



Tohatchi Veterans Organization
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Commander: Manuel Shirleson

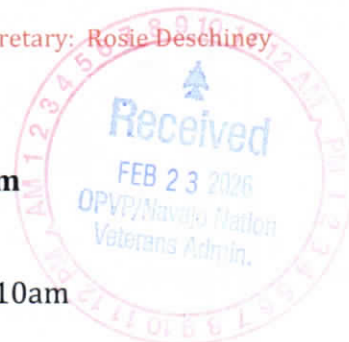
Vice-Commander: Laris Manuelito

Secretary: Rosie Deschiney

Sergeant of Arms: Franklin Sandoval

MINUTES

Thursday: February 12, 2026 at 10:00 am
Tohatchi Chapter House



1. Meeting Called to Order by: Commander, Manuel Shirleson at 10:10am
 - A. Roll Call: Commander
Commander – Manuel Shirleson ✓
Secretary/Treasurer: Rosie Deschiney ✓
(NCO) ✓
Sergeant of Arms: Franklin Sandoval
Vice-Commander – Laris Manuelito
Non-Commission Officer, Paul Begay
Chaplin: Milton Shirleson
 - B. Invocation: Given by Virginia Burbank
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for 'MIA-POW-KIA': Done by all.
2. Review/Approval of the Agenda:
A motion made to approve the agenda by Charles Arviso, seconded by Paul Begay with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposing and 1 abstention.
3. Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes for January:
Motion to approve the January Veterans meeting minutes by Virginia Burbank, second by Raymond Pinto with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 oppose and 1 abstention.
4. Introduction of Guest(s): CSC, Maria Allison, Chapter President Alvis Bitsilly, Wilfred Yazzie, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dennison
5. Old Business: Plaques for the Navajo Code Talker: Provided the listing of the Code Talkers, only John Pinto and Pahe Yazzie's updates, the event which will take place on August 14th, 2026. We need to work on invitations once the family members have been identified. Manuel got quotes at \$144.00 per plaques. The organization would like to purchase one plaque with all the names to be posted at the chapter.
6. New Business: Update on the current Trust Fund balance of \$3,238.00. The balance on the Fund 16 was also updated with a balance of \$14,201.47. Maria Allison reported the following:

At the last meeting I shared the Guidance on Expenditure of Fund 16 (Veteran Funds) which allows us to use for recognition, food for catering and/or supplies, gift, awards and operational expenses that directly supports the local veteran programs.

Non-allowable expenses include building supplies or any construction related cost.

Additionally, the Office of Auditor General noted that "supplies" does not include Laptops, desktop computers and printers, no Gift Cards and bulk items. Items purchased require receipts and all purchases also require three written quotations.

We can purchase table clothes, plates, utensils, decorations, and bowls, anything that we use for the organizational events that are all under operating supplies. I will need a memorandum on all request 2 weeks prior to the events. We will also require a monthly meeting dates, even on cancellations need also be in advance. I would like to have the first Friday of each month, please stay consistence.

Charles questioned the actual balance on the accounts starting on October, 2025. Maria shared a copy of the current budget.

Rosie questioned if we can get volunteers on the food preparation and quotations on purchases do not have to be approved by the committee. One other thing, are there vendors other than Butlers, like with Walmart? The staff are presently working on getting other stores to honor our checks.

Manuel reported the last catering the attendees complained that the food was cold.

Maria was questioned on who had the key to the trophy case, she reported that she has the key and do monthly cleaning. The committee also requested where our flag is, this will be put back on the wall.

7. Honor/Color Guards Reports: Post colors at Chilchiltah, they are scheduled for Honor Guard for tomorrow and completed one for Al Silvers.

Also at the last meeting Evelyn Pinto reported that 2 of her children are retiring from the Arm Forces. This will take place in April.

Wilfred Yazzie questioned if the plaque writing is done, if these awards going to be given to the families or if they are going to place in the Veterans showcase.

8. Officers Reports: Manuel reported the services for El Silvers, and one scheduled for Gallup LDS. The church requires no uniforms., no hats and the family should be informed.
9. Chares questions if the Veterans Park is legally processed, he would like to put up some flags. This area will need some cleaning and officially marked.

Alvis Bitsilly reported that if this was officially given to the veterans, keep in mind the bridge is also an issue, possible graveling but encourage the veterans to utilize the area. The location of the picnic needs an official marking with a sign.

10. Next TVO Meeting; March 6, 2026
11. Ft. Defiance Agency Meeting: Unknown at this time.
12. Announcement(s): Several posting that are taking place down in the southern New Mexico and another one at Flagstaff.

Maria announced on February 24, at 10:00 a.m. President Nygren along with NAPI personnel will be distributing NAPI products at the Tohatchi Chapter.

13. Adjournment at 11:28, vote unanimous.

Submitted by:



Rosie Deschiney