
NATCA National Executive Board Teleconference
August 14, 2007

The teleconference was called to order by President Patrick Forrey and the following individuals were in attendance:

Paul Rinaldi, Executive Vice President
Ricky Thompson, Alaskan Regional Vice President
Howard Blankenship, Central Regional Vice President
Phil Barbarello, Eastern Regional Vice President
Bryan Zilonis, Great Lakes Regional Vice President
Mike Robicheau, New England Regional Vice President
Scott Farrow, Northwest Mountain Regional Vice President
Victor Santore, Southern Regional Vice President
Darrell Meachum, Southwest Regional Vice President

Also present was NATCA General Counsel Marguerite L. Graf.

Meeting with DOT Secretary Mary Peters: In closed session, Mr. Forrey briefed the NEB on the August 13 meeting that he and Mr. Rinaldi attended with DOT Secretary Mary Peters and several members of Congress concerning NATCA's efforts to achieve a ratifiable agreement with the FAA for the air traffic control unit and a legislative fix to the FAA's personnel reform provisions in Title 49.

Promotions Delayed Under Imposed Work Rules: Mr. Santore advised the NEB that the issue of an increasing number of complaints from members of the bargaining unit about promotions being delayed under the imposed work rules had been raised with the FAA. He asked Mr. Forrey to pursue an MOU on this issue, as Rich Ducharme had indicated that the Agency would be interested in doing so.

NATCA Position on Potential Recess Appointment: Mr. Farrow initiated a discussion as to whether it would benefit the organization to take a formal position either in favor of or against a potential recess appointment by the President of an individual to the position of FAA Administrator. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was determined that NATCA would not take a formal position at this time on the issue of a recess appointment as opposed to an appointment requiring confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Town Hall Telcons: Mr. Robicheau advised the NEB that the previous week's telcon with the center facreps on the matter of the FLRA's dismissal of NATCA's unfair labor practice charges over the imposed work rules was beneficial for those who participated and suggested more town hall telcons of that nature be held.

Upgrades to Internal Communications Systems: Mr. Robicheau informed the NEB that he had met with representatives of Sumner Technologies concerning additional upgrades to NATCA's internal communications systems and the NATCA grievance tracking database. Sumner's cost proposal for this work was discussed along with the availability and cost of similar and/or additional services that UnionWare could provide. The NEB endorsed the idea of moving forward with the upgrades in the Sumner Technologies proposal but requested that Mr. Robicheau obtain a cost proposal from another vendor in order to ensure the competitiveness of the Sumner Technologies bid.

Credentialing Negotiations: Mr. Zilonis updated the NEB on the meeting between representatives of NATCA and the FAA that took place that morning concerning the creation of a credentialing program.

Performance Management System: Mr. Barbarello inquired as to whether any members of the NEB had comments on the performance management system document that had been distributed earlier. A discussion of the document was postponed until it was determined that all members of the NEB had had a chance to review the document.

September NEB Meeting: Mr. Barbarello suggested that the NEB consider moving the September 2007 NEB meeting, scheduled to be held in D.C. on September 18-19, to Atlanta in order to coincide with the Communicating for Safety meeting being held there from September 10-12. Due to need for the union to maintain a presence in D.C. during the week of September 10 in the event of possible Hill action on the FAA Reauthorization bill, it was determined that the meeting will remain in D.C. but will begin a day earlier and conclude a day earlier. The new dates of the next NEB meeting are September 17-18.

NATCA Participation in FAA First Federal Credit Union: Mr. Thompson updated the NEB about the extent of NATCA's continuing participation in initiatives of the FAA First Federal Credit Union.