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**NATCA National Executive Board Teleconference**  
**December 17, 2007**

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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;  
Mike Robicheau, New England Regional Vice President;  
Scott Farrow, Northwest Mountain Regional Vice President;  
Mike MacDonald, Region X Regional Vice President;  
Victor Santore, Southern Regional Vice President;  
Darrell Meachum, Southwest Regional Vice President;  
Hamid Ghaffari, Western Pacific Regional Vice President.

Also present was Adell Humphreys.

**Congressional Update:** NATCA's legislative team has been working on Capitol Hill to have our language included in the omnibus bill (as opposed to transportation appropriations). It appears that a deal was made with the White House to include the FedEx language only, and all remaining labor language was removed. The AFL-CIO shares our strong concern about these anti-labor actions. The confirmation hearing for Bobby Sturgell as FAA Administrator is scheduled for Wednesday, but may be postponed. We believe there are several Senators who will block the vote on this appointment.

**OWCP Matters:** Mr. Robicheau reported that Portland (Maine) Tower has had mold on the tower cab windows for the last year. In addition, the tower has roof leaks and a major natural gas leak. These issues (which have not been addressed by local management) have negatively affected the health of the local members. The estimate cost to perform testing at the facility is \$4,690, plus travel expenses.

Robicheau: Motion to perform air quality sampling at PWM ATCT at a cost of \$4,690, plus travel expenses (funding to be taken from the set-aside accounts).

Barbarelllo: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

**National Office Personnel:** Mr. Rinaldi wishes to hire Mr. Alemayehu Awas as a Senior Accountant. Mr. Awas will replace Lorraine Champ, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Rinaldi: Motion to hire Alemayehu Awas as a Senior Accountant

Robicheau: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

NATCA Comptroller Selma Golding-Forrester wishes to carry over 21 hours of annual leave into calendar year 2008. She had intended to use this leave before the end of 2007, but had to cancel this leave in order to complete necessary end-of-year financial reports.

Rinaldi: Motion to allow Selma Golding-Forrester to carry over 21 hours of annual leave into calendar year 2008

Blankenship: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

**Tuition Reimbursement:** Anthony Yushinsky is pursuing a degree in labor studies through the National Labor College, and is requesting tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$1,438 for three classes completed during the Winter 2007 (January 1-April 27, 2007) semester.

Barbarelo: Motion to reimburse Tony Yushinsky in the amount of \$1,438 for tuition expenses

Rinaldi: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

Clement Bourg is pursuing a degree in business administration through Axia College of the University of Phoenix. He is requesting tuition reimbursement in the maximum amount of \$2,500 for courses taken during calendar year 2007.

Barbarelo: Motion to reimburse Clement Bourg in the amount of \$2,500.

Meachum: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously

**Internal Grievance: Merlin v. Ghaffari:** The Board dismissed this grievance.

**Open Season:** Mr. Ghaffari questioned whether there was interest in holding another open season for membership in 2008.

Ghaffari: Motion to hold a membership open season during the month of February 2008

MacDonald: Seconded

Vote: Defeated, with Mr. Ghaffari and MacDonald voting in favor.

**ZHU Backpay:** Mr. Meachum asked if any information had been received as to when the FAA would make a decision on the FAA backpay issue. Questions still remain as to whether the backpay would be made under the old pay rules or the new pay rules. Mr. Forrey responded that the FAA has yet to make a decision.

**FAA Academy Students - Per Diem:** NATCA has encouraged FAA Academy students to send letters to FAA headquarters about their experiences in going through the FAA Academy without per diem and how this has shaded their perception of their employer. Letters should be sent to Acting Administrator Sturgell with a copy to ATO COO Hank Krakowski.

**OWCP Committee:** Mr. Forrey noted that there is a vacancy in the chairmanship of NATCA's OWCP Committee. He asked the Regional Vice Presidents to speak to their regional OWCP representatives to see if they would be interested in chairing the committee.

**bbs/email problems:** Mr. Blankenship updated the Board on the systems outage that occurred last week, affecting NATCA's bbs and email systems. Responsibility for the problem lies with the hosting company, and they have offered us credit for the outage. The Communications Committee is looking into this situation further and is investigating other hosting options.

**Untimely Voucher:** Vince Sugent has submitted an untimely expense voucher for expenses incurred concerning the DTW mold case. The voucher got buried in a pile of NATCA paperwork and was just recently filed for reimbursement.

Zilonis: Motion to reimburse Vince Sugent in the amount of \$532.12

Barbarelo: Seconded

Vote: Passed unanimously