

National Association Letter Carriers Branch 421

October 10, 2024

General Branch Meeting

The regular branch meeting of Alamo Branch 421 was held October 10, 2024, via ZOOM (virtual meeting) and in person. The meeting was called to order by President Homer Hernandez at 7:00 pm.

Invocation by Burnie Miller

Pledge of Allegiance Tony Boyd

Burnie Miller made a motion to suspend meeting for special guest speakers. Dan Torres 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Laurel Jordan Swift spoke about running for District 121 Democrat Representative, Cesar Villegas from Injury 2 Wellness spoke and Marina Alderete Gavito Council Woman from District 7 spoke on ZOOM about loose and dangerous dogs and city cluster boxes. Doug Boethin, Retired made a motion to resume meeting, Mary Pardo 2<sup>nd</sup>

Roll Call by Dennis Alltop, Recording Secretary, Vice President Esteban Ramirez on vacation and was excused all officers were present.

Reading of Official Communications

Recording Secretary, Dennis Alltop read a Letter of Appeal Article 10 Charges from Nicole Whaley against Sergio Dovalina.

Motion to accept September Minutes with corrections Dan Torres, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gerry Aldorf. Louise Jordan, Thousand Oaks, spoke about last month's minutes (August), there's no mention of whether we approve the minutes with amendment or not, and there was no amended minutes left for us. 2<sup>nd</sup> when we took the vote to raise the funds for the food, we need an actual vote count for Department of Labor audit. I made a motion to participate, not give gifts to Salvation Army. Article 10 Charges need to say who they were against and what for and result of the vote. Nancy Feldt, Retired, If we make corrections to the minutes then we need to have the revised copy next month also. (Motion to Accept September Minutes with corrections passes)

Application For Membership – Cornelia Lashley, current membership count is 1226 plus approximately 9 signed up but not on the roster yet, 490 retirees, 142 Gold Members, includes 35 retirees that have not submitted 1189's yet. The branch has 14 new members, they are Mario Marroquin, Zachary Patino, Jordan DeMoss, Brianna Guzman,

Ahmaad Jenkins, Mark Ramon, Michael Pol, Ramiro Murillo, Sonia Moragne, Tyana Hights Forney, David Garcia, Janeth Alejos, Bethany Caffey, and Jackson Guerra.

Unfinished Business – President Homer Hernandez, None

New Business – William McAfee on ZOOM inquired about postal vehicles at Heritage getting cleaned. President Hernandez, your steward is supposed to file if they're not getting cleaned up.

Louise Jordan, Thousand Oaks, spoke about Angel Tree Program.

Richard Gould, point of information, thanked Ernest Gonzalez on the new cameras and microphones for ZOOM.

Reports of Special and Standard Committee – Mary Pardo, Retiree, Health and Benefits, spoke about Open Season Starts November 1 and ends December 9. Honoring Veteran's Wall at the Union Hall, need pictures to put on the wall.

Phil Jordan, Recreation and Social Committee, couldn't attend last meeting due to route inspections.

Raul Reyes, NECA, spoke about trustee audit, for the months of April, May and June, Costco Late fees \$41.00, Overpayment to Jose Rodriguez, paid \$838.22 and should have been \$803.20, tips for food \$40.00, on June 4, 2024 Homer Hernandez got paid 23 days and there was only 22 days. I spoke with him about it, and he's supposed to be reimbursing the branch. The \$239.00 insurance special event payment, those documents were missing from the actual report.

Dan Torres, Retiree, AFL-CIO, met on September 25, 2024. Branch 421 delegates in attendance were Homer Hernandez, Joe Blancarte, Louise Jordan, and myself. A special election was held to fill 2 vacant positions elected were Eboard Place 1- Charles Fuentes- CWA and Trustee 3- Armando Flores- ATU.

Shannon Faulk from AFGE has been released by her union to work on the November election. Every Tuesday and Thursday there will be phone banking at CWA Hall 1027 N. St. Mary's from 5-8pm.

President Homer Hernandez spoke about the 2025 budget draft. 1,200 active members, 397 retirees. (NBA) National Business Agent is in Washington and hopefully will have some good news about the NALC Union Contract. So that may affect the budget. All the trustees and hopefully Louise Jordan can help with budget since she has done it before.

Nancy Feldt, retired, inquired about Brenda's salary and contract. Louise Jordan, Thousand Oaks, talked about Brenda's contract you need to read it, there's a line that says the first 90 days they get paid \$15.00 hour. The fact is that contracts are null and void because the people we made it with does not exist anymore. You can't have a contract with a non-entity.

#### Good of the Association

Ernest Gonzales, Beacon Hill Brother Mike Herff, National Business Agent Region 3, does not have an update on a tentative agreement.

Jose Pedroza, Schertz, Motion for \$300.00 to help assist with the corn hole tournament. 2<sup>nd</sup> Louise Jordan, Thousand Oaks. Karen Schoolcraft, Serna asked if this is for charity? President Hernandez, it's just for the carriers to have fun. 35 for, 0 against (Motion Passes)

Erin McLaughlin, AMF, spoke about the Bowl a thon, asking for donations for a raffle for it.

Dan Torres, retired, Annual Retirement Luncheon October 30 at Luby's 911 North Main Street from 11- 1 PM.

#### Improvement of the Service

President Hernandez spoke about stewards going to steward school, hopefully we will get some news on the contract.

Steward nominations will be on November 2 with voting beginning immediately afterward. Tellers need to pick up their ballots and ballot boxes.

In last month's newsletter I put some information about the Committee of Presidents Meeting (COP). Read your newsletters and emails.

House Resolution 37 is being amended. They want it to be the same as the assault on law enforcement and first responders.

Raul Reyes, NECA, spoke about getting paid COP, after you already have been paid leave and getting a letter of demand. If you're an injured carrier and this happens to you ask to see your steward. Stevn Gross, Thousand Oaks spoke about COP and ELM 505.

Ernest Gonzales, Beacon Hill, spoke about some of the poor DRT decisions, asked President Hernandez to reach out to the News Media if it continues.

Richard Gauthier, Retired, inquired about the results for delegates for the State Convention. President Hernandez responded that I believe we have 38 for State and 4 members for the AFL-CIO.

Joseph Mendez, NECA, I think we need to escalate COP issues to News Media. Heather Calhoun, Retired, I am a victim of OWCP, I got a letter of demand for 7000.00. I used sick leave. Raul Reyes, NECA, we need grievance with monetary settlements to get their attention.

Financial Secretary's Report of Receipts – Jose Rodriguez, Jerry Aldorf, motion to accept July's Financial Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Louise Jordan. (Motion Passes) Nancy Feldt, Retired, never saw a report where Carmichael Lewis, payment where it went. (Motion Passes) Nancy Feldt- won quarter pot \$32.00. Ted Carter Fund - \$58.00 Mary Pardo, Retired, made a motion to suspend giving the jackets away until January, since we don't have any to give away. Joseph Mendez second. 28 for 2 against (Motion Passes)

Doug Boethin, Retired, motion to Adjourn 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Aldorf, Retired.