

JOURNAL OF THE
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

February 09, 2026
10:00 AM

PRESIDING: Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson
Honorable Germaine Simonson, Vice-Chairperson

PLACE: Budget and Finance Conference Room,
Window Rock, NN (AZ)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; INVOCATION; ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting called to order by Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson at 12:04 p.m. There were four (4) members present, and two (2) members excused when Roll Call was made by Karen J. Thompson, Legislative Assistant with OLS.

Honorable Members present:

*Honorable Vince R. James (11:35 a.m.); *Honorable Dr. Andy Nez (10:00 a.m.); *George H. Tolth (9:43 a.m.); and *Honorable Curtis Yanito (9:40 a.m.).

Honorable Members not in attendance or arrived after the roll call was taken:

Honorable Helena Nez Begay (Excused) and Honorable Germaine Simonson (Excused)

The Invocation was delivered by John Nells, Winslow Indian Health Care Center (WIHCC) Board of Directors.

2. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS

- Recognition of all committee members, staff, guests, and zoom participants.
- Consult the Sign-In Sheets for Committee Members and Visiting Guests of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee.

3. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE AGENDA

The Proposed Agenda for February 09, 2026, has been read into record by Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor/OLS.

- Chair Vince R. James inquired if there were any objections to adding a journal dated February 3, 2026, and deferring report 5(A) to the next scheduled Health, Education and Human Services Committee Regular Meeting on February 23, 2026, with the modification of the motion to be included in the new amended version, with the agreement of the motioning parties.

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)

4. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE JOURNAL(S) :

- February 03, 2026 Special Meeting

Motion by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)

5. REPORT(S) :

~~A. Report: Division of Human Resources, Department of Personnel Management~~

- ~~➤ Feasibility for payout of excess annual leave to specified Navajo Nation employees.~~

~~**Presenters:** Reyceita Toddy, Division Director, Division of Human Resources
Katherine Benally, Deputy Director, Division of Human Resources
Charlotte Bigthumb, Director, Department of Personnel Management
Romondo Clah, Human Resource Operations and Development Specialist, DPM~~

- The Health, Education and Human Services Committee agreed to defer item 5(A) to the next regular meeting of the committee scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2026.

B. Report: Winslow Indian Health Care Center, Inc. (WIHCC)

- FY25 Annual Report
- FY25 Financial Audit

Presenters: Robert Salabye, President - Board of Directors
President, WIHCC, Inc.
Karen Leuppe, Acting Chief Executive Officer/
Chief Finance Office - WIHCC, Inc.
Ashley DeMaria, Chief Quality Management
Director

Josh Trujillo, CPA; SJT Group, LLC. (FY2025
Financial Audit) (may present via Zoom)

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez
Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays:
None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)

6. OLD BUSINESS: *None*

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Reschedule: Work Session Date

Navajo Nation Insurance Services Program and the Department
of Justice

- Possible Impacts from IHS' Report pertaining to Self-Funded
Programs/Organizations.
- Changes in the Navajo Nation Employee Health Insurance
- Increase cost(s) to Navajo Nation Employees for the Health
Insurance Coverages
- Analysis of decreases in health services from IHS,
Medicare, Medicaid, etc. health coverage
- *The Health, Education and Human Services Committee agreed
to reschedule the work session to Tuesday, March 10, 2026,
from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The location will be determined
later.*

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez
Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays:
None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)

B. Reschedule: Work Session Date

Navajo Nation Vehicle Review Board & Fleet Management

- Continue the review of proposed amendments to the Motor Vehicle Operations Handbook

- The Health, Education and Human Services Committee agreed to reschedule the work session to Tuesday, March 10, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The location will be determined later.

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth

Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)

8. CLOSE OF MEETING; ANNOUNCEMENTS; ADJOURNMENT NEXT MEETING(S) / TRAVEL:

- Monday, February 13, 2026 9:00 am HEHSC Leadership Meeting, NN Council Chambers, Window Rock, NN, (AZ).

- Monday, February 16, 2026 Observed NN and Federal Holiday - President's Day

- Monday, February 23, 2026 10:00 am HEHSC Regular Meeting; B&F Conference Room, Window Rock, NN, (AZ).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Health, Education and Human Services Committee agreed to postpone the Leadership Meeting that was scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2026, because of scheduling conflicts among committee members and presenters.

Honorable George H. Tolth motioned there was no further business, adjourned at 12:29 p.m.; Seconded by Honorable Curtis Yanito, with a vote of 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS)