



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Budget and Finance Committee receives Fiscal Year 2026 Revenue Projection



During the Budget and Finance Committee meeting, Speaker Crystalyn Curley identified key priorities in the Legislative Branch budget.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC) received a report from Controller Sean McCabe outlining the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY2026) Revenue Projection and additional information from Speaker Crystalyn Curley and Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne regarding their budget priorities.

BFC Chair Shaandiin Parrish stated that the FY2026 Revenue Projections must be presented to the Three Branch Chiefs by the end of the second quarter of each fiscal year, which was Monday, March 31.

“The projection provides data on revenue fluctuations from Navajo Nation enterprises and royalties,” said Chair Parrish. “It helps the Committee assess future allocations to maximize returns while strengthening direct services and community priorities.”

Controller McCabe reported that the FY2026 projection includes revenues from seven areas: oil and gas, coal, taxes, investment income, land rentals (including rights-of-way and business site leases), court fines and fees, and miscellaneous sources.

According to McCabe, the FY2026 Revenue Projection stands at \$285 million, with mandated annual set-asides projected at \$73.5 million.

Council Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty inquired whether the projections were based on previous years' estimates or actual audited data. McCabe clarified that figures from 2020 to 2023 reflect audited actual revenues, 2024 numbers are still being audited, and 2025 is a projection based on first-quarter data.

The BFC also received updates on the FY2026 budgeting process from two Branch Chiefs. Although all Three Branch Chiefs were invited, only Speaker Curley and Chief Justice Jayne attended.

On Tuesday, Speaker Curley met with each of the Legislative Branch programs to assess their priorities and help develop a budget focused on direct services. She identified key priorities, including additional attorneys at the Office of Legislative Counsel to assist with the legislative process, improvements to election operations, financial, revenue replacement, and energy advisors, as well as public outreach and intergovernmental relations.

Due to declining tax revenues and new revenue sources, the Council and BFC continue to prioritize the budget process to reassess fixed costs, prioritize personnel expenses, and advocate for community-level capital projects over centralized ones.

"Essential services must continue to remain intact considering any possible continuing resolution. Local capital projects should take precedence until revenue growth is assured," Speaker Curley said.

Chief Justice Jayne reported meeting with Administrative Office of the Courts Director Bennie Francisco to explore financial projections and data-driven budget solutions benefiting the Navajo people.

The BFC approved the report from Controller McCabe, Speaker Curley, and Chief Justice Jayne with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

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