



### LeChee Chapter Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 9, 2026, 5:00 pm

1. Meeting called to order: 5:20 PM [Irene Whitekiller](#)
2. Invocation: [Irene Whitekiller](#)
3. Roll call: Holly Phillips
  
4. Review and Adoption of the March 9, 2026 Chapter Regular Meeting Agenda.  
Motion to add 4th resolution  
APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE GROUP SELF-INSURED INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE INCREASE OF 15% FOR THE NAVAJO NATION EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JANUARY 1, 2026, FOR THE NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT AND THE PARTICIPATING ENTERPRISES AND LGA CERTIFIED CHAPTERS  
Sponsor: Holly Phillips  
Motion: Renee Tsosie Second: Irmadine Charley  
Favor :   20   Oppose:   0   Abstain:   1
  
5. Review and Adoption of the February 9, 2026 Chapter Regular Meeting Minutes.  
Sponsor: Holly Phillips  
Motion: Christine Gamble Second: Roberta Lyons  
Favor :   19   Oppose:   0   Abstain:   2
  
6. Review Financial Report: Month of February 2026.  
Sponsor: Holly Phillips  
Motion: Roberta Lyons Second: Christine Gamble  
Favor :   17   Oppose:   0   Abstain:   2
  
7. Reports and Presentation: (5 minutes time limit per subject):
  - a. Liver Scanning Updates Roberta Lyons  
Provided verbal update and encouraged community members to complete liver scan. Flyers provided.
  - b. Page Unified School District Bryce Anderson, Superintendent  
Verbal update provided with a written report. Focus on attendance and the impact of missing school. Literacy update and goal to improve scores and children's ability to build critical skills early. Written Report Provided.  
President Whitekiller asks questions about Graduation. Response; Graduation is the last day of school which is a Thursday.  
Community members ask about foreign staffing in the district and its impact. Response; will focus on teachers that are proven successes.

Community member asks about the loss of Native Teachers in the community. Response; this was before my time and the focus and goal is to look at success and development.

Community member asks about third grade reading scores, have they been retested.

Response; looking forward to increased test scores, testing time is coming up. Sleep and good nutrition are vital.

Community member brings up personal experience.

- c. Council Delegate Helena Nez Begay/LDA Tom Franklin Jr.  
Ms. Begay reports that she is working on the delivery of ARPA homes and bathroom additions. She recognizes that the LeChee Chapter is requesting a Waste Water Project to Page and there is a meeting tomorrow for this project. Also, we are working on the Water Rights and testimonies are continued to be provided to fight for water rights. We will find where we stand with the remaining ARPA funds. Working on individuals with Homesite Leases that have not been approved. Also, meeting with NTUA and IHS for water line extension, currently pushing 3 water lines at the same time. Water line from Kiabeto to Page and LeChee to Coppermine. Working with CHID housing to get homes completed and delivered. Special Council meeting, I have represented 5 chapters. The Senior Center assessment will be Wednesday for LeChee. Been working with Navajo Nation Child Support, using different numbers for child support. Currently working on the department of personnel and fixing their handbook.  
Mr. Franklin reports the District one meeting is in Kaibeto at 2:00 PM DST.  
Community member reports on Veteran Emergency Meeting for Emergency funds. We would like this addressed to have it taken to the house. Response; we are going to be meeting with the Veterans on March 30 at 9:00 AM.  
Secretary Treasure asks about the Page Data Center and any information on MOU agreement. Response; we are instructed by the attorneys to not talk about this but the attorneys can be requested to be present to answer questions about it.
- d. Tuba City Regional Hospital Board of Directors Lyonel Tso  
Written Report Provided
- e. LeChee Veteran Committee Lyonel Tso, Iva Chee, Michelle Alex  
Next Meeting is 4/4/2026. Veterans will get jackets and we have received a big donation of girl scout cookies. If you know anyone that wants to be on the committee send them to the current Commander Lyonel Tso.
- f. Planning and Zoning Eunice Tso  
Not Present

8. OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION LC03092026A SUPPORTING THE NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE: CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT'S RESEARCH TITLED "HOUSING EXPERIENCES OF NATIVE AMERICANS LIVING ON AND OFF RESERVATION LANDS IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO" SUBMISSION TO THE NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RESEARCH REVIEW BOARD.

Sponsor: Crystal Car Cook



Verbal presentation provided.

Community members ask if their study will help college students with affordable housing. Response; the study will not focus on college students, we will focus on housing specific to Navajo Nation. Primarily DATA is to provide more insight on housing needs in Navajo Nation.

Motion: Joanne Pioche Second: Ray Dugi  
Favor : \_\_28\_\_ Oppose: \_0\_\_ Abstain: \_\_2\_\_

B. RESOLUTION LC03092026B APPOINTMENT NEWLY NOMINATED MEMBERS: RAY DUGI TO THE LECHEE CHAPTER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE UNDER THE LECHEE CHAPTER GOVERNMENT OF THE NAVAJO NATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NAVAJO NATION LOCAL GOVERNANCE ACT, TITLE 26 AND SECTION 101 (B) AND WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE UNDER THE ESTABLISHED PLAN OF OPERATION.

Sponsor: Renee Tsosie  
Motion: Damon Nockideneh Second: JoAnn Catron  
Favor : \_\_29\_\_ Oppose: \_0\_\_ Abstain: \_\_1\_\_

C. RESOLUTION LC03092026C APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF TWO CURRENT CHAPTER EMPLOYEES: FELIX DOUGLAS, SKILLED LABOR; NELSON BLACK, SEMI SKILLED CARPENTER; UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (PEP) THE REMAINING FY2026 TO COMPLETE CURRENT CHAPTER PROJECTS.

Sponsor: Renee Tsosie  
Motion: Irmadine Charley Second: Jeanett Dugi  
Favor : \_\_30\_\_ Oppose: \_\_0\_\_ Abstain: \_\_1\_\_

D. RESOLUTION LC03092026D APPROVING THE GROUP SELF-INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE INCREASE OF 15% FOR THE NAVAJO NATION EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JANUARY 1, 2026, FOR THE NAVAJO NATION GOVERNMENT AND ITS PARTICIPANT ENTERPRISES AND LGA CERTIFIED CHAPTERS.

Sponsor: Renee Tsosie  
Motion: Damon Nockideneh Second: Irmadine Charley  
Favor : \_\_31\_\_ Oppose: \_0\_\_ Abstain: \_\_1\_\_

10. LeChee Chapter Staff and Officials report: (4 mins allotment time per request)

A. Grazing Official Tyler Manson

Current inspection for auction off the reservation needs to contact the rangers. Get inspections a week or two prior to selling your animal. Call Rangers at (928)871-6491. Documents needed to verify it belongs to you, Grazing permit, if in probate need to provide proof that the permit is in probate or bill of sale or a final court decree. Grazing officials no longer have the ability to do inspections.

Home Site Leases, currently the Home Site Lease Process is being amended. Currently the Grazing official is the first person to contact to start the HSL process but in title 3 of Navajo Nation agriculture and livestock, it does not state that the grazing official is not the person to hold this

position. Now the Navajo Nation of Agriculture will have a leasing agent to replace the grazing official. Within the proposed statement it reflects ½ mile radius.

District One Grazing Meeting; Kiabeto Chapter March 27, 2026

Community members brought up customary land use rights. The Department of Economic Development is taking away our grazing land use. This new document that is made from the house is not transparent, tour operators are discouraged to fight for land or will lose their permit. Are the leaders aware of what is going on? As a grazing official I have dealt with individuals that have customary use rights and traditional use rights, and the overreach with the Navajo Nation Government.

- B. President Irene Nez Whitekiller
  - 2/27/2026 attended that TCRHCC board mtg. Lyonel Tso introduced LeChee Officials.
  - 2/5/2026 meeting with Coconino County Supervisor Lena Fowler and other CC Staff members. At Gone West Greet and Share information.
  - 3/6/2026 LeChee Chapter met with NDED for an update of the Old NGS Site and Antelope Marina.

C. Vice-President Herman Pioche  
Written report provided.

D. Secretary/Treasurer Holly Phillips  
Attended a meeting to complete the process for SAMS number so we can apply for Government Grants. This meeting was held by Mabel Tsosie and was very informative.

E. Chapter Manager Renee Tsosie  
Meeting with our Delegate and IHS for the waterline project, the problem they are coming across is that the homes are too far apart. Homes aren't occupied 24/7. If you want to get water or septic, there are applications at the LeChee Chapter to fill out. ARPA homes; waiting on 5 more homes, this will complete our contact for the ARPA funds. Planning and Zoning are working on their Land Use Plan, this Thursday is their meeting at 4:00MST/5:00DST. Our Chapter is operating on Daylight Time and All our meetings are on Daylight Time. Navajo Nation CHID project, currently working on work order 3. Two community members received homes. Wood is still available if needed. Going to start advertising for Summer Youth for June and July. Apple Seed program will come and they will clean people's yards, sign up with Christine at the Chapter. Sponsor: Holly Phillips

Motion: Irma Dean Second: Joanne Pioche  
Favor : \_\_26\_\_ Oppose: \_\_0\_\_ Abstain: \_\_1\_\_

11. Announcements: (are subject to change)

- a. Planning Meeting 3/2/2026 3:00 PM
- b. Volunteers for Yard Work 3/4/2026 2:00 PM
- c. Daylight Savings 3/8/2026
- d. Regular Meeting 3/9/2026 5:00 PM
- e. District 1 meeting (Kaibeto) 3/11/2026 2:00 PM
- f. P and Z Meeting 3/12/2026 4:00 PM
- g. Western Navajo Agency Meeting 3/14/2026 9:00 AM



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- h. (Navajo Mountain High School Gym) HDistrict Grazing Meeting  
(Coppermine) 3/26/2026 10:00 AM
- i. St. Mary's Food Distribution (Volunteers Needed) 3/23/2026

12. Adjournment: 6:50 PM

Sponsor: [Irene Whitekiller](#)

Motion: Judy Etsitty

Favor :   26  

Oppose:   0  

Second: Jennett Dugi

Abstain:   1  

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Holly Phillips 3/10/2026