



August 19, 2026 10:00am

TOHATCHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 10:22am

II. ROLL CALL: President Elvis Bitsilly, Vice President Lee Rodgers, Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crawford, and Grazing Officer Gerald Moore. Fern Spencer and Priscilla Duncan, CLUPC. Geneva Begay and Sam Natonbah Jr with Red Willow Farm.

III. INVOCATION: Caroline Tom

IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

A request was made to add Evangeline Muskett supervisor of Senior Center to give report and Lucinda Frank requesting assistance. Also to add on Resolution #074-08-2026 to agenda.

Motioning party accepted the add-ons to the agenda.

May Fern Dennison – I want to mention that Senator Ben Ray Lujan held a community listening session and roundtable at the United Way Conference Room in Farmington, NM, focusing on home care and caregiving challenges in tribal and rural areas.

V. APPROVAL OF THE July 22, 2026 MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to read on your own:

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

VI. PRESENTERS:

1. **Catrina Alberts** – I'm from Flagstaff and my parents from in Leupp, AZ. I've covered the importance of frogs for the environment. Today I want to talk more about the resolution and the interviews and what that will look like. The resolution will include interviews at chapter houses that surround the Chooshgai Mountains that's where my research takes place. So I'm looking at 10 different chapter houses and Tohatchi chapter is one of them. I want to be able to conduct interviews with people who live in this community and just learn different things. Some of the questions will involve what kinds of frogs' people have seen and what kind of cultural stories people have about these species. How we can protect the water in the mountains and how that water in the mountains and the land in general is important to the community and to your livelihood and to be able to write that up in a report to share with Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife. I'm hoping as a community we will be able to build a conservation plan to be able to protect the frogs, the water, and the land up in the mountains. I also hope to also work on this with the community because a lot of times in conservation that is the aspect that's missing. We don't often go to the people that are affected by it and we don't ask how that affects them, and where they live so I think that's a big thing that missing. That's one of the things I want to bring up with this project is to really start putting that as a 1st thing moving forward in conservation with the Department of Fish & Wildlife. That no matter what species we are looking at frogs, bears that the community input matters more than just what we learn from text books. We learn so much more from the community and by being able to implementing that into a conservation, I think it will be able to help a lot more than if we just decided on our own. So far what I've been able to do is get resolutions from the different agencies across different chapters. I've received 8 out of 10 approved resolutions and I also received letters of

support from the Department of Fish & Wildlife. So, all this information will be submitted to the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board to be able to conduct these interviews. So, the 1st step would be to submit that application, hopefully get an approval, conduct the interviews and coming back continually to work on this conservation plan to submit to Fish & Wildlife. So, this is really what the resolution is for to work together as a community to create a conservation plan which would include restoring things in the mountains and creating education for the youth. I know a lot of the chapters had mentioned working with the summer youth programs and that's something I'm very happy because I love to teach the youth and I think that would be something exciting.

For the interviews, the participant will receive \$25 and I will be looking to hire a translator as well and will be a paid position and I'll be hiring from the chapters.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Will you be bringing people along with you to do this research project?

Catrina Alberts – Yes, there are undergraduates who want to do get research experience through the university and will listening for the frogs, but as far as the interviews, I'll be doing the interviews and it will be private.

Fern Spencer – Are you planning to go out to the different schools in our area?

Catrina Alberts – I would love to do that if the chapters will allow me too. I would love to work with the students.

May Fern Dennison – When does this project start?

Catrina Alberts – Right now, I'm working on getting all the approvals and getting it submitted to the Human Research Review Board and I've heard this will take a couple of months and once that is completed, I'll start the interviews.

Carol Tom – Going back to our traditional ways, we were told to leave the frogs alone because it can cause sickness which we don't have medicine men to repair anymore. I'm wondering what this research of the frogs entails other than the purpose of conservation and taking care of 4-legged animals. You only see frogs when it rains and because of the long drought we don't see them. How is this conservation plan being discussed, is it just the mountain areas or is the flat areas included. I also want to mention in our Navajo ways is that you don't bother the frogs. So, have you been blessed by medicine man to be working with frogs?

Vice President Rodgers – So, let me interpret, in our culture it's taboo to handle frogs. If you do it might cause physical formalities in the future and we don't have medicine men to repair the condition anymore. When you took this research project, did you think about that. Did you take into consideration and did you have a prayer done before you started the project. How do you feel about that as part of the process in your research study?

Catrina Alberts – I think conservation is super important which includes cleaning up our mountain and making sure the wetlands stay there more permanently rather than how they have been. Sometimes they dry up for a couple of years and making those water resources are more constant. There are different ways to go about that, they do dam diversions, they bring in beavers to help build this area up to keep the water there and that's something we can talk about as a community to decide what works best. This ties into what we want to teach the youth is the importance of having that water and the importance of knowing that the species are there because they tell us that the water is healthy and it's good to live in these areas because they are very sensitive to the environment. So, these frogs tell us so much more about the environment and the ecosystem.

As far as the cultural part, I was heavily thinking about the research and my mother did not like it. I've heard the stories from my grandparents and they are the one who got me into this. So, that's something that really did weigh on me. Yes, it was something I worried about; my families' opinions and thoughts

and culture. When we design this project, it wasn't about going out hunting or experimenting with these frogs.

Laris Manuelito - I want to commend you for getting up there and facing our community members. What I would recommend to our community needs to be a little more empathetic and compassionate to our young ones as they go and strive to do these things for us and not to be so narrow minded and stern with them. We should be encouraging them rather than questioning them; do you know this? do you know that. It's research and something she needs to do to get her PhD. She's been through a lot of school so we should be encouraging her. It upsets me because she had to become emotional and we shouldn't be in that mindset. If you want to come by and see the frogs where I live, your more than welcome.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – We have a majority of our children who go on to higher education and they come across a lot of things like the taboos that were mentioned. For example; the ones who want to become doctors and nurses and they have to deal with that. So, I understand where you are coming from. Like you mentioned, the frogs are a part of our ecosystem and we have to know what they are doing to come up with solutions and resolutions. I also commend you.

Grazing Officer Moore – I think all want to know who is Kermit the Frog.

Vice President Rodgers – I also want to commend you on your research project and your diligent. Conservation is an issue that people are aware of but in one fashion or another, our ancestors lived with it daily. They knew about conservation more than we will experience ourselves. As far as taboo and subjects like that, you said you've been exposed to it, you're aware of it and I'm sorry we made you feel emotional but I can see from your facial expression, you are very passionate about this research project and we hope to hear you've earned your PhD.

2. **Laris Manuelito** - I like to talk about conservation, I understand there are current laws for our Bear Ears, Chaco Canyon, and the Grand Staircase-Escalante. I attending uranium meeting recently and there are talks. to do more uranium mining or extraction from Churchrock when they haven't started the cleanup of that area. The meeting was held during the Ceremonial parade so nobody would attend. So, the majority of the people who attended were the RedWater Pond community and the families affected. If you are not aware, babies are now being born with uranium in their blood and disabilities. We also heard of the truck carrying uranium that flipped over up north. This is the President Nygren's initiative to allow uranium to be transported across Navajo. One person at the meeting called the uranium issue a "legacy issue," when whole families have died from uranium. They need to schedule two more public hearings to renew their permit to not just drill.

Bear Ears is a Trump initiative, back in 2017 he tried to take Bear Ears. This time around, he's increase it to 96% so we only have 100 of 1000 of Bear Ears left out of a million. Some of our sacred spot and archeological areas. Earlier this week two mining firms have already stake claims on Bear Ears and one in Staircase-Escalante. I like to ask Council Delegate Notah at their next meeting what their current stances the Council has on this all the way up to the Federal level. How are we fighting this? As a chapter I want to present a resolution to include all 3 of the places to go all the way back to Council to reinforce our stance stating they cannot take our sacred areas.

Council Delegate Notah – There has been discussions on drafting a legislation on that particular issue. There has not been anything presented but in general there is a legislation from the Navajo Nation addressing their opposition against destroying or mining in those areas.

Laris Manuelito – Do we need new resolutions to support that all the way to up when it comes to legislation going through again? That chapters can have updated resolutions supporting not taking Bear Ears and giving back all of the acres. Also speaking to uranium in Chaco Canyon?

I also like to mention the possibility of doing a walk from here to Bear Ears to show them we as a

people/community are serious. Navajo Land is not for sale. Another thing is ICE was seen at a pow-wow in the Sioux Nation. They are beginning to think they can come on to our lands. I think this needs to be addressed as well.

Council Delegate Notah – I believe we would need a resolution that is more specific to the topic of not allowing mining or extraction to occur at Bear Ears and the uranium mining in Chaca Canyon and Church Rock. Right now, the legislation is just a general topic regarding these areas.

Evangeline Muskett – I'm here to talk about the closure again of the Senior Center. The Center was shut down yesterday morning due to our HVAC system not working. It's been extremely hot inside the building and we brought out fans to mitigate the situation. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) employee came out one day with a temperature gauge and said the room is at 86% and the kitchen is even worse. He said the building cannot continue to operate at current temperatures. I've been in touch with my supervisor, Lesita Desidero several times regarding the HVAC, but nothing was done to correct the situation. All I hear from my supervisor is her hands are tied. So, yesterday at 3:00pm my supervisor called me to tell me about the closure. She said she was planning to share the email with Sherylene Yazzie, Director, Department of Health. I let my supervisor, Lesita know I plan to have the Senior Center staff work out Naschitti during the shutdown. Meals will be delivered from Naschitti for our community. I'm not sure how this will work out. Twin Lakes is also having the same problems with their HVAC system and they might be looking at being shut down as well.

Vice President Rodgers – We need the assistance of Council Delegate Notah. DALTEC moved from the Department of Health to the Division of Community Development. We met with Community Development here at the chapter and shared the price quotes that were received. We also had another meeting with them this past Wednesday and the problem is the Department of Health received funds from the State of NM in the amount of \$150,000 for Tohatchi to purchase a new HVAC system and repair the roof. These funds have not been expended and just sitting with Department of Health and we are afraid the funds might be reverted back to the State. There is no communication between Department of Health and the Division of Community Development, but the Division of Community Development is ready to assistance our Senior Center as soon as the Department of Health releases the funds. I'm asking Council Delegate to intervene and have Department of Health release the funding.

Council Delegate Notah – You are correct, we have \$150,000 from the State of New Mexico and the Department of Health is literary sitting on the funds. Unfortunately, this is a problem across Navajo, but I have talked with Sherylene Yazzie who is from Coyote Canyon and she is generally helpful in making sure that District 14 is taken care of. I'm surprise this is happening under her watch. I have asked LDA Casey Begay to look into this by visiting both the Department of Health and Division of Community Development. It's unfortunate that this is occurring, because we all knew the HVAC needed to be repaired or replaced. It's also hard to get upper management to move on projects. It is difficult at times. So, we will work on this as a team with everybody involved. We are also looking into hiring our own project managers using ARPA funds. I encourage the next person voted in as the council delegate to really work on getting our chapter certified.

Laris Manuelito – I would like to recommend getting a new Senior Center, but it as to start with the Senior Center Supervisor. You'll have to start by making a request to the CLUPC.

Council Delegate – On another note, Navajo Nation DELTECS is not a tribal program, but they do help with Senior Centers. DELTECS is a State and Federal program which funds the Navajo Nation.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

1. NONE

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

July 2026 Financial Reports with Resolution 069-08-2026.

JULY FUND BALANCES		
1	Chapter Activities Gen Fund	\$33,062.68
3	Chapter Claims Fund	\$35,365.40
8	Supplemental Youth Fund	\$12,683.26
9	Housing Discretionary Fund	\$6,128.38
10	LGA Grant Fund	\$52,377.74
12	Chapter Stipends	\$22,757.50
13	Scholarship General Fund	\$3,442.00
14	Scholarship Claims Fund	\$2,451.48
15	PEP Fund	\$14,966.50
16	Veterans Fund	\$11,137.22
17	Emergency Fund	\$21,286.83
23	NN Sales Tax	\$109,093.13
25	NN CIP - \$180,000	\$1,627.56
26	Red Willow Farm	\$590.37
27	NN CIP - \$200,000	\$2,911.17
40	Unhealthy Food Tax	\$100,649.05
61	Senior Citizen Fund	\$1,695.55
51	NAPI	\$2,237.56
34	Agriculture & Infrastructure	\$3.68
	General Fixed Assets	
	Total Fund Balance	\$527,844.60

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

Carol Tom – Which fund does the travel for CSC and officials come out of?

Maria, CSC – Travel expense comes from Fund 23 for administration staff and Fund 10 is for officials.

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

- 069-08-2026:** Resolution approving the Chapter's monthly financial report of combine statements of revenue, expenditures, and fund balances from July 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026
Motion: 1st Sonny Moore 2nd May Fern Dennison **Vote:** 16-0-4
- 070-08-2026:** Resolution recommending and approving the Housing Discretionary Assistance Fund 09 for the following community member: Hilda Sneddy respectively.
Maria, CSC – Hilda Sneddy received quote in the amount of \$1,225.13 from TruFix Appliance for bathroom renovation to make it handicap assessable.
Motion: 1st Ethel Manuelito 2nd Geneva Begay **Vote:** 18-0-1
- 071-08-2026:** Resolution approving a budget transfer within Fund 23 the Navajo Nation Sales Tax Fund in the amount of \$5,091.74 to establish a line item for temporary salary and taxes for office specialist to return and extend her employment for Tohatchi chapter beginning August 24, 2026 to October 30, 2026.

Maria, CSC – Toward the end of the fiscal year is usually when the chapter runs out of PEP funding. The Office Specialist, Janice Begay, has been employed here at the chapter for many years. She was working on the FRF projects and the property and inventory documents which is being requested by the auditors. These are priority projects and I'll need some help from Janice to complete. Also, the AMS Jeannie Muskett and I will be on travel next week for training from Tuesday to Friday. I need someone here during our absent. With the assistance of the ASC, Patricia Begay we worked out a budget to bring Janice back to the office.

Lillian Barney – Requested to have the word “return” to “retain” on the resolution heading.

Carol Tom – stated we should be using the words “we and our” not “I or my” when addressing the community to let them know we all have access to them as chapter members. Words do matter and make a difference.

Motion: 1st Fern Spencer 2nd Sonny Moore **Vote:** 18-0-2

4. **072-08-2026:** Resolution supporting and approving the research study: ribbiting stories understanding Dine perspectives on amphibians and norther leopard frog conservation in the Chooshgai Mountains.
Maria, CSC – The PEP employees will be layoff at the end of the month.

Motion: 1st Fern Spencer 2nd Priscilla Duncan **Vote:** 22-0-1

5. **073-08-2026:** Resolution approving the Tohatchi Chapter's acknowledgement of an emergency condition chapter resolution no. 073-08-2026.

President Bitsilly – The monsoon rain which have affected our communities on Navajo. A request for a resolution was made during our Planning meeting to help our community during emergency situation. The Commission on Emergency Management approved a resolution that speak to emergency situation Resolution CEM 26-004, in response to that and the community we (Officials and Staff) drafted a resolution. A template of the CEM 26-004 resolution was shared with all 110 chapters across Navajo which we used to draft this resolution 073-08-2026. We've had some downpour of rain recently which has cause flood in our community. We would like to use the Chapter's emergency funding as soon as possible to assist our community members. We have roads which have been washed out, roofs that are leaking, and muddy areas. We are working with NNDOT, Emergency Management, Department of Community Development, and resources. There was also a previous resolution addressing the drought conditions on Navajo. District 14 does have in place an emergency plan, but it's outdated. The last time it was review was in 2018. We will need to get together as a district 14 to get this emergency plan updated. Our Chapter does have an emergency plan in place along with a resolution which was drafted back in 2024. I also want to mention we are working on the rural addressing project.

Carol Tom – I've read the emergency resolution and I would like to make a recommendation to add everything from the CEM 26-004 resolution after the wording of “Now, Therefore Be It Resolved That.” That way we will have captured all the covered emergencies listed in the resolution. The resolution addresses almost every emergency and this way we won't be leaving anything out. We will be prepared and ready to assist our community members using our chapter resolution. I'm wondering if the Council Delegate has been allocated funding for emergencies as well.

Eulanda Manuelito – President Nygren had mentioned there is funding approved to repair roads, but every time I asked for assistance with my road I'm told they can't because my road is a BIA road. Our road has been destroyed from the recent rains and I'm requesting on behalf of my neighbors as well who get food delivered or received home health care. The chapter's grader is always down or don't have anyone to drive it. It sounds like the chapter already has the emergency funding and when I request for assistance, I'm told there is not funding.

President Bitsilly – This resolution will fund the road repairs and washouts. Also, unfortunately our grader is not in the best of condition, but we will work with it to try to repair the roads in our community.

Laris Manuelito – Water has affected our road, but my uncle has a tractor to repair some of the damage from the rain. The road is passable and it's ok, but I saw red markings and red stakes alongside of the road. I'm grazing permit holder and I'm wondering why I wasn't informed. I don't know who and where that work order came from. I also like to make a request to have the revised resolution 073-08-2026 be read into the minutes (on record) at the next meeting.

Tanya Jim (Navajo Nation Department of Transportation) – I'm your new planner for Ft. Defiance Agency and my personal cell phone number is (928) 209-2652 until I get my new work phone. If you text me, please identify yourself to let me know who you are. The resolution CEM 26-004 states that NNDOT will be assisting with road conditions and it requires a workorder form which I'll be sharing with your President. With the workorder, we need the exact coordinates using your phone. We need as much information as possible from the individuals requesting road assistance and I'll attached the request forms to the CEM 206-004 resolution. There is another form that the chapter should be filling out, if not I can email that form to the chapter. Chapter will authorize the form and it will be covered under the resolution and the CEM Emergency Funds. What I'll have the officials do is email me directly so, I can take that to our roads department. So, it sounds like you might need a culvert in your area Ms. Manuelito.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – The fact they are telling Ms. Manuelito, it's a BIA road doesn't matter, correct?

Tanya Jim – No, not in this case because of the CEM 206-004 resolution signed by Buu Nygren. We are working in collaboration with BIA. So, if it's a county road, we'll work with them as well.

Hilda Sneddy – I live off the 9506 Mexican Springs Road which goes up the mountain. I've requested to have my road grader, but I get the same answer. We don't have an operator or the grader is down. The previous operator did a good job grading my road, but this new operator did a horrible job. Instead of pushing out the runoffs like I ask him to do, but he blocked the runoffs and the water came gushing down the road. I put in another request for the third time and the operator did not show up so I finally had to pay out of pocket to hire another operator who corrected all the damage to my road. While I'm here, I'm going to request to have the operator come out again to make the runoffs deeper so the water will run through there. Also, I want to mention if a person pays for grader service, they should be the 1st person served. I came in to pay for grader service and I was told to wait which is not fair.

President Bitsilly – We do have a skilled operator currently. The person you are referring to is no longer working for the chapter.

Hilda Sneddy – I just saw the same guy driving the grader down the road. So, the guy is still employed by the chapter.

Geneva Begay – With the emergency fund, how is the chapter going to identify the people in our community who can't be reached? Who is out there identifying the roads that need immediate attention for repair? The Senior Center has to deliver food to our community members who can't come to the Center. Where is the CHR? Do we even have a new CHR assigned to our community? We also had community members who have been requesting for culverts for their roads. I don't think the \$20,000 is enough to help everybody. I'm wondering if we can work with the other chapters to assist with road repairs. We should have a partnership in place with the chapters in District 14.

Lucinda Frank – My family is experiencing the same road issues. My son-in-law had to rent a small tractor to repair our damage road so my grandchildren can get to school. I'm also requesting for a culvert.

Sonny Moore, LDA – George Tolt passed a legislation for all 110 chapters to receive more emergency funding. Last, I check, the funding has not hit the chapter as of yet, but that would be an add on to the \$21,000 in emergency funds. I would also like to acknowledge and recognize Tanya Jim from NNDOT and to say “thank you” for attending our meeting. Just to mention, there is another emergency legislation that addresses the drought which has not been approved as of yet. We are still waiting to hear about this legislation.

Fern Spencer – I’m wondering if the road repairs include the roads within the NHA housing area?

Tanya Jim – NHA has the authority over their roads unless they contact us to assist them. NNDOT usually only work on earth roads and we don’t work on residential; yet with this CEM 26-004 resolution we are allowed to by our Division Director, Mr. Platero. So, we are able to assist residences who are off roads. Monsoon season is not over yet so even the culverts that are packed, that workorder on there indicates culvert on one of the sides selections. We can clear out the culvert for you to prevent that because the blockage of the culvert is what is impacting your washed-out roads. The other indicator on there is “other” individuals that have cattleguards and the cattleguards are packed; you can indicate that as well. Just indicate cattleguard is packed and is the cause of your washed-out road.

Secretary/Treasurer Crawford – Just to be clear, NNDOT can assist residence with their roads?

Tanya Jim – Yes, according to President Nygren’s resolution. I just need the coordinates to do the road assessment.

Ethel Manuelito – I live in an NHA house with Navajo Housing Authority. I’ve paid off my house and I don’t fall under NHA now. Tohatchi has a canal from base of mountain to the lake and when it rains the water overflows from the canal and floods onto the housing areas in Tohatchi. The LDS church has put up boulders to keep the flooding away from the church but all the other homes in the area will get flooded. How or can we put in a workorder with NNDOT because it affects all the residential areas. I’m wondering if the water can be diverted from the canal?

Tanya Jim – Who is the NHA housing manager here in Tohatchi? The land withdrawal is specifically with NHA and with homeownership, the acre plot you are on was never withdrawn for the individual home buyers, it’s still under NHA as a duplex. That is why, when you paid off the unit you didn’t get a title to your home. Of course NHA is not going up to bat for the home buyers. We have the same problem with Pigeon Springs in Ft. Defiance. Prior to my 26 years with the Nation, I worked for NHA for 8 years. What will need to happen is a meeting with manager of Tohatchi NHA, Ms. Valerie Wilson to setup an MOU with NNDOT to assist in the residential areas including addressing the flooding. I know every chapter has issues with their equipment; for example, the equipment is down, equipment needs maintenance, or no operator at all. It can get very expensive. The Navajo Nation Risk Management Office, I believe covers the operator here at the chapter and will request for a CDL. Blading can be done by the chapter but archeological clearances have to be done by our Compliance Department with DOT. The reason for archeological clearances is the rain will flood and bring up parts of pottery or anything related to cultural artifacts which has to be reburied. The operators will need to be educated on the process on digging up cultural artifacts.

Also, you should know the BIA is phasing out and currently left with one operator who is covering northern agency and eastern agency who is Clarence Tsosie. A retirement package was offered to the BIA employees and they advantage of it.

Sonny Moore, LDA – I believe the flooding in our community will require more entities and resources to become involved to address this issue. This will require a separate meeting to address the flooding.

Geneva Begay – This issue with the flooding has been brought up before and the diversion gate is closed. There is no water being diverted to the lake due to the eradication project since 2018. We have meetings but we don’t see the community here. We need your input on these issues.

Council Delegate Notah – I would like to setup another meeting NNDOT per suggestion from LDA Moore for educational purposes in terms of the emergency planning. I'm coming from a meeting with Naschitti and they mention that Clarence Tsosie is requesting a resolution so BIA can be of assistance. I'm wondering if BIA is downsizing who is going to do the work? If there is going to be some work done by BIA, I would like to include Tohatchi chapter as well.

Tanya Jim – What Clarence is doing is collecting resolutions from the chapters to show NNDOT that these chapters need assistance. Since he is a one man show, he is letting Platero and Peterman know he needs assistance in these areas.

Carol Tom – There is so much talk about the needs, concerns, and priorities. I'm wondering what CLUPC's role is during this emergency? I would think they should be the ones who know who needs help out there, outside of the boundary of Tohatchi. In our case, we been coming to the meetings regarding our road which is currently washed out. We knew this wash out was coming and we've been asking to have the road repaired. Now, it's a bigger task to ask for resources and funding. So, I encourage the officials and CLUPC to reach out to the families who live outside the boundaries of Tohatchi who may need help. I also recommend the emergency funding that LDA Moore mentioned (George Tolth legislation) be put into this resolution as well.

Motion: 1st Priscilla Duncan 2nd Laris Manuelito Vote: 19-0-1

6. **074-08-2026:** Resolution requesting the Chooshgai School Board, Chooshgai School Administration, the Department of Dine' Education (DODE), and the Department of Public Safety to Rescind and Rectify the action of evicting the Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Personnel (EMT) from their current location on the school premises.

Council Delegate Notah – We had a visit from the EMT staff stating there were being evicted from their location at Chooshgai community housing on September 2nd which would mean they will be servicing us are from Crownpoint. I spoke with the Director for the EMT and what their plans were once they move out. The issue with Chooshgai housing is they don't have enough housing for their staff who have to travel a distance to work. The majority of the housing are dilapidated and cannot not be used. The Director of the EMT program is sending a letter to Chooshgai Community School to ask for an extension. I spoke with the President of the School Board, Mr. Nez. He states the intent was not to remove the EMT staff. He stated there are people who occupy these houses who have nothing to do with the school who should be evicted. The Navajo Nation and the Chooshgai School needs to come to an agreement with a Memorandum so the EMT can stay at the housing until the First Responders Complex is built. So, we are all working to keep the EMTs at their current location at the Chooshgai housing unit. But if they have to move, we are looking at the building next to the Post Office or the building behind the chapter which is the headstart. The headstart would need some majority work bringing it up to an adult facility. And just to mention, the 1st Responders facility's plans and design is completed, but we need \$16 million for construction. The State of NM allocated \$4 million and apparently, they have more funds so they are asking for proposals so Sonny and I will be meeting with them this afternoon to ask for the \$12 million.

Laris Manuelito – I like to recommend we change the wording in the heading of the resolution from rectify to rescind.

Council Delegate Notah – I think we should keep the word rectify, so maybe word it as rescind and rectify, keeping both words in the resolution.

Motion: 1st Laris Manuelito 2nd Ethel Manuelito Vote: 18-0-1

- X. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Grazing Officer Moore-District 14 grazing meeting on September 2nd at Tohatchi at 9am. **Laris Manuelito:** I was able to compile my project management team, my civil engineering team, and my traffic management team. So, they took over what I've been working on for the past 6 years and

now you'll start seeing activities over at the business site. I have a medicine man coming in to do a blessing. The building will be constructed out of steel and not wood. The store will have a small pharmacy.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE: September 08, 2026 (Planning Meeting) at 10am.

XI. AJOURNMENT: 1:50pm

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jean Crawford".

Secretary/Treasurer, Tohatchi Chapter **August 29, 2026**

cc: Mr. Elvis Bitsilly, President

Ms. Lee Rodgers, Vice-President

Mr. Gerald Moore, Grazing Officer

Ms. Maria Allison, CSC