

LUMBEE TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

For Thursday January 15, 2026 / 6:30pm
Lumbee Tribal Complex/Livestreamed

Meeting Called To Order: Former Vice Speaker, Bobby Emanuel

Invocation: Homer Fields

Pledge of Allegiance: Larry Soles

Preamble: Graylen Mitchell

Roll Call: Designated Tribal Clerk, Belinda Brewer

Ethics Statement read by Former Vice Chair, Bobby Emanuel

Welcome: Former Vice Chair Bobby Emanuel recognized special guest and all those attending in person and via Livestream.

Council Members Present at Roll Call: 19

Billy Oxendine

Graylen Mitchell

Harold Smith

Jody Bullard

Larry Chavis

Rubalena Locklear

Kathy Hunt

Johnny Bell

Bobby Emanuel

Chocajuana Oxendine

Josephine Dos

Alex Baker

Homer Fields

Sharon Hunt

Nanci Locklear

Sandra Dial

Larry Soles

Rudy Locklear

Eric Chavis

Quorum established

Alex Baker made a motion to approve the agenda

Jody Bullard 2nd the motion

VOICE VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

Alex Baker made a motion to approve the December Tribal Council Minutes & Actions

Homer Fields 2nd the motion

VOICE VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bobby Emanuel opened the floor for nominations

Graylen Mitchell made a motion to nominate Alex Baker for Speaker

Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion

Larry Chavis made a motion that all nominations come to a close

Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion

Alex Baker Speaker by Acclamation

No other nominations

No vote was taken

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Vice Chair

Graylen Mitchell made a motion to nominate Larry Chavis

Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion

Chocajuana Oxendine made a motion to nominate Bobby Emanuel

Homer Fields 2nd the motion

Billy Oxendine made a motion that all nominations come to a close

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Bobby Emanuel

10Y9N

Larry Chavis

9Y10N

Vote was taken by the raising of hands

Bobby Emanuel Vice-Chair by Majority Vote

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Treasure

Larry Chavis made a motion to nominate Nanci Locklear

Chocajuana Oxendine 2nd the motion

Billy Oxendine made a motion that all nominations come to a close

Larry Chavis 2nd the motion

Nanci Locklear Treasure by Acclamation

No other nominations

No vote was taken

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Secretary

Bobby Emanuel made a motion to nominate Chocajuana Oxendine

Harold Smith 2nd the motion

Larry Chavis made a motion that all nominations come to a close

Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion

Chocajuana Oxendine Secretary by Acclamation

No other nominations

No vote was taken

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Parliamentarian
Larry Chavis made a motion to nominate Billy Oxendine
Larry Soles 2nd the motion
Speaker Alex Baker closed the floor for nominations
Billy Oxendine Parliamentarian by Acclamation
No other nominations
No objections

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Housing Chair
Larry Chavis made a motion to nominate Harold Smith
Graylen Mitchell 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Larry Chavis made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Chocajuana Oxendine 2nd the motion
No objections
Harold Smith Housing Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Constitution and Ordinance Chair
Nanci Locklear made a motion to nominate Rudy Locklear
Bobby Emanuel 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Larry Chavis made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion
No objections
Rudy Locklear Constitution and Ordinance Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Economic Development Chair
Larry Chavis made a motion to nominate Graylen Mitchell
Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Jody Bullard made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Larry Chavis 2nd the motion
No objections
Graylen Mitchell Economic Development Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Education Chair
Nanci Locklear made a motion to nominate Chocajuana Oxendine
Larry Chavis 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Billy Oxendine made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Larry Soles 2nd the motion
No objections
Chocajuana Oxendine Education Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Federal Recognition Chair
Larry Soles made a motion to nominate Alex Baker
Bobby Emanuel 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Billy Oxendine made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Larry Soles 2nd the motion
No objections
Alex Baker Federal Recognition Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Health and Human Services Chair
Nanci Locklear made a motion to nominate Jody Bullard
Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Larry Chavis made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion
No objections
Jody Bullard Health and Human Services Chair by Acclamation

Mary Locklear is recognized for being in attendance (Came in after Roll Call) by the Speaker, Alex Baker

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Agriculture and Natural Resources Chair
Bobby Emanuel made a motion to nominate Mary Locklear
Billy Oxendine 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Billy Oxendine made a motion that all nominations come to a close
Eric Chavis 2nd the motion
No objections
Mary Locklear Agriculture and Natural Resources Chair by Acclamation

Speaker Alex Baker opened the floor for Ethics Chair
Nanci Locklear made a motion to nominate Homer Fields
Bobby Emanuel 2nd the motion
No other nominations were made
Speaker Alex Baker closed the floor for nominations
No objections
Homer Fields Ethics Chair by Acclamation

Other Business

CLLR-2026-0115-01 "2026 Tribal Council Regular Business Meeting Schedule"

Item did not come out of committee

Jody Bullard made a motion to adopt CLLR-2026-0115-01 "2026 Tribal Council Regular Business Meeting Schedule"

Chocajuana Oxendine 2nd the motion

VOICE VOTE

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

Chairman's Report

The chairman gave report on BIA updates. Mrs. Tammy Maynor will be the lead for Federal Recognition Transition. Ms. Heather Nakai will work along with Tammy Maynor as the Recognition Coordinator. Ms. Heather will be leading the initiative to prioritize the tribes efforts to ensure all potential programs and opportunities are identified. We will be focusing on exercising our sovereign rights and protecting the future of our tribe. Our nation building phase we need to address the tribes sovereign immunity and how it can and will be used to protect our long term viability. Ordinances will be brought to the Council regarding sovereign immunity. The BIA reviewed Constitution and our latest Enrollment Ordinances, this was the first step towards reviewing our process and procedures and verifying our rolls. The Enrollment Office is scheduled to speak with the BIA to dig and dive deeper into our enrollment processes. The tribe's Agriculture is to start working with the United States Department of Agriculture to identify programs we are eligible to apply for. The tribe is also looking into steps needed for us to have an extension program. With an extension program the tribe can collaborate with NC State University helping our farmers and ranchers. Funds have been identified to help assist our tribal historic preservation officer with consultations; organizations have already reached out to him. The chairman spoke on receiving remains and where we would be burring those remains, will that be secret or will that be public. Also equipment and storage will be need to preserve such artifacts. Tribal Consultations will be attended at the Federal Level such as VR, Department of Education and Indian Health Services. The Catawba Nation received a grant to establish a produce market for its tribal members. In collaboration with the Catawba Nation's Department of Agriculture, the Lumbee Tribe Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources has worked to create an opportunity to produce grown by Lumbee Farmers to be purchased and supplied to these markets. This initiative will take place next month (February), the Lumbee grown produced grown by our farmers will be purchased and shipped to the Catawba Nation. This collaboration strengthens our relationship with the Catawba Nation. Enrollment phases for updates will begin in the following weeks. Jan. 20 – Jan. 30, 2026 55 and older and out of territory. The next phase for enrollment updating will be in the weeks to come due to only three employees in that department. A discussion for new enrollee's maybe children up to 18 years of age phase.

Calendar Review

January 15 - Tribal council business meeting - 6:30pm.

January 27 – Health and Human Services – 6:30pm.

February 3 – Health - 6:30pm

Education – 7:30pm.

February 5 – Finance – 6:30pm.

Housing – 7:30pm.

February 9 – Constitution & Ordinance - 6:30pm.

ANR – 7:30pm.

February 19 – Tribal Council Business Meeting – 6:30pm.

Members who would like to serve on a committee are advise to contact Belinda Brewer and they have up to 90 days to modify

Community Comments – None were given

Jody Bullard made a motion to adjourn

Chocajuana Oxendine 2nd the motion

There were no objections

Larry Chavis gave the Benediction