



CENTRAL NAVAJO VETERANS ORGANIZATION

Commander: Tim Johnson Vice Commander: Secretary:

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Friday, November 21, 2025 @ 10:00 am
Catholic Hall Chinle, Az

Agenda

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL:

Name:	Title:	Chapter	Present/Absent
* Tim Johnson	Commander	Hard Rock	
* Dwayne Lake	Vice-CDR	Forestlake	
* Jayne Mitchell	Secretary	Chinle	
1. Richard Claw	Commander	Black Mesa	
2. Kirk Etsitty	Commander	Blue Gap/Tachee	
3. Pete Tsinnijinnie	Commander	Chinle	
4. Harrison Kee	Commander	Cottonwood/Tselani	
5. Dwayne Lake	Commander	Forest Lake	
6. Tim Johnson	Commander	Hard Rock	
7. Henry Nez	Commander	Lukachukai	
8. Melvin Harrison	Commander	Low Mountain	
9. Perry Slivers	Commander	Many Farms	
10. Dennis Dedman	Commander	Nazlini	
11. Barton Hosteen	Commander	Pinon	
12. Paul Jones	Commander	Rock Point	
13. Rex Redhair	Commander	Rough Rock	
14. Kenny James	Commander	Round Rock	
15. Willis Becenti	Commander	Tsaile/Wheatfields	
16. Lillie Buckhorse	Commander	Whippoorwill Springs	

III. Introduction of Guests.

IV. Invocation:

V. Pledge of Allegiance- A Moment of Silence-

VI. Adopt and accept the agenda.

Motion: Second: Vote Yeas: Nays: Abstained:

VII. Reading and accepting Previous Meeting Minutes (September 29, 2025 @ Agency Office Chinle, Az)

Motion: Second: Vote Yeas: Nays: Abstained:

VIII. REPORTS (5 Minutes)

a. OP/VP NN President Buu V. Nygren



1. Delegate Carl Slater
2. Delegate G. Simonson
3. Delegate C. Curley
4. Delegate S. Claw
5. Office of the Speaker LSA – Arthur Hardy

- b. NNVA Executive Director-Bobbie Ann Balwin
- c. Housing Manager – William Nez
- d. Veterans Service Officer – Paula Begay
- e. Deputy Director – Leanne Roy
- f. Veterans Liaison – Demetria Simms
- g. Wayne Claw NNHI CEO/David Nez Board
- h. David Nez/Barton Hosteen Pinon Wellness Center
- i. CNVO Women Rep – Santana Yazzen
- j. CNVO Commander – Tim Johnson
- k. CNVO Vice-Commander –
- l. Other : Edgerton Gene

ACCEPT REPORTS:

MOTION: **SECOND:**
 Vote Yeas: Nays: Abstained:

IX. Old Business

- a. Legislation – Codification
- b. Legislation – VTF Increase
- c. In Confidence (Resolutions)
- d. Resolution – Whippoorwill Chapter House

X. New Business

- a.
- b.

XI. Announcements

- a. 250th Annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at the Route 66 Casino Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. For more information on tickets contact Ginny Pete at (505) 206-0802. Tickets range from \$50 per couple to \$30 per person.

XII. Next Meeting- CNVO Meeting –

Whippoorwill Chapter House, Nov 28, 2025 @ 10 am
Low Mountain Chapter House, Dec 19, 2025 @ 10 am

XIII. Adjournment

MOTION: **SECOND:**
 Vote Yeas: Nays: Abstained:



CENTRAL NAVAJO AGENCY VETERANS ORGANIZATION

Commander: Tim Johnson Vice Commander: Dwayne Lake Secretary: Vacant

Friday, November 21, 2025 @ 1000 Hrs
At Chinle Catholic Hall, Chinle, AZ

MINUTES

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A: CDR Tim Johnson called meeting to order at 1020 Hrs. Call for Introductions, all attendees acknowledged.

CDR Tim Johnson Motioned to Nominate Elciena "Cici" Baker as PRO TEMP Secretary Second by CDR Pete Tsinnijinnie.

Approve PRO TEMP Secretary Elciena "Cici" Baker.

Vote Yeas: 12 Nays: 0 Abstained: 0

ROLL CALL: BY CDR Johnson, 12 Present.

Name:	Title:	Chapter	Present/Called In
* Tim Johnson	Commander	Hard Rock	Present
*Dwayne Lake	Vice-CDR	Forest Lake	Present
1. Richard Claw	Commander	Black Mesa	Present
2. Eddie Yazzie	Commander	Blue Gap/Tachee	Present
3. Pete Tsinnijinnie	Commander	Chinle	Present
4. Harrison Kee	Commander	Cottonwood/Tselani	Present
5. Dwayne Lake	Commander	Forest Lake	Present
6. Tim Johnson	Commander	Hard Rock	Present
7. Henry Nez	Commander	Lukachukai	Present
8. Melvin Harrison	Commander	Low Mountain	
9. Perry Slivers	Commander	Many Farms	
10. Elciena "Cici" Baker	Vice-CDR	Nazlini	Present
11. Barton Hosteen	Commander	Pinon	Present
12. Paul Jones	Commander	Rock Point	Present
13. Rex Redhair	Commander	Rough Rock	
14. Kenny James	Commander	Round Rock	
15. Willis Becenti	Commander	Tsaile/Wheatfields	Present
16. Allen Barlow	Commander	Whippoorwill Springs	Present

II. Introduction of Guests; NNVA Staff: Eastern Agency VSO Lori John, NNVA Loan Officer Jessica Shirley, Housing Program Manager William Nez, Northern Agency VSO Patricia Burnside, Deputy Director Leann Roy, Ft Defiance Agency VSO Fallyn Begay, Western Agency VSO Olin Kieyoomia.



III. **Invocation:** Given by CDR Paul Jones.

IV. **Pledge of Allegiance-** Completed/Led by CDR Johnson. **Moment of Silence-**Observed by all.

V. **ACCEPT AND ADOPT AGENDA**

MODIFY: Acknowledge request by OPVP Veterans' Liaison Demetria Simms to Report first due to other travel commitments. Amend, move Old Business Item a. Legislation Codification to New Business Item a. ADD New Business Item b. Resolution No Confidence, Recommend Removal of OPVP Veterans' Liaison Demetria Simms or suggest sole responsibility as Veteran's Liaison only.

MOTION by CDR Pete Tsinijinnie SECOND: CDR Henry Nez

Vote Yeas: 11 Nays: 0 Abstained: 1

VI. **READ AND APPROVE LAST MEETING MINUTES (10/31/2025)**

Minutes distributed via electronic copy, emailed.

MOTION to Defer to hard copy by CDR Pete Tsinijinnie SECOND: CDR Henry Nez

Vote Yeas: 11 Nays: 0 Abstained: 1

VII. **REPORTS**

- a. MODIFIED. Office of the President and Vice President, Veterans Liaison Demetria Simms
 1. Color Guard and Advocacy activities participation in Washington D.C. over the Veterans Day holiday.
 2. Advocating for NM Veteran Services at State Capital, ongoing.
 3. OPVP Staff Changes update. Mention of ongoing tension between OPVP and NNC.
 4. Question from CDR Tsinijinnie: What is the current status of NHA and OPVP promise to pay off Veteran homes? Answer: Mr. Bitah Becker is working Thomas Cody but it's still at a stand still. OPVP and Thomas Cody running into conflicting language on contract. Request from CDR Tsinijinnie to look into putting in place a Cease and Desist on NHA Veteran Evictions.
 5. Comment from CDR Johnson, request for President Buu Nygren to attend Central Navajo Agency Veterans Meeting.
 6. Discussion on Veteran Home Infrastructure flaws and delays. NNVA states they have been making attempts to coordinate hookups but due to limited signatories for clearance it's a slow process.
 - b. Honorable NN Council Delegates-

1. Delegate G. Simonson	ABSENT	2. Delegate C. Curley	ABSENT
3. Delegate S. Claw	ABSENT	4. Delegate C. Slater	ABSENT
 - c. NNVA Executive Director-Bobbie Ann Baldwin
 - d. Housing Manager – William Nez
 - e. Veteran Service Officer – Paula Begay
 - f. Deputy Director – Leann Roy
 - g. Wayne Claw NNHI CEO/Dave Nez
 - h. David Nez/Barton Hosteen Pinon Wellness Center
 - i. ADDED - Saraphine Josley – All Navajo Veterans Organization
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1. Joined Pinon Veterans Wellness Center steering group as Secretary.
 2. Firewood available for in need Veterans. Contact Sara for details.
 3. Will be butchering sheep in the near future for Veterans. Contact Sara for details at 410-847-5333.

- j. CNVO Women Rep – Santana Yazzen REPORT GIVEN
 - 1. Arranged meeting venue. Will arrange again for December meeting.
- k. CNVO CDR-TIM JOHNSON- REPORT GIVEN
- l. CNVO VICE CDR-DWAYNE LAKE- REPORT GIVEN
- m. Other: Edgarton Gene-ABSENT

ACCEPT REPORTS:

MOTION: CDR Paul Jones SECOND: CDR Pete Tsinijinnie
 Vote Yeas: 10 Nays: 0 Abstained: 0

VIII. Old Business

- a. Legislation-VTF Increase: Discussion: Amend resolution to consider COLA Stipend Increase through Plan of Operations to Amend VTF Policy. Table until future Work Session.

IX. New Business

- a. Legislation-Codification-Discussion: 33 page document. No longer 168. Work Session suggested, invite HON. Delegate Any Nez sponsor for collaboration and guidance. Table, Work Session to be scheduled.
- b. Resolution-No Confidence, Detrimental Impacts of OPVP Veterans Liaison Demetria Simms.
 - 1. Discussion-Call to NNVA ED Baldwin and VSO Kieyoomia for clarification of events at Northern Agency Veterans Meeting. Incident Reports submitted to OPVP by NNVA staff and witnesses.
 - 2. Comments made by CNVAO Veterans: Recommend disrepute, No Confidence, Dividing leadership, Unprofessional Conduct, suggest Veterans Liaison focus on one role.
 - 3. Resolution in Draft phase.

MOTION to Approve Resolution by : CDR Willis Becenti SECOND: CDR Paul Jones
 Vote Yeas: 13 Nays: 0 Abstained: 0

X. Announcements

- a. Nazlini Chapter House, Community Thanksgiving Lunch on Sunday November 23, 2025, Nazlini, AZ at noon. All Veterans welcome.

XI. Next Meeting- December 19, 2025 at Chinle Catholic Hall, Chinle, AZ at 1000 Hrs. Note: Bring potluck dish and a door prize if you can. Christmas Dinner theme.**XII. Adjournment at 1414 Hrs.**

MOTION: CDR Willis Becenti SECOND: CDR Pete Tsinijinnie
 Vote Yeas: 11 Nays: 0 Abstained: 0

Meeting Minutes submitted by PRO TEMP Secretary Elciena "Cici" Baker on November 24, 2025.



Attachments