

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

REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 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 Dr. Andy Nez, Chairperson Pro Tempore 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 the Office of Legislative Services.

Honorable Members present:

*Honorable Helena Nez Begay (10:03 a.m.); *Honorable Dr. Andy Nez (9:51 a.m.); *George H. Tolth (9:46 a.m.) and *Honorable Curtis Yanito (9:30 a.m.).

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

Honorable Vince R. James (10:08 a.m.) and Honorable Germaine Simonson (10:11 a.m.)

The Invocation was delivered by Yvonne Kee Billsion, Special Assistant to the Area Director, Navajo Indian Health Services - Headquarters.

Announcements:

- 31st Annual Indian Nations and Tribal Legislative Day, Wednesday, January 15, 2026.
- Start of the 100 Day State of Arizona Legislative Session.
- Utah Navajo Health Service to be placed on the next Health, Education and Human Services Committee Meeting.

2. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS

- Recognition of all committee members, staff, guests, and zoom participants.
- Kindly 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 January 12, 2026, has been read into record by Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor/OLS.

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS
GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN)

4. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE JOURNAL(S) :

- December 2, 2025, Special Meeting

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS
GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN)

5. REPORT(S) :

A. Report: Navajo Area Indian Health Services - Headquarters

- Arizona Expansion on Purchase Referred Care
- FY28 Navajo Area Budget Formulation Update

Presenters: Theresa Galvan, Deputy Area Director
Marie Begay, Chief, Purchased Referred Care
Lionel Dawes, Analyst, Purchased Referred Care
Audra Atene, Executive Officer, Navajo Area
Indian Health Service
Yvonne Kee-Billison, Special Assistant to the
Area Director

Announcement:

- Tribal Consultation on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Chandler, Arizona.
- The Health, Education and Human Services Committee scheduled a Leadership Meeting to discuss PRC, NEMT, and

the 638 overview on Friday, February 13, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
The location is yet to be decided.

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GHT/CY;
Nays: None; Not voting: AN/GS)

- Honorable George H. Tolth entertained a motion to Suspend the Floor Rules to include the Department of Dine Education in the agenda, which will necessitate an Executive Session and will be listed as 5(D) under Reports; Second by Honorable Curtis Yanito. The vote was 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN/GS)

B. Report: Division of Community Development

FY 26 Legislative Concern approved during the comprehensive budget session:

- Directive: *The Division of Community Development Administration shall present a written report to the Naabik'iyati' Committee by the end of the 1st quarter of FY 2026, detailing the method used to provide the Navajo Nation Chapters written notification regarding Fund 16 (veterans accounts) and how the expenditures shall comply with Navajo Nation Law.*

Presenters: Candace Yazzie, Acting Director, Division of Community Development
Jaron Charley, ASC Manager, Division of Community Development

Invited: Bobbie Baldwin, Director; NN Veterans Administration
Leann Roy, Deputy Director, NN Veterans Administration

- Standing Committee Rules of Order
Rule 18 Tabling Motion
(A) Any Committee member may motion to table a legislation or issue that is before the Committee. A tabling motion shall take precedence over all other motions. A tabling motion shall include specific directive(s) as to when the legislation or issue will be reconsidered.

(C) A tabling motion is not subject to debate.

- Honorable George H. Tolth entertained a motion to table the report from the Division of Community Development to the next Health, Education and Human Services Committee meeting. Additionally, provide a written report and the signed memo from the Department of Justice; Second by Vince R. James. The vote was 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN).

Motion by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Second by: Honorable Vince R. James
Vote: Pending

C. Report Update: Division of Human Resources, Department of Personnel Management

- Implementation of ERP/ Dayforce Time Record Management.

Presenter(s) :

Reycita Toddy, Division Director, Division of Human Resources
Katherine Benally, Deputy Director, Division of Human Resources
Traci Shortey, HR IT Manager, ERP Project Manager
Charlotte Bigthumb, Director, Department of Personnel Management
Romondo Clah, Human Resources Operations and Development Specialist, DPM

- Honorable Vince R. James entertained a motion to table the report from the Department of Personnel Management to the next Health, Education and Human Services Committee meeting. Additionally, provide a written report and extend an invitation to Controller Sean McCabe, CPA; Second by Helena Nez Begay. The vote was 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN).

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Vote: Pending

D. Report: Department of Diné Education

- Navajo Nation School Concerns/issues

Presenter (s) :

Claudia Edgewater, Acting Superintendent,
Department of Dine' Education
Jamie Lowery, Education Program Manager, Office
of Dine' Accountability & Compliance
Department of Dine' Education
Brenda Anderson, Tribal Court Advocate, Navajo
Department of Justice

- Honorable Vince R. James entertained a motion to go into Executive Session at 1:24 p.m.; Second by George H. Tolth. The vote was 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN).
- Honorable Helena Nez Begay entertained a motion to Exit Executive Session at 2:27 p.m.; Second by George H. Tolth. The vote was 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN).

Motion by: Honorable Curtis Yanito
Second by: Honorable Germaine Simonson
Vote: 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/
CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN)

6. OLD BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Reschedule Monday, January 19, 2025 (Observed NN and
Federal Holiday - Martin Luther King Day.)

- Select Special Meeting date in-lieu of January 19, 2025.

Presenters: HEHSC Members

Motion by: Honorable Helena Nez Begay
Second by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez
Vote: 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS
GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN)

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

- Monday, January 19, 2026 Observed NN and Federal Holiday -
Martin Luther King Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Honorable George H. Tolth motioned there was no further business, adjourned at 2:42 p.m.; Seconded by Honorable Curtis Yanito, with a vote of 05 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: HNB/VRJ/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: AN)