

**Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter
Constitution and By-Laws
Amended April 29, 2017**

Article 1 Name

The name of this organization shall be the Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter of the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO. The address of the organization shall be the address of the Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter President.

Article II Objectives

The objectives of the organization shall be to carry out, on a local basis, the objectives of the American Postal Workers Union Retiree Department.

Article III Membership and Dues

Section 1 Eligibility

Any employee of the Postal Service who retired or retires in good standing shall be eligible for membership in this Retiree Chapter, subject to the requirements of the National and Local Retiree Chapter Constitution.

Section 2 Application

Application for membership shall be made on a standard application form in accordance with rules established by the National APWU Retiree Department. Unless such form includes a valid authorization for pension check deduction of dues, the application shall be accompanied by membership dues.

Section 3 Amount and Payment of Dues

The monthly membership dues shall be set by the National APWU Retiree Department. Membership dues shall be payable in accordance with rules established by the National APWU Retiree Department. **The President and Secretary Treasurer shall be the Fiduciary Officers of the Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter.** The Employee Identification Number (EIN) shall be the Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter EIN Number. The Fiduciary Officers shall be bonded under the National APWU Bonding procedures. All disbursements will require two signatures.

Article IV Meetings

Section 1 Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Retiree Chapter shall be held once each quarter with the exception of December prior to the regular meeting of the Southwest Coastal Area Local at a time to be fixed by the membership of the Chapter Executive Board.

The Retiree Chapter Meeting is authorized to disburse reasonable expenses for the proper operation of the Retiree Chapter including assignments to seminar, conference, and training. Reasonable expenses paid included transportation, lodging, registration, and per diem.

Meetings are normally held prior to the Southwest Coastal Area Local Executive Board and General Meetings.

Section 2 Quorum

Two (2) members present at a membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3 Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the Retiree Chapter President, the Retiree Chapter Executive Board, or by petition filed with the Retiree Chapter President and signed by 25% of the members of the Retiree Chapter.

Article V Officers, Nominations, and Elections

Section 1 Title and Terms of Elected Officers

The Retiree Chapter Executive Board shall consist of the following officers: President, Secretary Treasurer, three (3) Trustees and shall be elected to three-year terms, beginning in April of 2005.

Section 2 Appointed Officers

The Retiree Chapter appointed officers includes the following: up to three (3) Trustees.

Section 3 Nominations

Nominations shall be made at the membership meeting of the Retiree Chapter.

Section 4 Eligibility

(a) To be eligible for office, a member must be in good standing preceding the nomination meeting as certified by the Secretary of the Retiree Chapter.

(b) To be eligible to vote in an election of officers, a member must be in good standing for three months immediately preceding the election, as certified by the Secretary of the Chapter.

(c) Once a retired postal employee accepts employment with the Postal Service he/she is ineligible to be a member of the Retiree Department for that period of time. However, once a member retires again from the Postal Service, he/she is eligible to be a member of the Retiree Department without a waiting period.

Section 5 Conduct of Election

All regular elections shall be by secret ballot and held at the regular February 2017 Meeting and every three years thereafter. Nominations and election of officers will take place at this meeting.

Section 6 Vacancies

(a) The president shall fill all vacancies.

(b) Vacancies in an office shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Article VI Duties of Officers and Executive Board

Section 1 Conduct

All officers shall act in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws and with the provisions of the Southwest Coastal Area Local APWU Retiree Chapter Constitution and the APWU National Constitution.

Section 2 President

- a) All officers will work under his/her direction
- b) Preside at all membership meetings of the Retiree Chapter and at meetings of the Retiree Chapter's Executive Board
- c) Be a member of all committees except election committees
- d) Shall be a delegate to the California State APWU and National APWU Conventions and all Craft Conference with reasonable expenses paid including transportation, lodging, registration, and per diem.
- e) Appoint all standing committees and all special committees of the Retiree Chapter, subject to the approval of the Retiree Chapter Executive Board.
- f) Report to the membership regarding the progress and standing of the Retiree Chapter, subject to the approval of the Retiree Chapter Executive Board.
- g) Authorized to disburse reasonable expenses for the proper operation of the Retiree Chapter including assignments to seminar, conference, and training. Reasonable expenses paid included transportation, lodging, registration, and per diem.

Section 3 Secretary Treasurer

- a) The Southwest Coastal Area Local will keep an accurate record of receipts and disbursements and, once each quarter, submit to the membership a state of the financial transactions of the Retiree Chapter for the quarter.
- b) Shall be a delegate to the California State APWU and National APWU Conventions and all Craft Conference with reasonable expenses paid including transportation, lodging, registration, and per diem.

Section 4 Trustees

The Trustee(s) shall be the watchdogs of the Retiree Chapter.

Section 5 Executive Board

The Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Retiree Chapter except when meetings of the Retiree Chapter are in session. The Executive Board shall meet quarterly with the exception of December, at a time fixed by the Executive Board. The Board may also meet at the call of the Retiree Chapter President or of a majority of members of the Executive Board. A report on all actions taken by the Executive Board shall be made to the membership at the regular quarterly meetings of the Retiree Chapter. A majority of the members of the Executive Board shall be required for a quorum. The Executive Board is authorized to disburse reasonable expenses for the proper operation of the Retiree Chapter including assignments to seminar, conference, and training. Reasonable expenses paid included transportation, lodging, registration, and per diem.

Article VII

Section 1 National and Retiree Chapter Constitutions

This Retiree Chapter shall at all times be subject to the provisions of the Retiree Chapter and National Constitutions of the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO.

Section 2 Authorization Necessary to Represent Retiree Chapter

Except to the extent specified in these By-Laws, no officer of the Retiree Chapter shall have the power to act as agent for or otherwise bind the Retiree Chapter in any way whatsoever. No member or group of members or other person or persons shall have the power to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the Retiree Chapter except to the extent specifically authorized by the Executive Board of the Retiree Chapter.

Section 3 Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws or with the Retiree Chapter or National Constitutions of the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO.

Article VIII Amendments

The constitution and by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of vote of the members voting at the Retiree Chapter General Meeting or Special Meeting.



Bobby Donelson, President Southwest Coastal Area Local Retiree Chapter

Signed April 29, 2017
Amended April 29, 2017

Retiree Chapter Officers:

Bobby Donelson Retiree Chapter President, Frank Townsend Retiree Chapter Secretary Treasurer, Retiree Chapter Walter Lovett Trustee, Retiree Chapter Ed Gonzalez Trustee, and Retiree Chapter Carrie Zeller Trustee. These are the Retiree Chapter officers for the 2017-2020 Term of Office.