

National Association Letter Carriers Branch 421

June 13, 2024

General Branch Meeting

- 1) The regular branch meeting of Alamo Branch 421 was held June 13, 2024, via ZOOM virtual meeting and in person. The meeting was called to order by President Homer Hernandez at 7:00 pm.
- 2) Invocation by Burnie Miller
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance led by Raul Reyes
- 4) Roll Call by Dennis Alltop, Recording Secretary: Jerry Garcia was excused. All other executive Board Members were present.
- 5) Reading of Official Communications – Recording Secretary Dennis Alltop
  - a) Thank you card from Elizabeth Martinez, candidate for Judge 73<sup>rd</sup> District.
  - b) Thank you card from Zane Fritz for support in San Antonio Live Stock Show.
  - c) Letter from the coalition of black trade unionists. Inviting the NALC Branch 421 to co-sponsor a reserves table seating for 10.
- 6) Approval of Minutes from Previous General Meeting – Dennis Alltop
  - a) Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, spell correction of my name on number 7 & 11, Number 8 first reading of By Law, The By Law Should be attached the minutes.
- 7) Application for Membership – Vice President Esteban Ramirez
  - a) Current membership count is 1,231 plus approximately 5 signed up but not on the roster yet, 479 retirees, 142 Gold Members, and 26 retirees that have not submitted 1189's yet. The branch has 12 new members, they are Michael Perez, Rolando Alonzo Jr., Jimmy Zayas, Miles Jones, Josue Aguilar, Adriann Garza, Miguel Reyes, Leonard Mayfield, Garrett Harris, Ebony Ratcliff, Eric Rodriguez, and David Buggest.
- 8) Unfinished Business – President Hernandez
  - a) Presented Carlos Harris with a small going away cake.
  - b) Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, asked about the iPads, Homer Hernandez replied that we decided to look into getting wi-fi for the laptops because we would have to pay for the wi-fi along with the iPad anyways.

c) Dan Torres – retired spoke up about getting a secretary and President Hernandez followed up with proposed budget on back table.

9) New Business – President Hernandez

a) Jose Reyes – AMF asked about funds for a September Softball tournament, President Hernandez no motion needed we already have money allocated for that, get with me.

b) Nancy Feldt – Retiree, inquired about the softball tournament at the end of May. President Hernandez, it's not in the budget yet because I am still waiting on the receipts.

c) Karen School Craft – Serna, inquired about getting charging ports in the LLV's to power fans and coolers. Talked about the Heat and taking heat breaks.

d) Mark Isenhour – Serna, spoke about heat breaks, take your heat breaks, they are authorized. Heat related deaths, don't become a statistic.

e) Carlos Harris – Beacon Hill, follow up on heat breaks, I drive back to the station to refill my water jugs.

f) Brian Leal – Serna, spoke station manager said we need to limit our breaks

g) Tony Boyd – Retiree spoke about the LMOU allows you to take extra heat/cold breaks, also if there is lighting. Put it on 3996.

h) Raul Reyes – NECA, spoke about take heat breaks before you start feeling the effects of the heat.

i) Mark Isenhour – Serna, point of information last year there were 2,300 heat related deaths. Don't become a statistic.

k) Raul Reyes – NECA, spoke about a steward from city collections who is interested in changing back to carrier craft but can't because it is a different craft.

l) Eric Timberlake – Collections, I am the individual that spoke to Raul Reyes about seeking guidance in coming back to the carrier craft.

m) Tony Boyd – Retiree, spoke about grievances that he did, there are two different positions even though they are in the same craft. One is full time, on is part time.

n) Jim Ruetze – Lockhill, spoke to Mary Falcone about this issue. She had never heard of it. I did the research on it. When there are no unassigned regulars in or PTS in the installation. Then there are two ways to fill the position. Conversion of CCA's or taking transfers who have a E-Reassign request.

o) Eric Timberlake – Collections, said you can only do E-Reassign if you are bidding out of the San Antonio cluster.

p) Raul Reyes – NECA, spoke about trying to get national to change the MOU to where it can be changed.

q) Jim Ruetze – Lockhill, said he would speak to the National Business agent about it.

r) Eric Timberlake – Collections, said these part time regulars are carrier carriers and paying union members and deserve union support.

s) Alex Alcorta – Retiree, spoke local agreement can't conflict with a national agreement.

t) Raul Reyes – NECA, Alex is right. But issues still should be challenged.

10) Reports of Special and Standard Committees –

a) Mary Pardo, Health Benefits Representative. Spoke about getting your breast checked.

b) Phil Jordan, Social and Recreation Committee. Spoke about how attendance was down for Fiesta Family Fun Day. Need to have more raffles for fundraising.

c) Dan Torres, AFL-CIO. Spoke about being out of the country for the meeting. The San Antonio AFL-CIO will be hosting a celebration lunch where Linda Chavez is being honored August 17, 2024. Seating for 10 is \$750 for the table. I like to make a motion to purchase a table for \$750.00 for the Linda Chavez event using the Ted Carter Fund. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Louise Jordan (Motion Passes)

Tony Boyd – Retiree, said Ted Carter is not branch funds, no need for a motion

Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, said according to DOL Ted Carter is union funds and does need to be accounted for.

37 For 2 Against (Motion Passes)

11) Good of the Association -

By Law Change Article 11 Section 1D Car allowance shall be in the amount of \$26 per day except when on leave, paid monthly, or if travel is outside of Bexar County, with the current government mileage rate per mile, which is greatest. New language – Car allowance shall be in the amount of \$26 per day, Monday, through Friday only, except when on leave or on national Holidays, paid monthly, or if travel is outside of Bexar County. Motion by Dan Torres 2<sup>nd</sup> Tony Boyd (Motion Passes) 38 For 9 Against

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Raul Reyes – NECA, spoke about the by law change and reason for it being if the President/Vice President have duties they should be reimbursed for it. But is against motion.

Joe Mendez – NECA, agrees with Raul and is against motion.

Dan Torres – Retiree, Made a motion to rehire secretary at \$22.50 a hour.

Dan Espinosa – Retiree, against motion because there is a current contract that is not being followed.

Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, said we should vote on the revised budget before we have a motion to hire a secretary.

Dan Torres – Retiree, withdraw his motion and made a motion to approve the revised budget. Rudy Ramon – Retiree 2<sup>nd</sup>

Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, against motion, income was not adjusted.

President Hernandez, we just moved money around that was hidden in different categories, that's all we did.

Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, spoke there is building maintenance that hasn't been done.

Nancy Feldt – Retiree, Against motion, said no money was hidden, all money was in each category in the budget that we all voted on and approved.

Alex Alcorta – Call for the question 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan Torres, Vote to end discussion 11 to 21, discussion continues.

Tony Boyd – Retiree, said you need secretary assistance, but these are ligament questions. Made a motion to table the motion. 2<sup>nd</sup> Raul Reyes (Motion Passes) 36 For 3 Against

Nancy Feldt – Retiree, to clarify the budget, everything that has been spent up to today's date.

Louise Jordan – Thousand Oaks, just to clarify every single line item, everything we spent is accounted for up through today.

Raul Reyes – NECA, invited Louise Jordan and Nancy Feldt to come to the executive board meeting. Spoke about hours of operation, the need to have someone present or make it call for appointment on website.

Mary Pardo – Ted Carter Collection

Nancy Feldt – Retiree, made a motion to pay mileage \$84.42 for Mary Pardo Health and Benefits Representative trip to Austin, TX. (Motion Passes) 36 For 2 Against

Dan Torres – Retiree, what was the trip for? President Hernandez it was a trip for breast cancer awareness thrown by national.

Mary Pardo – Retiree, got 3 bags when I was in Austin for breast cancer awareness to raffle off, donations going to Susan G. Coalmen Foundation.

Dan Torres – Retiree, spoke about a Labor Town Hall on June 20 at 6:30 at the workers defense project 5604 mainland drive in Austin, TX.

12) Improvement of the Service –

President Hernandez, we picked up almost 5,00 lbs. of food for the Food Drive. I want to thank all the Letter Carriers, especially Nicole Whaley, Erin McLaughlin, Cornelia Lashley and Sara Middleton for all of their hard work and presented each of them with a certificate of appreciation. Collected money back from Carmichael Lewis of \$2,500.

Dan Torres – Retiree, said that the \$2,500 collected from Carmichael Lewis should go back to the convention fund.

President Hernandez announced information for MBA raffle tickets.

Karrie Blough – Regional Administrative Assistant MBA school, helped in getting check received from a decision to Serna for \$25,000 for Branch 421 Union. Plus, a non-compliance of \$3,000 for the delay of not paying on time.

Mark Isenhour – Serna, made a motion concerning the \$3,000 a month for noncompliance to go to create a designated dignity respect task force fund to offset the expenses for those grievances. Tony Boyd 2<sup>nd</sup> (Motion Passes) 36 For 2 Against

Mark Isenhour – Serna, made a motion Arbitration award money to those that were present August 15, 2022, at Serna excluding any carriers who have gone into management. Brian Leal 2<sup>nd</sup> (Motion does not pass) 18 For 22 Against

Tony Boyd – Retiree, against motion, talked about it at the state convention. Have a blowout party and split money for training.

Ernest Gonzales – Beacon Hill, against motion, manager was at many stations before Serna.

Dan Torres – Retiree, I am for it. It originated at this station, we won it for that station.

Michael Nefford – NECA, against motion, carriers that didn't make statements and stand up shouldn't be compensated.

Karen Schoolcraft - Serna, for the motion, carriers at that station should be compensated.

Mark Isenhour – Serna, there were a bunch of carriers who wrote statements and testified.

Carlos Harris – Beacon Hill, against motion, he was at Laurel Heights, we were the first to get him out. Family members that were harmed should be compensated too!

Tony Boyd – Retiree, I change my mind, I am for it.

Brian Leal – Serna, I am for it, threatened me to finish route and kick off in 8 hours.

Ernest Gonzales – Beacon Hill, against motion, every dam carrier had to deal with that supervisor. That money should go to the general branch fund.

Mary Pardo – Call for the question Cornelia Lashley 2<sup>nd</sup> 0 For 37 Against

President Hernandez spoke about a email from the district manager disapproving overtime use. File a grievance if they try to write you up for unauthorized overtime.

Nancy Feldt – Retiree, point of clarification what are we going to do with the grievance money \$25,000.

President Hernandez, we can talk more about it come up with some ideas next month.

Raul Reyes – NECA, who's going to make the final decision to has the final say to who gets what amount?

Dan Torres – Retiree, we just voted, it's dead. Now we are asking what is to be done with the money, the motion is dead.

Mary Pardo – Collected \$49.00 for the Ted Carter Fund, \$27.00 for the Susan G Coleman Breast Cancer donation. Gift bag winners Lulu Sanchez, Louise Jordan and Brian Leal.

13) Financial Secretary's Report of Receipts – Jose Rodriguez

Louise Jordan made a motion to accept the April Finical report as presented with corrections. Ernest Gonzalez 2<sup>nd</sup> (Motion Passes)

Louise Jordan made a motion to accept the May Finical report as presented with corrections. Esteban Ramirez 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Motion Passes)

14) Rigoberto Hidalgo won the Branch Jacket.

15) Dan Torres won the quarter pot \$24.00.

16) Motion to adjourn made by Erin McLaughlin Mary Pardo 2<sup>nd</sup>.

) \$49.00 was raised for the Ted Carter Fund

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