



# NAKAIBETO VETERANS' ORGANIZATION

**MINUTES**  
**October 5, 2025**  
**1:00 PM**

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK, 6 FEET APART.**



## I. Preliminaries:

- a. Call Meeting to Order: 1:20 by Commander Echeverria
- b. Roll Call: Commander Tikesha Echeverria [ P ]  
Vice Commander Rachel Garrett [ A ]  
Secretary/Treasurer Carol B Muskett [ P ]
- c. Invocation: Albert Barney, NVO Member, Mexican Springs Community member.
- d. Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence for "MIA-POW & KIA": Observed
- e. Review and Adopt Agenda: Agenda was read aloud by Commander Echeverria. Motion to Accept and Approve Agenda made by Alfonzo Daws, 2nd by Eddie Yazzie, Vote: 13, 0, 2
- f. Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes: Reports for August and September meeting was read by Carol B Muskett. Motion to accept and approve previous 2 meeting minutes made by Samuel Benally, 2nd by Alfonzo Daws, Vote: 16, 0, 2.

## II. Guest: None

## III. Old Business:

- a. Wells Fargo Account: \$931.30 – Commander Echeverria this is the current amount we have in our bank account. Don't know when we will have any more fund raisers.
- b. Chapter 16 Fund: \$12,724.38 – Commander Echeverria our new balance in the Chapter fund is 12, 724.38, we received \$5,000.00 so we are budgeting it in food. We can make amendments if we need to.

## IV. New Business:

- a. Elections (If needed) – Commander Echeverria do you want us to hold elections? Julie Pahe – No you are all doing a good job. Commander

Echeverria is everyone in agreement? In the October meeting last year we stated it will be 2 year commitment. Unless someone wants to step down.

Motion to keep the same NVO officials made by Julie Pahe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Helena Anthony, Vote: 16, 0, 1

- b. Resolution No. 1168-25 Commander Echeverria – this legislation was presented by Dr. Andy Nez, it is sponsored by him, this is to recognize the chapter veteran's organization and as the same as any department within the Navajo Nation. This is to give us a bigger voice in the political portion of what happens with our veterans. It states digital comments may emailed to comments at Navajo-nsn.gov or mail to the executive director. Make sure your comments has the legislation number on it, so they know what you are referring too.
- c. Tohatchi elementary Truck or Treat – Commander Echeverria – this is on October 31, 2025, not sure about the time yet. But I did coordinate with the elementary school teacher that the NVO will be hosting a pumpkin painting station. All the supplies have been ordered. I just need volunteers to help the kids paint pumpkin.
- d. Veterans Day Parade – Commander Echeverria – The City of Gallup is hosting a Veterans Day Parade. I entered our organization in the parade, even if we have a vehicle in there with a banner, just letting them know who we are. I think this will be good publicity for us to get more sponsors for our events that we host. I think as a veteran's organization we are not here just to help ourselves; we are also want/need to give back to the community to keep this organization going. Halloween candy will be going on sale after Halloween so it would be a good time to get it then for the parade. We will be tossing out candy. Carol B Muskett – we can use my trailer for the parade. We just need to decorated it. We will need a bag of candy from you all. Plus, whoever wants to sit on the float, let us know. The theme of the parade is Honoring the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War II
- e. FDAVO Quarterly Mtg. – Commander Echeverria – I also signed us up to host the Fort Defiance Agency Veterans Organization quarterly meeting in April. They have all been hosted in Arizona far from here. At the Kin Da Lichi'i meeting I request we host the April Meeting. There was about 75 people there, so we need to decide how we are going to host and organize our event. What we are going to cook. It will be

about 80 to 90 people, Council Delegates, all the Agency Commander, the Vice Commanders, the Secretary/Treasurer, and the Navajo Veterans Administration staff. Tohatchi also volunteered for the July meeting. So, District 14 grabbed two of those spots. Then it goes back to Arizona. We will also need door prizes for the quarterly meeting. Helena do you think you want to post colors for the Fort Defiance Agency meeting? Helena - we have a person that manages the group so I will let her know. The date again is April 3, 2026. 6 mo. away. We also need to decide if we want to cook or have it catered. We will put this on the next meeting so think about it.

- f. **Veterans Trust Fund: Request for Assistance – Commander Echeverria** – this is the 105 forms. It is written on the board. Hardship you will be asking for \$314.00, Energy you will be asking for \$314.00 and Self Help is at \$1,000.00 you will be asking for. So, the total amount you will be getting is \$1,628.00 per veteran/spouse. The Veterans administration has our budget; they have to follow that. Even if someone puts in a different amount, they have to follow what we budgeted and that is what they will get. This is what we agreed on.

## **V. Reports:**

- a. **Commander Echeverria** – That was my report under new business. Oct 11, 2025: Free Wood Distribution.

- Free wood for Veterans (with ID or DD214) will be distributed in Leupp at the Leupp Chapter. Be there be square, be early, bring strong arms.
- Thanksgiving dinner, I have not heard back from Mario, he is ghosting me. But it is still set for November 23<sup>rd</sup> for our dinner. We are hoping to have that at Fire Rock. Carol B Muskett – so if you are planning on going, we will need to know how many people you are planning on bring. We need to get a count. Yourself plus no more than 2 guest.
- Marine Corp Ball – the contact person is Staff Sergeant Patricia Burnside, she is also our new Fort Defiance Agency Vice Commander. There is also Gunnery Sergeant Gilbert Yazzie, and Gunny Pete 928-206-0962. This is not just for Marine; you all can attend. For singles it is \$30.00/Couples \$50.00 at the Route 66 Casino on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

- b. Vice Commander Garrett – No in attendance.
- c. Secretary Muskett – No Report, just planning meeting tomorrow and our regular meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. Next NVO Mtg: November 9, 2025 at 1 PM/Decorate float**

**VII. Announcements:**

- a. Oct 6, 2025: District 14 Council meeting, 5:30 pm at Bahastla'ha Chapter
- b. Oct 11, 2025: Ft Defiance AGENCY Council meeting, 9:00 am Naschitti Elementary
- c. Oct 11, 2025: Free Wood Distribution. Free wood for Veterans (with ID or DD214) will be distributed in Leupp at the Leupp Chapter Warehouse behind Leupp Store. Self-Load is required.
- d. Oct 20, 2025: REGULAR Chapter meeting at 1:00 pm
- e. Oct 31, 2025: Trunk-Or-Treat, Tohatchi Elementary
- f. Nov 3, 2025: Chapter PLANNING meeting at 10:00 am
- g. Nov 5, 2025: District 14 Grazing Committee meeting, 9:00 am Tohatchi Chapter
- h. Nov. 8, 2025 Marine Corp Ball, Route 66 Hotel, ABQ., NM
- i. Nov 17, 2025: REGULAR Chapter meeting at 1:00 pm
- j. Dec 1, 2025: Chapter PLANNING meeting at 1:00 pm
- k. Dec 3, 2025: District 14 Grazing Committee meeting, 9:00 am Naschitti Chapter
- l. Dec 14, 2025: Chapter CHRISTMAS Parade & Dinner at 11:00 am
- m. Dec 15, 2025: REGULAR Chapter meeting at 1:00 pm
- n. Jan 9, 2026: FDAVO Quarterly Mtg. 9:00 am at Oak Springs/ Pine Springs Chapter
- o. Apr 3, 2026: FDAVO Quarterly Mtg. 9:00 am Mexican Springs Chapter
- p. Jul 10, 2026; FDAVO Quarterly Mtg. 9:00 am Tohatchi Chapter
- q. Oct 2, 2026: FDAVO Quarterly Mtg. 9:00 am Houck Chapter

**VIII. Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned at 2:35 PM**

**Minutes Prepared By:**

  
**Carol B Muskett, Secretary/Recorder**