



Hardrock Chapter Veterans Organization
P.O. Box 20
Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039
Phone: (928)725-3732
Fax: (928)725-3731
hardrock@navajochapters.org

Commander, Timothy Johnson
Vice Commander, Tom Burbank
Secretary, Jay Begay Jr.

HARDROCK CHAPTER VETERANS' ORGANIZATION

Agenda

May 09, 2026@ 10:00 am

Hardrock, AZ

- I. Roll Call:
- II. Commander: Tim Johnson
- III. Vice-Commander: Tom Burbank
Secretary: Jay Begay Jr.
- IV. Call to Order
- V. Invocation
- VI. Pledge Allegiance/Moment of Silence
- VII. Review and Adopt Agenda:
- VIII. Motion: 2nd: Vote F: O: A:
- IX. Read previous minutes and accept: March 1st, 2026
Motion: 2nd: Vote F: O: A:
- X. Announcements:
- XI. Call to the Public
- XII. Old Business
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
- XIII. New Business:
 - a. Resolution
- XIV. Reports
 - a) Council Delegate Germaine Simonson
 - b) Housing specialist/ state VSO Sylvia Preston
 - c) VA Executive Director – Bobbie A. Baldwin
 - d) AVA – Sara Josely
 - e) Navajo County Supervisor - Fern Benally
 - f) VSO – Paula Begay
 - g) Tim Johnson – OPVP Veteran Liaison
 - h) Commander
 - i) Tom Burbank - Vice Commander:
 - j) Jay Begay Jr. - Secretary:





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XV. Accept Reports, 1st Motion 2nd F: O: A:

XVI. Next Meeting June 7, 2026 @ 1 p.m.

XVII. Meeting Adjourned 1st Motion 2nd Vote F: O: A:





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HARDROCK CHAPTER VETERANS' ORGANIZATION

MEETING MINUTES

May 09, 2026@ 10:00 am

Hardrock, AZ

I. Roll Call:

- a) Commander: Tim Johnson PRESENT
- b) Vice-Commander: Tom Burbank PRESENT
- c) Secretary: Jay Begay Jr. PRESENT

II. Call to Order at 10:27am by Commander Tim Johnson

III. Invocation: Tim Johnson

IV. Pledge Allegiance/Moment of Silence: Donald Howard Sr.

V. Review and Adopt Agenda:

Motion: Donald Howard Sr. 2nd: Jay Begay Sr. VOTES: In Favor:11 Opposed:0
Abstained:2

VI. Read previous minutes and accept: April 12, 2026

Motion: Donald Howard Sr. 2nd: Mike Chase VOTES In Favor:11 Opposed:0 Abstained:2

VII. Announcements:

- a) Hardrock Chapter Meeting – May 20, 2026 5pm
- b) Navajo Veterans Memorial Day – June 1, 2026 9am Window Rock Memorial Park
- c) Veterans Remembrance Walk – June 2, 2026 in conjunction with Memorial Day event
- d) Prayer Day – Eastern Navajo May 27, 2026
- e) Central Veterans Organization Mtg – May 29, 2026 Nazlini Chapter House
- f) June 26, 2027 – Meet n Greet President @ Chinle Thunderbird Park
- g) June 27, 2027 – Buu Nygren Rally Thunderbird Park

VIII. Call to the Public:

- a) Roberta Goy talked about emergency plan in reference to gas prices and community members who have to travel for dialysis. Ms. Goy also spoke of Veterans Insurance compensation program. Tri-West insurance for Veterans. These are services that are owed to our veterans. Veterans have already did their services. Would like to write a resolution for veterans. Medical, specialty, travel reimbursements, home and care givers, hearing aids come with Veterans Insurance if they sign up. This can be provided if they sign up. Tim added that the Veterans status can be changed as far as dishonorable and honorable. Sylvia says its very complicated to change and you must provide evidence. Sylvia said if they get documents they can go before them and try and change. Veterans Act states honorable within Navajo Nation. This policy can be changed. Mr Ware is really discouraged with response. Sylvia says our veterans office and can help with these applications and she believes this is our shortfall. There needs to be more representation.

IX. Old Business

- a. NONE

XI. New Business:

- a. NONE





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XII. Reports

- a) Council Delegate Germaine Simonson ABSENT
- b) Housing specialist/ state VSO Sylvia Preston updated that there are 58 Housing/38 in construction/2 completed/ 46 home improvement, 700 veterans within Chinle Agency. You have to be homeless in order to qualify. Bitco and Sparrow are the contractors. She has a new assignment: you can continue to apply for housing. She was given a new assignment, and she will be out of the office for the month of May. She was assigned to do audits with all agencies. Veterans are being grilled about the \$50 million that Veterans receive through ARPA. Most of the audit findings were on housing from previous administration. Policies were set in place in reference to these audit findings. They are working on Corrective Action Plan. She believes that all the funds are encumbered and won't be sent back. She will continue working on claims, etc. Currently in Hardrock there has been 2 homes delivered, 4 homes pending and 3 under home improvement within Hardrock. Mike Chase made a comment that housing and age of applicants should be taken into consideration.
- c) VA Executive Director – Bobbie A. Baldwin ABSENT
- d) AVA – Sara Josely ABSENT
- e) Navajo County Supervisor - Fern Benally ABSENT
- f) VSO – Paula Begay ABSENT
- g) Tim Johnson – OPVP Veteran Liaison Tim mentioned the Veterans Audit from the last administration, and it is still ongoing. Sylvia went through the background of housing policy. She mentioned that it is our own downfall. Recommendation is to do away with Veterans Housing and put in Veterans General Funds. Mike says election is coming up and things will change again. If a new administration comes in then its start back from Ground 1. Suicide is the highest rate among veterans. Donald Howards Sr. says family needs to be orientated when a veteran family member comes home from combat. Donald says he would like to see talking circles within the community of Hardrock.
- h) Commander- combined with liaison report
- i) Tom Burbank - Vice Commander: NO REPORT
- h) Jay Begay Jr. - Secretary: NO REPORT

XIII. Accept Reports:

Motion by: Donald Howard Sr. Second by: Nata Yazzie In Favor: 15 Opposed: 0
Abstained: 1

XIV. Next Meeting June 7, 2026 @ 1 p.m.

XV. Meeting Adjourned

At 12:37pm UNANIMOUS CONSENT 15 YAAV's

