

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

**June 16, 2025  
10:00 AM**

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

**PLACE :** Budget and Finance Conference Room (In-person)  
Window Rock, NN (AZ)

---

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

Meeting called to Order by Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson at 10:01 a.m. There were four (4) members present, and two (2) members excused when Roll Call was made by Karen J. Thompson, Legislative Assistant with the Office of Legislative Services.

**Honorable Members present:**

\*Honorable Vince R. James (9:44 a.m.); \*Honorable Dr. Andy Nez (9:50 a.m.); \*Honorable George H. Tolth (9:15 a.m.) and \*Honorable Curtis Yanito (9:49 a.m.).

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

Honorable Helena Nez Begay (Excused) and Honorable Germaine Simonson (10:15 am).

Honorable Vince R. James, Chairperson, would like to utilize the early morning prayer.

Announcements: None

**2. RECOGNIZE GUESTS AND VISITING OFFICIALS**

- Honorable Otto Tso
- Recognition of all committee members, staff and zoom participants.
- Refer to the attached sign-in sheet.

**3. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE AGENDA**

The Proposed Agenda for June 16, 2025, has been read into record by Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor/OLS.

- Honorable George H. Tolth entertained a motion for an amendment to add under New Business new item D, second by Honorable Curtis Yanito. The vote was 03 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB/GS).

The amendment is as follows:

1. New Business 7(D) Invitation from Ramah School Board, Inc.

The second reading of the Approved Agenda with one amendment for June 16, 2025, has been read into record by Angelita Benally, Legislative Advisor/OLS.

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: VRJ/HNB/GS)

**4. REVIEW AND ADOPT THE JOURNAL(S) :**

- April 10, 2025 - HEHSC Special Meeting

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)

**5. REPORT(S) :**

**A. Follow-Up:** Department of Diné Education: Navajo Head Start

- Follow-up from the Head Start Work Session on May 12 and 13, 2025

Presenter: Dr. Jackson, NHS Assistant Superintendent  
Renee Marianto, Director of Finance  
Janell Begay, School Readiness and Language Immersion Manager (SRLIM)  
Dr. Rolanda Billy, Director of Educational Services  
Falencia Lewis, Delegated HR Manager

Invited: Dr. Shayla Yellowhair, Assistant Superintendent; DODE  
Claudia Edgewater, Acting Superintendent, DODE  
(Available by Zoom provided stable internet is available).

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)

**6. OLD BUSINESS:** *None*

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Legislation 0097-25:** An Action Relating to Resources and Development Committee and Health, Education and Human Services Committee; Approving Navajo Division of Transportation Social Media Policy.

**Sponsor:** Delegate Brenda Jesus  
**Co-Sponsor:** Delegate Shawna Ann Claw

➤ *Deferred to the next HEHSC meeting.*

**B. Legislation 0117-25:** An Action Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee and Budget and Finance Committee; Recommending and Approving the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education and Related Matters, to be Included in the Navajo Nation's FY2026 Comprehensive Budget

**Sponsor:** Delegate Vince R. James  
**Note:** *Eligible for Action on June 16, 2025*

➤ Honorable Germaine Simonson, Chair Pro Tempore

➤ *Honorable Dr. Andy Nez entertained a motion to deferred Legislation 0117-25 to the afternoon for corrections to be made by Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education and compare amounts with OMB's Report; second by Honorable George H. Tolth. The vote was 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: VRJ/AN/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: GS/HNB).*

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez  
Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth

**C. Legislation 0118-25** An Action Relating to the Health, Education and Human Services Committee and Budget and Finance Committee; Recommending and Approving the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources and Related Matters, to be included in the Navajo Nation's FY2026 Comprehensive Budget

**Sponsor:** Delegate Vince R. James

**Note:** Eligible for Action on June 16, 2025

- Honorable Germaine Simonson, Chair Pro Tempore
- Honorable George H. Tolth entertained a motion to deferred Legislation 0118-25 to Wednesday, June 18, 2025, for corrections to be made by Navajo Nation Division of Human Resources and compare amounts with OMB's Report; second by Honorable Curtis Yanito. The vote was 03 in favor; 01 opposed; (Yeas: VRJ/GHT/CY; Nays: AN; Not voting: GS/HNB).
- Honorable Dr. Andy Nez entertained a motion to deferred Legislation 0121-25 to Wednesday, June 18, 2025, and defer Legislation 0097-25 to agenda on Monday, June 23, 2025; second by Honorable George H. Tolth. The vote was 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB).

Motion by: Honorable George H. Tolth

Second by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez

- Honorable Curtis Yanito entertained a motion to suspend floor rules to add a report from Central Navajo Veterans Advisory Council to the agenda; second by Honorable George H. Tolth. The vote was 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB).

**D. REPORT:**

- Central Navajo Veterans Advisory Organization Council

Presenters: Timothy Johnson, Commander, Chinle Agency

Motion by: Honorable Curtis Yanito

Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth

Vote: 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GS/HT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB)

**E.** Invitation from the Ramah School Board, Inc.

Travel and RSVP to invite for HEHSC to meet at Ramah School Board, Inc. (Ramah, NN (NM) on Monday, July 14, 2025 (Regular Meeting)

- Introduction of Ramah School Board, Inc.
- Meet the School Administrators and School Tour.

Motion by: Honorable Dr. Andy Nez  
Second by: Honorable George H. Tolth  
Vote: 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GS/HT/CY; None;  
Not voting: VRJ/HNB)

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

- Tuesday, June 17, 2025 9:00 am - HEHSC Special Meeting  
4:30 pm Behavioral & Mental  
Health Conference Room,  
Window Rock, NN (AZ)
- Wednesday, June 18, 2025 9:00 am - HEHSC NNAC-NVA Work  
Session; Window Rock,  
NN, (AZ)
- Wednesday, June 18, 2025 \*12:00 pm HEHSC Special Meeting  
*\*Following completion of* B&F Conference Room,  
*Work Session* Window Rock, NN, (AZ)
- Thursday, June 19, 2025 Juneteenth Observed Navajo Nation  
Holiday
- Monday, June 23, 2025 10:00 am HEHSC Regular Meeting  
Diné College Campus,  
Tsaile, NN (AZ)
- Monday, June 30, 2025 9:00 am HEHSC Leadership  
Meeting; DHR-DPM; B&F  
Conference Room; Window  
Rock, NN (AZ)

Honorable George H. Tolth motioned there was no further business, adjourned at 3:01 p.m.; Seconded by Honorable Germaine Simonson *With a vote of 04 in favor; 00 opposed; (Yeas: AN/GS/GHT/CY; Nays: None; Not voting: VRJ/HNB)*