



Manuelito Veterans Organization

HC 57 Box 9069

Gallup, New Mexico 87301

MANUELITO VETERANS ORGANIZATION

MEETING AGENDA

Friday, October 03, 2025



- I. Call Meeting to Order at: _____
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Invocation
 - C. Roll Call of Officers & Recognition of Guests
- II. Review and Approve of Agenda: (Changes or addition to Agenda)
- III. Presentation:
- IV. New Business:
 - A. Election of MVO Officers
 - B. Budget Planning for \$5,000 allocation from Navajo Nation
 - C. Budget Planning for \$500 donation from Walt Eddy, McKinley County Commissioner District 2
 - D. MVO Plan of Operation- Commander
 - E. Approve Financial Assistance- Commander
 - F. Approve Officers Meeting Stipend for FY' 26- Commander
 - G.
- VI. Old Business: None
- VII. Reports – if any:
 - A. Verbal Reports –
 1. Commander-
 2. Vice Commander-
 3. Secretary/Treasurer- Gourd Dance Funds - \$
 - B. Verbal Report – Delegate Lester Yazzie
- VIII. Announcements(s):
 - A. Eastern Navajo Veteran Organization- Wednesday, October 08, 2025, Casamero Lake, 0900
 - B. Manuelito Chapter Planning Meeting, October 08, 2025 @ 1300
 - C. Manuelito CLUP-C meeting, October 10, 2025 @ 0900
 - D. Manuelito Chapter Meeting, October 19, 2025 @ 1300
- IX. Next Meeting Date: Friday, December 12, 2025 @ 6:00pm
- X. Adjournment:

Commander

Hubert Smith
Vice-Commander

Elsie Ciccarello
Secretary/Treasurer

MANUELITO CHAPTER VETERAN ORGANIZATION

MEETING MINUTES, October 03, 2025

1. Call meeting to order at 1827 by Vice-Commander Smith
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Commander Smith.
3. Invocation was made by MVO member Mr. Ricardo Spencer.
4. Roll call of officers: Commander- no Commander currently, Vice-Commander Hubert Smith is present, Secretary/Treasurer Elsie Ciccarello is present.
5. Review and Approve of Agenda-
 - a. Motioned by Gilbert Shirley, Seconded by Irene Joe.
 - b. Ms. Paulene McCabe motioned to add virtual meetings to MVO meeting format. This would let MVO members who are not able to attend listen to the meeting. Members discussed the issue and voted to add Virtual Meetings to today's meeting agenda.
 - c. Motioned made by Ricardo Spencer, Seconded by Irene Joe. Vote count: 10 in favor, 0 oppose and 1 abstain.
6. Presentation- no presentation.
7. New Business-
 - a. Election of MVO Officers- Mr. Ray Spencer, Sr., suggested having Vice-Commander Hubert Smith move up to the Commander's position. Mr. Smith declined. Ms. Irene Joe nominated Mr. Ricardo Spencer and seconded by Eli Watchman. Mr. Ricardo Spencer accepted the nomination. No other nominations currently. Vice-Commander Smith closed nominations for Commander. Vote: 12 in favor, 0 oppose, and 1 abstention. Congratulations Mr. Ricardo Spencer as the new Manuelito Veteran Organization Commander.
 - b. Budget for \$5,000 allocation from NN Council- Commander Spencer and Vice-Commander Smith informed the members to put a budget together for the **\$5,000** allocation from NN Council. The allocation is to help Chapter Veteran Organizations with meals, gifts, awards and supplies for the organization. Supply is a new line-item for papers, pens, etc.

\$5,000		
Line-Items	Amount budget	Total
Contractual Expenses	0	0
Gifts and Awards	1,500	1,500
Food/Catering	1,500	1,500
Operational Supplies	2,000	2,000
Total budget amount		\$5,000

Motioned by Ms. Paulene McCabe, Seconded by Ray Spencer Jr. Voted count: 16 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

- c. Budget Plan for \$500 donation- from McKinley County Commissioner Mr. Walt Eddy. The allocation was made to the Manuelito Veteran Organization. The Manuelito Acting Community Service Coordinator, Ms. Guarena Adeky, recommended putting the monetary donation into the food/catering line-item for the MVO account.

Motioned by Ms. Paulene McCabe, seconded by Ray Spencer Jr. Vote count: 16 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.

- d. MVO Plan of Operation- members discussed the MVO Plan of Operation. It needs to be updated because of the number of MVO meetings and the virtual meetings. Members decided and recommended other changes at the next MVO meeting in November 2025. The item was tabled until the next MVO Meeting.
- e. Approve Veteran Trust Funds Financial Assistance to MVO members- Vice Commander Smith informed the members that Eastern Agency Navajo Veterans and Surviving spouse had been purged by NNVA staff members in June 2025. Membership of ENAVO went from 1,792 in April 2025 to 726 veterans/surviving spouses in June 2025. This was huge decrease. The allocation amount for ENAVO was \$1,136,489 for FY' 26. This amount must be disbursed between 31 CVOs, which would not be enough funds for our members. MVO was allocated \$32,595. The allocation was based on our membership count which is 18 veterans and 2 surviving spouses. The average allocation amount for each veteran was \$1,400. The funds will be depleted right away. Motioned approved financial assistance by Alfred Chee and seconded by Benjiman Brown. Vote count: 15 approved, 0 opposed and 1 abstention.
- f. Approve Officers Meeting Stipends for FY' 26 (6 MVO and 12 AVO meetings)- MVO members voted on September 19, 2025, to have 6 MVO and 12 AVO meetings. This would allow more money to be raised for MVO members' financial assistance. Motioned by Gilbert Shirley and seconded by Chancey Brown. Vote count: 15 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- g. Virtual Meetings- Ms. Paulene McCabe explained that many of our MVO members cannot attend the monthly meetings. This puts a strain on their participation and activities. Officers would need to set up a call-in number for the members so they may listen and participate during the MVO monthly meetings. Motioned by Paulene McCabe & seconded by Ray Spencer. Vote Count: 15 in favor, 0 oppose & 1 abstention.
- 8. Old Business- none
- 9. Reports-
 - a. Commander is appreciative to be the new commander. He would like more participation from the members. MVO will be planning more activities in the future.
 - b. Vice-Commander asked members if they would like to do any activities for Veteran's Day in November. MVO members would like to have a meal catered for Veteran's Day to recognize all our veterans and surviving spouses. Vice-Commander will call several organizations for price quotes and menus. Veteran's Appreciation Dinner will be November 11, 2025, at 1300.
 - c. Secretary/Treasurer- Secretary mentioned that there is \$1,031.90 in our Gourd Dance account.
 - d. Council Delegate- no representation.
- 10. Announcements
- 11. Adjournment- meeting was adjourned at 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsie Ciccarello,

MVO Secretary/Treasurer



MANUELITO CHAPTER VETERAN ORGANIZATION

BUDGET FOR \$5,000 And \$500

donation from Walt Eddy, McKinley County Commissioner, District 2

	2026 NN Council ALLOCATION	\$500 Walt Eddy Donation	End Balance
SUPPLIES	2,000		2,000
PROFESSIONAL	0		
CATERING/FOOD	1,500	500	2,000
GIFTS & AWARDS	1,500		1,500
END BALANCE	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500

Motion: _____ Paulene McCabe _____ Second: _____ Ray Spencer Jr. _____

Vote: _____ 16 _____ in favor, _____ 0 _____ opposed, _____ 1 _____ abstain.

MANUELITO VETERANS ORGANIZATION
Meeting Minutes of Friday, October 3, 2025
Meeting Called to Order at 6:27 PM



- I. SIGN-IN / Call Meeting to Order at 1827 hours / Recite the Pledge of Allegiance
 1. Invocation by Commander
 2. Roll Call of Officers:
 - Commander: Ricardo Spencer, Present
 - Vice Commander: Hubert Smith, Present
 - Secretary: Elsie Ciccarello, Present
 3. Recognition of guest: Saiben McCabe, US Navy, grandson to Paulene McCabe and Elsie Ciccarello.

- II. Review and Approve the Meeting Agenda of October 03, 2025, with change/addition to New Business (E) Allow for virtual meetings.

Gilbert Shirley motioned to approve the Agenda of October 03, 2025 with an addition to allow for virtual meetings; second by Irene Joe. VOTE: 12-00-01.

- III. *Presentations: None*

IV. *New Business: A. Election of MVO Officers.* Manuelito Veterans Organization (MVO) officers were discussed and voted on by the membership. The current officers present are Vice Commander Hubert Smith and Secretary Elsie Ciccarello. The Commander position is vacant and it needs to be filled and be recognized as a full organization. Ricardo Spencer volunteered his service to be the next Manuelito Veterans Organization (MVO) Commander.

Irene Joe motioned to approve Ricardo Spencer as MVO Commander; second by Elijah Watchman. VOTE: 12-00-01.

B. Budget Planning for \$5,000 allocation from Navajo Nation (Navajo Nation Trust Fund Fiscal Year 2026).

MVO membership discussed options on how to budget the NN Trust Fund FY'26 amount of \$5,000. The line items allowable was outlined on white board by the vice commander. They are Supplies; Professional; Catering/Food; and Gifts & Awards. Recommendations included laptop for secretary to do her minutes; Catering during events on Veterans Day; a donation to chapter for Thanksgiving/Christmas community dinner; or a couple of other picnic events. After some discussion it was decided to budget \$2000 for Supplies to include a laptop for secretary to use; \$2000 for Catering; and \$1500 for Gifts & Awards.

C. Budget Planning for \$500.00 donation from Walt Eddy, McKinley County Commissioner District 2. The five hundred dollars will automatically be transferred into Catering.

Paulene McCabe motioned to approve both (B) Navajo Nation Trust Fund FY'26 Budget of \$5,000 as outlined above and (C) \$500 donation from Walt Eddy; second by Ray Spencer Jr. VOTE: 16-00-01.

D. MVO Plan of Operation Resolution - Changes (?) This item was tabled until next meeting due to unavailable copies of current POP to make sound decision. The insertion of virtual meeting needs to be applied to policy.

Ray Spencer, Jr. motioned to table this item to allow membership to review the policy with insertion of new language, second by Gilbert Shirley. VOTE: 13-00-01.

E. Approval of one-time Financial Assistance Requests for Hardship (food) at \$200.00; Energy (wood) at \$200.00; and Self Help at \$1,000.00 for those present at this meeting on October 3, 2025.

Paulene McCabe motioned to approve one-time financial assistance request as stated above for those present at this meeting, second by Irene Joe. VOTE: 15-00-01.

F. Approve Officers' Meeting Stipend for FY'26 Monthly Organization meeting and Agency Meeting at Casamero Lake Chapter, Vice Commander Hubert Smith will attend the Eastern Agency Veterans meeting on October 08, 2025; Ricardo Spencer, Hubert Smith & Elsie Ciccarello, three officers are in attendance at monthly Manuelito Veterans Organization meeting on October 03, 2025.

Gilbert Shirley motioned to approve the meeting attendance to Eastern Agency Veterans meeting and three MVO officers for this meeting; second by Chancey Brown. VOTE: 15-00-01.

G. Added Agenda Item to allow for virtual meetings. The membership who live outside the immediate chapter areas and are unable to attend monthly/bimonthly meetings. These registered members of Manuelito Veterans Organization be allowed to listen in on Veterans meetings and be able to vote on issues. It will only be virtual and zoom will not be allowed. It was decided to use *trial and error* method and may be removed if any abuse is suspected.

Paulene McCabe motioned to approve allowing virtual meeting attendance using '*trial and error*' method inserted in policy and may be taken out; second by Ray Spencer, Jr. VOTE: 15-00-01.

VI. Old Business: None.

VII. Reports - if any:

A. Verbal Reports - Vice Commander:

B. Secretary: Account Balances-Eastern Trust funds were unavailable. Chapter Carry-Over Trust funds: \$6,735. Gourd Dance funds - \$1,031.90.

C. Honorable Lester Yazzie, District 6, 25th NN Council Delegate, absent.

VII. Announcements:

- Eastern Navajo Veteran Organization-Wedn. October 8, Casamero Lake, 0900
- Manuelito Chapter Planning Meeting - Wednesday, October 8, 1300
- Manuelito CLUP-C meeting on Friday, October 10, 2025 at 0900
- Manuelito Chapter Meeting - Sunday, October 19, 2025, 1300

VIII. Next Meeting Date: Friday, December 12, 2025, at 1800 hrs

IX. Adjournment: at 2018 hrs. Irene Joe motioned, Benjamin Brown second. All agreed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elsie K. Ticcarello

Secretary

Manuelito Veterans Organization