

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**January 14, 2021**

**The meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom software.**

**Convened** at 6:30 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Hansen

**Moment of Silence** for Merlin Stephenson and Jo An Eames who have passed away.

**Roll Call** by Steve McNees

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

**Reading of the Communications** by Steve McNees.

- From Fred Rolando: 12/10/20 Letter continuing the dispensation for branches and state association to make event schedule changes due to coronavirus. This includes the use of electronic meeting methods and modified voting procedures. Also, notice of a national conference for branch and state presidents to be held December 20, 2020 regarding the tentative agreement. It was held virtually.
- Notice of the Safety & Health Committee Meeting for Jan. 14th was received.
- Christmas cards were received from the Utah State AFL-CIO, NALC National Officers and Monarch Dental.

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

Brandon Davis, Kaleb Van Arsdale, Zachary Carlson, John Hartzell, Calvin Ao

**Nick Vafiades, National Business Agent** - • New Branch Officers were sworn in by Nick.

- The Family First Act ended Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> (80 hours sick leave and FMLA). The Post Office will give you administrative leave if you are exposed to covid at work and forced to quarantine. The P.O. no longer will pay for quarantines other than caused at work. National is working to change this.
- National Agreement ballots are in the mail. Under the circumstances he believes that we should vote for the new contract.
- There are 365 grievances pending arbitration, for Branch 111, to resolve the monetary remedies only.
- LMOU negotiations begin April 29<sup>th</sup> and end at the end of May.

Training for new stewards who need training will occur as needed, in small groups, with 2-day sessions.

- There will not be a Rap Session this year.
- Currently, carriers are not scheduled to get the Covid vaccine with essential workers. It is now up to the states to schedule.

**LCPF** by Josh Thibodeau – not present

**ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist

CCA training just started up again. 30 CCAs were in the last training class. Most signed up for the union. Greet the new CCAs in your office to see if they signed up and help them to be safe.

**SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Justin Lindquist

- Today was the quarterly SL safety meeting. Management only had 3 form 1767s filed for the last 3 months. Mostly for employees not wearing masks and management not enforcing it. Please wear your masks.
- Management doesn't know when carriers are scheduled to receive the covid vaccines.
- The next safety meeting is in April. He would like everyone's help to keep him informed about what is going on in your offices.
- Accidents are down from last year.
- New employees want/need to have the reflective vests for identification and safety. It would be great to hand them out at training. Will check on it. Use form 1767 to get the vests if necessary.
- Don't forget to stay 6 feet away from people and wear your masks.

**LEGISLATIVE** by Chad Mortensen

He is optimistic about the House and Senate being more labor friendly. There are 2 new House Representatives we will have to reach out to and see if they will be supportive.

- The coronavirus means that face to face meetings are limited. Retirees will be needed to write and phone our representatives to request their support.
- The AFL-CIO has written to Governor Cox to express dismay that he has removed postal workers from the essential workers to receive the coronavirus vaccine.

**TRUSTEES** by Chad Mortensen

- Met last week and went over December's books. Missed November's.
- The bank messed up the number on one check that they are trying to figure out what it is.
- Joan Larsen's has been on the E-board for 30 years. We'll miss her.

**MBA, COMPENSATION** by Bob Jewell

- CCAs are getting hurt. Help them to be safe.
- We work harder than other areas, but we also have more injuries. Take care of the new carriers coming into your office.

**MDA COORDINATOR** by Jeremy Bailey – not present**HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

We will have to pay more out of pocket this year, as usual.

- There is a program for diabetics where you can sign up and get a glucometer, unlimited test strips and lancets, and digital resources that save you a lot of money.
- Program booklet are available in the union office (<https://www.nalchbp.org/news/body/2021-HO-Booklet.pdf>).

**DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay

- No activities right now.
- The program for diabetes is a really good program.
- Jeff has gotten the first dose of the vaccine because he works with the school district. He had no issues other than a sore shoulder for an hour or so. If you are eligible for the vaccine, get it.
- We have the plaques for the gold card holders in our branch now.

**TREASURER** by Mike Madsen

- A proposed budget will be posted on the branch111.com site. Next month we will vote on it. Last year we voted on a budget that spent more than \$60,000 more than we would take in. In the end, we spent \$35,000 less than we brought in (no training, conventions, etc.). This year's budget proposes a \$30,000 deficit.

**VICE PRESIDENT** by Amie Gallo

Excited to see the Orem members tonight.

- Steward training this month will be a virtual meeting on the new tentative agreement. Anyone (non-steward) wanting to join the meeting can send an email or text message to Amie and she will send you a link.

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** by Mike Hansen

This was the biggest turnout on a zoom meeting. We are at 152 grievances this year which is normal for January.

**PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist

We have a great eboard, that is already getting a lot done.

- He was been downtown the last two days with lots of training and standups.
- There is an increased amount of covid going on in the state, more than ever, with increased deaths. There are multiple standups almost daily. Tomorrow, Tooele and Collections get covid standups.
- It is unfortunate that Spencer Cox has taken us out of phase 2 (the CDC recommendation) for getting the covid vaccine. Hopefully, the AFL-CIO can change this for us.
- The tentative agreement looks pretty good. CCA starting wage is still too low. They did get some raises. Now CCAs automatically convert to PTF after two years if not already a regular. Mike recommends voting to ratify the agreement. Ballots have gone out. Ballots must be returned (received) by Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. Don't hesitate, make sure your ballot gets there in time.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:** none**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Executive Board proposed raising the bounty on new members from \$25 to \$50. A motion will be made and discussed at our next meeting.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:** none

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

**DRAW AND ADJOURN** – 7:51 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Casey Anderson, Justin Lindquist - checks to be mailed
- RETIREES – \$250 (Daryl Deuel was not present). Next month it will be \$275
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$350 (James MacFarlane was not present). Next month it will be \$375.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$675 (Stormy Blood was the WINNER). Next month it will be \$25.