

COPPERMINE CHAPTER  
Planning Meeting **Minutes**  
January 11, 2026 at 2:00pm

- I. **Meeting Called to Order by:** Kee Black at 2:03 PM, Debora Saliego is still on her way to the meeting.
- II. **Invocation by:** Eunice Tso
- III. **Review/Adopt Meeting Agenda:** Kee Black read the agenda and other amendment request are as follow;
  - A. JoAnn Pioche -Mr. Black, under report I have a supporting resolution (LeChee Clinic) that I want the chapter to pass for me, so I will present that and give you the supporting resolution. Debbie Tsinigine- Amendment to be added to the Reports for her presentation and add her resolution.
  - B. Loren Thomas -We have a resolution to be added for discussion. “Recalling and Rescinding Coppermine Chapter Resolution No. CO-05-066-21: Supporting and Recognizing the Land Withdrawal for the Coppermine Community Cemetery. The designated site is proposed in compliance with Section 7(B) of the Land Withdrawal Regulation of Resolution #RDCJN-38-15.”There are only two officials here and do you have quorum to continue with the meeting?  
Debbie Tsinigine- Debora Saliego is on her way and said to start the meeting.  
Loren Thomas -Is it ok to start the meeting?  
Debbie Tsinigine-We will continue with the agenda and reports.  
JoAnn Pioche -You can do reports.
  - C. Regina Reid -I want to request for my daughter to do her present for Scholarship, she has to catch the bus back to school.  
Debbie Tsinigine- she needs to catch the bus, will be first on report.  
Kee- Ok
  - D. Eunice Tso -I have a question, we are here to get on the agenda for the meeting and report at the meeting. How do we do that, do we ask for or when do we ask to get on the agenda?  
Debbie Tsinigine- now  
I am Eunice Tso and I’m with Adrian Dodson  
My name is Adrian Dodson, we are with ETD Inc. out of Flagstaff, Arizona. We are consultants with Public Relation and Environmental, we are representing a company called Chanana Copper out Denver, Colorado. They were here either June or July 2025, do a presentation and get a resolution for the reconnaissance work to evaluate for any copper deposits because they are interested in developing a copper project here at the Chapter. We just wanted to come in to get on the agenda and let you know the status of the project and what we are planning to do in the next few months.
  - E. Kee Black -Read Resolution #CO-01-012-26 -letter B on New Business (student scholarships). Amend the resolution heading, to insert correct heading, fund account, account number and six students as follow; “Authorizing the Approval of the Chapter Scholarship General Fund

for the following six (6) students in the amount of \$2,750.00 utilizing the Scholarship Fund Account 13:6721."

D. Julia Goldtooth -request for Community Cemetery resolution to be added to New Business.

E. Need to continue with Presenters and Resolutions while waiting for Debora Saliego to arrive.

Motion by: Debbie E. Tsinigine

Second by: Kee Black

Vote: 02-00-01

**IV. Review & Approval of last meeting minutes:** will be forwarded to Chapter Meeting.

Motion by: Kee Black

Second by: Debbie E. Tsinigine

Vote: 02-00-01

**V. Presenters:**

A. Shannon Reid -Chapter Scholarship;

1. She introduced herself in Navajo, is a full time student attending University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona, majoring in Law and thank you for the scholarship, that will help me pay for my school.

B. JoAnn Pioche -Sponsoring LeChee Clinic Resolution;

1. She introduced herself in Navajo, she has provided a copy of LeChee Chapter resolution for LeChee Clinic to stay open, we want to change it to "same day clinic."
2. We have families and relatives who live in Page area and people get seen after work or lunch time. I am asking for supporting resolution because we want to keep the LeChee Clinic open, pass the Echo Cliff opening. At time as we know across the reservation, when a new clinic opens and other clinic will sit vacant, because of lack of staff. We want to keep it open but it's up to Tuba City Hospital and thank you.

\*There was a short discussion, she will be back for Regular Chapter meeting.

C. Nikki Jaborski -Glen Canyon Outdoor Academy -Unavailable for report

D. Judge Barnes -Coconino County, Page Justice Court -Unavailable for report

E. Roberta Lyons -Hello Heart;

1. She introduced herself, original from the Tso family of LeChee. I'm here today to share an ongoing study years ago to our community on liver scans. It's free to our community members and we are paid for participation. It is NAU and Arizona of University that came to our community, they asked a couple of Chapter Houses "can we do a study in your community" a lot of them said no, but we said yes. It's not just for LeChee, it's for Western Agency.
2. So, we are actually picking up this year and we are going to start in February, we haven't picked a date but will be the week of 21<sup>st</sup> when Northern Arizona University and University of Arizona will be coming out to do liver scan, usually four (4) to five (5) hundred dollar per scan. People have misconception that alcohol damages liver and have liver cirrhosis, that is not true. Unfortunately, it is our diet, there is a lot of things that implement and discreate the stuff that is in your liver.  
For example; three years ago, I was scanned and had 260 level, I was at a low level but at stage 1, in two years I quit drinking, cut down on my fry bread and recently I went to Tucson University of Az, learn to scan people. I got approved to scan people, we are the

only Chapter approve to run the scan and it a research study, can only be done in LeChee.

3. We went around our community and what do you want us to do. We created a walking group in September, we started with 3 and now at 30 participants, we do it every Tuesday and Thursday. We are trying to start a Walking Group here in Coppermine, I'm then happy to provide water and snacks, we want to create a healthy life style for the community. That's why I'm trying to bring Heath Awareness program, it's been ongoing for couple of years and they want to come back. Will start in February, March & April this year, we have 120 scans to complete the research, so we are looking for participants, has to be over 18 years of age and want anyone who wants to participate. I can scan whatever you want, tell you how you're doing and wasn't expecting this many people. I apologize, I will bring some flyers, hand-outs and if you want to talk to me, will give you information. I do have a social media Facebook page where I post information. We are doing Lego night at LeChee Chapter from 1:00 pm on Friday, that will also be on chapter website.

- F. Adrian Dotson -Introduced himself in Navajo, lives in Flagstaff and with EDT Incorporated.  
Eunice Tso -Introduced herself in Navajo from LeChee, and lives in Flagstaff.

Lee Jack Sr. -Introduced himself in Navajo from Dilcon area, I help them with their presentation.

1. Adrian Dotson -Like I said, we are working with EDT Incorporated out of Flagstaff and we are actually here representing Chakana Copper out of Golden, Colorado. Back in September 2025, Chakana obtained a Geological Reconnaissance Permit from Mineral Department of the Navajo Nation, that permit allows them to evaluate the copper here at Coppermine Chapter. Over the next few weeks, we will try to work with some of Grazing Permittees to go onto their land to do reconnaissance. What that means is just 1. Walking the land, 2. Collect surface (rock) samples, 3. Take photos, and 4. Creating maps. That does not allow them to do digging, drilling, construction, or trespass without permission. We wanted to get on the agenda for Regular Meeting, we will provide hand-outs at the next meeting, and we weren't expecting to do a presentation this time. We will more information and a thorough presentation.
2. Lee Jack Sr. -Explained Adrian's presentation in Navajo, will do reconnaissance within 30 square mile and will take a while to start because they have to do the study first.
3. Eunice Tso -We will give you more information, exactly where this is and we going to try get any questions from you. Just be transparent with everything and that's we promise to you, with public relation, public engagement, get any information that you want or you need so you can make a decision at the end of the day.
4. Lee Jack Sr. -We also talk about water, they are not going to dump water just anywhere, it will be recycled and they say it's going to be pretty much environmental clean.
5. Hailie Joe -Are you asking us or are you telling us to do the observation? Our people do not want mining.
6. Adrian Dotson -We are basically saying we have the permit from the Navajo Nation so we can have access to the land and do the reconnaissance for now. **35:01**

7. Eunice Tso -We understand, I feel like though I guess at the last meeting in September, when there was a vote, they reviewed the meeting minutes, we reviewed the minutes and there were a lot of misinformation. So, we want another opportunity to come back and talk about those things so that information is correct out there.

\*There were questions, concerns, and discussion from the community. Some elders remember what happen when the first company came in to dig up copper, some drillings are still open and no clean up.

**VI. Old Business: None**

**VII. New Business:**

A. Chapter Financial Report by Secretary/Treasurer: will be forwarded to Chapter Meeting.

Motion by: Kee Black                      Second by: Debbie E. Tsinigine                      Vote: 02-00-01

B. Resolution CO-01-012-26: **(1:05:34**

Authorizing the Approval of the Chapter Scholarship General Fund for the following six (6) students in the amount of \$2,750.00 utilizing the Scholarship Fund Account 13:6721.

1. Five (5) students- full time at \$500.00 each and One (1) student- part time at \$250.00.

Motion by: Kee Black                      Second by: Debbie E. Tsinigine                      Vote: 02-00-01

C. Resolution CO-01-013-26:

Approving the name of newly Community Service Coordinator/Chapter Manager to be added to the National Bank of Arizona signature card; Constance Lano.

1. Debora Saliego -This resolution is to add Constance Lano to the National Bank of Arizona signature card for update.

Motion by: Debbie E. Tsinigine                      Second by: Kee Black                      Vote: 02-00-01

D. Resolution CO-01-014-26:

This Fund Management Plan establishes the criteria for expenditure of Revenue Fees collected during the Fiscal Year (October 01-September 31). This fund is a Chapter Activities General Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide fund for expenditures of the Coppermine Chapter.

1. Connie Lano -So this is our revenue, this is how we get our money from the watering and making copies, the money we make for the chapter in the month of October we made 728.84 and November 568.60, with a total of 1,289.44. So that amount will be distributed into our Fund 01, that's for Fund Management Plan.

20% -Fund 01 Water Expense

10% -Watering Point

20% -Waste Removal Expense

10% -Burial Financial Assistance

20% -Food Purchase

10% -Medical Assistance

10% -Electricity Purchases

Motion by: Debbie E. Tsinigine                      Second by: Kee Black                      Vote: 02-00-01

E. Resolution CO-01-015-26:

Authorizing and supporting the Coppermine Chapter and the Coppermine Grazing Committee Member to implement an indefinite feral horse, stray and unclaimed Livestock

Removal Program in efforts to improve the Ecological Health and Productivity of the Navajo Rangelands for present and future generations of the Navajo people.

1. Stanford Fowler -This resolution is needed for Horse Round-up and was schedule by Window Rock office for February 23-26, 2026 (Monday-Friday). They will come out to put up the fence for round up, will do different areas, and do round up year round.

Motion by: Debbie E. Tsinigine Second by: Kee Black

Vote: 02-00-01

F. Resolution CO-01-016-26:

Supporting and Approving a Land Withdrawal Designation and Business Site Lease for four (4) acres for explore Dibe Ahxehejeehe, LLC on land located in Coppermine, Arizona to operate a guided hiking trails, dry camping, and guided tour business.

1. Cynthia Slim -Introduced herself and explain where she is planning to withdraw the land and type of business she will be doing. This has been present before to the people.
2. There were questions, concerns and discussions, will be discuss again at the Regular Chapter Meeting.

Motion by: Kee Black

Second by: Debbie E. Tsinigine

Vote: 02-00-01

G. Resolution CO-01-017-26:

Supporting and Approving LeChee Clinic resolution #LCO12082025B; Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation Administration and Board of Directors to keep the LeChee Clinic open, all current service provided, after the opening of the Echo Cliffs Health Care Center.

Motion by: Kee Black

Second by: Debbie E. Tsinigine

Vote: 02-00-01

H. Resolution CO-01-018-26:

Recalling and Rescinding Coppermine Chapter Resolution No. CO-05-066-21; Supporting and recognizing the Land Withdrawal for the Coppermine Community Cemetery. The designated site is proposed in compliance with Section 7(B) of the Land Withdrawal Regulation of the Resolution #RDCJN-38-15.

Motion by: Debbie E. Tsinigine

Second by: Kee Black

Vote: 02-00-01

**VIII. Reports:**

- A. Helena Nez-Begay, Council Delegate; Absent
- B. Debora Saliego, Chapter President; will do report at Chapter Meeting.
- C. Kee Black, Chapter Vice President;
  1. I help with whatever I can, recently I helped my cheii load up wood and delivered to an elder.
  2. Connie Lano, Chapter Manager asked Ron Harder to help us with grading to widen the road to Marcinda Shepherd's resident for her new trailer delivered.
  3. Calvin Begay was here at the last Chapter meeting requesting for Medical Assistance, there is only 100.00 in that account and the amount for assistance is 250.00. We need to help him and I'm requesting for donation, he needs money for his gas.
  4. About two (2) weeks ago, Stanford Fowler set up a training here and that was good information.
- D. Stanford Fowler, Chapter Grazing Official;

1. We did have training regarding Grazing here at Coppermine Chapter two (2) weeks ago.  
Might schedule another training this month here in Coppermine and at LeChee Chapter.
- E. Laverne Tsosie, Community Land Use Planning Committee (CLUPC) President; Absent
- F. Natalie Tsinnijinnie, Former Bennett Freeze Area Committee (FBFA) President;
  1. We need Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution to move forward to helping residents in Former Bennett Freeze with their needs by utilizing the funds allocated.
  2. I still want our people in Bennett Freeze get assistance, they have been waiting for so many years, some did not get help and they're deceased.
  3. I am working with CSC, Connie Lano to update the listing and we will plan to make home visits. I do not want any interference with this project, that will delay the process so please I just want FBFA residents to get help they need.
- G. Contance Lano, Community Service Coordinator (CSC); will report at Chapter Meeting.
- H. Leila McCabe, TCRHCC Board Member; will report at Chapter Meeting

**IX. Announcements:**

- A. Jan. 13, 26: TCRHCC Mobile Clinic @ 8:30 AM-3:30 PM at Coppermine Chapter
- B. Jan. 15, 26: Western Agency Grazing Council Meeting @ 10:00 AM at LeChee Chapter
- C. Jan. 16, 26: District 1 Grazing Meeting @ 10:00 AM at Tonalea Chapter
- C. Jan. 18, 26: Regular Chapter Meeting @ 2:00 PM
- D. Jan. 19, 26: Martin Luther King Holiday -Chapter Admin. Office will be CLOSED
- E. Jan. 20, 26: St. Mary's Food Bank @ 12:30 PM
- F. Jan. 30, 26: Korean Kulture Day @ 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM at Coppermine Chapter

**X. Benediction: None**

**XI. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Debora Saliego at 4:05 PM.**