

Cornfields Chapter Regular Meeting  
 Sunday, April 13, 2025 @ 1:00pm  
MINUTES

**I. Meeting Call to Order – By Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President at 1:47 pm**

**II. Invocation – Provided by Ms. Sharon 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. Tsehotsoii Medical Center – Roy Dempsey, Community Relation Outreach Specialist  
Community Update – Not Present
2. Brigid Yazzie, Archeologist, Navajo Nation Historic Preservation – Not Present
3. Tsehotsoii Medical Center Mobile Clinic – 04/09/25 Cornfields Chapter –10a to 2p
4. Cornfields Head Start – Elta Shepherd – Not Present
5. Kathy Chee, Cornfields Community Baptist Church – Not Present
6. Other(s) - None

**V. Approval of Agenda**

**M: Melvin Chee**

**S: Ruthie Nez**

**VOTE: 18 – 0 – 3**

Amending Motion to Leave the Agenda Open by Motioning party and second motioner concurred.

**VI. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: 03/09/25 Regular Chapter Meeting**

**M: Ruthie Nez**

**S: Warren Thomas**

**VOTE: 23 – 0 – 2**

Read by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer  
 No questions posed.

**VII. Old Business:**

1. Business Report March 2025: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager  
 Planning and Regular Chapter Meeting Attended for March 2025  
 CLUPC – will be advertising for new members  
 The Chapter is open for services from M-F from 8am – 5pm  
 Hay is continuing to be purchased from NAPI and available for purchase – Bob Yazzie has been hauling hay from NAPI when hay runs low.  
 Livestock water will be turned back on for the Spring  
 ARPA Home Renovations were placed on hold due to depletion of allocation and waited for the remaining balance which was received on 03/17/25. \$245,117.00 was received. 20% remains in WR due to contract policy.  
 Presently there are two groups of laborers. Collaboration with home owners is very helpful in completing their own renovations.

Per on-going executive orders from the US President and news of increasing Tariffs, the cost of various material might greatly increase, so she started compiling applications that will need metal roofing and is working closely with Four Corners Metal Roofing to begin ordering material.

NTEC – Community Heating Program – assisted the chapter and community and season ended 03/29/25. The Chapter provided 20 tickets, but only eight families went to pick up coal.

I.H.S. – Safe water Program – providing water to families that do not currently have running water. The Chapter has been paying the water bill now for 2 months. They will schedule to sit down with the I.H.S. Program to discuss continued/status of funding.

Council President position was filled and Oath of Office was completed.

Council Vice-President – Remains vacant but was informed by the Navajo Nation Election Administration that the Position will be re-opened for candidate filing. So on April 24, 2024 position is closing for vacant position

Earth Day Clean-up – April 17, 2025 through April 22, 2025. Seraphina Bob is volunteering to coordinate the Earth Day Clean-up. Community encouraged to clean around their homes and a Bin will be provided. Bags will be provided by the Chapter and bags can be left on the side of the road for pick-up.

04/22/25 – Providing Lunch for Earth Day Participants.

Quarter end reports; MIP Accounting Software – Submission to Auditor General, Internal Revenue Service payments,

ARPA – RRR drawdowns. Agreement requested to bring funds to the Chapter Level. SAMS had expired and she re-registered. One of the projects is the Scholarship funds for Council Delegate Region. Cemetery Fencing, Septic Cleaning (\$95,000.00). A scope of work is required for each project. She has been working diligently in completing the needed paperwork for each project and send it on through the 164 process with the Navajo Nation. Sunday, April 19, 2025 – Easter Sunday – Happy Easter.

QUESTION:

Mr. Tyrone Chee – For the Scholarship Funding Designation, was there an MOA implemented? How was the Chapter assigned to disperse payments for other Chapters?

RESPONSE: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

When Council Delegate was allocated the Scholarship funds for his Region, he discussed with Alfreda and asked if Cornfields Chapter would be the financial responsible designee to disburse scholarship funding to each of the chapters in Council Delegates Region – 5 Chapters. Admin cost was requested and was included for Cornfields Chapter to accept this assignment.

Once Funding is received, there will be a process for each of the five Chapters involved to forward documents to account for payments made.

QUESTION:

Mr. Albert Johnson – What are the requirements for scholarship assistance for the various degree programs?

RESPONSE: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

There is an application on-line or can be picked up from the Office. Requirements are Acceptance Letter, Grades, Class Schedule, and Personal Information Documents as listed on the Application.

**M: Priscilla Chee**

**S: Warren Thomas**

**VOTE: 24 – 0 – 2**

2. Financial Report for March 2025 by Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer  
Cornfields Chapter – Statement of Revenues for the Month of March 2025

- a. RESALE ITEMS-----\$4,758.44
  - Hay
  - Water
- b. RENTALS-----\$ 837.00
  - Tractor
- c. SERVICES----- \$2,014.50
  - Trash
  - Xerox/Fax

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TOTAL \$7,609.94

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- Cornfields Chapter Ending Balances as of 01/31/25

General Activities	(2,131.34)
Personnel Funds	(4,346.86)
Land Claims	\$4,821.66
Supplemental Youth Funds	\$65.15
Housing Discretionary	\$17,982.95
LGA Funds	\$6,048.10
Chapter Stipend Funds	\$4,848.29
Scholarship Funds	\$6,747.50
PEP Funds	(7,195.42)
Veterans Funds	\$622.03
Emergency Fund	\$562.83
NN CIP	\$0
NN Sales Tax	(514.75)
Unhealthy Food Tax	\$60,190.83
ARPA	\$184,563.12
TOTAL	<b>\$272,264.09</b>

**M: Warren Thomas                      S: Priscilla Chee                      VOTE: 24 – 0 – 2**

Financial Report for March 2025 was read by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer.  
There were no questions posed.

**VIII. New Business:**

1. **CF- APR2025-29:** Requesting Approval for Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment of the Cornfields Chapter Activity Funds for the Month of March 2025 in the Amount of \$7,999.00.

**M: Ruthie Nez                                      S: Alban Yazzie                                      VOTE: 24 – 0 – 2**

No questions posed.

2. **CF- APR2025-30:** Approving and adopting the Fiscal Year 2025 Navajo Nation Unhealthy Food Tax Budget in the amount of \$15,636.00.

**M: Melvin Chee                                      S: Priscilla Chee                                      VOTE: 23 – 0 – 2**

QUESTION:

Priscilla Chee, Community Member – How is the Unhealthy Food Tax used by the Chapter community?

Mary Ann Arnold, Community Member – Mrs. Judith Shirley had coordinated a monthly Senior Social, can the Unhealthy Food Tax be used to help her restart this event?

RESPONSE:

Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager –

Used for Wellness Activities, Fitness Equipment, Walking Trails, Healthy Food Demonstrations. Pending Plans: a park with a basketball court, Volleyball Court, Softball Court. The Chapter currently has the commercial basketball goal, the supplies for a cement court is also available. The Senior Social Activity was discussed with Mrs. Judith Shirley and the Chapter Administration recommended a Policy be developed for Liability and to identify the Purpose. The Unhealthy Food Tax can be used for some activity items to be used during the Social if related to Wellness and can also cover healthy refreshments. A draft of the proposed policy has not been submitted to date.

3. **CF-APR2025-31:** Requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Roads Department and the Navajo Nation Department of Transportation to maintain Route N15 (from south of Burnside through south of Sunrise Springs) and Route 15A pavement by mitigating hazardous road conditions through pothole repairs caused by weather, traffic, and deterioration; clearing brush along the roadway; and cleaning cattle guards to prevent livestock from wandering onto the highway

**M: Priscilla Chee**

**S: Warren Thomas**

**VOTE: 24 – 0 – 3**

Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President – Elaborated on the purpose for this Resolutions. There were no questions posed.

4. **CF-APR2025-32:** Adopting and Approving the Fiscal Year 2025 ~~Continuing Resolution-~~ Comprehensive Budget-“General Fund, Special Revenue Fund – Internal” Budget in the amount of \$358,285.00

**FY 2025 Comprehensive Budget:**

<b>Chapter Official Stipend</b>	<b>\$ 38,046.00</b>
<b>Personnel Positions – Fringes</b>	<b>\$126,052.00</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>\$189.00</b>
<b>Liability</b>	<b>\$881.00</b>
<b>Workman’s</b>	
<b>Comp</b>	
<b>Chapter Non-Administrative Cost</b>	
<b>PEP</b>	<b>\$86,511.94</b>
<b>LGA</b>	<b>\$17,114.06</b>
<b>Scholarship</b>	<b>\$ 4,000.00</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$24,000.00</b>
<b>Land Claims</b>	<b>\$12,347.00</b>
<b>Scholarship</b>	<b>\$ 1,656.00</b>
<b>Personnel Lapse</b>	
<b>Chapter Utility</b>	<b>\$12,040.00</b>
<b>Permanent Funds</b>	
<b>Veterans</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Summer Youth Employment Program</b>	<b>\$29,935.00</b>
<b>Chapter Solid Waste</b>	<b>\$16,053.00</b>
<b>LGA Chapter GWA</b>	<b>\$ 6,060.00</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$358,285.00</b>

**M: Alban Yazzie**

**S: Albert Johnson**

**VOTE: 24 – 0 – 3**

QUESTION: Albert Johnson, Community Member –

If a community member is applying for assistance, what does the assistance cover.

RESPONSE: Ms. Alfreda Earle, Chapter Manager

Archeology Clearance or Survey – a person is eligible for one assistance and there is an application to be filed.

## **IX. Verbal/Written Reports**

1. Honorable Council Delegate Mr. Vince James  
Philandra Nelson, LDA – Verbal Report  
RRR – 5 Projects – Chapter Manager is working on that. There is no deadline for using the RRR funding. Cornfields Chapter Manager is on top of all needed documentation.  
12 – Electricity hook up  
4 – Waterline  
1 – Bathroom Addition  
1 – Cistern System  
Names of the person assisted is not available.  
Food Assistant Grant – 40 Chapters in Western are currently being assisted with 2024 Crop year.  
4/21/25 – Council Spring Session begins.
2. Chapter Officials:  
Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President  
Recommendation from the community and words of encouragement has helped him attain the Council President position. He took oath of Office earlier this month.  
Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer  
Meetings Attended: 04/09/25 District 17 Council, 04/12/25 Fort Defiance Agency Council.
3. Grazing Member, Mr. Patrick Yazzie  
Homesite Lease assistance still provided.  
Tally Counts will begin for FY 2025, deadline 06/30/2025  
2025 Wool buying event – June 17, 18<sup>th</sup> July 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> WR Fair Ground  
Price per pound – NNAIF 39 cents, USDA 49 cents – 90 days payment processing.  
Accepting all grades and ensure all colors are separated. Clean all wool that you will bring in to sell. Only wool sheared in 2025 will be accepted.  
Beginning 05/01/25 Auction will change to weekly. Any branding within 6 months of sale is not allowed and livestock will be confiscated. Any deceased permit will not be honored without the proper documentation.  
Encouraged vaccination of livestock. Blackleg, pour on
  - a. District 17 Grazing Meeting – May 05, 2025 Klagetoh Chapter 9am
  - b. Cornfields Permittee Meeting – April 29, 2025 9:00am Live Demo on livestock vaccination. Lunch will be served  
Accepting donation of food items.
  - c. Agency Grazing Meeting – April 15, 2025 NDOT 9:00am

COMMENT:

Larry Noble, guest – Looking at the Wool buying and producing industries, encouraged to advocate for funding for educating the community in using the wool to clean, spin and dye for weaving and in teaching our younger generation. Suggested the Grazing Officer to collaborate with other entities that would willing to fund such education.

4. Farm Board
  - a. Regular Meeting – May 07, 2025 9am, May 14, 2025
  - b. Land Use Permittee Training–  
Ruthie Nez, Farm Board Member – Farm Board is working on Projects: \$50,000 in Window Rock which they are working on to transfer locally to the Chapter. Farm Board would like transfer these funds to the Chapter Level. The Chapter Manager Recommended that the Farm Board identify a Project Coordinator. Project listing is needed for update. Garden Plot or Field is being requested by the Department of Agriculture.  
Lawrence Sam – Further Elaborated on the \$50,000.00 allocated for Drought Insurance. A Consultant was hired to assist the Farm Board, but there was conflict to retain Mr. Ed Harvey due to improper process of his hire. The three bid process was overlooked, so the Consultant hired is still being clarified.
5. CLUPC:
  - a. No Meeting Scheduled and pending advertising the positions for a new CLUPC.
6. School Announcements:
  - a. Ganado Unified Schools – School Board Official – not present  
Community Concern – Security of Traffic, students, crosswalk use during school.
  - b. Ganado Unified Schools PAC Member – Sandra Yazzie, Representative
  - c. Greasewood Springs Schools – Ms. Ruthie Nez, School Board Member  
Planning stages of new school construction. Wilmet – General Contractor  
Promotion Day – May 15, 2025  
Next Board Meeting 05/14/25 9am  
DFMC – Mtg in Albuquerque for funding request for chairs and dormitory furniture  
Sewer Lagoon expansion meeting with NHA and NTUA  
Lucinda Godinez – Will be retiring in June 2025
  - d. Kindahlichii Olta – Ms. Linda Youvella, School Board Member – Not Present
7. Other:
  - a. Larry Noble – Apache County Board of Elections  
Public Awareness – There were groups of people who meddled with information for Voter Registration, causing absentee ballots being mailed to another location. Apache County Voter Registration is working to correct information.  
National County Government Month for April 2025 – County Government education.  
04/24/25 Apache County District II Office County Government Day.  
04/21/25 – 04/24/25 Chapter Events.

**M: Warren Thomas**

**S: Elenita Begay**

**VOTE: 16 – 0 – 2**

Recommendation – For Next Months School Reports; cover your school's current safety.

## **X. Next Scheduled Meetings:**

1. Next Planning Meeting

Date: Tuesday, May 06, 2025 4:00pm

2. Next Regular Meeting

Date: Sunday, May 11, 2025 1:00pm – Date coincides with Mother’s Day.

Majority chose to change the date to 05/18/25 at 1:00pm

**XI.** Benediction: Albert Johnson, Community Member

**XII.** Adjournment: 5:25pm by Mr. Tyrone Chee, Council President

**M: Norma Noble**

**S: Elenita Begay**

**VOTE: 15 – 0 – 2**

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**Meeting Minutes was prepared by Ms. Sharon Smith, Council Secretary/Treasurer on 04/13/25.**