation Sales Tax Funds	\$53,481.88
DARPA	\$0.00
Unhealthy Food Tax	\$69,538.47
TOTAL	\$219,289.19

3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie
 - a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – November 02, 2026 – Ganado Chapter 9am
 - b. Permittee Meeting – Meeting has been changed in the new FY to schedule the Permittee Meetings once per quarter, so meeting will be scheduled in November
 - c. Agency Grazing Meeting – October 15, 2026
 - Budget revisions caused a change to his attendance for the Planning Meeting, but he is willing to participate if needed.
 - Earthen Dams – GPS coordinates given to the Original four Dams.
 - Horse Round-up concerns – This has been placed on hold due to the New Screw Worm Crisis.
4. Farm Board
 - a. Regular Meeting – October 13, 2026 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
 - b. Land-Use Permittee Training – October 08, 2026 at 9:00am – Cornfields Chapter
 - Ruthie Nez, Farm Board Member – reported on upcoming meeting.
 - Division of Agriculture made changes to number of meetings they are to attend. The Land-Use Permittee Meetings will now be held on a quarterly basis. Regular Meetings will continue to be held on a monthly basis.
 - Would like to budget for a tractor to use a \$50,000.00 grant allocated to the Farm Board.
5. Veterans Organization
 - a. Meeting: Recent Meeting had to be postponed due to the Commander serving as Color Guard and not being available.
 - b. Fiscal Software is delaying fund allocation, as they were informed by the Department of Agriculture.
6. School Announcements:
 - a. Ganado Unified Schools – Wallace James, Jr., School Board Official – not present, no report
 - b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative
 - PAC Member reported that more Representatives are needed. Their upcoming Thanksgiving Break is scheduled for November 25-26, 2026.
 - c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member
 - Update on New School Construction – the building that will house the school, cafeteria, and other departments is 60% complete. Timeline was set for completion by April, but NTUA is prioritizing other projects at this time so the new timeline is now extended to August 2026 for completion.
 - d. Kin Dah Lichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – not present, no report.

QOURUM LOSS at 4:43 pm.

7. Others:

M:

S:

VOTE:

X. Next Scheduled Meetings:

1. Chapter Planning Meeting: Wednesday; November 04, 2026 at 4:00 pm
2. Chapter Regular Meeting: Sunday; November 08, 2026 at 1:00 pm

XI. Benediction:

XII. Adjournment:

M:

S:

VOTE:

Meeting minutes was prepared and submitted by Ms. Sharon C. Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer.