

# Santee Sioux Nation

## SSN Council Headquarters

Chairman: Alonzo Denney  
Vice-Chairman: Kameron Runnels  
Treasurer: David Henry  
Secretary: Andrea McBride

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## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

April 8th, 2026

Council Headquarters

10:00 am

1. Call to order – Chairman Denney called meeting to order at 10:06 am
2. Opening prayer – Sidney Tuttle
3. Roll Call
  - a. Present – Chairman Alonzo Denney, Vice Chairman Kameron Runnels, Treasurer David Henry, Secretary Andrea McBride, Howe Creek District Rep Carrie Rouillard, Bazile Creek District Rep Sandy Henry, Hobu Creek District Rep Byron Tuttle, and Santee District Rep Vietta Swalley
  - b. All present, quorum established
4. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Chairman Denney asked if there are any changes to the agenda. Vietta asked that we add 'old business' to future agendas. Chairman asked for a motion to approve the agenda.
    - i. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
    - ii. Motion seconded by Vietta Swalley
    - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
5. Approval of minutes
  - a. Chairman Denney asked if anyone sees changes needed for the minutes. Hearing none, Chairman asked for a motion for approval of the minutes from February 11, 2026/
    - i. Motion made by Vietta Swalley
    - ii. Motion seconded by Sandy Henry
    - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
6. Joyce Thomas – Head Start
  - a. Enrollment is holding at 28 children. Financials will be sent to Andrea once Kathryn sends them. The Head Start budget was approved by president but congress has yet to approve. There is a Head Start conference from June 15-18 in California, the flyer is attached if anyone from council wants to go. Joyce needs approval for the attendance policy.
    - i. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to approve the attendance policy
    - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
    - iii. Motion seconded by Dave Henry
    - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passesJoyce also needs approval on the Selection Process Policy

- i. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to approve the Selection Process Policy
      - ii. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
      - iii. Motion seconded by Vietta Swalley
      - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
7. Alisha Bartling – EPA
  - a. On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the boys and girls club and EPA will be hosting an EPA day. Looking for booths for this day. There will be a variety of activities this day and Alisha is encouraging council to be there to share some words. Hopefully they will be doing this annually. They will have a flyer in the next couple weeks. Alisha just wanted to bring this to the council to be recorded in the minutes.
8. Waylon LaPlante – Gaming Commissioner
  - a. Waylon is here to give a quick update on the gaming commission. They have deadlines coming up in august and they are currently getting an annual budget together. Waylon has asked for previous annual reports that the gaming commission has done and there is no record of them ever being done. There is concern on gaming licenses. These are to be approved by the Gaming Commission. They haven't received gaming license fees recently, but they are trying to update things. Without bob there they can't move forward and they can't get cooperation. At prior meetings there was talk about changing the ordinance, changing the chain of command by changing the reporting to the Gaming Commission instead of the Chairman. Vietta suggests we should set up a meeting to go over the ordinance. Sandy suggests that the ordinance just stay the way it is and not change the reporting to the gaming commission. Vietta says shes agrees that it stays the way it is. Waylon just wanted to know if they should keep moving forward with the drafts. Sid says the thought that the original idea didn't come from them alone and it came from a February meeting. Dave asked for them to keep drafting the ordinance and bring to the council when ready.
  - b. Waylon also wanted to give a quick update on powwow. They are right at \$80,000 and are starting to look at an optional budget just in case.
9. Open Floor
  - a. Clinton Powell – Pinpoint: Conly has CMAR and they are waiting on final review from him. At this point it will move forward. They will be back to DC next week to visit with delegation. In conjunction with council a website was created, so people can get understanding. This will go live by end of the week. Heidi is moving forward with the design team, they did a site visit last week to go through troubled alignments and trouble areas, etc. The design team is about 80-90 percent complete with easement agreements. There is a weekly design call if anyone is interested in joining. Yesterday got notification of 2.4 million grant awarded for design of lindy road and housing development.
  - b. Chairman Denney – He says they are looking at mid May to 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 being completely done. There is additional licensing that has to be done yet. Chairman said they signed our first 105 lease this morning. The plan is to split 9.5 million with the health facility. Of the tribe's half, we will use 1.5 million to pay off loans and some of it to pay for additional housing. An account will be set up today to move money to start on some homes.

- c. Sidney Tuttle – Human Resources: introduced new hires for the economic development team, Mark Henry and John Zephier. Any grant opportunities we come across can be sent to them.
- d. Vice Chairman Runnels - This summer is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Battle of Greasy Grass. They would like each Sioux tribe to be there. A lot of the tribes are doing their own planning. Starts on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and goes until Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. The planning committee would like to know by next week if we're going. Kameron says its an important thing for a rep to go, however he knows it's hard because it is the same time as our annual powwow. Kameron is asking if we could at least get an email or planning session. Jim hallum is riding up there on horses. Kameron would like to see more people involved and willing to go.
- e. Chairman Denney – On behalf of the Isanti LLC Board of Directors, Chairman is asking for council action for Isanti LLC to remove Shona Campbell from the Isanti llc board of directors due to absenteeism. Seat vacancy will be posted.
  - i. Motion made by Byron Tuttle
  - ii. Motion seconded by Kameron Runnels
  - iii. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
- f. Mike Oltrogge, NICC – May 16<sup>th</sup> is NICC's graduation and will be held in the new center on the NICC Santee Campus. There will be 45-50 students walking.

#### 10. Resolutions

- a. 2026-33 Close Comprehensive Program Health Services account due to fraud
  - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-33
  - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
  - iii. Motion seconded by Andrea McBride
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
- b. 2026-37 Homesite Lease for Tierahnee Tuttle
  - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-37
  - ii. Motion made by Vietta Swalley
  - iii. Motion seconded by Kameron Runnels
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
- c. 2026-38 Request #2 unmet needs to BIA for \$78,000
  - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-38
  - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
  - iii. Motion seconded by Byron Tuttle
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
- d. 2026-39 Ag Land workforce planning
  - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-39
  - ii. Motion made by Kameron Runnels
  - iii. Motion seconded by Carrie Rouillard
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
- e. 2026-40 Request to exchange school lands
  - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-40
  - ii. Motion made by Andrea McBride
  - iii. Motion seconded by Carrie Rouillard
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes

- f. 2026-41 Authorizing grant application between BIA and SSN Land Management/Natural Resources
    - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-41
    - ii. Motion made by Vietta Swalley
    - iii. Motion seconded by Carrie Rouillard
    - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
  - g. 2026-42 Conditional relinquishment for Gregg William Firethunder
    - i. Chairman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-42
    - ii. Motion made by Carrie Rouillard
    - iii. Motion seconded by Andrea McBride
    - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes
11. All agenda items have been addressed
- i. Chairman Denney asked for a motion to adjourn at 11:48 pm
  - ii. Motion made by Vietta Swalley
  - iii. Motion seconded by Sandy Henry
  - iv. 7 voting in favor, 0 opposed, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,



Andrea McBride  
Santee Sioux Nation Council Secretary

