



Rickie Nez
Council Delegate

NENAHNEZAD CHAPTER

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Norman C. Begaye
President

Raechel Halwood
Vice President

Andrea F. Lope
Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Dodge
Grazing Committee Member

Shawn S. Mike
Farm Board Member

Nenahnezad Chapter Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, July 14, 2025 @ 3 pm

1. President Norman C. Begaye calls the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.
2. President Norman C. Begaye gave the invocation.
3. President Norman C. Begaye read over the regular meeting agenda.

Marianne Benally motions to approve the regular meeting agenda. **Thomas Nakai** seconded the motion. **The motion carries 19-0-1.**

4. Secretary-Treasurer Andrea Lope read over the last meeting minutes.

Louise Wadsworth motions to approve the last meeting minutes. **Martha Johnson** seconded the motion. **The motion carries 18-0-1.**

5. Resolutions:

1. NZC-061-2025 - NENAHNEZAD CHAPTER APPROVES THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING JUNE 2025.

President Norman C. Begaye combined Resolution #1, #2 and #3. **Martha Johnson** approves and opens discussion. **Lorraine Smallcanyon** seconds the motion. **The motion carries 20-0-1.**

2. NZC-062-2025- NENAHNEZAD CHAPTER ADOPTING THE 2027-2031 NM INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (NM ICIP).

President Norman C. Begaye explained Resolution #2 and tells the attending community voters the list of upcoming projects.

3. NZC-063-2025 - NENAHNEZAD CHAPTER APPROVES AND SUPPORTS NAVAJO NATION COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION NO. 25-005 FOR PROLONGED DROUGHT CONDITIONS ACROSS THE NAVAJO NATION.

Grazing member Harold Dodge explained that permit holders are still struggling out in the range due to the drought.

On May 30, 2025, President Buu Nygren signed a drought declaration. Mr. Dodge is currently working on getting these permit holders on this resolution water storage units.

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Maxine Tsosie asked who would be getting the water units? Mr. Dodge explained he did an assessment for these permit holders. He stated these permits holders are always tending to their livestock and range.

Council Delegate Rickie Nez recommended that this funding for these permit holders to be utilized from the Nenahnezad Emergency fund account-Fund 17.

After the discussion, funds will have to be transferred within the Fund 17 account. Funds from 17-6413 and 17-6720 will be affected to match and purchase the water tanks in the amount of \$17,897.22 and transferred to Fund 17-6802. During the August regular meeting a resolution will need to be approved by the community members.

6. Guests:

A. Marianne Benally – San Juan County Election office.

Ms. Benally updated the community on candidate filing for the county, gives criterias. Voting is on November 4, 2025, for District 1 and District 5. Ms. Benally distributed maps for each area.

B. Brandon Francis – NMSU (see attachment)

Field day and visit the NMSU facility on July 24, 2025.

C. Cliff Obanion – Nenahnezad Boarding school counselor.

Mr. Obanion is no longer the acting principal.

Mr. Obanion gave a power point presentation and presented the mission and commitments for Nenahnezad boarding school with a strong commitment for Navajo culture.

Nenahnezad boarding school is still recruiting for the next school year. The student ratio for each classroom is 25.

Mr. Obanion is asking for input from the community to help improve the school.

7. New Business/Reports:

A. Council Delegate Ricky Nez.

Council Delegate Rickie Nez speaks of the drought declaration President Buu Nygren signed regarding a mega drought within the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation DOJ was asked about the legislation written. The recommendations were for livestock owners to reduce their head counts and the farmers plant drought resistant plants.

Council Delegate Rickie Nez mentions the resolution Grazing member Harold Dodge presented and the assessment for the five permit holders. Also, the recommendations for farmers.

August 8, 2025, NTEC is giving the land relinquishment back to the Navajo Nation.

Agriculture Infrastructure fund – Monies from this fund is for probate judges for grazing and farm permit issues that need to be transferred to family.

The Navajo Nation DOJ stated this is not for agriculture and it will need to be reallocated. **To transfer a farm permit to a loved one is a legal matter and not an agriculture issue.** Community member Lucinda Yellowman-Bennalley stated this is unnecessary and it should be stream-lined. Why are the families being picked on.

Per Council Delegate Rickie Nez, Navajo Nation only supplements and cannot save everyone'.

Community member Lucinda Yellowman-Bennalley presented Council Delegate July resolution numbers NZC-058-2025 and NZC-060-2025.

Ms. Bennalley stated there are concerns.

Ms. Bennalley stated Nenahnezad chapter opposes the extra taxes for new companies establishing business. Council Delegate Rickie Nez agreed that no extra taxes should be applied.

Council Delegate Rickie Nez will contact Rowena Jeremiah with Minerals department regarding the powerline/pipeline ownership.

Council Delegate Rickie Nez stated that Council Delegate Carl Slater presented this legislation.

B. Grazing/SJWUA – Harold Dodge.

SJWUA is at a standstill at this moment. The CEO resigned. An assessment is being done of financial status.

The wool buy program will be happening in Window Rock, AZ.

CLUPC president Gloria Lane asked, 'where would a person go to transfer permits to loved ones?' Grazing member Harold Dodge stated 'he'd get back with her on this issue.'

BIA Natural Resources will be closing in September 2025.

C. Farm Board – Shawn Mike. On June 30, 2025, Mr. Mike took his oath of office. On July 1, 2025, Mr. Mike attended a Farmers meeting. The plants needing water is squash, alfalfa, corn. Mr. Mike purchased a special type of alfalfa seed that only requires watering twice a month.

Strict fire watch restriction – no burn.

There is verbal sub-leasing. Any land transfers will need to be done at this time before September 20, 2025.

Farm board meeting July 15, 2025, Upper Fruitland chapter at 8am.

August 1, 2025, Navajo Nation Joint Farm Board Meeting, Nenahnezad chapter at 9am. The subject is idle farms and the prairie dog population.

A burn permit is needed for Steam corn cooking.

Planting season is over, July 4, 2025 was the last day to plant.

Regarding the drought resistant alfalfa seed, Mr. Mike purchased Ladak 2. It requires two time watering per month.

D. CHR – Maxine Tsosie. Not present. Secretary-Treasurer Andrea F. Lope presented CHR report.

E. CLUPC – Gloria Lane.

The CLUPC manual is still being worked on. Arthur Bavaro is requesting a school review, clan system and educational data. Next, CLUPC will be working on gathering data for scholarship recipients for Nenahnezad chapter.

F. Veterans – Veterans Secretary, Raechel Halwood. August 14, 2025 @ 530 pm.

G. Schools – Not present.

H. Secretary Treasurer – Andrea Lope. No report.

I. Vice President – Raechel Halwood.

The Nenahnezad chapter gym is being renovated and extended.

The Nenahnezad baseball field is being used.

Honoring culture and tradition presentation – Jeannie Benally from 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm on July 15, 2025.

J. Chapter President – Norman C. Begaye.

Fire on the Ute reservation at this moment. Another fire nearby by Navajo Lake and between Aztec and Durango.

CCSD School starts August 6, 2025.

Northern Agency Council would like President Buu Nygren to attend and give presentation in person at the next Northern Agency council meeting at Upper Fruitland chapter in September.

NTUA Light up Navajo will be Thursday, July 17, 2025 @ 6pm. NTUA Light up has been extended four more weeks.

Next monthly planning and regular meetings:

Planning Meeting, Wednesday, August 6, 2025 @ 3 pm.

Regular Meeting, Monday, August 11, 2025 @ 3 pm.


SEPTEMBER:

Planning Meeting, Monday, September 8, 2025 @ 3 pm.

Regular Meeting, Thursday, September 11, 2025 @ 3pm.

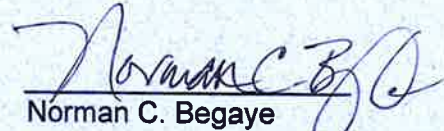
8. Adjournment – Lucinda Yellowman-Bennalley makes a motion to adjourn.
Lorraine Smallcanyon seconded the motion at 6:01 pm. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted:



Andrea F. Lope
Nenahnezad Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Reviewed by:



Norman C. Begaye
Nenahnezad Chapter President



Raechel Halwood
Nenahnezad Chapter Vice President