

**HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING
August 12, 2024
10:00 AM**

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

PLACE: Budget and Finance Conference Room (In Person)
Via Telecommunications:
Window Rock, NN (AZ)

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

Meeting called to Order by Honorable Vince R. James Chairperson at 10:06 a.m. There were four (4) members present and two (2) members absent when Roll Call was made by Karen J. Thompson, Legislative Assistant with Office of Legislative Services.

Honorable Members present: *Honorable Vince R. James (10:00 a.m.); *Honorable Dr. Andy Nez (10:00 a.m.); *Honorable George H. Tolth (9:22 a.m.); *Honorable Curtis Yanito (9:49 a.m.).

➤ Honorable Members not in attendance at the time of roll call:
Honorable Germaine Simonson (Absent)
Honorable Helena Nez Begay (Absent)

The invocation was provided by Honorable Curtis Yanito.

2. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS

➤ Please refer to the sign-in sheet

3. REVIEW AND ADOPT AGENDA

➤ *Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor (HEHSC) read the proposed agenda into record.*

➤ **Amendment #1:** to modify by deleting Receiving Report (A) and add a presentation by John Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health with the following presenters Marissa Begay, Jasmine Yazzie, Ashley Thacker, Taylor Billey, Laura Hammitt, Carol Tso, and Margia Sandoval. Titles were indicated after each name per approval of the Health, Education and Human Services Agenda.

➤ *The second reading of the agenda was read into record by the Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor (HEHSC).*

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: VJ/HNB/GS)

4. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE JOURNAL(S): *None*

5. RECEIVING REPORTS:

A. Report

- ❖ John Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health - Chinle, NN (AZ)
John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Presenter(s): Marissa Begay, Associate Director of Operations,
Southwest
Jasmine Yazzie, Research Program Assistant
Ashley Thacker, Sr. Research Program Supervisor
Taylor Billey, Sr. Research Coordinator
Laura Hammitt, Infectious Disease Director
Carol Tso, Research Nurse Supervisor
Marqia Sandoval, Sr. Research Program Coordinator

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito

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

B. Update Report:

- ❖ Navajo Head Start
 - FY 2024 Building Fund Expenditure update
 - Navajo Head Start Program update

Presenters: Dr. Florinda Jackson, Assistant Superintendent,
Navajo Head Start, DoDE
Rene Marianito, Director of Financial Services,
Navajo Head Start; DoDE
Roy Tracy, Acting Superintendent of Schools,
Department of Dine' Education

Motion by: Honorable Curtis Yanito

Second by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

Vote: 02 in favor; 01 opposed; (Yeas: AN/CY; Nays: GHT; Not
Voting: VJ/HNB/GS)

C. Report:

- ❖ Diné Language Initiatives and Policy Program

Presenters: Dr. Geneva Becenti, NISN Director, Diné Bizaad Na'nitin
Yíhool'aah
Dr. Geraldine Garrity, Director of Native American
Programs; Farmington Municipal Schools
Dr. Berlinda Begay, CCSD Bilingual Multicultural
Education Coordinator

Invited: *OSCAD staff are attending an assessment training on
Monday, August 12, 2024.*

Verna Thomas, Office of Standards, Curriculum,
Assessments and Development (OSCAD)
Dr. Shayla Yellowhair, Assistant Superintendent,
Oversees OSCAD
Roy Tracy, Acting Superintendent of Schools,
Department of Dine' Education

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth

Vote: 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/ GHT/CY; Nays: Not
Voting: VJ/HNB/GS)

D. Report

- ❖ Veterans Housing update
- ❖ Homesite Leases for Veterans Housing

Presenters: Bobbie Baldwin, Executive Director, Navajo Veterans
Administration
Byron Bitsoie, Sr., Department Manager III, Navajo Land
Department
Tonia Sam, Senior Homesite Agent; Interim Program
Manager, Navajo Land Department

➤ Deferred to Monday, August 19, 2024

6. OLD BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

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

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| ➤ Wednesday, August 14, 2024 | Observed
Holiday | Navajo Code Talker's
Day |
| ➤ Monday, August 19, 2024 | 8:15 am | DALTCS weekly update
meeting |
| ➤ Monday, August 19, 2024 | 10:00 am | HEHSC Regular Meeting |
| ➤ Monday, August 26, 2024 | 8:15 am | DALTCS weekly update
meeting |
| ➤ Monday, August 26, 2024 | 10:00 am | HEHSC Regular Meeting |
| ➤ Monday, September 9, 2024 | 10:00 am | HEHSC Regular Meeting |
| ➤ Monday, September 16, 2024 | 10:00 am | HEHSC Regular Meeting |
| ➤ Monday, September 23, 2024 | 10:00 am | HEHSC Regular Meeting |

Announcements:

Honorable Curtis Yanito

- Ribbon Cutting to start construction for Utah State Route 162 will be Tuesday, August 13, 2024. at Montezuma Creet.
- Notified committee members he will be attending a meeting SAMHA in Seattle, Washington on Monday, September 16, 2024, and would like to be excused.

Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

- Requested for reports from committee members who are the Navajo Area Representatives at one of the HEHSC Regular Meetings
- Questions regarding how the agenda is generated.
 - Angelita Benally will email out a template to committee members to fill out.
 - Indicate Presenter, Title and contact information.

Honorable Vince R. James

- Tuesday, August 13, 2024, NHLC Meeting
- Tuesday, August 13, 2024, Chair and Vice-Chair Meeting at 7pm via zoom
- Wednesday, August 14, 2024, Meeting at the President's Office at 7am
- Thursday, August 15, 2024, Naabik'iyati Committee Meeting at 10am
- Saturday, August 17, 2024, Chinle Agency Parade
- DBOSBA Fall Conference in September, will have more information later.

Honorable George H. Tolth motioned there was no further business, adjourned at 3:05 p.m.; Seconded by Honorable Curtis Yanito the vote was 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not Voting: VJ/HNB/GS)