



April 22, 2026 10:00am
TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

- I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 10:12am
- II. ROLL CALL: President Elvis Bitsilly, Vice President Lee Rodgers, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Officer Gerald Moore, Fern Spencer, and Priscilla Duncan with CLUPC.
- III. INVOCATION: Georgianna Desiderio
- IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Laris Manuelito requested to have her resolution moved up to be the first resolution to vote on.
Secretary/Treasurer Crawford requested to move agenda item #6, financial report to agenda item #7, resolutions. This way the financial report can be given and the resolution #034-04-2026 can be voted on.

Motion: 1. Herman Dennison 2nd Laris Manuelito Vote: 25-0-2

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 18, 2026 MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to read on your own:

Motion: 1st Eulanda Thompson 2nd Virginia Harvey Vote: 20-0-3

V. **PRESENTERS:**

- 1. Phyllis Dawson – Mckinley County Election Office
- 2. Vincent Muskett – Candidate for Mckinley County Commissioner
- 3. Kevin Mitchell – Candidate for Mckinley County Commissioner
- Made a request to be added to the meeting agenda:
- 4. Georgianna Desiderio – Candidate for Mckinley County Assessor
- 5. Ernest Becenti III – Candidate for Mckinley County Commissioner

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Un-table:

028-03-2026: Resolution to the Navajo Office of Environmental Health and Protection to oversee the vendors selling in the Tohatchi area.

Motion: 1st Geneva Begay 2nd Treva Roanhorse Vote: 23-0-1

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

March 2026 Financial Reports –

| MARCH FUND BALANCES | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Chapter Activities Gen Fund | \$32,740.47 |
| 3 | Chapter Claims Fund | \$52,160.41 |
| 8 | Supplemental Youth Fund | \$26,216.13 |
| 9 | Housing Discretionary Fund | \$13,296.28 |
| 10 | LGA Grant Fund | \$62,946.11 |
| 12 | Chapter Stipends | \$36,041.26 |
| 13 | Scholarship General Fund | \$6,042.00 |

| | | |
|----|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 14 | Scholarship Claims Fund | \$7,851.48 |
| 15 | PEP Fund | \$57,989.10 |
| 16 | Veterans Fund | \$14,201.47 |
| 17 | Emergency Fund | \$24,719.71 |
| 23 | NN Sales Tax | \$116,835.88 |
| 25 | NN CIP - \$180,000 | \$12,951.83 |
| 26 | Red Willow Farm | \$590.37 |
| 27 | NN CIP - \$200,000 | \$3,482.39 |
| 40 | Unhealthy Food Tax | \$103,931.87 |
| 61 | Senior Citizen Fund | \$1,851.51 |
| 51 | NAPI | \$2,237.56 |
| 34 | Agriculture & Infrastructure | \$3.68 |
| 80 | General Fixed Assets | |
| | Total Fund Balance | \$576,089.51 |

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – The monthly financial reports indicate we are in balance with our bank, Wells Fargo. Everything was reconciled and we are in balance for the month of March 2026.

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

- 030-04-2026:** Resolution approving the FY' 2026 chapter's activities General Fund account revenue budget (fund 01) in the amount \$3,706.03 for the 2nd quarter, January, February, and March 2026.
Maria, CSC – these funds come from the trash station, the usage of the facility, xerox, fax, and showers.
Motion: 1st Geneva Begay 2nd Virginia Harvey Vote: 26-0-1
- 031-04-2026:** Resolution recommending and approving the Housing Discretionary assistance Fund 09 for the following community members: Virginia Barney and Tyrell Bitsie respectively.
Maria, CSC – Tyrell Bitsie requesting assistance with an archeological survey. He brought in 3 quotes and lowest quote was \$390.00. The chapter will assist with \$300 and Tyrell will be responsible for the difference. Virginia Barney is requesting for major home repairs \$2000 and the lowest bid was from Gallup Lumber at \$2460.17. The chapter will assist with \$2000 and Virginia will be responsible for the difference.
Motion: 1st Laris Manuelito 2nd Fern Spencer Vote: 32-0-1
- 032-04-2026:** Resolution to approving a budget transfer within Fund 15, the Navajo Nation Project Employment Program (PEP) in the amount of \$2,100.00 to replenish the PEP taxes for payroll.
Maria, CSC – I will be laying off the PEP workers at the next of June 2026 when funding runs out. I will be hiring PEP workers during the next fiscal year.
Motion: 1st Fern Spencer 2nd Priscilla Duncan Vote: 21-0-1
- 033-04-2026:** Resolution approving a budget transfer within Fund 25, the Navajo Nation CIP funds in the amount of \$1,500.00 to replenish, repair, and maintenance construction equipment and chapter renovation.
Maria, CSC – I was instructed by the ASC staff from W/R to close out fund 25 & 27 because these funding are not replenished annually for the CIP.
Laris Manuelito – The title of the resolution states \$1,500 but the total on the resolution states \$6,965.90.
Maria, CSC – That is a typo, it should read in the title of the resolution the amount as \$6,965.90 not \$1,500.

Laris Manuelito – as the motion party, I suggest tabling this resolution until the correction has been made and bringing it back at the next chapter meeting.

Motion: 1st Laris Manuelito 2nd Kevin Mitchell **Vote:** No vote was taken

Resolution was tabled.

5. **034-04-2026:** Resolution approving the Chapter's Month Financial report of the combine statements of revenue, expenditures, and fund balances from March 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026.

Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Virginia Harvey **Vote:** 26-0-4

6. **035-04-2026:** Resolution approving a budget transfer within Fund 01, the General Fund in the amount of \$1,494.56 to cover the negative balance for other Professional Fees and to add line-item waste disposal collection.

Maria, CSC –The community of Tohatchi has been asking why the chapter has not provided septic cleaning services for the past 2 years. Previously, we were using Fund 23, the Navajo Nation Sales Tax but W/R informed us that we cannot use Fund 23 for septic cleaning. We had to setup up our own fund account to provide septic cleaning services using Fund 01 (General Fund). We would like to start providing services to people who are low income or are paid once a month. Currently, there is someone who provides septic tank cleaning and is charging \$260.00 which is the lowest price we found. This will be a cost sharing program where the chapter will be paying 75% of the cost and the community member will be responsible for 25% of the cost.

Kevin Mitchell – I suggest the chapter pay the whole \$260 if you really want to help the people in need. I don't believe people with no income or the elderly can afford the \$100 and therefore, they won't sign up for the service.

Maria, CSC – if that is what the community wants to implement, then we will need to go back to the policy to make changes.

Laris Manuelito – On the resolution it states "other professional fees." What are other professional fees?

Maria, CSC – Professional fees could be for land improvements or rental fees if we rented equipment from a store in Gallup. It also can cover registration fees for conferences or trainings.

Laris Manuelito – I recommend you separate the resolutions, by adding line items for the Waste disposal collection and for the transfer of the \$1,494.56 to cover the negative balance by defining 'other professional fees.'

Treva Roanhorse – I agree, these are two different subject areas. You want to add in \$1,494.56 to cover negative balance and then add in a line-item for the collection of the waste disposal.

Motion: 1st Laris Manuelito 2nd Treva Roanhorse **Vote:** 25-7-2

Resolution was tabled and will be brought back in 3 months.

7. **036-04-2026:** Resolution to approve the new hire of a heavy equipment operator, Mr. Eugene Watson for six months under the Public Employment Program for Tohatchi Chapter.

Maria, CSC – The operator will start on April 20, 2026 to September 25, 2026, 5 hours a day Monday through Thursday, 8am – 1pm. Friday and Saturday only if needed for burials.

Ray Barney – Is there a conflict of interest here? I understand Maria, CSC is related to Mr. Watson.

Maria, CSC – Mr. Watson is not related to me. I had an official and a community member assist with the interview process.

Motion: 1st Grace Detsoi 2nd Laris Manuelito **Vote:** 28-0-2

8. **037-04-2026:** Resolution approving the Navajo Nation Sales Tax allocation of \$76,069.00 for fiscal year 2026 accompanied by a budget in the same amount.

Maria, CSC – Our kitchen was closed by Environmental Health who states the kitchen is lacking a drainage and a vacuum breaker to the sink which should have been done when they remodeled the

kitchen years back. To get those two parts install, it will cost the chapter around \$15,000.00. I had 2 plumbers come in to inspect the drainage and they both gave me a quote. With this budget I did include \$20,000.00 for chapter renovation to cover the expense of the drainage and vacuum breaker. I also added 3 positions for training and assisting with the rural addressing project. These 3 individuals will be placing our signs here in our community. We received our supplies during the 1st week of April and we are ready to go with the installations.

Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Hardy Thompson Vote: 28-0-1

9. **038-04-2026:** Resolution from Red Willow Farm Board requesting the Tohatchi Chapter to support and approve the charge of \$40 per hour for rental fee of the Red Willow tractor.

Motion: 1st Treva Roanhorse 2nd Kevin Mitchell Vote: 26-0-1

10. **039-04-2026:** Resolution requesting Tohatchi Community support and approve Red Willow Farm for in-kind services from Tohatchi Chapter for road work grading within an around the Red Willow farm area.

Motion: 1st Treva Roanhorse 2nd Virginia Harvey Vote: 28-0-1

11. **040-04-2026:** Resolution to support the Ii'ni MarketPlace Ltd. Co. in establishing a Resilience/Health and Energy/Telecom hub including an emergency operation center.

Laris Manuelito – Ii'ni MarketPlace which will be a 5000 feet grocery store, full service and independently owned. The grocery store will incorporate a pharmacy and a wellness center. If that takes off, we can move it another building on site. The store will also have an emergency operation center so we can be prepared and it can be turned into an emergency management area. We've completed surveys at the chapters and I probably will go around with another survey to see what you want to see at the store. I plan to work with the farmers in the area to source the store with healthy foods. The energy and telecom portion will also be self-sustaining so if NTUA and other entities who provide power goes out, we'll have power.

Motion: 1st Eulanda Francis 2nd Herman Dennison Vote: 27-0-3

12. **041-04-2026:** Resolution to support and recommend the oversight committee (DODE) to look into the operations of the Chooshgai Community School.

Veronica Detsoi-Smiley – I'm here to present a resolution to support and recommend the oversight committee, the Department of Dine Education (DODE) to look into the operations of Chooshgai Community School. Part of the resolution is we would like support from the community to have DODE come in to take a look at the areas of the school operations; this includes everything from the school board, finance business office, and academics. I also have employees who have sign and support this because of the things that are going on at the school, the way the operations are run, how the hiring process is being conducted because of the nepotism that is occurring and the way positions are advertised, following policy, and going through the proper channels. Right now, it's difficult to access public information that we should be able to access as employees. When we request for information, we get no response and this is public information that should be given to us; for example, salary schedules which shows how employees are compensated, just like Mckinley County does.

We are asking DODE, the oversight to do an investigation and to determine what the outcome will be. There is also the process called reauthorization where our school is reauthorized to continue operating as a school. The reauthorization was submitted and the chapter supported it. We came in after the reauthorization because we were following the chain of command but we were not listened to, so we came here to the chapter for assistance. I know you all supported the reauthorization, but it says here, you all will support the recommendation to investigate and based on the investigation, if there is a finding, then the chapter can re-send the support letter from DODE. So, we are asking for support from our community for this resolution.

Ray Barney – I am the Vice President of the Chooshgai School Board. I have several people from the school here at the meeting today. I want to say we welcome an investigation because our students are way

below in academic scores because of the teachers at the school. They are not doing a good job as teachers and I recently seen some scores on our students. At the eighth-grade level, the scores show 100% non-proficient. This means they are at 4th or 5th grade level. What are we not doing, we are not doing our jobs. These students will be entering the public schools as 9th graders but they are not prepared for the 9th level. If we don't get reauthorization the school will shut down, there will be no school, no students, and work for the class. That is ok with me, but it's your children who attend school there. If I were a grandparent, I would not put my grandchild at this school, I would have them attend another school. With my education, I know about education, academics, transportation, and facilities.

Fern Spencer – I would like to know if Mrs. Smiley has visited the other chapters?

Veronica Detsoi-Smiley – I was schedule to appear at Twin Lakes chapter, but I attended our school board meeting which went over so I had to re-schedule with Twin Lakes chapter. I have visited with legislative services, Navajo Nation HEHC who council me on the things I need to do and I will proceed with that.

Fern Spencer – We recently hosted the district 14 meeting here with all the chapters from District 14 met, the next one is in July so if this continues you can go to their meeting. On the side of education, as a former teacher at Tohatchi High School, it has been an on-going thing. You talk about scores in English, Science, and Math and the students from Choochai were below. With Gallup Mckinley County Schools, we had 2 different areas where we had 1 set of students who were performing and another set who needed the extra help. Once they leave high school, the student has to be performing at a certain level if they want to continue with their education. Years back, we learned that some of our students did not know Math very well, but since then we've had some great teachers who change that, plus we have the program where the students go into Gallup to get that early college education which is very beneficial to our students. I look at the students now and know they are performing much better because we got better teachers who know what they are doing and teachers who are not having substitutes all the time. The other thing is that a lot of our new teachers are former students of ours and that has helped too because they know. We had former school counselors who went up to Chooshgai Community School to talk to their counselors and their teachers to ask how they can help each other so their students can automatically come down to the high school. They were actually bridging the gap between the 2 schools. It is unfortunate we don't have parent teacher meetings or PTA like back in the day. But we really need parent involvement in the student and the school. Tohatchi High School and Chooshgai Community school needs to work together.

Kevin Mitchell – With Gallup Mckinley County, it is a big concern. We stride to increase our scores which will show at the State level how our students are preforming. Our middle school principal is always concerned about the students who come down from Chooshgai because they do so poorly on test which brings our school scores way down. It's a struggle but we have to show growth of the student as well. Like Fern mentioned, parent involvement is very important. I believe our students are so much better off at this time. When I visit the high school, the students will greet me and they are very vocal and give great presentations.

Treva Roanhorse – Like Mr. Barney mentioned, I also welcome an investigation. As a school board, we didn't have quorum until April when Benjamin Bates and Ray Barney came on board. I was approached by Mr. Mitchell when he mentioned the students who come down from Chooshgai Community School are really bringing Tohatchi's scores down. So he had a concerned at that time. We need to look at our teachers and our grades. Our teachers are well paid for their positions and I heard teachers in San Diego make around \$70,000 who were on strike. Our teachers are making more than that. So, we will be going to DODE for reauthorization. Last year there was a finding in the finance department which was under the previous administration which will pop up again this year. If you pull that support resolution for reauthorization I can guarantee you, the school will shut down. Also our enrollment has decreased from

200 to 173 students and we'll know why when they do the investigation, so I am looking forward to it. They will look at the teachers and they'll do a complete investigation. The teachers hold certifications as teachers, but are they committed to teaching? They are well paid and should be in the classrooms teaching our students. Are they really committed or is the board members committed? I asked some of the teachers if our 8th students are reading at 8th grade level or higher? The answer was no, they are reading at 4 and 5 grade level, why is that? I've been board members for the past year and these concerns are being put on us and we are taking responsibility for that. So again, I do welcome an investigation. I also want to mention a lot has to do with people's attitudes, which I see.

The responsibility of DODE is if there is a compliant submitted, they are suppose to put a team together to review it. Before we came on board as board members and had our 1st meeting, there was already a petition/resolution out there. We never heard from the Board of Dine Education, the principal had requested for the petition but we never received it. We don't know what was written in the petition but now I understand there is another petition floating around. We will be requesting to see these petitions, but I don't know if it will be given to us. If the school were to be shut down, it will impact a number of people who are employed at the school, but we do welcome the investigation. I worked for DODE overseeing special education and rehabilitation services. I glad these issues have come up and we will see who is really working and who is not. I also want to establish that collaboration with Gallup Mckinley County School and with that I hope our incoming 8th graders will be at 8th grade level or higher when they make that transition to other schools.

Mr. George Waybenais (Academic Director) – I've been in law enforcement and the military, went back to school and became a math teacher and went back to school again to receive my Master's degree. I retired from education 2 years ago and was recently hired at Chooshgai Community School as the academic director. I was working at Twin Lakes Senior Center at the time and when I decided to accept a position at Chooshgai School. I was asked by staff at the Senior Center if I was sure I want to work there because there were a lot of issues and there were going to be challenges. I started my employment with the School on November 15, 2025 and yes there are issues, but I'm pushing for a total school FIRM plan. I've asked for surveys from people to tell me what needs to be done at the school. I've received surveys from the students to tell me what they wanted, what some the issues are. I'm looking at my data, I see there is definitely some work that needs to be done. Mr. Barney came into my office and we talked and I invited him to our next school improvement plan to see what is going on. I want to know from our staff why our students' scores are so low. What is the problem? I know there are a lot of issues, like home issues, attendance problems, or it could be curriculum or instruction, I don't know. That's something we need to determine at the school. I believe we have one heck of a task. We'll be having "a Plan for Learning" which is a school improvement plan, it includes the whole staff, facility, business, everybody. We are all involve with this including transportation. We are there because of those kids, that's way we have a job. I'm going to do my best to work with the board and the staff. I'm doing evaluations right now and my recommendations are being discussed right now which will be worked out with the board. I've gotten to know all the teachers and I've always looked at somebody can be improved. I think we have some good teachers but we also have some teachers who need to change their attitudes. I'm aware of them and I know who they are. Hopefully, I can get them to change their ways, if not they can work elsewhere. That is my commitment and that's where I'm coming from. I'm happy to be at Chooshgai and I'm going to do everything in my power to get our school back in the right direction.

Doris Benallie – I have experience working at Chooshgai Boarding School. I worked in the athletic department and I also heard about the deficiencies at the school at Sheep springs Chapter as well. We do have students from Sheep springs that attend Chooshgai School. I'm glad to hear you'll be making improvement which is really needed.

Julia Thompson – I have 2 grandchildren attending Chooshgai Community School, one is in the 8th grade and the other is in the 3rd grade. I've been observing how the teachers are educating our children and my grandchild who is in the 3rd grade is home schooled. The teacher will come to my home to meet with us and go over lesson plans and assignments with us. The teacher is very patient with us and explains lessons well. I am a very involved grandparent by making sure my grandchildren keep their grades up by completing their assignments. I am always at the school to keep informed and making sure my grandchildren are getting the education they deserve. Now days, the bus drivers won't just drop off your student at the bus stop, you have to be there as a parent waiting for your child. I have also seen teachers who give 100% to their students, and there is other who are just there for their paycheck. Good educators will stay after work and work with your child. I just want you to know Chooshgai Community School is not all bad. My granddaughter who is in 8th grade is currently on a school trip to New York.

I attend the school board meetings and I've been encouraging the parents of our students to start attending these meetings as well. They can also enter the classroom of their child to observe what and how things are being taught. I've even invited the school board members to come down to the school to observe as well. I asked them to come to the classrooms and talk with the teachers and see what they may need to provide a better education for our students. So, I'm supporting the teachers at the school.

Eulanda Thompson – I had 2 students at Chooshgai Community School, but I recently withdrew my daughter because of the things she was sharing with me which was very displeasing. She spoke about the indirect comments and attitudes of the staff, especially the teachers. I was also treated in that manner when I was in elementary and high school at Tohatchi. So, I'm now home schooling my daughter and I can see the change and the difference in her. Sadly, my son is still there and he also shares the remarks being made. It sounds like our students are being blamed for the low-test scores, but I feel it goes both ways. The teachers need to come up with new strategies to teach our students instead of blaming them. I also agree with what Julia Thompson had stated and of course there are the nepotisms which every entity experiences. I felt like the staff and teachers did not want to listen to what I wanted to say. The staff and teachers should all be licensed and certified and know their policy and procedures. They need to listen to the parents of the students because they hold the most power over the school. When I withdrew my children from Tohatchi Public School, Chooshgai School took us in and they were respectful unlike Tohatchi Elementary who were so disrespectful. Hopefully, the public school has changed for the better.

Sarah Tom – I have observed with my own eyes that the teachers at Chooshgai Community School are not very interested in teaching our students. I worked with the NN pre-school and with the McKinley County Schools. We often had surprise visits from the principal of the school to see how we were working with the kids. I'm glad these issues are finally coming to surface and will be resolved. I want to see the teachers' pay more attention to our students so they can get the education they need. So, thank you for bringing these issues and concerns into light.

Geneva Begay – My children attended school at Chooshgai Community School. My 8th grade son got to go on the New York school trip a while back. I want to thank the school for providing such a trip for them. I appreciate the recreational activities that the school provides and the housing as well. The students from outside our community or outside our state come to Chooshgai School as a dorm student. They get their own room and are taught daily cleaning tasks and students always compliment the food that is served at the school. I'm not sure where all the issues are coming from or where the system broke. I would like to make a motion on this resolution to say "bring the school back up to par." We need to support the school for our students.

Veronica Detsoi-Smiley – I can clarify some of the information. At Chooshgai, I'm an intervention teacher in middle school. I help students who have gaps in their learning with reading and math. We also have intervention teachers for low grades K-5th grade and those teachers help those students especially because

they cannot read. So, those students come to get help to learn to read. So, we have these services and they mentioned the test scores. I know those scores because I'm the test coordinator at the school. Last year, we had another person working as the test coordinator who has left the school. Because of the changeover and letting the previous principal go, it caused chaos for us down at the school and the school board does not realize what chaos it caused. The things that the staff did at the school, when those people left there was nobody to do it. So, currently the staff had to pick up all those duties and at the time I was the SAT student assistant coordinator last year to help those students who needed help or needed to be referred to special education. Last year we got services for 3 students and this year we had 4. I couldn't do the duties this year because I was doing the testing coordinator position so I turned it over to a colleague of mine who took on the duties. So with that, we had 4 students qualify for special education, but there are so many issues and you talk about teachers. I've had a discussion with the principal and the academic head and so has Dr. Becenti, the academic coach. From the beginning of the year, we met with the principal to go over the needs of the school and the things we had done, but he did nothing. Dr. Becenti kept emailing him to say these concerns need to be addressed but they were ignored. So, I know the test scores. We have been the one asking what are we going to do about the test scores, how are we going to address that? Some of us are trying to address the issues, but we can't do it without leadership who will not take accountability for evaluating those teachers and letting those teachers who should not be there go. We agree, we do have those kinds of teachers, but again it starts with leadership. We can't do this alone. We tried to say it but we don't have that authority. My position is being eliminated so they are saying we don't need your position. And again, we don't know if it's favoritism because our position was created as Mr. Waybenais talked about the BIE 1 Plan which is the Student Improvement Plan. It is not a new process, we do this every year for school improvement and it just has not been done by leadership. In March, we were notified by BIE that we were out of compliance. These were issues with the budget and it had to be justified. They asked us to get a team together which included Dr. Becenti and four other teachers. We worked on the justifications but there were areas we could not justify or touch because it was unethical for us to justify. So we asked BIE what's going to happen when the deadline comes and we are still out of compliance? I asked them 3 times and they would not respond. We wanted BIE to come in to investigate our school but they didn't. Instead, we did the minimum and they approved it for last year so we were spending money without an approved budget from BIE all the way to the end year. And then a new plan came in about 2 weeks ago, the principal sent it out and it was a copy of last year. The document had names of people who are no longer working at the school. The person at BIE rejected the document and said you need to do what the plan says which is to collaborate with all the departments at the school. Then we are suppose to put the plan together from analyzed data. Dr. Becenti has continued to email the administrators asking when are we going to have a data meeting, when are we going to analyzed the data? We need to do a root cause analysis to find what is causing the problem, from there we come up with goals, here are our strategies, here are the resources and the personnel we need to do that. Part of it was our oral reading fluency, but our students could not read the letters and that is why the interventionist were brought in as part of the plan. Now, a couple of weeks ago at the board meeting the organizational chart indicated they are planning to eliminate our positions The board did not share this information with us, we had to hear from other sources which is part of the issue. Things are being done without doing the plan. The school board and the administration are deciding what should be done, but they should be doing this collaboratively with all departments including the teachers. Along with all this is the budget which goes along with the resources and the personnel. The budget is aligned with how much we are going to spend so if they don't know the budget how will they determine whose position will be eliminated and who they plan to add. Yes, we are losing students but the school registrar should be collecting this data and those are things we talk about and we recommend. Again we don't have the authority to do it. So, we try our hardest and they talk about

comment. The person who left was the AD and now we don't have an athletic director. Nobody wanted to coach because everybody was afraid and some people were being turned down. So, I have been the cross-country coach for the past 3 years with Shelby. There was no volleyball coach so I took over coaching volleyball and helped Shelby on weekends just so the students would have these sports available to them. Shelby is also coaching basketball, but she is not paid because it has been rejected. So, we are having these issues at the school currently and we need help. And it doesn't bother us if the school closes because right now it's just a paycheck for a lot of people, especially in administration. They don't know what it is like down in academics. We are doing the hard work and they are just collecting a paycheck. So, if they want to eliminate positions, they need to look at all the areas not just academics where we provide the direct services.

Kevin Mitchell – I just want to add when we approved the support resolution for reauthorization for the school we had recommendations. One was to meet with DODE to ensure that happens and we are being told it hasn't happened. I believe it needs to be demanded from DODE or is DODE just sitting back waiting for you to fail and close the door. This meeting really needs to take place and that's what I advise.

Motion: 1st Eulanda Francis 2nd Grace Detsoi Vote: 26-0-1

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: District 14 Grazing Meeting at Naschitti at 9am. RWF Board Meeting on May 5th at 1pm and on May 12 at 1pm. CLUPC Meeting on May 12 at 9am.

Tohatchi High School graduation on May 22, 2026.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE May 4, 2026 (Planning Meeting) at 10am.

X. AJOURNMENT: 1:33pm

Submitted by



Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter **May 01, 2026**

cc: Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, President

Ms. Lee Rodgers, Vice-President

Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer

Ms. Maria Allison, CSC