



P.O. Box 4720 Page, AZ 86040 P: (928)698-2805 F: (928)698-2803 E: lechee@navajochapters.org W: Lechee.navajochapters.org

LeChee Chapter Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 14, 2026, 5:00 pm Day Light Time

1. Meeting called to order: 5:00 PM Irene Whitekiller
2. Invocation: Irene Whitekiller
3. Roll call: Holly Phillips
4. Review and Adoption of the September 14, 2026 Regular Chapter Meeting Agenda.
Sponsor: Holly Phillips
Correct Title to reflect today's date.
Amend Title to #4 to reflect "Regular Chapter Meeting"
Amend Date and #5 to reflect correct meeting Minute Date 8/10/2026.
Motion: Betty Thompson Second: Sarah Black
Favor : __23__ Oppose: __2__ Abstain: __3__
5. Review and Adoption of the August 10, 2026 Regular Chapter Meeting Minutes.
Sponsor: Holly Phillips
Motion: Roberta Lyons Second: Christina Gamble
Favor : __23__ Oppose: __0__ Abstain: __6__
6. Review Financial Report: Month of August 2026.
Sponsor: Holly Phillips
Motion: Yvonne Bigman Second: Betty Thompson
Favor : __32__ Oppose: __0__ Abstain: __1__
7. Reports and Presentation: (5 minutes time limit per subject):
 - A. Memory Clinic Monica Begay
Monica starts to present prior to quorum called. Monica is visiting from Flagstaff to provide information about the program Memory Clinic, the goal is to expand the program to either Echo Cliffs or LeChee. Clients are seen on a referral business and treated for neurology. The program also has funding for Alzheimer's and Dementia. The memory care team is set up and ready to provide treatment. (Flyer provided) Contact information is on the back of the flyer. (Meeting Called to order after this report.)
 - B. Council Delegate LDA Tom Franklin Jr.
August 11 – Delegate was in Window Rock attending others meeting

Virtual Meeting with IHS, Alice Franco. Horsethief Mesa Waterline- Kaibeto to LeChee.

August 15, Central Fair Parade

August 17- Scheduled Kaibeto and Tonalea Chapter (IHS) Tonalea officials did not show up.

August 18- LeChee Chapter – Met w Chapter Manager Ms. Tsosie

August 21 Navajo IGaming

August 26- Region Meeting scheduled but canceled, no one showed up. Might be rescheduled to a later date.

September 11, IHS canceled, need to set another date. Need Delegate Support on this.

Delegate has been doing home visiting, helping people out, when she's in the area. Just today, she took in more applications into Window Rock

LEAHP Program- need to schedule to bring them out to delegate region.

Free Water Dispenser Application Drive- September 25, (LeChee, Coppermine, Bodaway)

Need the Following:

- Valid DL

- SS Card

- CIB

- Income Verification

- Proof of Residency

- Completed Application

Sept 7- 12- Navajo Nation Fair

- Miss Navajo Butchering Contest,

- Navajo Nation Parade

- Miss Navajo Coronation

- Rodeo

- Other Council Delegates did participate

Other Meeting/Events Date Set:

September 14 -HEHSC Meeting

- Window Rock Tonight

September 15 -Land Department 8am

- Budget Session 9am

September 16 HEHSC Meeting Tohajalie, NM

October 1-4 - Northern Navajo Fair

October 5-6 -DBOSBA Fall Conference, Little America, Flagstaff, Az

October 8-11 – Western Navajo Fair

October 16- 17 Alamo, NM Indian Day Celebration

October 26-30 NNC Fall Session

5/28/2026 26-220-1 H. Nez Begay M. Espino



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Request for reallocation of \$738,002.53 in cost savings from certain NTUA Powerline projects in the LeChee Chapter to be used by NTUA for other projects In-process for legal review

6/16/2026 26-277-1 H. Nez Begay M. Espino

Request for extending funding duration under Resolution CJY-31-21 through September 30th, 2029 for the Western Navajo Phase 1 projects In-process for legal review

8/10/2026 26-363-1 Helena Nez Begay Mariana Kahn

The Office of Legislative Counsel is in receipt of your OLC Service Request

Request for legislation removing Railroad associated with NGS site and possible ownership transfer In-process for legal review

8/10/2026 26-364-1 Helena Nez Begay Mariana Kahn

The Office of Legislative Counsel is in receipt of your OLC Service Request

Request for legislation to amend NGS site legislation to transfer ownership of warehouse building and parking lot to Lechee Chapter. In-process for legal review Site was given to DED. Lechee does not want the entire site.

Voters Registration Closing September 24, 2026 @ 5pm

****Need**

- o CIB

- o Social Security Card

- o Valid DL

- o State Issued ID

- o NN ID

Check on your Elders: Woods- Water- Food- Weatherization

C. Tuba City Regional Hospital Board of Directors Lyonel Tso

LeChee Clinic is going to stay open Monday through Friday 9:00 to 5:00 excluding physical therapy and pediatrics. ECHO cliffs health center includes the funding from LeChee community.

If patient visits drop then they are going to close the LeChee Clinic. Grand Opening on October 2nd at 10:00 AM actual opening October 5th. All the art work is from local community members. Numbers, every month we get a report on how many patients we get, snap shot.

There was growth from the same last time last year over last year.

Secretary: Will you take into account the loss of services, when deciding to keep LeChee open.

Lyonel: yes it will be broken down.

Trying to find creative ways to bring in more clients.

Mr. Tsosie: there will be no emergency services at ECHO Cliffs.

Lyonel, no but they will have a helipad and Navajo EMS will have two bays.

Ms. Gamble: Will you have mental health?

Lyonel, Yes, and dental Services and mental health and optometry.

D. LeChee Veterans Committee

Lyonel Tso

We do have a meeting in October 3, 2026 at 2:00 PM

E. LeChee Planning and Zoning Committee

Ray Dugi

Nothing to report. The only thing was they were talking about community Cemetery.

F. PUSD

Sharon Watson

Will provide a written report.

G. Our Body, Our Life, our Culture

Roberta Lyons

Out of 150 community members, 45% have non alcoholic fatty liver disease. I have put out a calendar on my webpage and the LeChee webpage. I found we need to start younger, running, healthier eating and lack of proper necessities such as shoes. You only need to walk 20 minutes a day to boost your heart rate. I took a month off and I couldn't do the walking club in the evenings and have moved some walking times to the morning. We are starting a reading club "Its Story Time." Please register your child. We are really trying to encourage kids to read. I have finally been able to put together a Sobriety Night and I am very excited about it. My family was very supportive but it was still around. If you know anyone that is sober or trying to get sober have them come. Disclaimer: "I am not a counselor but trying to provide outlets." Trying to find a spot to come together. If you need support, come join. Office Hours to try to help people to get finalized home site lease for funding to get help for housing repairs.

H. Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission

Darlene Womochil

Not Present

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

a. President

8/28/2026 attended the TCRHC board meeting, they will keep LeChee clinic for 6 months after 10/3/2026. Pharmacy is not going anywhere.

b. Vice President

Herman: Safety Minutes: **"Watch your step, Watch your footing, be aware of tripping hazards, be safe by not rushing."** LeChee water project weekly meetings: at the lake pump intake station in progress at about 7% complete. The main water treatment building is in progress and is about 27%. The booster pump station is about 12% complete. One set back where the concrete mix didn't meet the requirements specifications and needed to be corrected before proceeding. The Main waterline from the water treatment building to the LeChee water tank is about 97% complete. I attended the Page Unified School Attainment meeting, from the state level they are asking for help from local chapters and whoever can help with reading scores. Read with your child or grandkids to help improve their reading. I attended the Arizona Governor's Conference on Tourism. One of the main topics was that tourism is currently down, with a focus on strengthening the economy and keeping people working. Two tour operators



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from northern Arizona were recognized: Baya Meagan's Bed and Breakfast and Carolina Ekis Antelope Canyon. AI was the major topic. We were encouraged to learn more about AI and use it as a tool to help our communities and businesses. AI is here to stay, and we need to understand how we can use it effectively. I attended Navajo Economy 101, the message was about believing in yourself and not giving up. Kayenta also shared how children help clean their community. Tourists use an app to find clean bathrooms on the Navajo Nation. Lake Powell and Navajo Tourism continue to be major sources of revenue for the Navajo Nation.

c. Secretary Treasurer

A community project to rehabilitate a dilapidated house is under way and 14,000 of a cost estimate of 18,000 has been raised this far from family, community members and donations from tour companies. I went to NTUA to inquire about my Light up Navajo application and they reported they do not have a list from LeChee they also informed me it is at least a year long wait and funds may not be available to get electricity. My twin Sister is working with Our Body, Our Life, Our Culture, specifically centered around the NAU/ASU Liver study. At this time the program is going to expand to Tuba City and is on hold for a new machine that has not arrived, also expanding the program for healthy eating/preparation. LeChee has 4 main projects that have not moved anywhere for two years and funding is not available, we are working on other options to get funding. LeChee is working on getting their SAMS number so that government grants can be applied for. It was brought to the LeChee Chapter, there are concerns that reading scores are down, and although there is a need, it is also hard to get the program underway with volunteers. We have tentatively scheduled both a reading program called "Its Story Time" and sobriety intervention called "Sobriety Nights." Elderly abuse is a concern and is present in the LeChee area and we need support and resources and family to step up to protect our elders.

Renee: used our emergency money to buy air conditioning window units, hay and water for people in need. GCOA, Navajo language school lunches and navajo government.

d. Grazing official

e. Chapter Manager

1. ARPA Modular Homes Update

- All Modular homes have been delivered. This completes all 20 modular homes that were delivered from Color Country and Clayton Homes.
- **5 homes** remain unskirted.
- **7 homes** have full utility connections (electrical, water, and sewer).
- NTUA has indicated delays due to:
 - Backlog of ARPA-approved projects across the Navajo Nation
 - Concurrent workload with NN CHID projects
- Heavy infrastructure demand in Eastern Navajo Nation

- Follow-up is required for all the last 5 recipients to have the lots prepared for delivery

2. OEH/IHS Updates

- Meeting update with Phil Coolie, IHS. Updated the current list of names for the Horse Thief Mesa waterline project. I still need additional community members to fill out the OEH waterline application: I will contact those individuals to come in and fill out the application, turn it in by the end of August.
- Tuesday, August 18 at 2:00 PM. A meeting has been scheduled at the LeChee Chapter house meeting room with chapter officials and delegate.
- Working with Alice Franco, regarding the current ARPA/CHID home recipients who still need a water/sewer line to hook up to their new modular homes. Provided an updated list. Some applicants still need to fill out the application to request for new services.

3. Community Land Use Plan

- The final review has been completed by NN DOJ, Rodrick Begay, with some minor changes that was forwarded to Eunice Tso, Planning and Zoning President. Once the modifications have been updated it can then move forward to the LeChee Chapter regular chapter meeting for final approval through resolution. The Planning & Zoning Committee has not scheduled another meeting to provide any updates to the community members.

4. Chapter Scholarship Applications - were all paid out from the Chapter Administration.

Total applicants: 21

Total balance from Fund 01-6609 - \$10,846.00

Fund 14-721 - \$4,500.00

Grand total w/both funds: \$15,346.00

5. Navajo Nation CHID Project

- **Work Order 5 – Vendor:** Direct Homes Manufacturing Company
- **Two recipients are planned to get homes delivered.**
- Modular home specifications: **1,200 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom.**

6. ARPA Warehouse Project Update

- Coordination meeting held with **Sunwise Solutions**. Chris Crank with Sparky Electrical will start working on the security camera set up to connect the building.
- Plumbing to the warehouse is pending from NTUA waterline department. That is to start digging for the water lines to the building, starting at highway N-20. The engineering department has provided a map of where the plumbing construction will be located. Plumber has submitted a Tap in form to NTUA.
- The contractor has completed the office room, storage room, and bathroom, installed all the outlet covers, base boards and doors.

7. Si'ha'sin 1 ton truck purchase



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Selena with CPMD has updated the PO to reflect the truck purchase was for a 2027 and not a 2026. Follow up with NN Insurance to get the vehicle insured and work with NN Property to get the truck registered before the chapter administration picks up the truck in Farmington, New Mexico. Received a text message from Advantage Dodge on Friday, Sep 11, 2026 stating the truck should be at the dealership within a week from the date of the text message. 9/14/2026 followed up with an email to Dorothea Dedman with NN Risk Management services to see if the insurance card is ready for pick up. Waiting on a response.

8. Bathroom Addition Projects

- Derek Williard is the next bathroom addition recipient. PEP Carpenter has completed the foundation, subfloor, and started on framing this week. The plumber has completed the piping into the bathroom addition.
- Urando Begay has delivered the check to Home Depot, waiting in order to be compiled before pick up of supplies.. He will provide his own labor.

Ongoing/Upcoming Project

- Wood floor installation for **Jerry Esplain**, located west of Kaibeto Market (off Highway 98).
- Build a 20'X24' small one room structure for Abbie Nez, who is a burn out victim, at her current location along highway 89. Funds to be used out of Housing Discretionary. Looking at using an outside licensed contractor to build the home. Will need to make a budget transfer within fund code 9-Housing Discretionary and get a resolution approved by the community. Combine Jerry Esplain and Abbie Nez projects in the resolution. Will need to put a project proposal together with a budget, get a bid out. The chapter will pay the contractor and supply all the materials for both projects. This project has not started yet.
- Housing Discretionary for: Norvin & Kimberly Riggs to be awarded for major repairs to the existing home. To purchase material from Home Depot who is the lowest bidder for materials. The Chapter PEP labor has been providing assistance with this project.
- Financial Assistance for three community members to purchase supplies to repair roofs, floors.
- Emergency Assistance provided by the chapter to constituents that have had flooding within their homesite lease. Chapter backhoe driver was dispatched to several homes and dirt roads within the community to make temporary repairs.
- 9/13/2026 @4:00 pm. I drove around the community to assess any road damages from the downpour of the rain storm earlier this afternoon. There were several locations that needed temporary repairs, these dirt roads were direct access to residence homes. Some community members who have their own equipment were out making their own repairs. Three additional community members came in the administration office to report damages to the dirt roads or within their own homesite lease. I sent our backhoe driver out this morning to make additional assessments of other dirt roads that might need temporary repairs only. We are expecting additional rain within the week. I also came across 5 residences within the Cliff View NHA neighborhood that had no electrical power due to a lighting strike on the transformer. This

report was made to NTUA immediately to the Tuba City District Office through my direct contact at NTUA. Lineman repair was dispatched out to assess the repairs and damages. Repairs should be done within the day.

- This month we have been assisting with Dig Deep with rural resident water hauling along east highway 98. We have one part-time PEP water hauling truck driver who has been hauling water when the constituent calls/text the chapter for assistance.

18. St. Mary's Food Bank Distribution

- Monthly food distributions resumed.
- Scheduled for the **last Monday of each month**.
- Volunteers are needed.
- Advertised via Facebook and the chapter website.

19. Western Waterline Project - On going anticipate to complete in August of 2028.

20. FY2027 Budget Season - Provide a budget session with the chapter officials and administration. FY26-27 Carryover budget resolution was submitted during the regular chapter meeting this evening. The August 31st, 2026 bank reconciliation balances were used to prepare the FY26-27 General Fund Carryover budget per an email from ASC and was mentioned during a meeting with ASC and all five chapters. *(see attached email)*. The next scheduled session is set for Friday, September 25, 2026 @ 1:00 pm here at the administration building, to invite ASC for technical assistance.

21. Friday, August 28, 2026 - Attended the NN Capital Projects Management Meeting - Regarding the LeChee Chapter Senior Citizen Centers renovation project. *(see attached notes)*.

22. Wood for Life Project - Need to start preparing for wood deliveries, find a location and build a wood shed within the chapter compound to store the wood. Start education and announce to the community members to start preparing for a place to store the wood for the upcoming cold winter months.

23. Page Attacks Trash - Planning meeting scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2026 at 3:00 pm Page time at the Coconino Community College. 1st meeting to start planning for next year's event.

9. OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **RESOLUTION LC09142026A; THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM LECHEE CHAPTER OPPOSING THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL- SECOND YEAR, 2024. (RDCMA-13-24) SPECIFICALLY APPOSING SECTION TWO G), H) 1 AND 2 AND I). THE AMENDMENTS UNDERMINE CHAPTER GOVERNANCE AND TAKE AWAY LAWFUL AUTHORITY FROM THE CHAPTER AND ITS COMMUNITY. FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGING COMMUNITY PETITION OPPOSITION; AND DEMANDING THE REMOVAL OF SUCH AUTHORITY FROM THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO NOT UNDERMINE CHAPTER**



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GOVERNANCE AND TO ALLOW THE PEOPLE OF THE LECHEE CHAPTER COMMUNITY TO HAVE THE DECISION ON WHAT BUSINESSES SHALL BE DEVELOPED IN THE LECHEE CHAPTER BOUNDARIES.

Sponsor: Holly Phillips

Motion: Roberta Lyons

Second: Ray Dugi

Orlinda Tsosie: Asked to be tabled because it's a lot of information and wants to table until next month.

Betty Thompson: states she wants to have the rail road to be taken out.

Dennis Tsosie: was this approved by three NN council delegate.

Lavern Tsosie: I think this is a good thing, when you call Tuba City or Window Rock, they do not know what's going on. After we develop a resolution that takes a lot of time and they need to honor it.

Voting on to table.

Favor : __16__ Oppose: __38__ Abstain: __1__

Motion: Roberta Lyons

Second: Ray Dugi

Favor : __39__ Oppose: __12__ Abstain: __5__

B. RESOLUTION LC09142026B; THE LECHEE CHAPTER IS FORMALLY REQUESTING FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE ABANDONED NAVAJO GENERATING STATION RAILWAY, TO BE DISMANTLED AND REMOVED SO THE LAND CAN BE RESSTORED TO IT NATURAL STATE OF VEGETATION FOR GRAZING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

Sponsor: Holly Phillips

Motion: Virginia Whithorse

Second: Tiana Tsosie

Celesta Littleman: I have been working on the Sun beam tour and have a permit issued to me. I am ahead of schedule. I am going to do tours in walking beauty. I am worried about what the removal could do to the land and vegetation. I hope you would consider voting in favor of my business.

Ella James: Can you explain your business?

Celesta: yes I have retrofitted an automobile to expand tourism. Are you going to use the railroad tracks?

Tiana: Do we know if there is any asbestos, where the money is coming from.

Dennis Tsosie: The best thing I can advise is to leave as is. We would do more harm if we disturbed the area

Betty Thompson:

Favor : __25__ Oppose: __21__ Abstain: __5__

- C. **RESOLUTION LC09142026C; THE LECHEE CHAPTER IS FORMALLY REQUESTING TO BE GRANTED THE UNOCCUPIED NAVAJO GENERATING STATION WAREHOUSE AND ITS IMMEDIATE AREA FOR THE EXPANSION OF LECHEE COMMUNITY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES.**

Sponsor: Holly Phillips

Motion: Roberta Lyons

Second: Sarah Black

Favor : __42__

Oppose: __0__

Abstain: __6__

- D. **RESOLUTION LC09142026D; APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 “GENERAL FUND CARRYOVER FUNDS” BUDGET INTO THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$672,405.18.**

Sponsor: Renee Tsosie

Motion: Joanne Yazzie-Pioche

Second: Roberta Lyons

Favor : __40__

Oppose: __0__

Abstain: __1__

11. Announcements: (are subject to change) **All times are Day Light Time.**

- A. Safety Message: “WATCH YOUR STEP, WATCH YOUR FOOTING, AND BE AWARE OF TRIPPING HAZARDS. STAY SAFE AND DON’T RUSH.”
- B. Chapter Planning Meeting 9/8/2026 4:00 PM
- C. Regular Chapter Meeting 9/14/2026 5:00 PM
- D. “Its Story Time” 9/15/2026 5:15 -6:30
- E. CLUP C 9/17/2026
- F. “Sobriety / Good Night Vibes” Event 9/17/2026 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
- G. NHA Home Owners Meeting/Information 9/17-9/18 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- H. St. Mary’s Food Distribution 9/28/2026 TBD
(Volunteers Needed)

12. Adjournment: 7:55 PM

Sponsor: Irene Whitekiller

Motion: Roberta Lyons

Second: Renee Tsosie

Favor : __40__

Oppose: __0__

Abstain: __1__

Completed by: _____

Holly Phillips 9/15/2026