

NATCA National Executive Board Meeting
NATCA National Office
October 28-30, 2024

The annual finance meeting of the National Executive Board was held from October 28-30, 2024, beginning at 10:00am EST at the NATCA National Office, President Rich Santa and Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge were present.

Attendees

Rich Santa, President
Andrew LeBovidge, Executive Vice President
Clint Lancaster, Alaska Regional Vice President
Aaron Merrick, Central Regional Vice President
Drew MacQueen, Great Lakes Regional Vice President
Dan McCabe, Southern Regional Vice President
Joel Ortiz, Western Pacific Regional Vice President
Stephanie Winder, Northwest Mountain Regional Vice President
Kevin Curtiss, New England Regional Vice President
Mark Rausch, Region X Vice President
Mike Christine, Eastern Regional Vice President
John Bratcher, Southwest Regional Vice President
Dean Iacopelli, NATCA Chief of Staff
Olivia Hughes, Executive Administrative Assistant
Mick Devine, Executive Vice President- Elect
Jamaal Haltom, National Training Representative, NATCA Local LAS

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Untimely Requests for Reimbursement

Executive Vice President LeBovidge moved an untimely reimbursement request for the Southern Region. This was passed unanimously with RVP McCabe abstaining.

Executive Vice President LeBovidge moved an untimely reimbursement request for NATCA Local APA. This was passed unanimously.

Logo Design Request

President Santa moved a logo design for NATCA Local EUG. This was passed unanimously.

President Santa moved a design request for a Safety Committee Challenge Coin as well as a logo design request from the ATSAP team. These were passed unanimously.

Communications Committee Vice-Chair Representative

RVP Merrick moved Sarah Simek (GFK) as the NGL Communications Committee member. This was approved unanimously.

Air Safety Investigations (ASI) Co-Chair

RVP Merrick moved Kristin Mctee (DEN) to be the ASI Vice Chair. This motion was approved with RVP Curtiss voting in opposition.

Employee Annual Leave Cash-out

President Santa, in accordance with SRN-13, moved 100 hours of annual leave cash out for an employee. This motion was approved unanimously.

Donation Request

RVP MacQueen moved to give \$2000 to the scholarship fund of Local 1191 in Detroit as a thank you for allowing them to use their facilities at no cost for a regional meeting. This motion was approved unanimously.

OSF/FAST

The NEB unanimously passed the following resolution: (see appendix A)

National Finance Committee (NFC) and Budget Discussion

The NEB was presented a proposed budget, the President adjusted various budget lines, the board voted on the entire package of changes as a whole with RVPs Ortiz, McCabe, Bratcher, Lancaster voting in opposition. Executive Vice President LeBovidge, in accordance with Article 5, Section 8 of the NATCA National Constitution, moved the amended 2025 budget. The motion was approved with RVPs Ortiz, McCabe, Bratcher, Lancaster and NFC member Espada (IAH) voting in opposition.

National Finance Committee Alternate

RVP Ortiz moved Kelsey McKendrick (SCT) to become the National Finance Committee Alternate for the Western Pacific Region. The motion was approved unanimously.

The NATCA Members Investment Inc (NMI) Board Brief

NATCA Members Investments INC Chair, Rick Thompson, moved to reelect Tim Smith to the NMI Board of Directors for another three-year term. This motion was passed unanimously.

Previous Business Conducted Electronically

Region X Grievance Review Team Member (Mark Rausch, NRX RVP)

RVP Rausch moved Nicole Wysong (ENM) as the Region X Grievance Review Team member. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 9/10/2024)

Northwest Mountain (NNM) Region OWCP Committee Member (Stephanie Winder, NNM RVP)

RVP Winder moved Bruce Brady (ZDV) as the NNM member on the OWCP Committee. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 9/10/2024)

Air Safety Investigations Committee Member (Aaron Merrick, NCE RVP)

RVP Merrick moved Ben Nutter (BED) to move from a mentee to a full ASI Committee member. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 9/10/2024)

OWCP Committee Vice Chair (Stephanie Winder, NNM RVP)

RVP Winder moved Richard Cieplik (ZAU) as the Vice Chair of the OWCP Committee. This was approved unanimously, with RVP Rausch not present. (via telcon, 9/12/2024)

Logo Design Requests (Rich Santa, President)

RVP McCabe moved logo design requests from NATCA Local FAI and NATCA Local FLL. This was approved unanimously. (via email, 9/19/2024).

RVP Christine moved a logo design request from NATCA Local CDW. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 9/24/2024).

RVP McCabe moved a logo design request from NATCA Local TPA. This was approved unanimously, with RVP Ortiz not present (via telcon, 10/1/2024).

Information Technology Committee Member (Aaron Merrick, NCE RVP)

RVP Merrick moved Jayson Harris (ZLC) as a member of the Information Technology Committee. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 9/24/2024)

Federal Contract Tower Charter Approval (Rich Santa, President)

President Santa moved the charter for Jackson Hole FCT (JAC) in Jackson Hole, WY. This was approved unanimously, with RVP Ortiz not present. (via telcon, 10/1/2024)

2025 NATCA Academy Schedule (Rich Santa, President)

President Santa moved to propose the 2025 NATCA Academy class schedule from the National Training Committee. This was approved unanimously, with RVP Ortiz not present. These dates are subject to change pending budget approval and finalization of hotel contracts. (via telcon, 10/1/2024)

Alaska District Professional Standards District Chair (Clint Lancaster, NAL RVP)

RVP Lancaster moved Cassidy Roensch (FSS) as the NAL Alaska District Professional Standards District Chair. This was approved unanimously, with RVP Ortiz not present. (via telcon, 10/1/2024)

Disaster Response Committee (DRC) Member (Rich Santa, President)

President Santa moved Joseph Laporte (S46) to serve on the DRC. This was approved unanimously.

President Santa moved Kristi Colin (ZLA) to serve as the alternate, if necessary. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 10/17/2024)

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Committee Members (Rich Santa, President)

President Santa moved Wendy Smith (ABQ) and Sarah Simek (GFK) as members of the CISM Committee. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 10/17/2024)

Northwest Mountain Region Pay Lead (Stephanie Winder, NNM RVP)

RVP Winder moved Jason Casey (ZDV) to be the NNM Pay Lead. This was approved unanimously. (via telcon, 11/8/24)

National Constitution Committee Interpretation (Andrew LeBovidge, Executive Vice President)

The National Constitution Committee (NCC) received a request for interpretation from a member of NATCA Local SCT. The NCC published its interpretation on October 8, 2024 and, in accordance with Article XIV, Section 4, is incorporated herein: (see appendix B)

WHEREAS, Standing Rule H-1 of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (“NATCA”) provides that “NATCA National Representatives recognized by collective bargaining agreements or interim memoranda of understanding shall be elected by secret ballot election by the respective bargaining unit to two-year terms;” and

and
WHEREAS, NATCA Standing Rule H-1 further provides that “Such terms shall commence on September 1 of even-numbered years;”

WHEREAS, NATCA Standing Rule H-1 also provides that “National Representatives are not considered “elected officers” of the Union for the purposes of impeachment as described in Article XII;” and

WHEREAS, NATCA Standing Rule H-1’s final provision is that “These representatives may be recalled by the President, with the consent of the National Executive Board;” and

WHEREAS, NATCA Standing Rule H-1 is silent as to the means by which a vacancy in a National Representative position is to be filled between regularly-scheduled elections for such position; and

WHEREAS, no other NATCA constitutional article, standing rule, or policy/position statement addresses the means by which a vacancy in a National Representative position is to be filled between regularly-scheduled elections for such position; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 2 of the NATCA Constitution provides that “The National Executive Board shall be responsible for the creation of policy for the organization between Conventions;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD OF NATCA:

1. A policy for filling a vacancy in a National Representative position is hereby established.
2. The NATCA President shall appoint, subject to approval of the National Executive Board, an active member in good standing to fulfill a vacancy in a National Representative position that occurs between regularly-scheduled elections for that position, that appointment shall be for the balance of the term until the next regularly-scheduled election, and such person shall possess all the rights, powers, privileges, duties, and responsibilities vested with the position as if they had been elected to the position.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Appendix B

The Constitution Committee received an interpretation request in accordance with Article XIV, Section 4 of the National Constitution from Alex Cisneros (SCT). The questions relate to email voting:

- Does SRI-15 preclude the Chair/President of a local e-board from calling for unanimous consent on an email vote of each board member?
- Further, is it permissible to use the 'motion to ratify' as outlined in Robert’s Rules of Order as outlined in 10:54 at a later meeting to make valid the email vote that occurred previously?

Our Response:

Does SRI-15 preclude the Chair/President from using email voting?

SRI-15 governs electronic participation in meetings across all NATCA bodies, not just Locals, and does not establish the procedures for conducting a formal meeting electronically. It aims to ensure that meetings provide each participant with an opportunity to speak, be heard, and contribute while keeping the meeting closed to non-participants.

Whether email voting is permissible depends on the Local's bylaws and whether an official meeting was in session at the time of the email vote. According to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR 9:31), an electronic meeting is valid only if it provides for simultaneous aural communication among all members, as would occur in a face-to-face meeting. Email does not offer simultaneous communication, and thus does not meet the criteria for a valid deliberative assembly under parliamentary law.

Can a 'motion to ratify' be used to validate a prior email vote?

The Committee agrees that it is permissible to use a motion to ratify, as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order (RONR 10:54), to validate actions taken outside of a valid meeting. This includes actions taken through email voting or decisions made by officers without proper authorization. The purpose of the motion to ratify is to confirm the legitimacy of decisions that were not made in accordance with proper procedures, such as an unauthorized email vote.

That said, reliance on motions to ratify should be avoided as standard practice. While ratification can correct unauthorized actions after the fact, it should not replace the proper procedure of conducting meetings with simultaneous communication and real-time deliberation. Regular use of email voting, followed by ratification, undermines transparency and the involvement of members in the decision making process. Decisions should involve real-time participation from all members, ensuring that they can engage in meaningful debate before the vote.



Mike Devine
Executive Vice President