



Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Organization
P.O. Box 336 ~ Crownpoint, New Mexico 87313

Lou Antone, Sr.
Commander

Willetto Freeland
Vice Commander

Frances Morris
Secretary

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

A-G-E-N-D-A

- I. Meeting To Order. Commander Lou Antone, Sr. Appoint a Secretary Pro Temp
- II. Honoring the U.S, Flag, Members & Audience.
- III. Invocation.
- IV. Review and Approving the Agenda. Commander Lou Antone, Sr,
- V. Review and Approving January 8. 2026 Meeting Minutes.
- VI. Reports:
 - 1. Officer(s)
 - 2. Agency Office Administration.
 - 3. Others
- VII. Financial Report: Vice Commander Willetto Freeland.
 - 1. Fiscal Year 2026 Navajo Nation Trust Fund Account.
 - 2. Fund Raising Account.
 - 3. Crownpoint Chapter General Fund Account.
 - 4. Approving Budget Transfer of \$75 from Meeting Stipend Account to Gifts and Awards Account.
 - 5. Stipend approval for Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary and Agency Representative to Agency Veterans Council Meeting.
 - 6. Financial Assistance Requests if funds are available.
- 9 VIII. Unfinished Business:
 - 1, Veterans Cemetery
 - 2. Veterans Park – Site Reommendation.
- 10 IX. Accepting Secretary Frances Morris' Resignation.
- 11 X.1 Announcements:
 - 1. Feb 17, 2026 – Crownpoint Chapter Regular Chapter Meeting @ 12:00 Noon.
 - 2. Mar 3, 2026 – Crownpoint Chapter Planning Meeting@ 12:00 Noon,
 - 3. .Mar 12. 2026 – Veterans Meeting at 10:00 AM/.
- 12 XI. Adjournment:



Happy Valentine's Day



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Lou Antone, Sr.
Commander

Willetto Freeland
Vice Commander
MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2026



Frances Morris
Secretary

I. Meeting to order: Commander Lou Antone, Sr., at 10:06 a.m.
Secretary Letter of Resignation:

- A. Frances Mooris, Secretary: Mrs. Morris said her health is not improving. Today, she is sick with the flu. Her health is preventing her from performing the secretarial duties for the Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Organization. She submitted a Letter of Resignation effective today. However, she expresses appreciation and thanks for the opportunity to provide secretarial support to the Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Organization. She said all the secretarial information is in the binders that she turned over to Commander Lou Antone, Sr., Commander, and Vice-Commander Willetto Freeland.
- B. Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested a volunteer to take the minutes for today’s meeting.
Ms. Lucinda Martin volunteered as pro-temp secretary to take the meeting minutes for today. Commander Lou Antone, Sr., said that at the next meeting on March 12, 2026, a nomination to elect a secretary will be made. Lucinda Martin receives the \$75 secretarial stipend.
- C. Nelson Joe, Member, recommends that the stipend be paid to Lucinda Martin for volunteering to perform secretarial duties for today’s meeting. The Commander and Vice-Commander made this acknowledgement.
- D. Commander Lou Antone, Sr., proceeded to continue with today’s meeting at 10:15 a.m.

II. Honoring the Flag: Membership and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation: Member Jonah Silver.

IV. Review and Approval of the Agenda: Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested membership to review the agenda. Any addition can be made. He is requesting that the agenda include the information he received regarding the Vietnam Memorial Walk on March 24 – 28, 2026.

Action: Mrs. Pauline Freeland moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Jonah Silver seconded the motion. **A Vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained**

- V. Review and Approval of January 08, 2026, Meeting Minutes:** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested membership to review the meeting minutes for corrections or omissions. Mrs. Lucinda Martin requested that the correction from Marin to Martin be made on Page 2, item 4.

Action: A motion was made by Frederick Antonio, which Pauline Freeland seconded. **A Vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

VI. Reports:

A. Officers: Commander Lou Antone, Jr., attended the Eastern Agency Veterans Organization meeting that was held at the Becenti Chapter on 02/11/26.

1. He left the meeting before adjournment due to confusion created by the presiding President, Gilbert Platero. The confusion stems from nonadherence to established/approved policy and procedures for resolution. Resolutions are to be presented to the chapter's veterans' organization for review and approval. The chapter submits its approval of the proposed resolution within a timeframe. The president of the Veterans Agency Organization is responsible for supporting and approving the proposed resolution, which was not being followed. Instead, the presiding Agency Veterans Organization president presented new resolutions and sought approval. The commander stated he and other commanders did not support this practice and left the meeting before adjournment.
2. Commander said any changes to the policy are presented in a written memorandum to provide purpose, explanation, and a vote of approval or disapproval. The memorandum is like the resolution.
3. At the meeting, Kim Johnson was introduced as the President. Buu Nygren, appointed Liaison, was in attendance. Commander said he made time to speak with Kim Johnson about the issue. He did not support the nonadherence to established/approved policies and procedures for resolution.
4. Commander said he informed Kim Johnson that the Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Organization has developed and submitted resolutions to the Agency VA Organization and to the Navajo Nation Veteran Administration, and that they are not receiving any status reports. Kim Johnson said he is aware of this policy, as he served as Commander for the Chinle Agency Veterans Organization.
5. Commander reported on the prepared and submittal resolution regarding No Confidence in the Department of Veterans Executive Director, Ms.

Bobbie Ann Baldwin. The President Buu Nygren responded that “he has the authority to remove. He will not. He knows she is doing a good job.” All the Chapter Veterans’ resolution to remove her did not materialize.

6. Stipend Budget for the Officers to attend the Chapter Veterans Organization Meeting is up to June 2026.
7. Standing Rock Chapter Veterans Organization sponsored Veterans Housing Training without an established policy, but to implement housing. The serious problem is that housing is not provided to the veterans.
8. Commander and Vice-Commander recommend that the Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Organization be established with a Plan of Operation, By-Laws and Articles, and policy and procedures that we can move forward with.

B. Agency Veterans Administration: Ms. Lori John is not available as she is out in the field. No report.

C. Others: None.

VII. Financial Report: Vice-Commander Willetto Freeland:

A. Fiscal Year 2026: Vice-Commander reported the following are the current balances for

1. **Trust Funds:** Stipend: \$1,875.00. Hardship: -0-. Energy: -0-. Self-Help:-0-
2. **For Chapter General Funds:**

Accounts	Original Amount	Used	Balances
Burial Assistance	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Energy	\$192,258.43	\$192,258.43	-0-
Self Help	\$277,956.00	\$192,258.43	-0-
CVO	\$600,000.00	\$595,860,86	\$ 4,139.14
Total:			\$ 7,139.14

B. Fundraising Account: Balance is \$1,110.80

C. Crownpoint Chapter General Funds: \$12,446.23.

D. Stipend Approval for Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Agency Representative to the Eastern Agency Veterans’ Meeting:

\$1,875.00. There is \$75.00 available and implement a withdrawal to sponsor a luncheon for the veterans at the March 12, 2026, Meeting. Plan to withdraw \$75.00. Pauline Freeland and Janice Antone provided the luncheon for today’s meeting.

E. Veterans’ Financial Assistance Requests:

Name	Hardship	Energy	Self-Help	Request How
1. Emma J Begay	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1000.00	In Person
2. Nelson Joe	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1000.00	In Person
3. Colby Kyle Abeita	\$400.00	\$400.00	-0-	In Person
4. Emma Martinez	\$400.00	\$400.00	-0-	In Person
5. Nanette Platero	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1000.00	In Person
Total:	\$2000.00	\$2000.00	\$3000.00	

Action: A motion was made by Pauline Freeland to include the above financial reports, which Jonah Silver seconded.

A Vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.

VIII. Unfinished Business:

A. Veterans Cemetery:

1. The historical information on Crownpoint Chapter Land Use Planning designated 40 acres of land to include the Veterans Cemetery. On 07/10/25, the CLUP President, Leonard Perry, presented the land-use planning for the veteran cemetery and park to the Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Organization Meeting. He advised the CCVO to submit a proposed plan to the CLUP Meeting. However, after an in-depth discussion on the Navajo Cultural and Traditional Practices and Beliefs about death and the cemetery, the veterans recommended returning this land to CLUP. To request that the CLUP continue to include the veterans in their planning for the Crownpoint Cemetery. The decision will be put in writing to return the land to Crownpoint, in response to the veterans' request for an updated report.

B. Veterans Park (Site) Recommendation:

1. On 07/10/25, the CLUP President, Leonard Perry, included this presentation to the Crownpoint Chapter Veterans' Organization. Mr. Perry requests that the Veterans Organization provide a proposal plan for the Veterans Park. The plan will identify the proposed land and include a drawing of the proposed items (e.g., a stone wall, a flag post, a table, and chairs). It is important to provide an estimated cost for the park's development. The CLUP will review the proposed plans and identify funding sources for the park's development. CLUP can provide leadership in developing the park.
2. Comments: Frederick Antonio shared that when he returned from the military services, he thought of the land located at the junction with the Veterans Park sign. He recommends it as a good location for special veteran events that include veterans, their families, and the community.

3. Johnnie Martin requested to vote on the land, as it requires Crownpoint Chapter support for approval and involvement to determine the land status. Park planning will include requesting infrastructure for running water.

ACTION: To support the written resolution to request land withdrawal for the Crownpoint Veterans Park, Jonah Silver motioned, which was seconded by Frederick Antonio.

A vote in favor 14, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.

IX. New Business.

- A. Commander Lou Antone, Sr., received a Flyer from the Sponsors of the Vietnam Walk to begin on March 24 - 25, 2026, from the Thoreau Chapter. Crownpoint Chapter will be their 1st stop. The Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Organization will sponsor an evening meal for the walkers. Overnight lodging and breakfast on March 24 and 25, 2026, have been arranged by Joe Romero with NTU. Recommendation: discuss and finalize the meal plan for the walkers at the March 12, 2026, meeting. This request will be included as Unfinished Business.

Action: Pauline Freeland motion, which Jonah Silver seconded.

A Vote in favor 14, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.

X. Accepting Secretary Frances Morris' Resignation:

- A. Before the beginning of today's meeting, Frances Morris, Secretary, submitted a handwritten letter of her resignation due to health problems that prevented her from performing her duties as a secretary. Willetto Freeland, Vice-Commander, read the handwritten letter of her resignation.

Action: A motion was made by Pauline Freeland, which Frederick Antonio seconded. **A vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

XI. Announcements:

A. February 17, 2026 – Regular Chapter Meeting at 12:00 noon.

B. February 20, 2026 – CLUP Meeting at 10:00 A.M.

XII. Adjournment:

Motioned for adjournment by Pauline Freeland, Jonah Silver seconded the motion.

The vote was 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstained; adjournment at 1:00 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:


Lucinda Martin, Volunteer as Pro Temp Secretary

Rec'd 2/12/26 10:10am
by

February 12, 2026

To: Lou Antone, Sr. Commander
Wellitto Freeland, Vice-Commander.

Let this letter serve as my
resignation from Secretary
position from Veteran's Org.

Effective today 2/12/26

Francis M. [Signature]

