The meeting was called to order by President Paul Rinaldi, and the following individuals were in attendance:

Paul Rinaldi, President  
Patricia Gilbert, Executive Vice President  
Scot Morrison, Alaska Regional Vice President  
Kevin Peterson, Central Regional Vice President  
Phil Barbarello, Eastern Regional Vice President  
Dean Iacopelli, Eastern Regional Vice President Elect  
Bryan Zilonis, Great Lakes Regional Vice President  
Mike Robicheau, New England Regional Vice President  
Jim Ullmann, Northwest Mountain Regional Vice President  
Victor Santore, Southern Regional Vice President  
Tim Smith, Southwest Regional Vice President  
Andrew LeBovidge, Southwest Regional Vice President Elect  
Hamid Ghaffari, Western Pacific Regional Vice President  
Mike MacDonald, Region X Vice President  

Old Business

Facility Staffing: The parties are meeting at the national level to formalize the interim facility staffing targets, which are comprised of a Certified Professional Controller (CPC) staffing level and the facility specific trainee (e.g.: CPC-IT, developmental) staffing level. The CPC staffing level is expected to meet facility operational/contractual/statutory requirements, including resources to develop, evaluate, and implement processes and/or initiatives affecting the National Airspace System. The trainee staffing level includes the number of trainees needed in the pipeline to maintain the number of CPCs based upon the facility’s forecasted gains and losses. The staffing target will be used as a basis for placement and release decisions. The CRWG will continue its work on refining the models, and once completed, the output of those models will supersede the interim facility staffing targets. (Gilbert/Barbarello – OPEN)

Traffic Mix Formula: The two workgroups have met and continue to work on the recommendations to the CSC. The next meetings are scheduled for August 3. Funding has been secured to develop a new traffic counting program. (Santore – OPEN)

Staff Specialist Position Description: The workgroup has made a recommendation, and the recommendation is awaiting review by the full Collaborative Steering Committee. (Zilonis – OPEN)

LAX TBIT: National Validation Team will be visiting LAX on July 21 to review the accuracy of their count. Staffing continues to be a major concern at LAX with their low certification rate. (OPEN – Ghaffari)
ERAM/ERAM CHI/System Enhancements: The known software issue involving track control that was identified by numerous facilities including ZDC and ZNY is going to be prototyped over the next several months, as opposed to simply having a software fix engineered. The ERAM Team agreed the risk to core functionality is too great, and the possibility of regression in the new software could introduce undo risk into the NAS. NATCA continues to work with the FAA on an Enroute Automation MOU, a necessary follow-up to current ERAM MOUs. Facilities are independently failing to update their software when new builds are introduced. Some facilities are four updates behind, so this issue will be addressed nationally. There are also issues with airspace routes being developed that are not compatible with ERAM software. The ERAM workgroup is meeting with the Airspace folks to reconcile the issue. (Ullmann – OPEN)

ZMA/ZHU Update: We are waiting on a decision from the arbitrator. (Santore – OPEN)

National Employee Services Team (NEST) Issues: A couple of improvements have been made to the NEST process. First, to help streamline the offer/acceptance process, the parties jointly determined that it would be more effective if a list of all facilities of the appropriate type/level with vacancies was presented to all employees, simultaneously, and allow them to indicate their preferences in a prioritized order. To accomplish this goal, an MOU removed a limitation on the number of facilities offered to employees under Article 61 of the CBA. As a consequence of this change, employees under the NEST process will see an expanded list of facilities with vacancies from which they can prioritize their reassignment preferences.

Second, there is an additional constraint within A61 on the limitation for CPC-Transfers to only be offered facilities of equal or lower level than their previous facility. However, many individuals progressed far enough in training at higher-level facilities to indicate that they possessed the skills and abilities to be successful at a higher level than their original facility, but were contractually “capped” at what could be offered. The new MOU removed that cap, and left the determination of type/level suitable for the employee to be subject to the NEST process. A joint workgroup will meet in the near future to continue to revise and improve the process under the EMP 1.14a (NEST process). (Barbarello – OPEN)

Continued Problems with AWP RFS: Working on a detailed description of the issues that have been identified to present at the national level. (Ghaffari – OPEN)

SSRI Program: The parties have agreed to all labor relations issues surrounding the implementation of the SSRI program for ATCSs. We are waiting on Aviation Medicine to launch the program that will permit controllers who are prescribed specific SSRIs to have their medicals reinstated after completing the prescribed criteria and testing. (Barbarello – OPEN)
NATCA National Executive Board Meeting
July 8-9
Washington, D.C.

Alternate Funding Stream: NATCA is working with lawmakers to ensure our concerns regarding any ANSP reform are addressed. (Rinaldi – OPEN)

FLRA AFN Petition: No appeals were filed. An election is scheduled for September of this year. (Rinaldi – OPEN)

Organizing ASH Employees: The ASH personnel are soliciting interest. If enough interest is there, we will pursue organizing. (Gilbert – CLOSED)

Committee Review: There are two activities that need to be completed in the tracking file. The file is ready to be shared with the NEB via ShareFile. Scot Morrison is maintaining the file for the foreseeable future and will train the permanent designee or designees in on-going maintenance of the file. (Gilbert/Morrison – OPEN)

NTD Airspace Transfer to SBA and the Reversal by the Military: Paul Rinaldi visited SBA on July 6 to get a full briefing on why SBA should retain some airspace from NTD to improve safety and efficiency. (Ghaffari - OPEN)

Organizing AOV Employees: Current interest is at 75 percent. The National Executive Board unanimously voted to have the organizing committee move forward with organizing them. (Gilbert – OPEN)

Overtime Qualifications: There is inconsistency in the way facilities apply Article 38 of the collective bargaining agreement with regard to the overtime roster. We met with the agency to discuss our concerns. Joint guidance is being developed to ensure all facilities are in compliance with the collective bargaining agreement. (Barbarello/Zilonis – OPEN)

NATCA Websites: Work is continuing with an expectation of having the website up by the last quarter of 2015. (Robicheau – OPEN)

ASISO Testing: The STARS test facilities are working well. We are just beginning with ERAM facilities. When testing is complete, a deployment MOU will be agreed to. (Robicheau – CLOSED)

Flight Service Station (FSS) Name Change: The workgroup has a telcon scheduled for July 14 to discuss a professional title similar to Certified Professional Controller (CPC). This would replace the use of FPL for Alaskan FSS. The workgroup will also discuss a possible name change for Lockheed Martin services. We are still looking into legalities that would prevent a name change for Alaskan Flight Service Station facilities due to early retirement provisions as contained in of 5 USC §2109. (Morrison – OPEN)

Service Center Organizing: The organizing committee is working this issue. (MacDonald – OPEN)

NVT Vacancies: The National Executive Board has added Mike Robicheau to the NVT. (Rinaldi – CLOSED)
Facility Rep On-Boarding Initiative: On-boarding teams will be established in each region to facilitate smooth transitions when new facility reps are elected. The on-boarding initiative provides timely information and support necessary to get new facility reps. up to speed on their responsibilities. Specific initiatives will be developed for FCTs and Region X. Each regional team will have leads who will ensure consistency with the program nationwide. (Gilbert – OPEN)

CBA Appendix B: The joint guidance is ready to be distributed. The one issue to be determined is how far back we should expect the agency to correct any training progressions in facilities that were misapplying Appendix B, Training Progression Requirements. (Morrison – OPEN)

New Business

Disability Insurance: The National Executive Board has established the following policy regarding UNUM disability insurance. (Rinaldi – CLOSED)

Eligibility to participate in the UNUM LTD program ceases for any individual who is either not a member in good standing or has not joined as an Associate Member within 120 days of leaving a bargaining unit position.

Charter approval: The NEB unanimously voted to charter the following FCTs – HOB, CHD, ECP, RYY, GYH and RBD – as NATCA locals. (Gilbert – CLOSED)

Central Service Area ERC vacancy: The National Executive Board has designated Mike Thompson to serve on the Central Service Area ERC. (Rinaldi – CLOSED)

HWD Tower security issue: There have been instances of security breaches at HWD Tower. This issue will be added to the CSC agenda. (Gilbert – OPEN)

Western Pacific Region office lease (SRF-7): The National Executive Board voted unanimously to extend the Western Pacific Region office lease for one year. (Gilbert – CLOSED)

Business Acumen Tool Suite (BATS) Update: We recently received a briefing from the Agency regarding the use of the BATS tool. We raised concerns regarding the lack of collaboration with the development and roll out, inadequacies of the tool, how the Agency will use the information, and to whom they intend to give the information derived from the BATS. The agency has identified 31 facilities to start using this tool. We have set up a NATCA BATS email listserv to address any issues that arise in the field from use of this tool. (Barbarello – OPEN)

Briefings

Safety and Tech Department: Dale Wright briefed the National Executive Board on
the following topics:

ASSC – Randy Ezell, Article 48 rep, is retiring in August. Dan Hamilton from SFO is transitioning to take Randy’s place.
TFDM – Mike Schrempp, Article 48 rep from PHX, is stepping down effective August 1. We will be selecting a replacement shortly.
ATD-2 – This is a NASA-led initiative taking place at CLT. Pete Slattery from CLT is the NATCA Lead.
Remote Services – The equipment has been installed at Leesburg. Kieron Hefflin from IAD is the Article 48 Representative for Remote Towers. Work on the draft SRM Document has started with Micah Maziar from TOL as the NATCA SME. Twenty participants have been selected for the Passive Data Collection beginning August 3. A data collection kickoff meeting is scheduled for July 15.
Art. 48 Representative Training program – The training is still being developed. There is an Art. 48 rep. meeting scheduled for November 17 - 19.
TAMR – Work continues with deployment of Segment 2. The TAMR team has been meeting regularly with the SBS teams to work on common issues.
UAS – The workload continues to increase and attention from media and aviation safety experts continues to escalate regarding the use of unmanned aircraft. FAR, SYR, and several other locations are working on MOUs dealing with UAS operations. NATCA has proposed a collaborative workgroup at the national level to address the host of issues surrounding UAS operations in the NAS.

STARS Elite: Mitch Herrick briefed on the deployment of STARS Elite in terminal facilities. “Legacy STARS” is currently installed in 55+ locations throughout the NAS. TAMR Segment 2 will deploy STARS Elite platforms and STARS G4 systems. STARS Elite systems are currently being installed at 90+ ARTS IIE sites. STARS G4 systems are currently installed at: D10, D01, NCT, SDF, MIA, PHL, I90, S46, TPA, AZO, and CLE, and scheduled for installment at: A80, M98, SCT, T75, PCT, C90, N90, F11, and S56.

IT Committee work at the National Office: The IT committee is getting the building’s internet/wifi reviewed and fielding estimates on upgrading the current system. They are also looking at upgrading the building phone systems.

National Benefits Committee Briefing: National Benefits Committee Chair John Bratcher briefed the NEB on issues that are before the committee. Bratcher briefed on the 2015 Retirement Seminars and other aspects of the NATCA Retirement Education Program. He briefed on the beta testing of an online webinar version for the retirement program. The NEB agreed to move forward with the webinar and open it up to a beta test for the membership. Bratcher briefed on two theme park benefit programs (Kings Island and Worlds of Fun) that the committee has researched and submitted to the NEB for approval. The NEB approved the addition of both as NATCA benefits. Bratcher presented a new partnership with Ford Motor Company allowing NATCA’s membership
to utilize the Ford X-plan program, which the NEB approved. Bratcher briefed that the NBC and national office staff would be working on the implementation and roll out of the new benefits programs in the near future.

National Organizing Committee Briefing: National Organizing Committee Chair John Bratcher briefed the NEB on issues that are before the committee. Bratcher briefed that NATCA has organized 11 new locals in the last eight months, and that the NOC is pursing several other unrepresented FCTs at this time. He also briefed the board that with the number of locals that were just organized, the NOC is reviewing the local setup process and changing some of the processes to ensure the new locals receive proper assistance in the transition to the NATCA family. He thanked the board for their support and leadership in growing NATCA’s membership.

Patricia Gilbert
Executive Vice-President