

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**November 14, 2019**

**Convened** at 6:39 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Simonsen

All Veterans in attendance were recognized for their service to us and this country.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:** For James Cracroft who passed away.

**COMPENSATION and MDA** by Terry Ehlers

MDA - Tonight hamburgers and hot dogs were sold with all proceeds going to MDA. • You can now text donations to MDA. • Everyone donating was placed in a raffle for Dinner and a Movie (\$100). • Terry has discounts for the Harlem Globetrotters/Jazz game and Disney on Ice.

OWCP - You no longer have to go to management for the forms to file an OWCP claim. You can register an ECOMP account and then file a claim online (ecomp.dol.gov). Do not use your postal email account when registering. • Part of the USPS's increase in operating costs is because of an increase of \$3.5B in compensation claims (not an easy job).

**Roll Call** by Steve McNees

**Minutes** of the October meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

**Reading of the Communications** by Steve McNees

- The Convention Call for the 2020 National Convention was received. Delegate information will be sent in as soon as possible.
- A letter to Whom it may concern from M Wahlquist Notifies anyone interested that he would be willing to help with anything within his knowledge and outside of the EEO redress mediation, regarding carrier Aaron Gale who was involved in an EEO complaint.
- 2 MDA reports from the Bowl-a-thon and the Labor Day Picnic show that a total of \$9,448 had been donated so far this year.
- Copy of a letter to a carrier who received a removal notice, requesting immediate contact so that an appeal of his grievance could be made.
- A notice for the October 10<sup>th</sup> Safety and Health meeting was received along with the agenda.
- A Notice of Intent to Revert Route C025 in West Jordan was received.
- A rough draft of the Labor Management Meeting was received.
- A notice to all carrier craft employees was received regarding the procedures of the upcoming vacation selection which will occur from November 9<sup>th</sup> through November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- An extension of time limits to implement route adjustment to January 25, 2020 was received from the District Manager. Offices affected are Cottonwood (84121), Murray (84107), Sandy (84094), West Jordan (84084), and Bountiful (84054).

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

Shawna Feragen, Karen Hudson, Viliami Taunauta, Angello Gazani, Dehlann Brackens, Breanna Batty, Kuang-Long Hu, Mercedes Cann

**LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND** by Josh Thibodeau - not present

**ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist

They have started hiring again. All CCAs have signed up. Make sure to watch out for your CCAs and help them whenever you can.

**LEGISLATIVE and TRUSTEES** by Chad Mortensen

- Ben McAdams had a special meeting with the AFL-CIO Eboard after complaints from labor. He is now a co-sponsor of HR 2382 the USPS Fairness Act. He has introduced HR 3577 that enables cities and states to negotiate to use postal facilities (press conference Dec 13<sup>th</sup> in Ephraim). He has cosponsored a bill making trade schools more affordable. We should write and thank him.
- Write to ask Chris Curtis to also support these bills.
- The Trustees will meet next month and review two month's records.

**HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

- Signing up or changing health plans ends December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10pm our time.
- Most of NALC's benefits remain the same.
- Prescriptions are a problem with all of the health plans. The changes are explained in the packets Jim has for anyone interested. You can call and get a list of the drugs and their prices.

## **SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Chris Zambos

- Art 7 question 77 in the JCAM – *CCAs may elect to contract their vehicle for postal use like traveling from one station to another office by assignment (forms required)*. Management may ask you to drive to another station to help out (no contract), but note that your car is not covered by the Post Office or your insurance company (driven illegally). They should provide a postal vehicle or have someone drive you. CCAs have to return to the office they started at to punch out. If management signs a contract with you, they are still not liable unless the P.O. is somehow negligent for your accident.

## **DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay

- John Ehlers was recognized for receiving his Gold Card. He related how his NALC insurance has been great.
- Christmas is coming. Retirees might want to be at the December meeting because Santa is coming.

## **TREASURER** by Mike Madsen

- An investigator from the Dept. of Labor came on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and interviewed us for about two hours (officers & trustee). We shipped all records from January 2015 through September 2019 to the DOL. It cost \$180 to ship 9 boxes of records. Multiple people had made complaints (more than a year ago) but he would not say who they were or what the complaints were. The DOL will have our records for several months (6+?).
- The Eboard reviewed the budget last week. We are under budget in all categories.
- Last month: Income \$26,032, expenses 35,493, net loss 9,461.
- Year to date: \$53,118 deficit while our budget for the year approved an \$82,675 deficit. We are doing well.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** by Mike Hansen

- 4,696 grievances filed this year.
- The 2019 Steward of the Year is Destiney Carrillo. Mike Simonson was the runner up.
- Steward training Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Amie Gallo will teach about Step B decisions.
- No December steward Training this year.

## **EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** by Lance Henrie - excused

## **PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist

- Holiday planning was discussed at the last SLC labor management meeting. Normally help should be hired at least 60 days before the holiday rush but they say there has been a cap on hiring.
- Management doesn't have to hire enough people to do the work.
- Management is trying to add one more vehicle to each zone (U-Haul possibly). Tell CCAs to drive safe in the U-Haul trucks. They are bigger and often have maintenance issues.
- The last 2 years they have distributed VMF vehicles instead of renting vehicles.
- A lot of the current discipline is for being outside of your vehicle with the engine running and attendance.
- Many houses now have video surveillance system. People are watching how you drive and deliver mail and parcels. Take the time to do your job right, there are people watching.
- You can ask your supervisor for a head lamp if you are going to be out after dark. Remember it takes longer to deliver safely in the dark. CCA's should get waterproof gore tex boots if they are walking and it is wet.
- Management has ice cleats to fit any size boots. Just ask for them.
- Money for national convention is pooled and split evenly among all delegates who actually go to convention.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:** none

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion to add \$300 to the meeting expense account of the 2019 budget. The motion passed.

## **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

- Question: How long before you can reconsider a previously approved action? No limit. It takes a 2/3 vote.
- A grand total of \$1,550 was collected for MDA tonight. Joey Wiscomb, MDA Ambassador, did his walking on his hands trick because we went over our \$10,000 goal.

**FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:** none

**DRAW AND ADJOURN – 8:00 pm**

- \$20 Gift Cards (Turkey replacements): John Zambos (not present), Steve Osborne, Stan Burmood, Arlynn Venema, Clementine Alvey, Kim Mortensen, Amie Gallo, Pat Busath, Bob Valdez, Aaron Saxon, Eric Grotepas, Elisha Satini, Stan Hawker, Destiney Carrillo, Jonnie Johnson, Steve McNees, Mike Hansen, Rick Watson, Eldon Butters, Josh Jessop (not present), Eric Cisneros, John Ehlers (not present), Troy Scherzinger

- **\$25 drawing winners: Veronica Rodriguez, Blake Mellor**
- RETIREES – \$ 275 (Kirk McLaughlin WAS PRESENT). Next month it will be \$25
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$100 (Charley Iverson was not present). Next month it will be \$125.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$425 (20-3 Jacob Sung was not present). Next month it will be \$450.