

Naschitti Community Governance Veterans Organization

P. O. Drawer D; Sheep Springs, New Mexico 87364

Phone: (505) 732-5400/5402 Fax: (505) 732-5406

Website: naschitti@navajochapters.org

Commander: Richard Notah • Vice-Commander: Joel Herbert • Secretary: Rhonda Herbert



NASCHITTI COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE VETERANS' ORGANIZATION MEETING

Naschitti Community Governance Center * Naschitti, New Mexico

Friday, October 10, 2025 * 10:00 AM * FY 2026

MEETING MINUTES

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS:

A. Meeting Called to Order at 1010

B. Roll Call:

- Commander Richard Notah – Present
- Vice-Commander Joel C. Herbert – Present
- Secretary: Rhonda Herbert – Present

C. Invocation respectfully done by Mr. Mike Becenti

D. Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence led by Vice Commander Joel Herbert

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. NCG Veterans Meeting: October 10, 2025, 10 am; Naschitti, NM

B. Ft. Defiance Agency Meeting: October 11, 2025, 9 am; Naschitti Elementary School

C. Indigenous People's Day: October 13, 2025

D. NCG Grazing Permittee Meeting: October 13, 2025, 9 am; Naschitti, NM

E. NCG Commissioner Work Session/Planning Meeting: October 15, 2025, 9 am; Naschitti, NM

F. NCG Commissioner Meeting: October 26, 2025, 9 am; Naschitti, NM

III. REVIEW AND ADOPT AGENDA

1st Motion: Kenneth Bryant

2nd Motion: Nanette Francisco

Votes: 19 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

1ST Motion: Ruby Johnson – Motioned to approve meeting minutes

2nd Motion: Donovan Henry

Votes: 20 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

V. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS:

A. None

VI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS:

A. NN VA-FDA – No Show

B. NN Council Delegate – Not Present



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VII. RECEIVING REPORTS:

A. Commander Richard Notah – Report Attached

1. Attended the NCG Planning Meeting on September 17, 2025. They passed several resolutions for the NCGCVO being a subcommittee and insurance coverage, the carryover budget, and addressed concerns about the community. There was also a discussion on tally counts from the grazing official.
2. Attended the Veterans agency meeting in Kin Da Lichee. There was a resolution that was presented but was not supported. This resolution was to have the veteran or a representative attend the meetings to request for financial assistance. There were other conditions to the resolution but it was not supported. Another resolution was made to Codify the Veterans Organizations under the NN Law.
3. He informed that there is a surviving spouse (Darlene Bitsoi) that is has donated a US Flag for us to use.

B. Vice-Commander Joel Herbert – Report

1. Assisted the Secretary with researching flags for the Naschitti Veterans Organization.
2. Informed the attendees that there is a Fun/Walk in Window Rock tomorrow (10-14-25).

C. Secretary Rhonda Herbert: Report

1. She submitted three quotes for flags intended for the use of the NCGCVO, with each quote encompassing flags representing each branch, as well as the U.S. flag, NM state flag, Navajo Nation and the POW/MIA flag. She is kindly requesting that the veterans select their preferred quote, after which she will coordinate with the Chapter Administration to facilitate the ordering process.
2. Secretary Herbert is currently overseeing the preparations for the upcoming Veterans Day Dinner, which will honor veterans, surviving spouses, and their families. She is seeking suggestions for the dinner menu. Following prior discussions, the menu for the upcoming Veterans Day Dinner/Regular Veterans Meeting has been established. Secretary Herbert will collaborate with the chapter administration to identify a suitable caterer and will be responsible for scheduling their services.
3. She would like to gather shirt sizes in order to obtain quotes for t-shirts designated for veterans and surviving spouses. Currently, she is working on this initiative on behalf of the Naschitti Veterans Organization.
4. As a commissioner, she provided the attendees with updates on various projects and other relevant matters.

1st Motion: Mike Becenti motioned to accept reports as they were presented

2nd Motion: Daniel Notah

Votes: 19 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS: All Veterans

A. Birthdays for the Month of October:

1. Alphonso Bitsoi
2. Larry Benally

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3. Pearl Slivers
4. Larry Jackson, Sr.
5. Kenneth Bryant

Many blessings to those born this month.

- B. Commander Notah reported that within the agency there were people who have applied and of that many were denied for various reasons. He is asking for those that apply at Central Office to inform him or the leadership that you are applying. He also stated that each year, you have to submit proper documents and update your registration. Make sure that each request is filled out properly.
- C. Rose Kellywood requested for the Fort Defiance Veterans Office which is located in Window Rock. Secretary Herbert gave the phone number to the attendees. Other concerns were that the phone number given is often not answered and the location is different, another said to call ahead of time to make sure that your paperwork is in order before going to the office, and when you move to update the map to your home.
- D. Another comment was in regards to the flags and which quote to go with. This item will be discussed during the Action Items.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Veterans Day Dinner: A discussion ensued regarding having the dinner catered or having a pot luck style dinner. Majority of attendees agreed for the Secretary to look for a caterer and to schedule to save the day for the Veterans. Commander Notah informed the attendees of the funds available at the chapter and the cost of the catering. Questions were regarding the menu and ideas for the type of food to have.
 - a. Catering: 18 in favor 1 Opposed 1 Abstention
 - b. Pot Luck: 2 in favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

Menu: Roast Beef, ham, enchiladas, mashed potatoes and gravy, veggies, dinner rolls, salad and drinks. (Majority agreed to this menu). Vice Commander has agreed to buy the cake. One suggestion to have pastries and to have an alternative to a dessert.

Decorations: Theme: Bells of Freedom Ring. Colors: red, white and blue. Secretary Herbert is asking for flowers for the center pieces. She is asking for donations to be dropped off at the Chapter. We can get together on November 3rd to work on the centerpieces.

Start Time: Commander Notah asked the group if we can begin at 0900 instead of 1000. Majority agreed.
2. Flags: The 3 quotes for flags were discussed.
 - a. Flags Unlimited: \$3,019.70 before taxes (does not include Navajo Nation Flag)
 - b. Flags for Veterans: \$3,451.25 before taxes (include cases for storage)

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- c. Home Depot: \$1,598.97 (does not include Navajo Nation flag nor the Space Force Flag)
Secretary Herbert requested for flags from the NM VA but they only assist with the US Flag for veterans who have journeyed on.
Questions: Are the flags for indoor or outdoor use? Reply: Indoor Use.

Majority recommended to go with the *Flags for Veterans Quote*.

1st Motion: Danny K. Nez

2nd Motion: Roseanne Kellywood

Votes: 21 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

Secretary Herbert will submit this to the Chapter Administration to order the flags.

3. Banner: Commander Notah is requesting along with others to get a new banner for the Naschitti Veterans Organization. Secretary will work on getting quotes for this.

B. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **NCGCVO-001-2026:** RESOLUTION TO THE NASCHITTI COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE; TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE NASCHITTI COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE CENTER VETERANS' ORGANIZATION FOR FY 2026

1st Motion: Kenneth Bryant

2nd Motion: Ruby Johnson

Votes: 20 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

2. **NCGCVO-002-2026:** APPROVING AND SUPPORTING LEGISLATION 0168-25 CODIFY CHAPTER VETERANS

1st Motion: Mike Becenti

2nd Motion: Ruby Johnson

Votes: 22 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

C. FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Naschitti Community Governance – Fund 16

FUND 16	BALANCE 10-10-25	BALANCE FY 26
	\$9,433.21	\$9,433.21

2. NNVA Trust Fund

NNVA – TF	ENDING FY25	BEGINNING FY26
HARDSHIP	0.00	\$14,400.00
ENERGY	0.00	\$14,400.00
SELF HELP	0.00	\$26,000.00
STIPEND	0.00	\$3,600.00
PROGRAM	0.00	\$272.00

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D. FY 2025 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST:

1. 23 applications for financial assistance:

NAME	HARDSHIP	ENERGY	SELF HELP	TOTAL:
SARAH YAZZIE	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00\$1,800.00
DANIEL NOTAH		\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,400.00
ROBERT DEAL	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
NED B. HENRY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
KEE Y. GEE	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
GEORGETTA HENRY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
JOEL C. HERBERT	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
GROVER THOMAS	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
RUBY JEAN JOHNSON	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
JIMMY THOMAS	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
PEARL SLIVERS	\$400.00	\$400.00		\$800.00
DANNY KEE NEZ	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
LAWRENCE JAMES WOODY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
ROSEANNE KELLYWOOD	\$400.00		\$1,000.00	\$1,400.00
IRENE S. MORRIS	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
NANETTE B. FRANCISCO		\$400.00		\$400.00
MIKE BECENTI	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
DONAVAN CHRISTOPHER HENRY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,00.00	\$1,800.00
FELIX BENALLY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
RICHARD NOTAH	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
MARJORIE C. JONES	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
KENNETH BRYANT	\$450.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00
MARIE R. BEGAY	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,800.00

** Grover Thomas, a Veteran, is requesting \$400.00 for Traditional Healing. This expense is not included in the FY26 NCGCVO Budget. He has been informed of this but still wishes to proceed with the request.

** Marie R. Begay, a surviving spouse, is requesting \$400.00 for Traditional Healing. This expense is not included in the FY26 NCGCVO budget. She has been informed of this but still wishes to proceed with the request.

** Kenneth Bryant is requesting funding (\$150.00) to attend an appointment in Albuquerque, NM. He has included his appointment reminder with the request. Although he was informed that there is no funding available in the FY26 NCGCVO budget for this type of expense, he is still seeking support.

1st Motion: Roseann Kellywood

2nd Motion: Nanette Francisco

Votes: 20 in favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstention

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Other documents being submitted:

1. Jimmy Thomas:
 - a. Veterans Registration Form FY26
 - b. Map
2. Nanette S. Franciso:
 - a. Veterans Registration Form FY26
 - b. Map
3. Ethel G. Yazzie:
 - a. Surviving Spouse Registration Form FY 2026
 - b. Map
 - c. CIB – Vincent K. Yazzie
 - d. CIB – Ethel G. Morris
 - e. SS Card – Benson Yazzie
 - f. DD214 – Benson K. Yazzie
4. Robert Deal: (Attached to his financial assistance request)
 - a. NM Driver's License
 - b. NN Voter Card
5. Lawrence James Woody (Attached to his financial assistance request)
 - a. Appointment Schedule
6. Mike Becenti (Attached to his financial assistance request)
 - a. NN Voter Card

XI. Benediction respectfully done by Daniel Notah

XII. NEXT MEETING:

A. Next Regular Meeting: November 7, 2025, at 10:00 am

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

1st Motion: Naomi Deal

2nd Motion: Roseanne Kellywood

Majority Voted in Favor

Adjourned at 12:06 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rhonda Herbert", is written over a horizontal line.

Rhonda Herbert, Secretary
NCGCVO

Commander Report – Richard Notah (October 10, 2025)

- I. Attended the Naschitti Community Governance Planning Meeting on September 22, 2025
 - II. Attended the First Quarter Ft. Defiance Agency Veterans Organization Meeting in Kin Dah Lichii', AZ. on October 03, 2025
 - A. Meeting Called to Order at 9:26 am by Commander Kyle Lewis.
 - B. Invocation: Unknown
 - C. Presentation of Colors: Ganado Veterans Organization
 - D. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence: Commander Kyle Lewis.
 - E. Welcome Address: Kin Dah Lichii' Veterans Organization,
 - F. Introductions & Announcements: Commander Kyle Lewis
 - G. Review / Approval of Agenda: Toni Mina, approved 17-0-1
 - H. Review / Approval of Meeting Minutes: July 11, 2025. Tse Si Ani, AZ. Toni Mina. Approved 17-0-1
 - I. Reports & Presentations (5 Minutes)
 1. Dr. Andy Nez, update on proposed Legislation 0168-25. Codify CVOs. 18-0-3
Navajo Nation Veteran Administration 18-0-1
 2. Bobbie Baldwin, ED NNVA, \$6000. will be available for Late Registration, New Veterans, Honor Guards, Burials
 - J. Public Input: Veteran (5Minutes)
 - K. New Business / Resolutions:
 1. Supporting Legislation 0168-25. Codify AVO and CVOs. 17-0-1
 2. Resolution, Commander Burnside RE: Surviving Spouses Veterans Trust Fund 1-14-3
 3. Commander Notah: Veterans Trust Fund amendment 1-17-1
 4. FDAO Elections: Tom White Jr. Resigned. Patricia Vice-Commander Elected by 10-5-1
 5. Commander Lewis: Discussion, Possible Grievance Process
 - L. FDAO Meeting Location FY 2026: see next Meeting Dates
 - M. Officer's Reports: None
 - N. Announcements:
 1. October 8-9, 2025, DBMHS Excess Furniture Chile, AZ.
 2. October 9-12, 2025, Gathering of Warriors Wide Ruins, AZ.
 3. October 11, 2025 Wood Distribution Self-Load Leupp, AZ.
 4. November 8, 2025 250th USMC Birthday Ball Route 66 Casino
 - O. Next Meeting Dates:
 1. January 9, 2026 Oak Springs, AZ 9AM
 2. April 3, 2026 Mexican Springs, NM 9AM
 3. July 11, 2026 Tohatchi, NM 9AM
 4. October 2, 2026 Houck, AZ. 9AM
- Adjournment: