

**ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA
THIRTY-SIXTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 2009
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN**

SUBJECT: Constitution and Bylaws, Article VIII, Section A., International Officers

STATEMENT OF QUESTION:

Should the AFA-CWA Constitution and Bylaws be amended to require the International Officers to be elected directly by the entire AFA-CWA membership?

SOURCE AND DATE SUBMITTED: Northwest Councils 91, 92, 96, 97, 98, 99, January 29, 2009

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Currently AFA-CWA members do not have a direct voice in the election of the International Officers. In order to be the most democratic union members need to have a process in which they directly vote for the International Officers.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS in order to build a more democratically run union, and

WHEREAS to enable the membership to have a greater say in our leadership, and

WHEREAS because of the reasons above, we seek to provide a membership wide voting for the International Officers,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AFA-CWA Constitution and Bylaws Article VIII, Section A be amended as follows: Section A, paragraphs 1 – 6 shall be deleted in their entirety and replaced as follows:

“1. Nomination Procedures

No later than one hundred and fifty (150) days before the second day of the regular meeting of the Board of Directors, the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union shall cause nominating ballots, commitment to serve statements and cover letters to be mailed to all active members of all Local Councils within the United States.

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For all Local Councils located outside of the United States the time frame shall be two hundred and ten (210) days before the start of the term of office.

The International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union shall notify the International Officers thirty (30) days prior to distributing said nominating ballots.

For newly organized carriers, the nominating ballots, commitment to serve statements and cover letters shall be mailed to all active members of Local Councils no later than sixty (60) days following the appointment of Temporary Master Executive Council Officers.

b. Nomination procedures shall be conducted by secret ballot.

c. (1) Each active member in good standing may nominate one (1) candidate for the office of President, Vice President and Secretary.

(2) The member shall be responsible for determination of that member's nominee's commitment to serve prior to nomination.

d. Nominating ballots, executed by active members in good standing, shall be sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union prior to the count date specified on said nominating ballot.

e. Nominating ballots of active members in good standing shall be certified and tallied under the supervision of the Ballot Certification Committee at the International Office.

f. (1) The Ballot Certification Committee shall determine a candidate's commitment to serve as an elected Officer by any one (1) of the following:

(a) Receipt of a commitment to serve card with the nomination ballot.

(b) Written notification prior to the count date.

(c) Checking the indicated block on the transmittal envelope.

(2) If a commitment to serve has not been indicated as outlined in C.1.f.(1) above, the AFA Membership Services Department will contact the nominee through email, phone calls(s), and regular mail letter requesting a commitment to serve statement, with the exception that no email, phone calls(s), and regular mail letter will be sent to a candidate with less than two (2) nomination votes. Verbal confirmation upon receipt of email, phone calls(s), and regular mail letter, confirmed in writing, may also serve as notification of a candidate's commitment to serve.

(3) The International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union shall cause the names of all nominees who received at least two (2) nomination ballots and who have indicated their commitment to serve to be placed on the official International Officers election ballot.

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2. Election Procedures

a. (1) No later than ninety (90) days before the start of the term of office, the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union shall cause election ballots to be mailed to all active members of those Local Councils within the United States. For all Local Councils located outside of the United States, ballots will be mailed one hundred and twenty (120) days before the start of the term of office. The election ballot shall list the names of the nominees for each International Officers office in alphabetical order. Each active member in good standing may vote for one (1) candidate for each International Officers office and the successful candidate for each office shall be that eligible candidate receiving the greatest number of election votes, with no requirement that the successful candidate receives a majority of the valid ballots returned. Nothing in this Constitution and Bylaws shall prohibit the write-in and election of an eligible member for International Officers office. Such election shall be conducted by secret ballot.

(2) International Officer election ballots executed by the active members in good standing of each Local Council shall be returned to the International Office no later than sixty (60) days before the start of a term of office, or before a date established by the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union. Ballots shall be validated and tallied under the supervision of the Ballot Certification Committee. It shall certify the election results and notify the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union, who shall promptly mail a copy of such certification to the successful candidates and to all the respective Local Council members. All nomination and election ballots and the transmittal envelopes, in which they were received, shall be retained at the International Office for at least the duration of the terms of office for which the balloting was conducted.

(3) In cases where ties develop in the election process, the two (2) or more candidates who are tied shall participate in a runoff election by mail ballot that will be held as soon as practicable after the initial balloting is completed.

(4) In the event no eligible member is elected as International President, Vice President or Secretary, the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union shall immediately arrange for additional balloting for such office.

b. The election of International Officers shall be completed and the successful candidates notified of their election by the International Secretary-Treasurer of the Union no later than the first day of the month proceeding the term of office.”