

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**October 13, 2022**

**Convened** at 6:40 pm

The meeting was also broadcast over Zoom for those unable to attend in person.

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Hansen

**Roll Call** by Steve McNees

**Minutes** of the Sept. 2022 meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

**Reading of the Communications** – Steve McNees

- President Wahlquist sent a letter formally endorsing Jim Dunnigan for the Utah House of Representatives, District 39.
- We received a poster from Francisco Cabrera who is running for National NALC Board of Trustees.
- Downtown carrier, Dino Panti, is requesting donations for his nephew who has a tumour by his thyroid.

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

- none

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:** Darlene McDonald

Darlene McDonald is running to represent Congressional District 4. She is running against Burgess Owens. We need to have representatives that show up and listen (Burgess didn't show up for the debate last night). She wants to make sure we save the Great Salt Lake and have a safe future. We have to use less water and waste less water. She thinks postal employees should get credit for their work performed before becoming career employees and supports bills for this. Thanked us for the great service we provided in the 2020 election. Utah does elections right and other states should follow our example. Vote by mail is safe and well protected from fraud.

**LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND** by Josh Thibodeau - excused

**MDA COORDINATOR** by Jeremy Bailey

- Raise \$230 for MDA tonight. He served free hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone. There are extra hamburgers, hot dogs and buns in our freezer if you know of anyone who needs them.
- He is putting on another bowling tournament during Rap Session on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 10pm (with prize drawings).

**DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS** - Jimmy Fleming – not present

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**LEGISLATIVE** by Chad Mortensen

- A member found Darlene McDonald was a good candidate and made Chad aware. Anyone aware of a good candidate should make us (and Chad) aware.
- The AFL-CIO, Central Fed, and the Northern Utah Labor Council have a list of candidates that have been vetted and are supported by Labor organizations. It will be in the Pavement Pounder. Support is given to those who support us without regard to their party affiliation.
- Candidates need volunteers to help them. The union is not allowed to financially support candidates but we can help them and make personal donations or donate through LCPF.

**TRUSTEES** by Chad Mortensen

- They did not meet this month because the treasurer was out of town. It is a lot easier when he is at the audit. Members can view the financial records and budgets if interested.

**MBA, COMPENSATION** by Bob Jewell • no report

**HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

- James Raymond, NBA's office, will be teaching about retirement at the rap session this month.
- The 2023 rates are out already. He will put the new rates in the Pavement Pounder.
- Nov 12 - Dec 14 are the Health Benefits Open Season dates.

**ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist

- He has been signing up all new carriers until the last training where 2 did not sign up.

**SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Justin Lindquist

- Make sure you are watching out for each other in your offices. There is a lot of pressure. We have to protect each other. Only work the hours that you can safely work.
- The Form 1767 was created to allow us to get involved in office safety without having to talk to the supervisor (just put it on their desk).

**DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay

- Open Season is coming up. Retirees need to go to OPM.GOV and create your single account for all of your government accounts (Medicare, retirement, OPM, Social Security). Then if you want to change anything or sign up for something new, you will be ready to do it.
- Medicare costs are going down by about \$7.00. Retirement and Social Security benefits are going up about 8-9%.

**TREASURER** by Mike Madsen – no report (payroll has gone out)**VICE PRESIDENT** by Amie Gallo – no report**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** by Mike Hansen

- 1,691 grievances filed so far this year. The calendars are in and ready for stewards to pick up. Extra calendars are \$4 each.
- Stewards' dinner is next Wednesday at 6:30pm. An RSVP email has been sent out by Amie Gallo. Contact her if you haven't received your notice. Let Amie know if you aren't coming.

**PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist

- At Labor Management Meeting we found out we are entitled to 135 CCAs but actually have about 30. We are trying to get all CCAs hired directly as PTFs in the future.
- Most likely, the next 3 months are going to be epochally bad. Mail will not be getting delivered but parcels will be delivered. Grievances need to be filed for not having mail delivered every day.
- The Utah economy is so good that it is hard for the USPS to hire.
- Flooring has been purchased for the office. We will be hiring union members to do the renovations in the office.
- Thanked Jeremy Bailey and Monte Jones for cooking the hamburgers and hot dogs tonight.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:**

Election of delegates to the 2023 Utah State Convention April 20-21, 2023 in Vernal, UT.

All following nominees are elected by acclamation: Jenny Woodall, Courtney Chatterton, April Pettley, Kim Mortensen, Jeff Asay, Brent Console, Spencer Heinz, Fernando Palafox, Amie Gallo, Josh Thibodeau, Jim Kerekes, Mike Hansen, Kirk McLaughlin, Chad Mortensen, Keith Warner, Monte Jones, Mike Simonsen, Stormy Blood, Jeff Ertmann, Mike Madsen, Mike Wahlquist, Jeremy Bailey, Steve Warren, Kelly Grater, Justin Lindquist, Bob Valdez, Bob Jewell, Destiney Carrillo, Josh Jessop, Alisha Barela, Marisa Barela, Blake Mellor, Jay Reupena, Rachel Burton, Jennifer Ogden, Kevin Green, Eric Grotepas.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A motion was made to spend \$2,000 on swag (Branch 111 hoodies) to wear at conventions, training and other meetings. They will be sold for \$20-25 (about half of cost) to those who want one and the money paid will go back into buying more merchandise. The motion passed.
- A motion was made to budget \$10,000 for the purchase and upgrade of a new trailer to replace our old branch trailer (that is too small and old). It is used for transporting and storing our picnic and other equipment. The motion passed.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:****FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:**

A motion was made to formally endorse Darlene McDonald as a candidate for Congressional District 4. The motion passed.

**DRAW AND ADJOURN** – 8:29 pm

- \$25 drawing winners were Bob Jewell and Sheila Davis
- RETIREES – \$175 (Benny Cordova Jr was not present). Next month it will be \$200
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$350 (Michael Krelow was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$375
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$250 (Jared Taylor was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$275