

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**August 13, 2020**

**The meeting was conducted on the Internet using the Zoom software.**

**Convened** at 6:30 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Simonsen

**Roll Call** by Steve McNeas

**Moment of Silence:** Sheila Keller , Charles Granger, Adriaan Groos, Harry Yensen, Dick Holt, and Frederick Lund who have passed away recently.

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

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

See attached list. Communications will be filed for future reference.

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

To be posted in the Pavement Pounder. See attached list

**LCPF** by Josh Thibodeau - Not present

**ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist - Not present

**LEGISLATIVE** by Chad Mortensen

Many candidates have reached out for endorsement. Because we have not been meeting, they have been directed to the Central Federation of Labor and we will follow their recommendations. •There is currently a TV commercial to support the Postal Service. This is partly supported by our LCPF fund (not union dues). Please reach out to Mitt Romney to support the Postal Service Emergency Act – S4174. We need to get our friends and family members to call for support also. •Yesterday a House Bill was proposed that would freeze the Post Office from enacting any service changes. It will likely stall in the Senate.

**TRUSTEES** – Chad Mortensen

They reviewed three months of financial records. Everything was okay. A couple of minor issues were cleared up by Mike Madsen. •Any member can contact the union office to be able to review the financial records.

**OWCP, COMPENSATION** by Bob Jewell

The biggest problem is getting doctors to say what OWCP needs to receive. Give Bob a call and he can walk you through the process. If he doesn't have the answer, he can get it.

**HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

The Covid virus is a very serious problem. Please take care of yourself and make the best choices for you and your family. Jim's contact information is on the back of the Pavement Pounder if you have any questions.

**SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Chris Zambos – Not Present

**DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay.

There have been several retiree deaths in the last few months. As far as Jeff is aware, none are from the COVID virus. Most retiree activities have been cancelled or postponed due to the virus including the Retiree's Dinner, Steve Ingram was awarded his Gold Card at his home.

**TREASURER** by Mike Madsen – not present

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

999 grievances filed so far this year. Steward training is 6:30pm on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Masks and social distancing will be observed. The new ESAS (Expedited to Street Afternoon Sortation) testing and case consolidation will be discussed and how to file related grievances. • Sandy Main, Holladay, Sugarhouse, and Murray are doing the ESAS testing. In Sandy, start times are 8:30 to 9:00am. Procedures have evolved over the last 3 weeks so that mail is now left in the case overnight with 1<sup>st</sup> class mail being cased in the morning and chunks sorted into the flats before pulling down and leaving (much like

before). Third class is curtailed until the afternoon. There are lots of problems with improper mandating of overtime. All 4 offices are filing lots of grievances. Murray will be starting at 7:30 on Saturday and 8:30 on Mondays.

**SPECIAL GUEST** – Joey Wiscomb from MDA

The MDA offices have been closed for the virus. Only remote location contact has been happening. The Muscle Walk and other activities have not been happening.

**PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist.

The Steak Fry and Retiree's Dinner have been cancelled. •The ESAS testing is going adequately well in Murray and Sugarhouse. It is not going well (catastrophically) in Holladay and Sandy. Part of the problem is likely because Sandy and Holladay were understaffed before the test began. The test will likely last 60 days. Grievances being filed because of the test: start time, improper curtailment of mail, Article 41 (not getting 8 hours on their own assignments), crossing crafts (management casing or carrying mail or assigning it to other crafts), Article 8 (not maximizing the ODL before mandating overtime). There is a lot of mandating at Sandy Main and Holladay with lesser amounts in Sugarhouse and Murray.

• Politically the main push now is to get the Senate to include postal funding in the next stimulus bill. Channel 2 news may interview Mike tomorrow. If you haven't written your Senators yet, now is the time to ask them to support us in the next stimulus bill. • COVID-19, wear your mask, maintain safe social distancing, and use sanitizer when touching things outside of your control. We have had an amazingly low rate of positive COVID test in our branch (less than 1% of members). When there is a positive test in an office, Mike Wahlquist or Mike Hansen attend the standup the following morning. • Phil Rodriguez, the State NALC President has work opportunities for retirees with some computer skills to help with Get Out the Vote. They will work 40 hours per week and be paid at the City Carrier Rate (T-6). The duration is not finalized. If interested, send your name, branch #, cell phone and email to Phil at [prodriq@msn.com](mailto:prodriq@msn.com).

**SPECIAL ORDERS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

A motion to purchase a new refrigerator for the union office not to exceed \$750 was made and seconded. Motion passed 23 for and 2 against.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**2 bylaws changes were read in at the February meeting. They are to be discussed and voted on tonight.**

• *It is proposed that we eliminate the position of the Executive Vice President in Branch 111, and all attendant references in the Bylaws.* A motion to amendment was made to keep both VP positions. The Executive Vice President position would do all that the bylaws require for both VP positions aside from training. This would be a salaried position. The Vice President would essentially be the director of education and paid out of the President's 120 days. Both would be elected positions. The amendment passed 24 to 4. The motion as amended passed 23 to 4.

• *Any approved budget cannot exceed the estimated revenue for the year.* Seconded. The vote to cease discussion was 19 for (not 2/3 required). At this point attendance dropped below 30 members so there was no quorum and business could not proceed.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:** nothing

**IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE:** nothing

**DRAW AND ADJOURN** – 8:43 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Bob Jewell, Chris Shipley (was not present), and Sean Phillips (checks to be mailed)
- RETIREES – \$125 (Steve Shaffer was not present). Next month it will be \$150
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$225 (Jerry Jensen was not present). Next month it will be \$250.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$550 (LaTonia Barber was not present). Next month it will be \$575.

## Attachment #1

### BRANCH CORRESPONDANCE FOR MARCH THROUGH AUGUST 2020

Utah Democratic Party – Requesting our sponsorship of a statewide Democratic on-line fundraising event on 8/14/20.

Bev Arnason - Thank-you note regarding the president's Pavement Pounder Article.

Senator Mike Lee –6/24/20 Response to Wahlquist letter regarding USPS issue. He mentions the \$10B the CARES Act allows the USPS to borrow. He will monitor USPS's needs and carefully consider any further request that they make to Congress.

SLC District Manager - 4/8/20 Notice of extension to implement route adjustments in the Downtown Station until 5/2/20.

SLC District Manager - 4/27/20 Notice of extension to implement route adjustments in the Downtown Station until 6/27/20.

Orem Seward – 4/16/20 to Postmaster Bulletts – Thank you letter for the trust shown, listening to issues, responding to repairs needed to the building, NBUs, vehicles, and making Orem a better place to work.

Utah Senate 8, Kathleen Riebe – 5/26/20 – Requested the endorsement of the branch for her election campaign.

Mike Wahlquist – 5/12/20 Letter to Nick Vafiades requesting clarification of the use of emergency sick leave under the CARES ACT (is it a one shot deal or can it be taken intermittently).

MBA Director of Life Insurance – 4/14/20 letter explaining that rivals of the MBA that sell policies similar to MBA products are in direct competition with the MBA and therefore it would be inappropriate to sell them add space in our newsletter.

President Wahlquist – 4/27/20 Letters to each- John Curtis, Mike Lee, and Mitt Romney explaining the history and service that the USPS and Letter Carriers have provided to America. He described the massive losses because of the economic shutdown that others are also experiencing. He requested that immediate Congressional action is needed to provide money now and regular appropriations for the Postal Service until the crisis is over. A document was included, from the NALC, explaining how this could be accomplished.

Joel Briscoe (Democrat)– is running for reelection to Utah House District 25. He would like to discuss obtaining the endorsement of Branch 111.

Mike Wahlquist – 4/7/20 General Letter of Recommendation for Letter Carrier Ryan Astin.

SLC Safety & Health Committee – 3/20/20 Cancellation of the 4/9/20 Safety meeting due to COVID-19.

President Fred Rolando – 3/11/20 NALC Executive Council extends dispensation to allow for branches to postpone or cancel events scheduled in the calendar year 2020 due to the coronavirus outbreak.

President Fred Rolando – 3/18/20 Re: Extension of dispensation: The dispensation extends to the postponement or cancellation of gatherings of any kind, including but not limited to branch and state association meetings, dictated by the NALC Constitution. Consistent with sited guidance, Branches may postpone scheduled nominations and elections without requesting dispensation from the President to do so. Branches, at their discretion, may vote to waive or modify meeting attendance requirements to obtain funds to convention.

SLC Labor Management Meeting Minutes– 2/27/20- 1. Management may request documentation where medical appointment conflicts with mandated work, after work hours and non-scheduled days. 2. What worked or didn't work during the last Peak season.

Mike Wahlquist – 3/5/20 Sympathy letter with pamphlet to Richard Holt's family following his passing away.

SLC EEO Field Operations – 4/7/20 Copy of Notice of Right to File EEO Pre-complaint for V. R.

Josh Jessop – 11/18/19 Notice of resignation as Shop Steward in the 23 zone.

Nat. NALC- 4/9/20 Copy of Notice to APWU to cancel Curtis McDevitt's APWU dues (paying double dues).

Mark Flanery – 4/10/20 Retirement watch awarded.

Wahlquist/Postmasters (West Jordan, Orem, Bountiful, Midvale, Sandy, Magna) -4/23/20 Memo of Understanding regarding the extension of time to sign the overtime list due to COVID-19 (5/27/20).

Nat. NALC – National Announcement of the Letter Carriers' Donor Drive which is replacing the National Food Drive this year. Instructions, flyers/posters, and a press release were included. Go To: [nalc.org/food](http://nalc.org/food).

Devorah Gatrell – 6/2/20 Candidate for SL Co. Council District 2 listed her accomplishments and qualifications along with a request for an interview with Branch 111 Letter Carriers.

## **ATTACHMENT #2**

### **NEW MEMBERS REPORTED AT THE AUGUST 13, 2020 UNION MEETING**

Agustin Ramirez, Ricardo J

Alder, Grace A

Andrews, Mason B

Anzora, Steve B

Ao, Calvin F

Autrey, Codi A

Baird, Robert

Becce, Samuel R

Bohorquez, Tressie E

Broschinsky, Ansjalee E

Buck, Kenneth R

Butler, Letia C

Canada, Michael H

Casson, Catherine M

Castro, Ricardo R

Chamberz, Kiki I

Chavez, Juan J

Cook, Joseph J

Cortez, Steven R

Da Silva, Chris A

Day, Nathaniel E

Di Iorio, Bradley C

Diosdado Padilla, Andres

Dunn, Devin N

Dunning, Michael C

Eldredge, Tyler J

Elizondo, Melisa

Ellis, Gillian D

Ellison, Harold J

Farnsworth, Richard J

Fraser, Charles J

Gilbert, Todd M

Godfrey, Jacob B

Gonzalez, Carissa A

Gonzalez, Jesus A  
Guerrero, Omar  
Hegland, Mary K  
Hoppus, Michael A  
Hosseini, Shireen N  
Inglefield, Winter T  
Jensen, Alex H  
Jex, Jeffrey T  
Katoa, Soana F  
Keith, Zebulun T  
Knaus, Cody J  
Kunz, Dick D  
Lamichhane, Sailendra R  
Larsen, Kai E  
Lepore, Domenick T  
Lewis, Jacob G  
Li, Ming  
Lingwall, Matthew E  
Lutz, Christopher R  
Malone, Britney M  
Mann-Gow, Simon E  
Martinez, Eric M  
Martinez, Stockton L  
Matheson, Jack K  
Melk, Jason W  
Miller, Nemo  
Miller, Samantha N  
Morley, Meleena D  
Morris, Brian J  
Mortensen, Shanelle D  
Nery, Renato R  
Nicolas, Jerome D  
Nielson, Melissa A  
Ocampo Flores, Mitzy M  
Oscarson, Brent D  
Palafox, Fernando

Perez, Janet  
Peterson, Dylan D  
Pilimai, Regan K  
Porteous, Devon J  
Read, Aspen D  
Redman, Elijah T  
Richardson, Christopher D  
Ronek, Joshua M  
Roth, Joann B  
Ruff, Jacob W  
Salinas, Javier A  
Samaniego, Liliana  
Sampson, Matthew B  
Silverstein, Josh J  
Spector, Jackson B  
Springer, Jessie D  
Strong, Michael G  
Thornock, Kason C  
Thorpe III, Owen H  
Toleafoa, Valelia  
Vatsend, Marc R  
Veliz, Angel A  
Vernazzani, Giovanni P  
Wallace, Jesus A  
Walsh, Coby D  
Watford, Eric E  
Webb, Clayton R  
Whipple, Brian L  
White, Mark A  
Whittaker, Kelton  
Willis, Gypsy J  
Wittig, Brooke S  
Wood, Christopher R  
Zika, William T  
Zubko, James E