

**National Association of Hispanic Journalists
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Saturday October 11th, 2025
12:00 PM ET - 11:00AM CT - 9:00AM PST
Location: Virtual**

I. Call to Order 12:10 ET

President Dunia Elvir

II. Roll Call

Vice President of Broadcast Julio-César Chávez, acting as secretary

- Dunia Elvir - present
- Jackie Padilla - not present
- Carlos Rodriguez - present
- Nancy Martinez - present
- Jaime Cardenas - not present
- Julio Chavez - present
- Jose Cancela - present
- PJ Cabrera - present
- Genesis Samayoa - not present
- David Cordero - present
- Kiara Alfonseca - present
- Melissa Macaya - present
- Samantha Rivera - present
- Jess Elizarraras - present
- Diana Gutierrez - not present
- Johnny Cordoba - present
- Cristy Fajardo - present
- Nicole Roesler - present

Guests:

- Yaneth Guillen
- Ivan Briones

III. Welcome - President Dunia Elvir

- Long time since conference
- Lot of work afterward, especially Excelencia and student summit

IV. Approval of Minutes - Julio-César Chávez. Approval of the minutes for July 13th, 2025 board meeting

- Motion by Julio
- Nancy seconds
- Voice vote: unanimous consent
- Motion approved

V. Consent Agenda - Vice President of Broadcast Julio Cesar Chavez

- Approval of converting Committees to Task Force teams
 - Broadcast (formally committee)
 - Freelancers (formally committee)
 - History (formally archive committee)
 - Academic (formally Committee)
- New Task Force Teams
 - Authors Task Force
 - AI/emerging Tech Task Force
- Motion by Julio
- Seconded by Carlos
- Passed by voice vote, unanimous

VI. Status of Organization - Executive Director Yaneth Guillen-Diaz

Student Summit

New Fundraising Campaign

Website Refresh

- Conference brought in less revenue than expected but good overall
- Excelencia: in new york, fundraiser for students
- High end reception, smaller program than last year
- Thanks to COMcast, space will be 30 Rock
- Next day is the student summit at CUNY, some admin fees but incredibly helpful to have it with lowered cost
- Sponsors include JPMC
- More than 100 students expected
- Breakfast and lunch
- Fundraising: diana and Yaneth have met with sponsors for feedback looking at 2025 results, 2026 starting to be planned
- 2026 prospectus finished and will be published next week
- 25-26 cohort applications are now open, recruiting new class of fellows
- Comms: doing a lot to advance mission

- Announced an opportunity for students to submit stories that they wrote so we can highlight and promote them before the end of hispanic heritage month
- Team is refreshing the website. Not a full redesign, focusing on quality of life and appeal
- Call for nomination for Excelencia Awards: this reflects growing engagement and enthusiasm from student members
- Membership: 3651 active members as of October 1, 100 in grace period
- NAHJ Cares: hosted successful session on financial wellness
- Partnership with FIU: 4 intensive online workshops focusing on investigative reporting and storytelling, english and spanish. Offers a certificate for those who complete it
- Couple more sessions pending in November
- Advocacy: have had consistent work through the past several months, including for the release of Mario Guevara
- Survey to ask for advocacy help from membership

Advocacy Report - President Dunia Elvir and Executive Director Yaneth Guillen-Díaz

An update on advocacy work NAHJ has undertaken since February

- Since february: we have sent letters in conjunctions with multiple organizations
- March: letter on layoffs
- June: Gaza letter with CPJ for unrestricted access to journalism to Gaza
- June: LA immigration protests: letters in conjunction with other organizations
- June: we developed a 5 minute video on safety training from security experts and shareable written advice, still accessible on our website
- June: letters about Mario Guevara
- July: expressed concerned about the SD Tribune firing Laura Castañeda
- September: freedom for mario coalition
- October: public statement on Mario
- Currently: working to collaborate on letter with AAJA and NABJ
- FCC commissioner was at our conference in July
- David: question about October 18 protests: are we doing something in relation to the protests? Should we say something to defend against abuse of power?
- Julio: Can we resend the safety information ahead of the saturday protests? Dunia and Yaneth say yes
- Item concluded

VII. Excelencia Awards - President Dunia Elvir

- Update on award recipients
- Jim Acosta, Mireya Villareal, Enriquez, Brunela Tipizmara?
- Congratulations to everyone

- 53 student nominations, had to be evaluated by Juan Diasgranados
- JPMC corporate impact
- MJ Acosta, Alberto Rodriguez, Frankie Miranda

VIII. Elections Update - President Dunia Elvir and Julio Chavez

- Chapter elections concluded, new boards are seated
- National elections underway for regional directors and student representative
- We have candidates for the published regions, blank spots are open to write in candidates

IX. Public Questions & Comments

- **No members of the public present**

X. New business:

- Cristy: California protest coalition stepped in to help people who were injured and freelancers who were detained
- When people only work in one place they don't have anyone to help them
- Melissa: Karina Cuevas is running as write in for Region 3
- Melissa: someone wants to start a chapter in Pittsburgh
- Melissa offers help and support to any regional directors
- Kiara: encourages people to submit silent auction items
- Yaneth: thank you to our outgoing board members
- Johnny thanks everyone
- Next board meeting date: December 6th, 2025 at 12:00 PM ET - 11:00AM CT 9 a.m. PST

XI. Adjournment 13:06 ET