

**NALC BRANCH 111**  
**Minutes of the Regular Union Meeting**  
**July 11, 2024**

**Convened** at 6:30 pm

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

**Conducting:** Mike Hansen, Executive Vice President

**Pledge of Allegiance** conducted by Mike Simonsen

**Roll Call** by Steve McNees

**Minutes** of the June 2024 union meeting were posted. Without objection, they will be filed for future reference.

**Reading of the Communications** by Steve McNees

- A letter of branch endorsement was issued for Jacob Fitisemanu Jr. for the office of Representative for Utah House District 30.

**Application for Membership** by Mike Hansen

- Ian Ley Alarcon, Natalie Boulton, Haley Barber, Jared Conger, Ernesto Gonzalez, Bronwyn McLeod, Cacey Yeates, Dwight Cox, Lani Springer, Juan Kovalenko, Damien Thomas, Brenda Lopez Rodriguez, Austin Dalyai, Jacob Maslana, Daniel Lervik, Kimberlee West, James Taylor, Kirstyn Milligan, Michael McPhie, David Ronnow, Marshall Buker

**LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND (LCPF)** by Josh Thibodeau – not present

**MDA COORDINATOR** by Nathan Chester

- At last month's meeting we raised \$200 for MDA.
- There is a tumbler and thermos for an MDA drawing tonight.
- There will be MDA drawings for prizes at the Steak Fry in August.

**DIRECTOR OF VETERAN AFFAIRS** by Jimmy Fleming

- The VA is offering veterans \$200 per day to be poll watchers. Go to the news feed at [va.gov](http://va.gov) to find the link to become a poll watcher.

**LEGISLATIVE** by Chad Mortensen

- We had the AFL-CIO convention. There were 8 of our branch members present. There was lots of important and informative information. Some issues discussed were the integrity of voting, how to get more union workers at the Inland Port, and Project 2025 (which monopolized the discussion).
- Chad encouraged us to ask each candidate who comes knocking on our door if they support the unions and AFL-CIO. We have to support our union brothers and sisters and protect union rights.
- The teamsters in Utah are members of the Utah AFL-CIO. National teamsters are not members of the AFL-CIO.
- Utah is leading the nation in bringing labor together.
- There is currently no letter carrier on the Utah AFL-CIO executive board. We should change that.
- The AFL-CIO is pushing a hockey night in December with cheap tickets for the family.

**TRUSTEES** by Chad Mortensen

- They met Monday and checked three months financial records. Only two issues: The bank took out \$3 extra on a check and the treasurer found it and is having the bank correct it. A warrant was issued but there wasn't a billing statement with it (being fixed).
- A quarterly audit of the MDA was done. All MDA money is totally separate from branch money. All money was taken care of properly.

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**

**Zack Robinson** is running for SL County Council District 6. He is currently a Sandy City Council member. He was a local firefighter and paramedic and member of his local branch. He has perspective on how politician decisions on how our money is spent. The number one issue with voters is the cost of living. He would like to make a difference in people's lives. He is endorsed by the AFL-CIO. He was asked to help with better parking for new developments so that there is a place for letter carriers to park. Parking is a very hot topic with the government and developers. The use of public funds to build arenas, gondolas, etc is not something he would support.

**Joel Frost** is running for Salt Lake County Assessor. He has been an appraiser for over 20 years. He says that properties worth less than a million dollars are paying more taxes while those worth more than a million are paying less. He wants to change this. As an assessor he sees a lot of sad looking properties. Most of the people on Capitol hill are landlords and have more voice. The rich challenge their evaluations and can afford to pay someone to do it. They get their decreases because government doesn't want the complaints. The poorer don't have a way to challenge their taxes.

**MBA / COMPENSATION**, by Bob Jewell

- Are you signed up for ecomp? This is the portal for OWCP. If you get hurt at work, you go into management and request a CA-1 – traumatic injury. If left with your supervisor, it won't get processed immediately, completely, or accurately. When it is processed it will be completed and signed by managers. Instead, you should complete the CA-1 online ([ecomp.dol.gov](http://ecomp.dol.gov)) and have it processed online, taking management out of the process and getting it done faster and more accurate. A QR code will be posted in the Pavement Pounder and on Facebook to make it easy to sign up.

#### **HEALTH BENEFITS** by Jim Kerekes

- Nov 11 – Dec 9 is open season. Crosswalk, mapping, and tier levels are new health benefit terms. Everyone will be getting a booklet on the available plans for next year.
- The insurance you currently have, some others in the country also have, and these will be mapped together with the same options. Information should be coming out next month. Many are having trouble getting MRIs approved. Evicore can be contacted to get approval/precertification for an MRI (call Jim for more info).
- Health benefits final rules will be coming out in about 4 or 5 weeks.

#### **ORGANIZER** by Justin Lindquist

- We seem to be retaining new employees better.
- Organizing is going great with new employees in Utah.

#### **SAFETY AND HEALTH** by Justin Lindquist

- No 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter safety meeting was held in SLC. Safety doesn't appear to be a serious issue with management.
- We need to help each other. You can tell when someone is having trouble (health and mental). Speak up and help them.
- It is hot. Protect yourself with sunscreen, hats, and drink lots of water.

#### **DIRECTOR OF RETIREES** by Jeff Asay

- The retiree dinner is Oct 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30pm at Chuck-a-Rama in Draper.
- There will be a drawing for prizes for retirees (only) at the Steak Fry.

#### **TREASURER** by Mike Madsen

- We brought in \$12,700 more than we spent last month. Progressive/permissive remedy money is up to \$84,600 since introduced (\$25,060 spent on training). The books have \$55,699 more than we would have had without prog/perm remedies.
- June: Income was \$35,377 (\$4,255 was from prog/perm remedies) with \$12,700 profit.

#### **EDITOR** by Nathan Chester

- Nathan is the new Editor of the Pavement Pounder. He is asking for articles for the pavement pounder. He would like more fun stories like your favorite dog story, or worst, at work. He will help complete or check your articles if you like. Fun items and photos would be appreciated. You can ask him to write about something interesting also.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT** by Destiney Carrillo

Steward training next week will be on holiday scheduling.

- Management is pushing Stationary Events. They are trying to trick carriers into saying things about what they are doing, while acting like friends. Don't answer questions to avoid problems.

#### **EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** by Mike Hansen

- 1,781 grievances filed so far this year. This is about average for the last 5 years.
- Many officers are going to the national convention in Boston next month. There are 16 delegates from our branch.
- The Steak Fry is next month for member plus one. Tickets are available online with a QR code available from Mike (or in the Pavement Pounder). It is Aug 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Murray Park in Pavillion 5. Tickets are \$12. There will be steaks, lots of food, raffles, etc. Each person gets one raffle ticket.
- Retirees (and 1 guest) tickets are paid for by the retiree fund (pick up when you get there). Call Mike to buy tickets also.
- Destiney Carrillo is the Formal A rep for the branch. The new alternate is Stormy Blood.
- A couple weeks ago the region went to southern Utah branches to find out their thoughts on merging with Branch 111. We have been told we will not be forced to merge if we don't want to. A vote of the branch would have to approve the merger. St George did not seem interested. We are already giving them some help. There are about 100 members in the southern 4 branches.

#### **PRESIDENT** by Mike Wahlquist

- Excused.

#### **SPECIAL ORDERS:** • none

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** none

#### **NEW BUSINESS:** none

#### **GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

- Motion to cancel the August union meeting because of National Convention. Motion passed
- Motion to endorse Zack Robinson and Joel Frost (see above). Motion passed.

**IMPROVEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION:** none

**DRAW AND ADJOURN** – 8:21 pm

- \$25 drawing winners: Justin Lindquist and Gareth Davies
- RETIREES – \$475 (Johnny Charles was not present). Next month it will be \$500.
- PROGRESSIVE A - \$875 (Joseph Simmons was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$900.
- PROGRESSIVE B - \$775 (Erick Schmoldt was not present). Next Meeting it will be \$800.
- MDA drawing for a Yeti tumbler: Kirk McLaughlin Jug: Trey Terry