



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

Lou Antone, Sr.  
*Commander*

Willetto Freeland  
*Vice Commander*

*Secretary*

**MARCH 12, 2026**

**CROWNPOINT CHAPTER VETERANS ORGANIZATION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**AGENDA**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER: COMMANDER LOU ANTONE, SR.**
- II. **HONORING THE FLAG;**
- III. **INVOCATION;**
- IV. **ELECTION FOR SECRETARY POSITION;**
- V. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA;**
- VI. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBUARY 12, 2026 MEETING MINUTES;**
- VII. **REPORTS:**
  1. **CHAPTER OFFICIALS;**
  2. **AGENCY VETERANS OFFICE STAFF;**
  3. **OFFICERS AND OTHERS;**
- VIII. **FINANCIAL REPORT: VICE-COMMANDER WILLETTO FREELAND**
  1. **FY 2026 NAVAJO NATION VETERANS TRUST FUND;**
  2. **NAVAJO NATION GENERAL FUNDS;**
  3. **CROWNPOINT CHAPTER VETERANS FUND;**
  4. **FUND RAISING ACCOUNT;**
  5. **APPROVAL OF TRANSFER FUNDS FROM STIPEND ACCOUNT TO PROGRAMS (CATERING, GIFTS & AWARDS)**
  6. **STIPEND APPROVAL FOR COMMANDER, VICE-COMMANDER, SECRETARY AND AGENCY VETERAN REPRESENTATIVE:**
- IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
  1. **VETERANS PARK;**
  2. **VETERANS CEMETARY;**
  3. **VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALK.**
- X. **ANNOUNCEMENT:**
  1. **CROWNPOINT CHAPTER VETERANS NEXT MEETING – APRIL 9, 2026.**
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:**





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Lou Antone, Sr.  
*Commander*

Willetto Freeland  
*Vice Commander*  
**March 12, 2026**

Frances Morris  
*Secretary*

**AGENDA**

- I. Call 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 Approve Agenda 03-12-26. Commander Lou Antone, Sr. Motion and Vote
- V. Review and Approve 02-12-26 Meeting Minutes. Motion and Vote
- VI. Reports:
  - A. Officer(s)
  - B. Agency Office Administration.
  - C. Others
- VII. Financial Report: Vice Commander Willetto Freeland.
  - A. Fiscal Year 2026 Navajo Nation Trust Fund Account.
  - B. Fund Raising Account.
  - C. Crownpoint Chapter General Fund Account.
  - D. Approve Budget Transfer of \$75 plans for how to use it.
  - E. Stipend Approval for Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary and Agency Representative to Agency Veterans Council Meeting. Motion and Vote.
  - F. Veterans' financial aid requests are subject to available funds.
- VIII. Unfinished Business:
  - A. Veterans Park-Follow up on Site Recommendation
- IX. Nomination and Election of the Secretary.
- X. Announcements:
  - A. March 17, 2026, Regular Crownpoint Chapter Meeting at 12:00 noon.
  - B. April 07, 2026, Crownpoint Chapter Planning Meeting at 12:00 noon.
  - C. April 09, 2026 Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Meeting at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.
- XI. Adjournment: Motion and Vote and time.



**Happy St. Patrick Day!!!!**



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**MEETING MINUTES**

**February 12, 2026**



- I. **Call Meeting to order:** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., at 10:16 a.m.
  - A. Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested that Lucinda Martin assist in taking the minutes for today's meeting. Lucinda Martin responded that she accepts taking meeting minutes.
- II. **Honoring the Flag:** Membership and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Invocation:** Commander Joe Ramone, Little Water Chapter Veteran Organization.
- IV. **Election for Secretary Position; No discussion.**
- V. **Review and Approval of the Agenda 03-12-26:** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested membership to review the agenda. Requests for additions can be made before the agenda is approved. There are two agendas for today.

**Action:** Mrs. Pauline Freeland moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Tom Yazzie seconded the motion.

**A Vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstained**
- VI. **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes 02-12-26:** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., requested membership to review the meeting minutes for corrections or omissions. Mr. Tom Yazzie requested the correction from Lou Antone, Jr., to Lou Antone, Sr., on Page 2, VI. Reports. A. Officers. Mr. Johnnie Martin requested that "Mooris" be corrected to "Morris" on Page 1.

**Action:** A motion was made by Tom Yazzie, which Tommy Rogers seconded.

**A Vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**
- VII. **Reports:**
  - A. **Officers:** Commander Lou Antone, Jr., reported he attended the Veteran Housing Training that was held at the Standing Rock Chapter on 03/11/26.
    - 1. The Navajo Nation Department of Veterans Administrative Staff provided Veteran Housing Training. The eligibility is for a Navajo veteran who is disabled and homeless. The application packet was distributed, and the procedures and protocols to follow were reviewed. The completed

application determines eligibility for assistance, with the veteran being shovel-ready.

2. Commander reports he received the Policy and Procedures Manual. The manual will need to be updated with the current approved documents. All five agencies were given a copy.

3. For the Home Improvement Program, the instruction is for each agency to have trained, certified, or licensed personnel to perform the existing home assessment with recommendations for home improvement assistance. A major concern expressed by the membership is that the Department of Veterans Affairs has the financial capacity to hire a younger generation of trained professionals for all five agencies to perform home assessment duties.

4. Comments:

(a) Joe Ramone responded to the four Veteran Agency Organizations that prepared and submitted a 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 her. He will not. He knows she is doing a good job." The four Chapter Veterans' resolutions to remove her did not materialize. Fort Defiance CVO supported Bobbie Baldwin.

(b) The New Mexico Capital Outlay with funds that would benefit the Navajo Nation Veteran living in New Mexico. Recommendation on how to address the financial management problem with the Navajo Nation Financial Management System. The idea is to explore establishing a fiscal agent to manage the NM Capital Outlay Funds awarded to the NM Chapters and Veteran Organizations.

(c) As a recommendation, the CVO for all meetings sent a written invitation letter to Lori John, Veteran Service Officer, to provide an update on funds, the number of veterans registered, and what improvements are being made with the veteran registration drive. Last-minute notification is not working.

(d) To request an attorney who has experience working with corporations and LLCs to share the advantages and disadvantages.

**Action:** A motion was made by Tom Yazzie to accept Commander Lou Antone, Sr.'s report, which Pauline Freeland seconded.

**A Vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

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

**C. Others: None.**

**VIII. Financial Report: Vice-Commander Willetto Freeland:**

- A. Fiscal Year 2026:** Vice-Commander stated there is no report. No financial activity to report. There is no change and no funds.
- B. Navajo Nation Trust Funds: Stipend: \$1,875.00.** Hardship: -0-. Energy: -0-. Self-Help:-0-
- C. Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Funds: \$12,446.23.**
- D. Fundraising Account:** Balance is **\$1,110.80.**
- E. Approval of Transfer Funds from Stipend Account to Programs (Catering, Gifts & Awards). Balance is \$1,075.**

**Discussion and Recommendations.** The transfer of \$75 in stipend funds to the Program for Catering, Gifts, and Awards was recommended for use toward planning an appreciation luncheon for Francis Morris' secretarial support and for the veterans. Vice-Commander Willetto Freeland did not use this \$75 stipend after he missed a meeting for a medical appointment.

**Action:** A motion was made by Tommy Rogers, seconded by Ernest Neswood.

**A Vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposition, 1 abstained.**

- F. Approval of using Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Funds to pay for the Appreciation Luncheon for Francis Morris and the Veterans on April 09, 2026. The plan is to present a plaque and a gift to Francis Morris.**

The recommendation is to work with Crownpoint Chapter Staff (Aaron) to plan for the withdrawal of funds and complete the three bids for the luncheon, which will determine the price quote.

**Action:** A motion was made by Tommy Rogers to approve the use of the transferred \$75 stipend and the Chapter Veteran funds to pay for the luncheon and to purchase a plaque and a gift for Francis Morris, which Ernest Neswood seconded.

**A Vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposition, 1 abstained.**

- G. Stipend Approval for Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Agency Representative to the Eastern Agency Veterans' Meeting:**

**Action:** A motion was made by Pauline Freeland, seconded by Ernest Neswood, for the officers to receive their meeting stipend.

**A Vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposition, 1 abstained.**

**Comment:** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., reported that today's noon luncheon was provided with their donation by Pauline Freeland and Janet Antone.

- H. Veterans' Financial Assistance Requests: -0-**

**Unfinished Business:**

**A. Veterans Cemetery:**

1. The recommendation by the membership is to provide a written response to Leonard Perry, President of CLUP. To inform him, after a lengthy discussion, the land will be returned to CLUP. Request for CLUP to provide leadership in including the planning of the Veterans Cemetery with the Crownpoint Chapter Cemetery. After an in-depth discussion of the Navajo Cultural and Traditional Practices and Beliefs regarding death and the cemetery, the veterans recommended returning this land to CLUP. However, the veterans are requesting that CLUP provide updates and seek veteran input when appropriate.

**Action:** A motion was made by Pauline Freeland, which Ernest Neswood seconded.

**A vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

**B. Veterans Park (Site) Recommendation:**

1. This subject requires an action plan. On 02-12-26, the Veterans accepted Crownpoint Chapter CLUP's offer of land sites for the Veterans Park proposal on 07-10-25. The recommendation is to write an acceptance letter of the proposed land sites for a park, but to request an official land withdrawal. The land is partially located within the Eastern Navajo Agency Administration. A Crownpoint Veteran Park sign is posted.

2. In the letter, the request is for CLUP President Leonard Perry to provide leadership in acquiring land withdrawal, securing planning and development funds for the park. That CLUP provides a follow-up progress report to the Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Organization.

3. On 02-12-26, Frederick Antonio, a veteran, shared that when he returned from military service, he thought that the land located at the junction with the Veterans Park sign was a good location for a family get-together. He recommends it as a good location for special veteran events that include veterans, their families, the community, and businesses.

4. On 02-12-26, Johnnie Martin requested to vote on the land, as it requires Crownpoint Chapter support for approval, and to include a request for water infrastructure.

**Action:** To support the written letter to the Crownpoint Chapter CLUP to assume leadership for land withdrawal, to secure funds for planning and development of the Crownpoint Veterans Park, was motioned by Pauline Freeland, seconded by Ernest Neswood.

**A vote in favor 11, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

**X. New Business.**

**A.** Commander Lou Antone, Sr., received a Flyer from the Sponsors of the Vietnam Walk to begin on March 24 - 25, 2026. One of the sponsors, Joe Ramone, Commander for the Little Water Chapter, was present and provided a copy of the flyer to all members. Joe Ramone reviewed the flyer. The Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Organization agreed to provide supper for the participants on the eve of March 24, 2026, at the Crownpoint Veteran Office, and a breakfast meal on the morning of March 25, 2026. Joe Ramone offered to work with his supporter from the Little Water Chapter of the Veterans Organization to assist with the breakfast. Joe Ramone is the contact person for Crownpoint.

**Action:** Pauline Freeland motioned that the Crownpoint Chapter Veteran Organization will assist with two meals, supper on 3/24/26 and breakfast on 3/25/26, as requested by Joe Ramone. Johnnie Martin seconded the motion.

**A Vote in favor 10, 0 opposed, 1 abstained.**

**XI. Announcements:**

**A. March 17, 2026 – Regular Crownpoint Chapter Meeting at 12:00 noon.**

**B. April 07, 2026 – Crownpoint Chapter Planning Meeting at 12:00 noon.**

**C. April 09, Crownpoint Chapter Veterans Meeting at 10:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**XII. Adjournment:**

**Motioned** for adjournment by Pauline Freeland, Tom Yazzie seconded the motion.

**The vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained; adjournment at 11:51 a.m.**

**Respectively Submitted:**

*Lucinda Martin 3/18/26*  
**Lucinda Martin, Pro Temp Secretary**