

NALC BRANCH 111
Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting
June 10, 2021

Convened at 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance conducted by Mike Hansen,

Moment of Silence for James Sawyer and Joseph Jensen Jr. who passed away

Roll Call by Steve McNees

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

Reading of the Communications by Steve McNees.

- May 25th letter from President Rolando. The 2021 National Convention (Hawaii) has been cancelled. The 2022 Convention will be held in Chicago the week of Aug. 8, 2022. Convention awards for branch communications, organizing, MDA, etc. will be announced in 2022. • Delegate elections and resolutions/amendments will be handled per local bylaws for the 2022 convention. A summary of the votes for the 2019-2023 National Agreement was also included. • The Farm Bureau Financial Services has requested permission to advertise to Branch 111 members. Their request has been forwarded to National for vetting. • The branch received a letter from a member regarding possible changes or updates to the remedies we received from the Hamilton Letter (Art. 17/31 violations). President Wahlquist responded by explaining the current situation and hoping for proposed changes in the future if management attempts to follow the rule.

Application for Membership by Mike Hansen

Lauren Johnson, Huascar Rodriguez, Ramon Robles, Clinton Burdette, Bethany Hawkins, Heather Ferre, Denny Sherman, Kimberly Anderson, Lyndee Ruud, Kristina Durrant, Bryan Dunagan, Lori Jones, Abdelghani Ghamizi, Patrick Oberg, Henry Lameta, Rebecca Dietz, Luke Tamborini, Jace Madsen, Dakota Charger, Blake Holmes, Anthony Ashton

LCPF by Josh Thibodeau – not present

MDA COORDINATOR by Jeremy Bailey – no report

DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS - Jimmy Fleming (newly appointed to this new position)

- There is a national NALC Veterans' Group online at nalc.org/community-service/nalc-veterans. They will mail out a packet/book with a lot of good information for veteran letter carriers. • He plans to start recruiting veterans as they process out of the service to become letter carriers.

ORGANIZER by Justin Lindquist

- Good to be back to in-person meetings. Organizing – about 24 of the last 25 CCAs have signed up. All of today's training academy signed up.

SAFETY AND HEALTH by Justin Lindquist

- A lot of members came to him with veteran's issues. He didn't know their process, so he helped in the creation of the new Veterans Affairs position. Having Jimmy Fleming is a great addition to the board to help veterans.
- July 15th Justin has a meeting with the installation. There is no mental health injury, but carriers and officers are often pushed too far. He will bring this issue up with the postmaster to find solutions.
- Fill out the 1767. This form is designed for us, to be our part of the safety program. If you don't fill it out, it doesn't get discussed or resolved. Let Justin know if you complete a 1767 so he can check at his meetings to see if management processed your form.
- The mask policy is to still wear them while at work. The CDC gives the postal service the right to make its own decision on masks. Different offices seem to have different policies.

LEGISLATIVE by Chad Mortensen – not present

- nalc.org – look under political or legislation, then check the postal reform bill and then do something to support it.

TRUSTEES by Chad Mortensen excused – Kirk McLaughlin

- The branch's financial books are looking good. Mike Madsen is doing a good job.

MBA, COMPENSATION by Bob Jewell

- Carriers are getting hurt. Supervisors are deciding which forms to use (CA-1 or CA-2) but are getting it wrong sometimes.
- There will be OWCP training at the stewards training next Wednesday.
- We need to encourage all carriers to sign up with OWCP at *ecomp.gov* and then you can immediately complete the forms on a computer if/when you get hurt. If you are not registered with OWCP in advance, you cannot file your injury online and you have to hope supervisors process your forms correctly. You can get a receipt when you fill out your forms online.
- Ask to have your steward present when you are filling out your CA forms so that the right forms are being completed. If there are questions, call Bob.

HEALTH BENEFITS by Jim Kerekes

- There won't be any health seminars this year. They will be having one in the spring of 2022.
- Retirees get a quarterly newsletter that has some health and life insurance information.
- Usually when you retire you can't change health plans unless you have a qualifying life event (marriage, children, etc.). Outside of open season, retirees can change to a lower rate plan when they turn 65 and sign up for Medicare.
- The cost of living went up about \$900 per year for active carriers and 3.1% for retirees, the most in many years.

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES by Jeff Asay – Excused

TREASURER by Mike Madsen - Excused

VICE PRESIDENT by Amie Gallo

- We are doing a basic steward track training this weekend. Eight stewards are attending.
- Steward training next Wednesday will be in person and online. It will be about OWCP.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT by Mike Hansen

- Glad we are meeting in a room together again.
- Those watching on Zoom are asked to text Hansen a report on how the meeting went so we can work out any bugs regarding doing live meetings on Zoom.
- 1,058 grievances have been filed so far this year. That is more than usual but less than last year.
- The Summer party is June 26th at Murray park. It is free to members and family.
- New stewards – check CCA that are reaching 24 months so they can be converted.
- Back pay should be coming in July.
- MOUs were all extended until August.

PRESIDENT by Mike Wahlquist

- Thanked Amie Gallo for preparing and having the steward track training this weekend. There hasn't been any region training, except for 4 stewards, in over a year.
- June 26th – 6:00pm. Summer Pool Party at Murray Park. Jeremy Bailey is in charge. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, novelty ice cream, chips and everything else. It is free for immediate families (parents and their kids).
- Aug. 28 – 6:00pm, Steak Fry at Murray Park pavilion #5. There will be a lot of door prizes (2 years' worth). Retirees' tickets will be paid for by the Director of Retirees.
- June 18th - AFLCIO convention. 5 delegates/members are attending. It will be on zoom.
- Sept 26-30th – Rap Session in Alaska. Let Mike know if you are interested.
- Aug 6-7 - State Convention in Ogden. Everyone nominated will be able to attend (no housing required) just mileage and per diem will be paid. We will send out a packet to all attendees.
- The Downtown office moved to the annex. Most routes are about 30+ minutes over. Now some have to wait for trains. Many carriers are out until 8pm delivering mail. Route inspections will need to be done in September.

SPECIAL ORDERS: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION: none

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SERVICE: none

DRAW AND ADJOURN – 7:27 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Bruce Morgan and Monte Jones- checks to be mailed
- RETIREES – \$375 (Rick Watson was not present). Next month it will be \$400
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$475 (Gilberto Mendez was not present). Next month it will be \$500.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$125 (Josh Thibodeau was not present). Next month it will be \$150.