



April 23, 2025 @ 10:00am

TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING AGENDA

AUDIO TELECONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: (575) 567-3331 PIN: 290 206 733#

JOIN WITH GOOGLE MEET: <https://meet.google.com/vsc-zdtr-mbz?authuser=0&hs=122>

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. INVOCATION

IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

V. APPROVAL OF MARCH 28, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

VI. PRESENTATION:

1. Mrs. Lucinda Bitsoie – Tohatchi Mid School Principal
2. Mr. Kevin Mitchell – School Board Member for GMCS

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. March 2025 Financial Report

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **039-04-2025:** Resolution to approve and adopting the fiscal year 2025 Navajo Nation General Fund, Capital Outlay Match Funds, Land Claims Trust Funds, Scholarship Funds, and Personnel Lapse Funds for Chapter utilities, Permanent Funds Chapter Scholarships and Veteran's award budget in the amount of **\$324,906.00**.
2. **040-04-2025:** Resolution to approve the 2nd quarter revenue
3. **041-04-2025:** Resolution to approve budget transfer within Fund 23, the NN Sales Tax Funds in the amount of **\$2000** to replenish operating supplies.
4. **042-04-2025:** Resolution to approve the fiscal year budget and allocation of **\$18,197.00** for the NN Unhealthy Food Tax Fund.
5. **043-04-2025:** Resolution to recommend and approving the Housing Discretionary Assistance Fund 09 for the following community member, Benson Badonie.
6. **044-04-2025:** Resolution to add Elvis Bitsilly to the Wells Fargo Bank as a signatory for Tohatchi Chapter.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME:

XII. ADJOURNMENT:



MAY 2 11:33

April 23, 2025 10:00am

TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

- I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 12:10 pm**
- II. **ROLL CALL:** President Elvis Bitsilly, President Rodgers, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Officer Gerald Moore, and Fern Spencer and Priscilla Duncan CLUPC members. Also Geneva Begay with RWFB.
- III. **INVOCATION:** Treva Roanhorse
- IV. **REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
Motion: 1st Geneve Begay 2nd Treva Roanhorse Vote: 17-0-1
- V. **APPROVAL OF March 28, 2025 MEETING MINUTES:**
Motion to read on your own: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Fern Spencer Vote: 17-0-1
- VI. **PRESENTERS:**
 1. **Kevin Mitchell, School Board, GMCS staff, and Silver Stallion:**
Kevin Mitchell – The Gallup McKinley County School staff and the Mid School Principal will be here to do presentations. 1st with Ms. Carlisle who gave update on the construction of the new high school.
Ms. Carlisle states they are now getting to the exciting part of the construction. We are about 12 months in and still have about 24 months on this project. We are starting to work on the design of the interior of the gym, since we have the best team in the State. We are retaining the existing gym as well so Tohatchi will have 2 facilities for the students and the community use. I know there are concerns about the size of the new gym and it will be able to hold 548 additional seats and it will open up into the new field. We are preparing for graduation as well and the press box will have sound and the construction company will make sure everything is safe and ready for graduation. We are still doing the framing and working on the flooding control and they are starting to rough in the electrical portion. One of biggest issues is parking, now there will be plenty of parking for fans and of course an area up close to the bleachers for people who are disabled or in wheelchairs.
Doris Benallie – Will there be an area designated for wheelchairs in the gymnasium?
Ms. Carlisle – Yes, absolutely and we made sure to use bright colors for people who have vision impairment.
Fern Spencer – Will the gym have offices for the coaches because the old gym did not have that? And the equipment room and the room for the wrestling athletes
Ms. Carlisle – Yes it will, I can send over to Mr. Mitchell the design for the coaches' office space. The district did purchase a portable building and that building will also be used for athletics. As far as the rooms for the athletes, there is a 1,080-foot space specially for wrestling and we do have the boys' and girls' locker rooms. Like I mentioned, we will be retaining some of the old gym which we will be remodeling and refurbishing of those locker rooms as well. Right now the State does not fund athletics and I went to the State in February to petition for funds. That is something GMCS has fought for quite a bit because athletics is extremely important. There is a special meeting tomorrow for another school district that has been petitioning the State to pay for 22,000 square feet of additional space and it sounded like they will be successful. I will be heading out there because if they say yes to this school, they better be ready to say yes to

Tohatchi, Thoreau, Crownpoint, and Navajo.

Fern Spencer – Will there be a room specially for the referees?

Ms. Carlisle - Yes, there will be spaces for referees but it will not be specially for them. It will be a multipurpose room. Now for the concessions, there will be a large concession stand right off the gym with windows that go out in front of the building along with adequate restrooms.

Kevin Mitchell – I know we did designate a room with a bed, ice machine, and for possible athletic trainer.

Fern Spencer – We do need an athletic trainer who can teach health as well.

Ms. Carlisle – Just want to mention with all the tariffs scare, there has been no delays in the project.

Sasha Blanco Rameriz – I'm the director of construction over at Tohatchi Elementary and the Middle School. What I want to share is our "elevate magazine" and this particular edition show cases three stories about Tohatchi. We have a PR team and this gets sent out to all the parents in the school and we can drop off the Chapter as well. The magazines come out once a month and I just want to bring it to your attention.

Robin Holder – I'm the principal at the Tohatchi Elementary School and I have been there since the fall of 2019. I want to share some positive things that are happening, our student population is growing and had around 225 when we went out for COVID in March of 2020 and our numbers were small when we started coming back to school. Right now we have 185 enrolled and next year we will have 6 graders in the building. So, without any growth we are up to 225 again. A decision was made district wide this year, when we had family academics nights, we would all focus on that and so we are having our last math family academic night next Thursday on the 1st of May. Our theme this year is "May the facts be with you." Our academic nights are to help parents know about the Math the students are learning and to give them fun ways to learn Math. What we've learned is students learn best when they speak and we call that student engagement, especially with students who speak multiple languages. We also look at is; are the teachers asking questions where they know the kids understand, meaning are we checking for understanding? We also have the "how our kids have grown" which is the measure of student success which we take at the beginning of the year, in the middle of the year, and at the end of the year. We will finish taking the State testing tomorrow and by the end of June or first of July we should know how we did on the test. My last point is about social and emotional learning. The district has purchased a program called "seven mindsets" that is to help our students with social and emotional learning where the kids look at videos and talk about kindness, empathy, and how do they relate to their peers.

Doris Benallie – What is the enrollment capacity for the elementary building?

Robin Holder - I know the 1st year we had 225 students, next year we'll be close to 225 again. There will be 2 classroom that will be open and will not have students in them. One room was be used for teachers to do data meetings. This year I have 12 classroom teachers, next year there will be 16.

Fern Spencer – Why are you having 6 graders back to the elementary school?

Robin Holder – That was a decision made at the district office level with school board approval.

Kevin Mitchell – We did presentation at the Chapter before we did the vote. The head of GMCS said what we were doing as far as education was not working and have not seen improvement. GMCS is the only district that did not have their 6 graders at the elementary school. And according to them, data show that the 6 graders are not mental ready for middle school. All the surrounding schools are already setup this way.

Treva Roanhorse – I would like to know how many students are in special education classes?

Robin Holder – We have 25 students but some of them are not in there very long, just for a short time. So, we don't have students in the special ed classrooms all day and of course that may change next year.

Fern Spencer – I know for a fact that for instance maybe 4th grade, you'll have 2 teachers. Is this going to happen with this new transition where the students are being moved around between classes. I know in the elementary there are 2 teachers for 3 and 4th grade in one classroom, not separate classroom. I also know

GMCS is hurting for special education teachers and this needs to be address and taken care of in our schools.

Robin Holder – Tohatchi Elementary School has the best Special Education teacher in the district. Mr. Badonie is very good teacher.

Geneva Begay – My concern is the traffic in the morning when we are dropping off students and we are not using the roundabout which is only for the buses. At the middle school, we do use the roundabout along with the buses. I think there should be a parking area designated for the teachers and this can help with control traffic.

Doris Benallie – When Tohatchi Elementary was built, there was a limit to where to hold students at the school saying we are building this elementary for 400 students and not below. What is the capacity for the elementary or what was the building built for? I know the State is funding the school for the students.

Kevin Mitchell – I don't have the number right off hand, but I believe it was about 290 students. We are not at full capacity and we do have some extra classrooms not being used.

Mr. Richard Moore (Tohatchi High School) – Just want to mention that our students done a wonderful job this year. We had an ESB about a month ago and our kids just rocked it. On May 15, we will be having our showcase and I'm inviting you all to see what a wonderful job our students did. I would like to talk about our pathways and Tohatchi has 3 different pathways for our school of business, other pathways are carpentry, and PLTW which is about cyber security. We also have digital media as another pathway. When a student comes in as a freshman, they take introduction to business. When they become a sophomore, they can continue with business or branch off into cyber security or in carpentry, just depending on what interest them. We need them to stay in the pathway for at least 3 years until we get what we call "completers." During their senior year, they get the opportunity for internships. Currently, they make \$12 per hour and they work 96 hours and the kids absolutely love that opportunity.

We used to do all the carpentry on our campus, but right now the kids do carpentry I and II on our campus but in order to do the completer they need to go to OCC to pick up that carpentry III. The kids love this because it's a bigger space and they build everything from dog houses to big storage sheds and gives them an opportunity. We like to bring in welding and we do have a ton of kids male and female who are interested. We had 19 kids go to State and of that 7 went to the nationals in Florida and addition to that, our MESA won the Governor's Stem Challenge and every kid received \$500. We have a new science teacher, Miss Gallos and she also entered the Stem Challenge where we won the Silver Award and our students received 2 brand new laptops with a 32-inch monitor. We will leave that in the Science department and what we are trying to get digital microscopes. The Film and Digital Media won the Founders Award as well. I always said Tohatchi is an untapped resource and these kids are amazing. We just have to find and give them more opportunities. I do have an open-door policy if you want to come see me.

Grazing Officer Moore – When is the school going to tap into agriculture?

Mr. Moore - We kind of are, we send our kids up to NAPI this year for a tour. We are also working with Red Willow Farms currently. Our sophomore kids created RWF's logo. We are easing into farming.

Fern Spencer – How many students from the CCTE Program and the other programs are going into Gallup?

Mr. Moore – Around 50 students go to Mckinley Academy and CCTE we have around 7 and OCC (Occupation Career Center) is between 12 and 15 this year. Entrepreneurship is for our junior class where you have introduction to business and business management. Introduction is freshman year and business management are sophomore year and entrepreneur junior year.

Fern Spencer – The students that go to the college courses in Gallup and the students that you have here. Is Gallup Mckinley like when graduation comes up, some of the students graduate from UNM which is on

the 17th of May and they come back to Tohatchi for the graduation here. The seniors we have now are in top 10 here in Tohatchi and we also count the ones going to the college and we intertwine them. So those kids here, going to school here get moved down because of the college. Is there some way you can have them separate, the top 10 here at Tohatchi High verses the other ones going to the college.

Mr. Moore – Yes, the kids that go to Mckinley County and graduate with an AA degree, they do have a graduation over at the college but it's for Mckinley Academy for their AA degree, not for the high school. That is why they come over to Tohatchi for the high school graduation. They are part of the top 10 and get moved down because the courses at Mckinley Academy have more weight than the courses at Tohatchi High School. I've talked to district about that but they are still Tohatchi students.

Doris Benallie – I like to make a comment about the Mckinley County School Board in Santa Fe during the Indian Day. Our State Representative, Wonda Johnson does a lot of funding for our community, District 14.

Kevin Mitchell – I did learn yesterday, Senator Pinto has pledge to give Tohatchi High School \$50,000. Remember to thank Senator Pinto when you see her. We even had our mid school students who have won an award in Las Cruces for competing. So, our middle school students are competing in our pathways too. We have 2 who qualified and will be going to the national this summer.

Lucinda Bitsoi – I'm the Tohatchi Middle School principal and have been for the past 4 years. We have approximately 200 students with 6, 7, and 8 grades, but since the 6 graders will remain at the elementary, we will have enrollment of maybe 130 which will consist of 7th & 8th graders. Of course the elementary and high school have their many programs in academics and we want our students to excel and be successful. We are doing our state testing right now and in May, we'll be doing our MESA testing. We encourage our students to do their very best on these tests. I think having all these different activities that our students are involved in, the PLTW. We mentioned 2 of our students placed and will be going to the national this summer. We had students enter art in Gallup and 3 of our students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and one of the students is our Special Education Student. Just showcasing their talent and abilities is very important. Our bike program is one of our highlights of our school and we've had this program for the past 4 years. We've had a lot of enthusiasm from the students who have been participating in the program. The 1st year we had a little over 30 students and they were very excited about the program. Every Tuesday, the student would sign up to get a bike to ride. This bike club is something meaningful, it motivates our kids and it's become part of our community. The program has involved not only our kids, but our staff, and even some parents are participating as well. The program provided bikes, helmets, and water packs and this is the help of Silver Stallion who also provides training in bike safety and maintenance. The program helps the kids develop their self-esteem and confidence because not all the students know how to ride a bike. The program also helps the students with their social well-being where they learn how to socialize and engage in conversation. They can get off their cell phones, and electronics which can be very beneficial for our students. We actually went all the way into December riding bikes because the students didn't mind the cold weather. I would try to set aside a little bit of money for a field trip each year where they can go to ride bike trails like McGaffey and Window Rock. This gives the students to connect with nature and to build relationship with their peer. This year with the coordination with Silve Stallion, we plan to have a bike race with the different age groups competing. We hope to have these races where Tohatchi High School has their annual cross-country meet on May 17th which is on a Saturday. We plan to invite all the Gallup Mckinley County Middle Schools, Navajo, Crownpoint, Ramah, Thoreau, and Chee. We have to look at the area, but we plan to have the race consist of 2 lays. This is an opportunity for the kids to showcase their riding skills and promoting healthy lifestyles. This program really gets our kids moving and thinking outside the classroom. I'm looking forward to the bike race and I'm proud to be a sponsor this year. I would also

like to thank Silver Stallion for being a part of this and assisting our students with the bike program. I know the community and the Chapter has been supportive of our bike program and we are looking forward to the construction of the new bike trails in Tohatchi. Just to mention, we hope to bring the bike program to the elementary school so the kids can start the learning process.

Doris Benallie – Bernadette Shirley ask for assistance from the Chapter and I'm asking on her behalf. I would like to ask the Chapter to use some of our Unhealthy Food Tax fund to purchase fruits, water, and refreshments for the scheduled bike race. I also would like to ask the Chapter for the grader to prep the area where the race will take place. I also would like the PEP workers to remove rocks and mark the area of the race.

Geneva Begay – We do have a metal building here in Tohatchi with a security fence around it which can be utilized by the bike program. I don't believe it has electricity but it's a safe place to store bikes.

Roxanne Marianito – I am the Navajo Nation coordinator for IMBA and I work closely with Scott Nydam and the Silver Stallion program. I actually work on the opposite side with IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) and Tohatchi Chapter did pass a resolution to have a bike trail constructed here in the community. We are still working on this bike trail project with the 3 different zones and I hope to get approval soon. IMBA has agreed to pay for half of the cost of construction of the bike trail. We've been working on the project for the past 3 years and we are exciting to start moving forward. After the 1st bike trail is constructed, we can move on to zone 2 the following year and zone 3 after that. As I was coming into Tohatchi I noticed an area of land about an acre which is probably not being used. That would be an excellent area to build a multipurpose bike park with a playground, jungle gym, some little strider bikes, and family picnic area so it's a family lot. This would bring a lot of kids and families together. If you have not seen a bike park, Kayenta, Az will be constructing a bike park within their community. I'm working on obtaining grants to get more girls, moms, and grandmother on bikes as well.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Just to update you on the bike trail for Tohatchi. We are going on I believe the 3rd year now trying to ask for Unhealthy Food Tax fund to pay for the cost of a new bike trail. We were told we have to follow the procurement process and get 3 vendors who can bid on the project but we could not find other vendors other than IMBA to do the work on the project. I contacted one individual who stated they mainly focus on repairs of old bike trails, not constructing a new one. So, we have been going back and forth with Window Rock and now the Department of Justice. After meeting with the Department of Justice, we were informed that our project did not meet the procurement process, that is was like trying to fit a square into a hole. DOJ suggested that we write them a letter explaining how the bike program came about and who was all involved in the project. The letter was drafted and sent to DOJ and hopefully we will get some good news very soon.

Scott Nydam (with Silver Stallion) – I had an opportunity to meet with a group called "First Peoples Initiative" through Canada and North America and they are really interested in our bike program here. They are really curious with what we doing with social workers in the school districts and all the trust that is in the community and adding the bicycle into that health and wellness. They are wondering if that playbook could be offered to communities throughout the continent. That's where my vision, conversation, and perspective is. This only works because what is already here which is the trust, love, and care. We are just adding the bicycles to that. One thing that has revealed its self is realizing that every human being, no matter where you come from you have to pedal your own bicycle and when you are on it you are forced into making decisions. You get out of your brain and you get into your body and you start better to relate to yourself and you start to pay attention to the land. This happens as a matter of factly through this instrument that humans invented called the bicycle. So, back to "First Peoples Initiative," they said "so you are not enabling the kids, they are enabling themselves. So they made that distinction.

Silver Stallion is a non-profit and want to educate and empower youth in bicycle mechanic repair. We are basically an organization as a non-profit to do job skill training. Silver Stallion is professional trained mechanics, but what happen is we realized the scarcity of a bike shop here in our area. We are here with our social workers addressing health; we want our kids to flourish. So, what we did to start off is youth development programming where the kids wanted to be bike mechanics. We have a number of national partners across the world which include the PE Mountain Biking Program who gave us a grant to get bikes which initially helped us get the Tohatchi Biking Club started. With these bikes for the kids, we were able to create a race team together here in NM. It's not with the NMAA; it is its own association. There are 34 states that now have middle school and high school mountain bike clubs. We have created a mobile ride truck to do free bike repair. We learned the bike is a tool but we didn't know how much of a tool. Last fall during the semester we had, without Crownpoint operating 134 kids participating in the Gallup McKinley County School district, in middle schools riding bikes, that an average of 95 kids riding a week. On November 17, 2021 was our 1st free bike giveaway. Each kid received a bike to take home called "home bikes." Back to our original mission is to 6 bike project tech programs is basically our mission but better in high schools in Gallup high is a curriculum based high school professional mechanic program. So the kids come out of that program and they learn industry level skills. They receive a certificate that is industry recognized and can get a job as a mechanic with their certificate. Tohatchi community has the land and we have scoped out 3 zones for the bike trails which was completed by Joey with International Mountain Bike Association. He has built bike trails around the world and we have the resource right here. Also, there will be a Navajo Mountain Bike festival this weekend on Saturday and Sunday in Window Rock. This will be the first of its kind in the area.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

March 2025 Financial Report –

| MARCH BALANCE FUND | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Chapter Activities Gen Fund | \$20,363.70 |
| 3 | Land Claims Trust | \$23,276.31 |
| 8 | Supplement Youth Fund | \$18,847.03 |
| 9 | Housing Discretionary Fund | \$3,201.24 |
| 10 | LGA Grant Fund | \$62,041.25 |
| 12 | Chapter Stipends | \$18,345.94 |
| 13 | Scholarship General Fund | \$7,092.00 |
| 14 | Scholarship Claims Fund | \$3,453.48 |
| 15 | PEP Fund | \$5,624.66 |
| 16 | Veterans Fund | \$6,003.94 |
| 17 | Emergency Fund | \$26,144.91 |
| 23 | NN Sales Tax | \$77,578.59 |
| 25 | NN CIP - \$180,000 | \$15,085.76 |
| 26 | Red Willow Farm | \$1,040.37 |
| 27 | NN CIP - \$200,000 | \$3,877.78 |
| 40 | Unhealthy Food Tax | \$100,251.60 |

| | | |
|----|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 61 | Senior Citizen Fund | \$2,162.99 |
| 51 | NAPI | \$2,237.56 |
| 80 | General Fixed Assets | |
| 34 | Agriculture & Infrastructure | \$3.68 |
| | | |
| | Total Fund Balance | \$396,632.79 |

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – The financial reports were reviewed by Maria, CSC and Secretary /Treasurer. For the month of March 2025, our books are in balance and everything has been reconciled back to Wells Fargo's books. We also added in the Chapters' assets in the total amount of **\$880,726.90** which is added to the financial statements. The Chapter will also provide a Budget to Actual report upon request.

Motion to accept the March 2025 Financial Report

Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Fern Spencer Vote: 17-0-1

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **039-04-2025:** Resolution to approve and adopt the fiscal year 2025 Navajo Nation General Fund, Capital Outlay Match Funds, Land Claims Trust Funds, Scholarship Funds, and Personnel Lapse, Funds for Chapter utilities, Permanent Funds Chapter Scholarships and Veteran's award budget in the amount of **\$324,906.00.**

Maria, CSC – Window Rock told us to budget for this amount \$324,906.00 but this is the whole amount including the beginning of the year. Our question to ASC office was "this will be confusing to our community and the MIP system." We let them know that we should have budgeted for the remaining balance out of this \$324,906.00, but they said according to the legislation it states to budget the whole amount. Once we budget from the beginning of the year, we will submit this amount and hopefully we will receive the other half of the amount for the following months until fiscal year end. So, this \$324,906.00 is for the "whole" fiscal year.

Doris Benallie – Legally according to Title 26, we should not be approving a resolution which does not give the correct amount. I request to hold off on this resolution until the next meeting. Veteran funds is my concern.

Maria, CSC – If we hold off on this resolution the Chapter will not be able to provide needed services to our community and we won't be able to pay our bills and staff because we will not have the funding. We may have to close the Chapter due to lack of funds. This legislation affected all the Chapters across Navajo and they were given the number for the whole amount of funds for their fiscal year. This directive is coming from OOC Department. Right now, I've laid off the 3 PEP workers and I'll be laying off our heavy equipment operator and the office assistants as well. I don't have money in Fund 03 which we use to pay utilities and other Chapter bills. We are very low in our housing discretionary fund so we can't assist our community members who are requesting for assistance.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – You mentioned you received legislation, where is the legislation coming from?

Maria, CSC – Legislation was given to me by the ASC. I was hoping our Council Delegate or LDA would be in attendance to help me explain why they wanted us to handle this allocation like I mentioned.

Lee Rodgers – So, this \$324,906.00 amount is technically half spent already since Council did not give us the whole amount at the beginning of new fiscal year. Now, the only way we can start spending the other half is by passing this resolution.

Doris Benallie – This financial statement was given to us at the last meeting as of February 2025. This resolution you are talking about, are you speaking about October 2024 to this fiscal year?

Maria, CSC – Yes, that's correct.

Treva Roanhorse – The original budget that you guys submitted for this fiscal year, what was that amount? Is it the \$324,906.00 you requested for the year? Then the continue resolution happened and they gave us 50% of this amount. If you had submitted this amount for October to September what is the balance after the 6 months? If you submitted the \$324,906.00 for the full year, should you have money to pay for bills without laying off staff? I don't understand how you have layoffs if you asked for the \$324,906.00 from the beginning of the fiscal year. You should have some money leftover to keep staff on. How did this happen, is it because you didn't get the full other 50%?

Maria, CSC – The whole 50% is not just budgeted into the PEP fund, it's budgeted into Veterans, Summer Youth, fund 03, housing discretionary, and scholarships. I have 5 categories under PEP which is the laborer, heavy equipment, office assistant, receptionist, and the trash attendant. I had to budget the amounts to cover up to March but they do not work every day, like the equipment operator. At the beginning of the year, we had to budget their hourly wage which is different for each PEP worker. The funds barely made it to March, but from today's financial report we have \$5624.66 left in the account which covers the 5 positions along with their FICA, SUTA, and workmen's compensation. The operator only has \$680.00 left. The laborers are in the negative \$-2,600.00. The Office Specialist is in the negative \$-156.00 and the office assistant has \$386.00. I also have the trash station attendant who has \$1000.00. This means I can only keep the trash station opened for another 2 weeks.

Vice President Rodgers – You have to remember, we are in the 7th month and Maria has done an amazing job working with what she had. The council barely approved the 2nd half of the budget just now. Maria had to move funds around to make ends meet every month.

Doris Benallie – This \$324,906.00 should have read \$198,000.00 since we are 50% way through the year.

Maria, CSC – This fiscal year budget does not include Sales Tax and Unhealthy Food Tax, so you minus the amounts for Sales Tax and Unhealthy Food Tax from budget and it will bring the budget amount down drastically.

Doris Benallie – Workforce employees' salary does not come out of our budget, right? Are you utilizing her at 100% with office work?

Maria, CSC – Yes, it does not come out of our budget. She will be the only one in the office with me after I layoff the PEP workers.

Geneva Begay – With the workforce coming into effect we will have a lot of students applying for workforce. I think we should keep the workforce staff working here and keep the PEP workers laid off until the workforce funds run out and then we can bring back the PEP workers. This way we can save some money.

Motion: Herman Dennison 2nd Lillian Barney Vote: 15-0-3

2. **040-04-2025:** Resolution to approve the FY 2025 chapter's activities general fund account revenue budget (Fund 01) in the amount of \$5,829.38 for the 2nd quarter, January, February, and March 2025.

Motion: Herman Dennison 2nd Lillian Barney Vote: 17-0-1

3. **041-04-2025:** Resolution to approve a Budget Transfer within Fund 23 in the Navajo Nation Sales Tax Fund in the amount of \$2,000 to replenish Operating Supplies.

Motion: Orlinda Nez 2nd Herman Dennison Vote: 16-0-2

4. **042-04-2025:** Resolution to approve the fiscal year budget and allocation of \$18,197.00 for the Navajo Nation Unhealthy Food Tax fund.

Motion: Herman Dennison 2nd Orlinda Nez Vote: 15-0-3

5. **043-04-2025:** Resolution to recommend and approving the Housing Discretionary Assistance Fund 09 for the following community member, Benson Badonie.

Motion: 1st Doris Benallie 2nd Geneva Begay **Vote:** 18-0-1

6. **044-04-2025:** Resolution to add Elvis Bitsilly to the Wells Fargo Bank as a signatory for Tohatchi Chapter.

Motion: 1st Fern Spencer 2nd Priscilla Duncan **Vote:** 18-0-1

- X. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Maria, CSC – As of Monday, on Earth Day we starting picking up trash from mile post 21 all the way to the High School. I want to say thank you to all who participated. The Chapter served hamburgers and hot dogs for all the participants. We have 2 large trash bins which are completely filled and will be picked up tomorrow. I wish the high school would participate and pick up all the trash around their school. I will reach out to Kevin Mitchell.

Those of you who have seniors graduating this year, Janice and I will be at the high school on May 7th to do voter registration at 11:30am. They will need CIB, Social Security Card, and their ID. Just as a reminder, the Chapter house is booked for the next 3 months for graduation receptions. The heavy equipment operator will be on call only beginning on Monday until we can replenish the fund. Our cemetery is full currently and we will not be taking burials until our new cemetery policy is completed. I am working with Rollie's to get this policy completed. Just for your information the trash bins were purchased by our County Commissioner, Ms. Danielle Notah. Thank you, Danielle. The application for the Summer Youth Employment Program will open up on May 12th if we receive our funding from W/R. The deadline is June 6th which is the last day of school. I hope to employ the students for one whole month and workforce also has a summer youth employment program and they will be hiring as well. They will hire students for 2 months with their program. Please remember, we will only consider one student per family and we do have projects that been lined up for our students to work on, for example; the park and making signs. The students will not be answering the phones because we've had complaints before. Crownpoint workforce has already placed their students at the Tohatchi Middle and High schools, but we will be placing our students at the elementary and Chapter.

For our fall 2025 college financial assistance will be opening up on May 12th to the end of June. We will vote on the selection during the July meeting so they will get their checks in time for fall semester.

Grazing Officer Moore – District 14 Farm & Ranch Workshop tomorrow April 8th at 9am-3pm. District 14 Grazing Meeting on May 7th at Mexican Springs Chapter at 9am.

Geneva Begay - Red Willow meeting on May 6 at 1pm. I also want to announce that the GPS reading was do ne for the Red Willow Farm. There are 8 ALUPS who applied for permits. Soil testing is also being done today at Red Willow. **CLUPC** Meeting on May 20th at 9am.

- XI. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** May 05, 2025 Planning Meeting @ 10am.

- XII. **ADJOURNMENT:** 1:15 pm

Submitted by,



Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter May 01, 2025

cc: Vacant, President

Ms. Lee Rodgers, Vice-President

Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer

Ms. Maria Allison, CSC