

MINUTES OF THE 54TH STATEWIDE CONVENTION
NARFE NEW MEXICO FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
Albuquerque, NM - April 21-23, 2016

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| Janice Baker - President | Lorna Howerton - NE District VP |
| Lucy A. Garcia - Exe. VP (Membership) | Billie Jean Zinter - NW District VP |
| Sharon Reese - VP (Legislation) | Dennis Clark - SE District VP |
| David Tapia - Secretary | Marian Thornton - SW District VP |
| Lee Tomlin - Treasurer | Rodney Adelman - Region VII VP |

President Baker called the Convention to order at 8:00 a.m. on April 21, 2016, at the Isleta Resort & Casino, 111000 Broadway, SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Valley High School AFJROTC Color Guard posted the colors and Ms. Lorna Howerton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Billie Jean Zinter introduced the Governor of Isleta, Mr. E. Paul Torres who gave the Invocation in his native Tewa language. Mr. Torres had welcoming words inviting everyone to visit the pueblo plaza especially their very old Catholic Church. President Baker introduced the co-chairs of the convention planning committee and Ms. Janice Strand, professional Parliamentarian. Ms. Baker then acknowledged dignitaries and special guests. Ms. Baker called on Ms. Sharon Reese to introduce Congressional delegation guests who read letters from Senator Tom Udall, Representatives Michelle Lujan Grissom, Ben Ray Lujan and Steve Pearce. There were seven first-time convention attendees. President Baker announced that a Proclamation from New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez was on display that designated April 22, 2016 as NARFE Day in New Mexico.

The Credentials Committee gave a Preliminary Credentials Report. The final report, made reference to later in these minutes, reveals the exact number of delegates that attended. The Preliminary report is as follows:

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|---------------------|------|--------------------------|------|
| Chapter Delegates | - 61 | Guests | - 30 |
| Delegates-at-Large | - 12 | Chapters Represented | - 17 |
| Alternate Delegates | - 0 | Chapters Not Represented | - 2 |

Secretary David Tapia called the roll of chapters. Delegates from 17 out of 19 chapters were present, and a quorum was declared.

The Standing Rules for the 2016 convention were read as shown on Page 11 of the Program Booklet. Mr. Lee Tomlin made a motion to change the resolution debate time from 10 minutes to 15 minutes. Motion was seconded. All in favor. The Standing Rules were approved.

Committees were recognized and general announcements made. Agenda was approved.

President Baker introduced Mr. Rodney Adelman, Regional VII VP who introduced Mr. David Snell, NARFE Director of Federal Benefits Services. Mr. Snell talked on a variety of subjects concerning OPM issues. Ms. Sharon Reese introduced Ms. Jessica Klement, NARFE Director of Legislation who talked on WEP Reform, Postal Reform, the Medicare Hold Harmless Provision, Protect America's Heartbeat Program, NARFE-PAC, and the Legislative Conference for 2017.

Representatives from GEHA and BC/BS health insurance companies made statements on why they support the mission of NARFE. Both companies contributed by sponsoring beverages and snacks for the convention.

Resolutions Committee Report. There was no objection from the floor to introduce the resolutions in an order more logical than how they were originally numbered. In addition, a new resolution was introduced on the first day of the convention. Mr. Gary Montoya, Resolutions Committee Chair and Ms. Judy Rosco took turns introducing the resolutions. The results are as follows:

- (1) Proposed Bylaw #1 entitled District Vice Presidents Duties. Proposed change was for VPs to serve as Congressional District Leaders. (WITHDRAWN)
- (2) Proposed Bylaw #2 which was renumbered Bylaw #1 entitled District Boundaries. Proposed change that Chapters may submit recommendations/resolutions for district boundaries. This is added language to Article IV Executive Board, Section 4. (PASSED)
- (3) Proposed Resolution #1 entitled New Mexico Federation Reorganization. Proposed that Federation Board of Directors spend a "retreat" day in strategic planning to start a reorganization of the New Mexico Federation of Chapters. (FAILED)
- (4) Proposed Resolution #2 entitled Health Care Insurance Premium Fairness. Amended to read "that the Legislative staff at National Headquarters work with a congressman to draft and put forward a bill that will correct the inequity between current Federal employees and retired Federal employees in their medical insurance premiums pretax dollars. (PASSED, as Amended)
- (5) Proposed Resolution #3 entitled National Strategic Plan Adoption. Resolve that the National Executive Board take the responsibility to act on the Strategic Plan as presented, and with additions and/or changes they deem reasonable and workable, set the plan into action according to the time table called for in the plan. (PASSED)
- (6) Proposed Resolution #4 (originally Resolution #5) entitled Senatorial Leaders (SL) and Congressional District Leaders (CDL). Resolve that these positions be made a permanent part of the Standing Legislative Committee, Article V (Committees) Section 4 (Standing Committees) c. (Note: SLLs and CDLs were previously approved for term April 2015 -April 2016.) (PASSED)
- (7) Proposed Resolution #5 (originally Resolution #4) entitled Realignment of District Boundaries. The proposal was for changing the boundaries of NE, SE, NW and SW District boundaries to NM Congressional Districts 1, 2, and 3. (FAILED)
- (8) Proposed Resolution #6 entitled Extension of the New Mexico Federation's current SLL/CDL program for a period not to exceed 12 months. Amended to resolve that the New Mexico Federation of Chapters extend its current political advocacy

program using Senatorial Leaders and Congressional District Leaders as a permanent part of our organization. (PASSED, as Amended)

- (9) Newly introduced Resolution entitled Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) for Federal Retirees. Received 2/3 majority to be considered. Resolved that NARFE will support legislation to change the annual COLA for Federal Government retirees to no less than two percent (2%). And, if the inflation level is more than 2%, increase the COLA accordingly. (PASSED)

Nominating Committee Report. President Baker announced that the voting representatives (Chapter Members selected to cast the voting power) and Delegates-at-Large had received voting slips for secret ballots cast. Voting by secret ballot was held for the position of Federation President as two candidates were on the ballot (Ms. Sharon Reese of Chapter 182 and Ms. Lorna Howerton of Chapter 1411.) There being no further nominations, Ms. Lorna Howerton won by majority vote. Ms. Sharon Willoughby of Chapter 182 was the sole candidate for Executive Vice President (Membership). There being one other nomination from the floor (Ms. Nancy Brunson of Chapter 80), voting by secret ballot was held. Ms. Nancy Brunson won by majority vote. Mr. Mark Mickelsen of Chapter 1381 was the sole candidate for Vice President (Legislation). There being one other nomination from the floor (Ms. Sharon Reese of Chapter 182), voting by secret ballot was held. Ms. Sharon Reese won by majority vote. Mr. Lee Tomlin made a motion that was subsequently seconded that since Ms. Marian Thornton was the sole candidate for the position of Secretary (as there were no further nominations from the floor), that she be voted in by acclamation. All in favor. Mr. Lee Tomlin from Chapter 1411 was the sole candidate for the position of Treasurer. There being one other nomination from the floor (Ms. Patty Bachtel from Chapter 1401), voting by secret ballot was held. Ms. Patty Bachtel won by majority vote.

Selection of District Vice Presidents-District Caucus. The convention members assembled by Districts (NW, NE, SW, SE) to elect their District VPs for the next two years. For NW District VP, selected was Ms. Billie Jean Zinter from Chapter 80. For NE District VP, selected was Mr. Mark Mickelsen from Chapter 1381. For SW District VP, selected was Ms. Sharon Willoughby from Chapter 182. For SE District VP, selected was Mr. Dennis Clark from Chapter 698.

Selections for Nominating Committee-District Caucus. The Nominating Committee for period 2016-2018 will seek a slate of officers for next convention. Individuals selected were Ms. Madeline Jennings (NW District), Mr. Bill Britton (NE District), Ms. Naomi Castaneda (SW District) and Mr. Tommy Dobson (SE District). Ms. Betty Hicks from Chapter 731 was the member-at-large selected by the entire Convention.

Presentation of Awards at the Banquet. President Baker presented the Tony Genta Award for NARFE dedicated and meritorious service to Ms. Lucy Garcia from Chapter 1381. Mr. Rodney Adelman presented the Region VII Service Officer of the Year and New Mexico Federation Service Officer of the Year Awards to Ms. Betty Hicks of Chapter 731. Mr. Adelman also presented the San Juan County Chapter 1179 with a 45 year anniversary service award and the Espanola Valley Chapter 1423 with a 40 year

anniversary service award. President Baker presented several Distinguished Member Certificates, a Special Recognition Certificate to Sierra County Chapter 1341 for hosting the successful 2015 Statewide Gathering, Small Chapter Recognition Certificates to Espanola Valley Chapter 1423, Las Vegas Chapter 886, Pecos River Chapter 1455, Socorro Chapter 1402, and Luna County Chapter 1299. President Baker presented thank-you gifts to out-of-state guests. In addition, Mr. Adelman, Region VII Vice President, presented President Baker with a Distinguished Service Certificate from Region VII and also a Distinguished Service Certificate from National President Thissen. On behalf of the New Mexico Federation, Ms. Sharon Reese presented President Baker with a personalized NARFE pen and pencil set. The installation of new officers was held on the second day of the convention because voting was not completed the first day. Mr. Rodney Adelman, Region VII Vice President, administered the oath of office.

Ms. Betty Hicks of Chapter 731 assisted by Ms. Eliza Greer of Chapter 1341 led the Memorial Service honoring members of New Mexico chapters who had passed away since the previous convention. The District VPs read the names of those who died from their districts.

Mr. Rodney Adelman, Region VII VP, addressed the Convention. He submitted an outline report dated April 23, 2016. Talking points were that FERS retirees will need TSP, Medicare Part B premium increase, WEP reform, legislative conference calls, legislative webinars, membership numbers, next biennial regional conference and national convention status. The 2020 national convention will be in Phoenix, Arizona, making it possible for many New Mexico retirees to attend. In addition, he mentioned he is running for re-election and asked for everyone's support and votes. Mr. Ted Van Hintum, Region VII Strategic Planning Committee member, also addressed the convention with 8 recommendations concerning strategic planning.

The Credentials Committee presented the final Credentials Report as follows:

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|---------------------|---|----|--------------------------|---|----|
| Chapter Delegates | - | 65 | Guests | - | 32 |
| Delegates-at-Large | - | 13 | Chapters Represented | - | 17 |
| Alternate Delegates | - | 0 | Chapters Not Represented | - | 2 |

Other Committee Reports:

Ms. Sharon R. Willoughby conducted an audit of the Federation financial records on April 11, 2016 for the period 4-1-2015 through 3-31-2016. Accounts are in balance and no discrepancies found. A motion to adopt her report was made and seconded. All in favor.

Ms. Linda Clark gave the NARFE-PAC Contribution Report. Two of New Mexico Congressional Representatives received PAC monies during the last reporting period. More specifics on nation-wide contributions are in the NARFE magazine. Strong supporters of NARFE recommendations may receive up to \$10,000.

Ms. Connie Perea Peritore gave the Alzheimer's Report. For the period 7-1-2015 to 2-29-2016, New Mexico raised \$3,576.00 for Alzheimer's. Nationwide, NARFE fundraising total, as of 2-29-2016, is \$11,713,113.70. Ms. Juanita Whitaker of the Roswell chapter spoke on the passing of Mr. Russell Dekay who was instrumental in getting the Alzheimer's program going nationwide. A \$3000.00 check was given to Alzheimer's in his memory. The 50/50 raffle at the convention collected \$328.00 with \$164.00 going to Alzheimer's. The winner of the raffle, Mr. Tommy Dobson, donated his winning back to Alzheimer's. In addition, a separate contribution of \$200.00 was made to Alzheimer's.

A Good of the Order discussion allowed members to express their opinions and concerns. Two comments were to get involved in chapter activities and if asked to help with the NARFE mission, do not hesitate to say yes. Congratulations were expressed to the three hosting chapters, i.e., Albuquerque Chapter 80, Rio Rancho Chapter 1381, and Duke City Chapter 1411. The Bylaws need further clarification on the role of the chapter voting representative. Perhaps a resolution should be introduced to clarify when written and oral ballots are used. Outgoing Federation President Janice Baker stated she enjoyed her role at least 90% of the time. It was very rewarding to Ms. Baker that she got to know almost everyone in all the chapters. She reminded the audience what we all have in common and, that is, that we work or worked for the Federal government, that we love our country, and that we support NARFE's mission to protect our earned benefits.

President Baker than handed the Federation gavel to Ms. Lorna Howerton, the incoming Federation President. Ms. Howerton thanked Ms. Baker for her service and assured everyone it would be a hard act to follow in her footsteps. However, President Howerton is confident the incoming Executive Board will perform well with all its dedicated new and old members.

Ms. Betty Hicks read an inspirational prayer to close the convention.

Outgoing President Baker adjourned the Convention at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by David Tapia, Federation Secretary.

Secretary

President

Approved _____
Date