

# **Cornfields Veterans Organization**

Cornfields Chapter, Arizona 86505

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 20, 2026

1:00 PM



- I. Meeting was called to order by Commander Smith at 1:25 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of Silence: Commander Smith lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.
- III. Invocation: Invocation was given by Ruthie A. Nez.
- IV. Announcements:
  - Ft. Defiance Agency Veterans Organization Meeting – April 03, 2026 @ Mexican Springs, NM at 9:00 am.
  - Recognize Guest & Visiting Officials: There were no visitors.
- V. Approval of Agenda: M: Mary Ann Arnold S: Dwayne White V: 12-0-1
- VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2026: Secretary Nez read the minutes. Mr. Betoney motioned to approve the minutes from February 6, 2026. M: Nelson Betoney S: Dewayne White V: 12-0-1.
- VII. New Business:
  - A. Approval of Resolution of Cornfields Veterans Organization to Request to Utilize the Cornfields Chapter Governance Mobile Home which is located on the South side of the Chapter House, for CVO to use, since it is not utilized by the Chapter House. A Memorandum of Understanding will be drafted.  
Commander Smith said we need to request for an office and meeting room for the CVO. CVO can also do a Memorandum of Understanding for Facility Use. Commander wants to take the resolution to request from the Cornfields Chapter Governance for the CVO Office and meeting room. Mr. Betoney asked the Commander to read the resolution and he motion to approve the resolution. M: Nelson Betoney S: Mary Ann Arnold V: 12-0-1.
  - B. Approval of Resolution of Cornfields Veteran Organization, Requesting the Navajo Nation Council to amend 12 N.N.C ~ 117(B) to increase the Veterans Trust Funds (VTF) Annual Set Aside from 4% to 8% to Ensure Comprehensive and Flexible Services for all Navajo Veterans.  
Commander Smith read the resolution and explained that the previous resolution had the percentage as from 4% to 12%, but was not approved so we are changing the percentage from 4% to 8%. M: Nelson Betoney S: Mary Ann Arnold Vote: 12-0-1.

C. Approval of Resolution of the Cornfields Veteran Organization, Requesting the Fort Defiance Agency Veterans Organization to Support and Advocate for an Increase in Compensation Payment for Honor Guards and Color Guards Detail. Commander Smith read this resolution and said the Guards need compensation increase because the cost of living, gas prices, and distance of some of the travel. He said some of travel is overnight and long distance too. M: Dwayne White S: Mary Ann Arnold Vote: 12-0-1.

D. Presentation by Ms. Dixie Baldwin, Sage Memorial Hospital:  
There was a no show from Sage Hospital. Commander Smith said Ms. Baldwin made a verbal request to attend this meeting. Commander said the Veterans Park is still under design and planning. The road to the Sage Hospital Nursing/Group Home is in the area of the CVO Veterans Park. We need to meet with the Sage Hospital Group to check their design for the road.

VIII. Old Business:

A. FY 2026 CVO Trust Fund Report. Commander Smith gave a report of the Veterans Trust Fund report and said there was only funding left for the CVO Officers stipend left in the account. The Buffer funding was also exhausted.

B. Approval of Cornfields Chapter Veterans Fund and Expenditure Report. Secretary Nez made a report that the Chapter CVO Account has a balance of \$5,897.74. The Chapter has an account balance sheet which has this amount. Only recent expense was a reimbursement which was approved at the 2/6/26 CVO meeting to give reimbursement to D. White for uniform purchase. Commander said all procurement is done by the policy in place at the Chapter House.

C. Ft Defiance Agency Veterans Plan of Operation, and Veterans Code of Conduct. (For Discussion) Commander said we will follow all Navajo Veterans and CVO Code of Conduct to protect our veterans and personnel. He said American Legion has an Honor Guard at the entry way, we may have to follow their procedures. Mr. Betoney said CVO need to retain the officers in their position because this issue is a petty issue and not one Veteran can request to replace officers. Commander said policy will be approved at the Agency level.

IX. Request for Agency Trust Funds:

a) Approve CVO Officers Stipend for Conducting Meeting on March 20, 2026 Veterans Meeting. Motion to approve: M: Mary Ann Arnold S: Nellie Franklin Vote: 12-0-1

X. Report: CVO Officers, American Legion: Commander said he gave his report in the Announcement section, the Dine Nazbaah Organization had a food giveaway at the Ganado Veterans Building at the middle part of February.

- XI. Announcements:
1. April 22, 2026 Earth Day, Community Cleanup Day
  2. Navajo Nation Women Warriors Recognition Day, March 19, 2026 at Twin Arrows,
  3. 23<sup>rd</sup> Piestewa Fallen Heros Memorial, March 24, 2026, Phoenix, AZ.
  4. 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Vietnam Veterans Honor Walk, March 24 to 28, 2026, Thoreau, NM to Upper Fruitland, NM, Awards Ceremony on March 28, ay NTU, Crownpoint, NM.
  5. Photographer during the Ganado Veterans Organization Meeting, April 10, 2026, color guard and honor guards.
  6. Cornfields and Ganado Veteran Color Guard, post colors at Nahata Dzill Chapter, Veterans Park, 9:00 am. On March 29, 2026.

XII. Benediction:

XII. Adjournment of Meeting & Next Meeting on April 10, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

Majority vote was made to adjourn, V: 12-0-1. Time: 3:30 pm.

*Ruthie A. May*