

Chairperson- Laverne Tsosie
Secretary/Treasurer- Cynthia Slim
Grazing Official- Stanford Fowler

Vice Chairperson- Debra Benally
Member- Calvin Begay

COPPERMINE CHAPTER CLUPC MEETING - Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2026 @ 1000 AM DST at Coppermine Chapter House

1. Meeting called to order: by Chairperson at 10:34 AM DST
2. Invocation: Kee Black
3. Recognize Guest: Environment Technology & Development (EDT): Adrian Dotson, Eunice Tso, and Lee Jack Sr.
4. Review and Adopt agenda of March 2, 2026
 - 1st Motion: Cynthia Slim
 - 2nd Motion: Debra Benally
 - Votes: Yes: 2 No: 0 Abstain: 1
5. Approval of Agenda:
 - 1st Motion: Cynthia Slim
 - 2nd Motion: Debra Benally
 - Votes: Yes: 2 No: 0 Abstain: 1
6. Reports:
 - A. ETD: **Adrian:** Hoping that David Kelley and company would have been here. But, they had another obligation to attend to. But they will be here May 04, 2026. We did meet with some of the Grazing permittees. We walked around the pink line area, referring to the maps. We did this with the reconnaissance permit. The next step is Exploration. Environment and cultural studies. Exploration scout drilling to test copper underground. See attached document. The mining process from start to finish.
 - **Helen Little:** Ask about sacred sites and petroglyphs in the area.
 - **Eunice:** Tell us about these sacred sites, petroglyphs and if there are any artifacts. If there is, there is a 50ft buffer zone.
 - **Loren Thomas:** Who walked with you in this area? Which permittees? Because we live in the N20 south area. No one came by to see us or ask for permission to walk in this area. That's where our animals graze.
 - **Bobbie Little:** This is the first time I've heard about this mining coming to our area. Is this safe? My family lived nearby the Coppermining area. Some of my relatives are sick from the mining that was here a long time ago. I don't like this mining coming in.
 - **Adrian:** We walked with Lola. She was our guide. And we walked around Dean's place.
 - **Elvira:** What about informing us ahead of time? Let the community members know due diligence. This is the time I've heard. Has the environmental study been done? Because of our animals.
 - **Debra Benally:** You all need to come to Grazing permit meetings. You don't know what's going on. We're getting all our permits reduced by BIA. Businesses,

homesite lease cant be on RMU's. Solar Field someone gave the ok. Educate yourself. Come to all these meetings and know what's going on in your community.

- **Eunice:** Educate yourself how you're going to say NO to the resolution. The pros and the cons. If we get to that point. When you have to vote on the resolution. Land user permittee are the ones we meant with.
- **Jordan:** We need to draft a Community Benefit Agreement list of demands to the mining company. Maybe get a lawyer to draft this agreement. Essential Minerals will have to honor our list of demands.
- **Lola:** I just walked and observed. Dean Hudson has copper outside his house and around his area. He was the only one home at the time of scouting. Some of you drive all over the roads or make new roads driving your ATV's. That's why Window Rock thinks we don't take care of our land. And, we all over-grazing. Look at yourselves, what are you doing to our land? You're not taking care of it.
- **Lee:** This will take 1-2 years to start exploring and going further to mining. Because there's a lot of laws. There's also an opportunity for the Chapter. Educate yourselves. Research.
- **Debora Saliego:** Seeing a lot of you. This is they're 3rd time here. You need to be more involved. Take a look at both sides. I need you all to participate. I've done 20 years of environmental work. The hazard- how it can be naturalized chemicals. Can we get a chemical data sheet? Ask how it will impact the environment. Cleanliness to the environment? Also, the Senior Center will be built at the end of year. Clinic will open in October and hope to have full staff by July.
- **Loren:** You said no grazing permittees to give you an ok for the reconnaissance. I think you need to be respectful and let people know you're in the area walking.
- **EDT:** It is possible the Exploration can be shut down.
- **Touchony Goldtooth:** You dont need permittees to walk? I think you should come by and let us know because we have animals that graze in the area. Be respectful and inform us.
- **Eunice:** You're Grazing Official should be her to explain the process and rules.
- **Adrian:** Im sorry for not meeting with you. We wold like to meet with you.
- **Touchony:** Would you meet with people that are affected by this mining?
- **Laverne:** David Kelley said that a resolution was passed back in 2005 and the number is 06-076-05. He may use that to continue. I'd like a map of the mining study. We are not certified, that's another issue. Let us know about ceremonial grounds, rodeo, sacred sites, churches and gardens. We need to know these things to put in our book.
- **Darrell Marks:** What are the positives and negatives about this mining. What the landscape looks like before and after it's been mined. Give us pictures of other communities after their land was mined, was it left in a good state or not? What do health concerns look like? What did the communities do when asked about mining in their area? Show us maps and data. Would you do better than what EPA rules are?
- **Peter Curley:** I used to work for the mining company down in southern Arizona. It doesn't matter how much money I made. I don't want this mining here in Coppermine.
- **Jerry Williams:** Certified Chapters sometimes get over ridden by Window Rock just like the motel in Shonto. The Navajo Nation wants to run it and now its just sitting there. No operation. Being certified is really not being in charge. You can

contact the Dine Hatathli Association and ask about burial sites, where stillborn babies were taken in trees, Yei bi cheii grounds is up to the Dine Hatathli Association to give the ok. If you're going to walk the Dine Bi Keyah you need to compensate.

B. Chairperson: Requested clarification and mapping for all underground pipelines and utilities to ensure accurate location data for the Land Use Plan.

C. Vice Chairperson: Nothing to report at this time.

D. Secretary/Treasurer: Nothing to report at this time.

E. Grazing: Not present.

F. Member/s: Not present.

7. New Business:

A. 1st CLUPC Public Hearing: Scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2026. Discussed event logistics. Committee requested to arrive early for setup and final workbook review. Discussion held regarding the community potluck and food assignments. We will continue to communicate via email and text for any follow ups.

8. Old Business:

A. CLUPC Workbook: A new draft has been completed based on NNCDC recommendations. The workbook is currently approximately 150 pages. Further edits and community input from the Saturday hearing will be refined in the next work session.

9. Announcement:

A. Coppermine Chapter Planning Meeting: April 12, 2026 @ 2 pm DST

B. Coppermine Chapter Regular Meeting: April 26, 2026 @ 2 pm DST

10. Next CLUPC Meeting: May 4, 2026 @ 10:00 AM DST.

11. Adjournment: 1:15 PM DST

1st Motion: Cynthia Slim

2nd Motion: Debra Benally

Votes: Yes: 2 No: 0 Abstain: 1