



# TSE DÁÁ K'ÁÁN CHAPTER GOVERNMENT

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## MINUTES

September 21, 2025 • Regular Meeting • 12:00 p.m. (In-Person)

Zoom Meeting [Link](#) (Click on Link)

<https://zoom.us/j/97264342438?pwd=XrHaZ39uaGb44slggbxZ18oyG8xoJ2.1>

Or Dial/Call in: (253) 215-8782 or (346) 248-7799 or (669) 900-9128 or (719) 359-4580

Meeting ID: 972 6434 2438

Passcode: 688621

*(Documents provided in Hyperlinks)*

### I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

*Meeting called to order at 12:32 P.M by President Robert Lapahie, Jr.*

### II. ROLL CALL

*Roll call was conducted with 4 officials present and 13 registered voters and 2 guests. (See sign in sheet)*

### III. INVOCATION

*Invocation was provided by Elliotson Jim.*

### IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Jerald Tsosie provided the reading and review of the agenda.*

**Motion: Elliotson Jim**

**Second: Faye Blueeyes**

**Vote: 16 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained**

### V. APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETINGS MINUTES OF:

*Note: The minutes are hyperlinked as part of the agenda.*

1. [August 17, 2025](#) Regular Meeting
2. [September 04, 2025](#) Planning Meeting
3. [September 14, 2025](#) Emergency Meeting
4. [September 16, 2025](#) Special Meeting

**Motion: Elliotson Jim**

**Second: Lavone Garnenez**

**Vote: 15 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstained**

*The meeting minutes were approved with a motion, second, and vote. No questions or clarifications were made.*

#### **TSE DÁÁ K'ÁÁN CHAPTER GOVERNMENT**

*Robert Lapahie, Jr., President • Jerald Tsosie, Vice President • Matthew D. Tso, Secretary/Treasurer  
Rickie Nez, Council Delegate • Lavone Gamenez, Farm Board • Lary Johnson, Grazing Representative  
Roman McCabe, Chapter Manager*

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

## VII. NEW BUSINESS Documents provided in Hypellinks

1. **TDK Resolution: [TDK-2509-03](#):** Approving the Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter Financial Monthly Financial Report and Expenditures for August 2025 (Combining Statement of Revenue & Expenditures, Balance Sheet and Budget to Actual).

📎 August 2025 [Combining Statement of Revenue & Expenditures](#)-FINAL

📎 August 2025 [Combining Balance Sheet](#) - FINAL

📎 August 2025 [Budget to Actual](#) -FINAL

📎 [Monthly August 2025](#) Financial Report (WINDS)

**Motion: Elliotson Jim      Second: Ruby Johnson**

**Vote: 17 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained**

*Matthew Tso provided the chapter monthly financial report. There were questions on the use of veterans funds and whether or not the funds get returned to Window Rock at the end of the fiscal year.*

2. **TDK Resolution: [TDK-2509-04](#):** Approval of Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter Budget Transfer Request(s)

📎 [EXHIBIT A](#) – Budget Transfer Request(s) Documents

**Motion: Faye Blueeyes      Second: Ruby Johnson**

**Vote: 17 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstained**

*Robert Lapahie provided the overview of the budget transfer. Matthew Tso provided the budget transfer details and justification. Paul George had a question about the reallocation of chapter stipend funds to special meeting stipends. The response was provided.*

3. **TDK Resolution: [TDK-2509-05](#):** Approval of Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter Housing Discretionary Assistance Application(s)

📎 EXHIBIT A – Housing Discretionary Assistance Application(s)

*No action taken. Tonita Joe provided her request. Leland Jim requested for the trailer leveling. All the documents/quotes were submitted on Thursday, September 18, 2025. Jean Jones requested for the status of her housing discretionary request. The chapter officials will follow up with an approval list by the October 2025 planning and regular meetings for approval.*

4. **TDK Resolution: [TDK-2509-06](#):** Rescinding Chapter Resolution [TDK Resolution 2309-05](#) For the Reauthorization of the Shiprock Associated Schools, Inc. (SASI) In Its Application for Reauthorization as a Tribally Controlled Grant School Under (P.L. 100-297) “*The Tribally Controlled Schools Act*” and To Start a Formal Investigation and for the Navajo Nation DoDE, HEHSC, BIE, and Navajo Ethics and Rules Office to begin Formal Investigation

**Motion: Tashae Tyler      Second: Elliotson Jim**

**Vote: 10 in favor, 4 opposed, 9 abstained**

Harley Teller is the sponsor and there is a lot of things going at SASI. He stated there is no transparency with the parents and the board. Kids started the school with nothing in place. Rescinding the school's reauthorization will ensure that things are in place and personnel and things not happening. We get new acting directors all the time and they change the names. Over the summer, Dr. Begay was fired and there is no reason why she was let go. The principal was put on administrative leave and we still have no information about why. As parents we deserve to know what is going on. There are lots of teachers who are coming and going and started with the new board. We've been asking for minutes and got nothing. We don't know what is going on and what is being said and executive sessions are called. Parents have no idea of what is going on with PAC meetings. Our schools and kids mean a lot of and have good teachers go. This is all about personal vendettas and there is no reason. That is why we are rescinding. The school is not in compliance. There are 3 board members in control. When we try to talk. We get told point of order and shut down. Parents need to be heard, and kids matter. The board is directly involved in daily operations. The residential staff were furloughed, terminations, and staff are fearful of retaliation.

If we have a negative track record, and the school was on the right track. However, that is not happening. Some had to leave because things are not happening. We are concerned about the kids. I have a hard time keeping quiet and tried to get on the planning meeting in Shiprock. The person they put in charge was let go from Many Farms. What the board is doing is upsetting and it was on track and now it's back in shambles.

Robert discussed concerns that the chapter had with the prior chapter administration and actions that need to be taken.

Harley Teller stated the parents have no idea of where things are going and what is going.

Robert: Mr. Garnenez provided monthly and quarterly reports. I try to keep our community out of these things. Policy and procedure is what we have to go by. The school needs to hear you go.

Tyshae Tyler expressed concern as a concerned parent and asked why a teacher was removed. There is a teacher with no teaching license. This year the first couple of months, the school would not allow the parents in the classroom.

Lavone Garnenez: We communicated with the staff, administration and community. We represented 3 schools. SASI finally got 3 years of reauthorization under the chaos that was going on. We were transparent and communicated. We let the superintendent do her job and the board oversaw the school. Some of these board meetings took meetings outside the school and because they are illegal. The meetings are supposed to be held at the school. Was surprised they are someone who has no idea with education. It wouldn't have happened if I was in there.

Faye Blueeyes: Stated that she is from Hogback and wanted to clarify some information that was provided. One of the things that the school has a policy in place where if you have a concern to file it. The administration and principal handle it. The school has policies. We don't know the local issues. The second thing is that there is a personnel issue. We only terminated one person. We can't disclose the name. It's confidential information; it's in litigation.

PAC meetings are for parents and school board is not involved. There was a PAC meeting. School boards can't have a quorum show up at a meeting. Employees resign and some move

*on and have health reasons. The person who is there has years of experience and licensed. We can't talk about the elementary school principal. As far as the minutes, we have barely been in office and had 2 meetings. For former superintendent in May cancelled the meeting. On June 23, 2025 we had to do a special meeting at the BIE building. Residential is under construction. The school had a residential manager and they were being paid and put elsewhere. New board members had questions about having dorm people when there is no dorm. There was a statement that the BIE issued waivers. On the grant amendments, there was no funding. There was some carryover. We were told some people have no licensure. The school was in non-compliance with the FACE regulations. We've seen and heard documentation and have the BIE to investigate the school. Not once have we received a complaint to the school board. I would appreciate those putting the specific complaints in writing. There are radio ads blasting the school board. There was AIM at the meeting. AIM was making personal attacks at the board.*

*Ms. Castillo we asked them to come to the meetings and introduce themselves and they never showed up. When school started there was no superintendent or principal. We asked the school board to do background checks. We have our kids in their school and hands to teach our kids. How are we going address concerns if there is no process. We lots a good Navajo teacher and they were talking. There are teachers and staff who leave because they are scared. You took the best teachers. How can you make the kids cry? That is their second mom. You took the best ones from them. You are there and you don't have the minutes. Board members need to know their roles and responsibilities and get training. Step up and listen to the parents. You didn't like the way she spoke to you.*

*Robert Lapahie expressed concerns about what is going on at the school and need for resolution.*

*Larry Johnson: I was involved with school. I got my education and got involved in the school and progressed. Let persons got get their certificate. The board has to make that decision to have people get certified and licensed.*

## **VIII. REPORTS**

1) San Juan County Clerk Report – Arlenta Horse-Dickie

*Maryann Benally provided the report on their upcoming November 2025 elections for school board and bond elections, which covered in-person, absentee voting, and voting locations.*

2) Running Horse Pipeline, Inc. – Sharon Tapaha, CR Liaison

*Robert Lapahie provided the report on the Running Horse Pipeline and blading of roads that were impacted by the floods.*

3) Chapter Manager's Report – Roman McCabe, Chapter Manager

*Robert Lapahie provided the chapter manager's report which included addressing flooded/damaged areas, and recap of several meetings. The report also covered the use of emergency funds, hiring of PEP workers, and budget transfers. Mr. Lapahie also stated that they are assisting people on the south side of Hogback along N36.*

*Tyleria Tony also discussed (Marie and Thomas Yazzie grandparents) the Miss TseDaaKaan pageant. She stated that she is a former Miss Northern Navajo and wants to encourage others to give the pageant a try. September 27, 2025 is the date of the event and chapter is the location and scheduled to start at 3 p.m. She also stated there is a need for sashes, flowers, outgoing gifts, etc. There was a statement that the crown was retired.*

*Mary Benally stated that there no mention of the A-line canal road and whether assessments are being conducted on the A-line. There will be follow up on the A-line assessment with the chapter administration.*

*Ruby Johnson and Paul George expressed support for the Miss TseDaaKaan pageant, including funding. Mr. George also discussed the need to have an emergency team and plan in place, including revisit.*

4) Council Delegate Report – Honorable Rickie Nez

*Delegate Nez not in attendance.*

5) Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) "Light Up Navajo Phase 7" – Jaimie Yazzie, Customer Relations Representative

*Presenter not in attendance.*

6) Navajo Power Report – Ceceilia Tso

*Ceceilia Tso provided the report and stated that jobs here will start opening on the solar project. Ms. Tso is also working a consortium with over 50 organizations with workforce development. This workforce consortium is focused on renewables. Construction will be started in 1-2 years. Things are still moving slowly with the Navajo Nation.*

7) CLUPC/Rural Addressing – Elliot Jim/Jerald Tsosie

*Elliot Jim and Jerald Tsosie provided the CLUPC with updates. The CLUPC manual is being designed with edits. The survey is still open and on the chapter website. The chapter rural addressing is completed and signs are ready to be installed by the end of the month*

*(September). Each home will have street addresses with house numbers. There is also a need to have PEP workers assist with the installation of signs. Cecelia Tso also provided information about job development and business development. All these projects will need vendors and contractors.*

8) Senior Center Activity Report – Nevina Kinlacheeney

*Presenter not in attendance. Robert Lapahie stated that he will meet with the chapter administration regarding San Juan County funds for the senior center.*

9) Grazing Committee Member Report – Larry Johnson

*Larry Johnson provided the grazing committee member report and end of the fiscal year. His report covered updated tally counts, and purchases of hay and other feed for animals. The requests have to comply with funding guidelines. There was a request to have PEP assist with hay and feed distribution. The chapter will be hosting a District 12 grazing meeting on Oct. 2, 2025. The northern agency grazing meeting is on October 9 at Nenahnezad Chapter. The report also covered a range management survey. September 30, 2025 is the last day for the tally counts.*

10) San Juan River Dineh Water Users, Inc. Board Member - Larry Johnson, Ralph Atcitty, et al.

*Larry Johnson provided the report and discussed that there is an internal audit. There is ongoing work to put in pipes. There are other drawdowns with Sihasin funds for \$195,000+ for the irrigation and water projects. His report also covered the clearing and installation of bigger culverts. Robert Lapahie also had concerns/questions on the size of the pipe and culverts.*

11) Farm Board Member Report - Lavone Garnenez

*Lavone Garnenez provided the farm board report, need for assessments and request for emergency funds. Mr. Garnenez stated there is the potential to get \$50,000 for improvements on the farm channeled through the chapter. He also requested for persons to fill out the incident report and crop report to report crop damage. The Department of Agriculture interns took the inventory of what was planted. The report also covered the cancellation of farm permits and asking why people are not farming their plots. Water will be shut off during the Northern Navajo Fair and shut down for the season on October 31, 2025.*

12) TDK Veteran's Committee Member Report – Commander Michael Warren

*Presenter not in attendance.*

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The announcements will be open at the Regular Chapter Meeting for any Announcements.

- 1) Chapter Administration is open to the public, you may call (505) 368-1599 for services.
- 2) Housing Discretionary Assistance Applications are open. Contact Chapter for application and information
- 3) Tse Dáá K'áán CLUPC Meeting, October 7, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. (TDK Chapter)
- 4) Northern Agency Grazing Committee Meeting, October 9, 2025 @ TBA Chapter at 9 a.m.

- 5) Tse Dáá K'áán Grazing Permittee's Meeting, September 25, 2025 at TDK Chapter at 1 p.m.
- 6) San Juan River Farm Board (SJRFB) Meeting September 19, 2025 at 8 a.m. (Location: Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter) Zoom Meeting: ID:810 792 2894, Passcode: 87420
- 7) San Juan River Farm Board (SJRFB) Meeting October 1, 2025 at 8 a.m. (Location: **Shiprock** Chapter) Zoom Meeting: ID: 810 792 2894, Passcode: 87420
- 8) **Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter Planning Meeting Monday, October 6, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m.**
- 9) **Tse Dáá K'áán Chapter Regular Meeting Sunday, October 19, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m.**
- 10) San Juan River Dineh Water Users Meeting, September 9, 2025 at SR Motor Pool at 9 a.m.
- 11) Tse Dáá K'áán Farmer's Permittee Meeting, September 11, 2025, TDK Admin. Bldg. @ 9 a.m.
- 12) Tse Dáá K'áán Veterans Meeting, September 16, 2025 @ TDK Adm. @ 4:30 p.m.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Ruby Johnson      Second: Faye Blueeyes      Time : 4:11 p.m.**  
**Vote: 21 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained**

Respectfully Submitted By: Matthew D. Tso  
 Matthew D. Tso, Secretary/Treasurer

09/21/2025  
 Date

