

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**December 14, 2023**

**Convened** at 6:32 pm

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

**Conducting:** Mike Wahlquist, President

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Simonsen

**Roll Call** by Steve McNees

**Minutes** of the November 2023 union meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

**Reading of the Communications** by Steve McNees

- We received Christmas Cards from the Ironworkers Local 27 and from Jodi Miller with Monarch Dental.
- We received thank you letters from MDA for the gifts we have given them this year. Gifts to MDA totaled \$4,149.
- NBA Nick Vafiades was invited to attend the branch Installation Dinner to be held on January 11, 2024 at 6:30pm at the union hall.
- President Wahlquist responded to a possible altercation between carriers at the Magna Post Office. Initial investigations were done trying to determine if there had been any physical assault. The police had not been summoned. Management was advised to do a full investigation while another steward would be assigned to also do a full investigation.

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

- Dakota Bailey, Lance West, Peter Balcazar, Daniel Kasimow, Meren Cook, Christian Clark, Dafne Conde, Charlie Perez, Leilani Maloata, Peter Steele, Samuel Allen, Brian Christensen, Courtney McBride, Kolin Mortensen, Norma Anleu, Alfred Bautista, Steve Peterson, Stephanie Vergara, Austin Sorenson, Anthony Gutierrez, Rhiannon Strickland, Melissa Calton

**Election Committee Report** by Sharla Groves, Committee Chair

**Election Results:** (384 ballots were received. 11 were not signed and one was spoiled.)

**President,** Mike Wahlquist 308 and Chris Zambos 75

**Executive Vice President:** Monte Jones 84 and Mike Hansen 296

**Vice President:** Kim Mortensen 157 and Destiney Carrillo 224

**Secretary:** Steve McNees 257 and Joe Horsley 124

**Safety Officer:** Justin Lindquist 203 and Nathan Chester 163

**Trustees (3):** Josh Thibodeau 139, Chad Mortensen 279, Quincy Mason 78, Kortnie Chatterton 221, Kirk McLaughlin 192, Fernando Palafox 80

**LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND (LCPF)** by Josh Thibodeau - excused

**MDA COORDINATOR** by Jeremy Bailey - no report

**DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS** by Jimmy Fleming - no report

**LEGISLATIVE** by Chad Mortensen

Utah is attacking unions in Utah. An anti-union bill would not allow state employees' dues to be deducted from their paycheck. Senator Tesler is going after unions. This same bill passed in Florida last year. One fight program coming soon. Asking that we participate in supporting other unions on their websites. • "At will" employees are being pushed by Governor Cox. • We endorsed 3 candidates and 1 has won. Overall, 75% of union supported candidates won. There are now more Labor friendly members in office. • HR-5995 Retirement Fairness Act – any time worked as a temporary employee can be purchased back for retirement service credit. We need to help get this passed. Writing a postcard gets our message to our representatives. Send one to support HR-5995.

**TRUSTEES** by Chad Mortensen

- They met Tuesday and checked the books for November which included the Rap session. The trustees are going to get better at expecting reports to be done consistently and accurately.

**MBA / COMPENSATION**, by Bob Jewell - excused

**HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

- Open Season has ended. Most of this is for retirees: Basic Medicare – Part A is hospitalization coverage, part B is doctors, part C is Medicare advantage plans, part D is prescription drug plans.
- We won't know what plans will exist until next fall.

The eyes and dental programs are separate, and information will be given to new employees to review. • There are now different options required if your spouse isn't of age to enroll in part A&B. • Spouses must be enrolled in A& B to

participate in the new plans next year. • People working past age 65 should enroll in part A. • Every plan in the new program must have part D included in their plan. The NALC will pay your part D premium and then reimburse you \$50 per month if you enroll in NALC HB for 2024. • Read your Silver Script material then call Jimmy if there is something you need clarification on.

**ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist –

It is getting easier to get new employees to sign up for the union now that most are starting as career employees.

**SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Justin Lindquist

Tony Cline didn't show up for the safety meeting. Justin told them there should not be any set number of parcel deliveries per hour. Instead, it has to be "do the best you can do, accurately and safely."

**DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay

• He has 20 gifts to give away today. Santa will draw the names. Nobody will open them until everyone has their gift. Once all are awarded you can trade before opening them. Those on zoom will have their gift mailed to them.

**TREASURER** by Mike Madsen

• Historically we have now brought in \$52,000 of progressive/permissive remedy grievance awards. • Income last month was \$29,000. We spent \$4,100 more than we brought in. • We have Deficit spent \$91,433 this year, but it was within the approved budget for the year. • The New budget comes out next month.

**VICE PRESIDENT** by Destiney Carrillo

• Thanked the election committee and everyone who participated. • Steward training next week. It will be about PTFs and morning estimates. The following month Bob Jewell will teach about compensation and OWCP.

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** by Mike Hansen

• 2,852 grievances filed this year. • We have 100+ in attendance tonight, the most in a long time. • 6 new carriers are coming from Las Vegas to help us during the rush. • The mail has been light in Sandy the last couple of days.

**PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist

• It appears that Tony Cline has been given the postmaster job in SLC.  
• All positions that were being held because of excessing of Provo clerk jobs (moving mail processing to Las Vegas) is over. T-6 positions will now be filled. • Finally, after 1½ years, SLC has now been put into the all-career model. • We now have 50 CCAs in SLC. All 50 will convert to PTF this Saturday. • It has been 11 years since we had PTFs. It will take some time to relearn the rules associated with PTFs. • All new employees will be hired as career from now on in SLC. Tell your friends and family that right now is a great time to hire on in SLC and become full-time in a short period. • Shop Stewards were thanked for their phenomenal service this year. They have filed almost 3,000 grievances this year as rules were violated regularly by management.  
• We got a new, much needed, larger trailer for the branch that is guaranteed to not be stolen (we'll insure it anyway).  
• Our old trailer was falling apart. It was stolen.  
• A motion to purchase wheel locks/boots for up to \$100 was made. The motion passed.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

• The carriers in Orem would like to have money to have donuts and drinks for the meeting that they are having monthly. It will be presented to the Executive Board next month.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

• We need more uniforms for the new employees. We are out and need them desperately for the new members.

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

**DRAW AND ADJOURN** – 7:59 pm

- **GIFT CARDS:** Alan Nagata, Rick Watson, Fernando Palafox, Troy Scherzinger, Rob Curry, Mike Madsen, Adam Willden, Stan Hawker, Jay Reupena, Kortnie Chatterton, Steve Franz, Brock Lister, Tracy Uresk, Steve Warren, Ryan Brown, Daniel Jemenez, Taffy Kosierowski, Jonnie Johnson, Isaias Ahumada, Blake Mellor
- **RETIREE PRESENTS:** Mike Knott, Mike Madsen, Craig Ball, Pat Busath, Steve Ingram, Gary Thorne, Gus Rohrbach, Barry Depola, Jonnie Johnson, Kirk McLaughlin, Jimmy Kerekes, Bob Valdez, Stan Hawker, Stan Burmood, Steven Franz, Arlynn Venema, Yvonne Madsen, Keith Warner, Wendy Lund, Brent Bray
- **\$25 drawing** winners 11 Gerald Maxfield and 14 Blake Mellor
- **RETIREES** – \$300 (Mark Hitesman was not present). Next month it will be \$325.
- **PROGRESSIVE A** - \$700 (Edwin Tineo was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$725.
- **PROGRESSIVE B** - \$600 (Diego Soto Perez was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$625.