

**National Association of Hispanic Journalists
Board of Directors Meeting
Saturday December 06th, 2025
12:00 PM ET - 11:00AM CT - 9:00AM PST
Location: Virtual
Meeting started at 11:05am CST**

I. Call to Order

President Dunia Elvir

II. Roll Call

Secretary Jackie Padilla

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

Guests: Yaneth Guillen , Diana Schnell

III. Welcome - President Dunia Elvir

IV. Approval of Minutes - Secretary Jackie Padilla

- Minutes from 10/11/25
 - Julio made a motion to approve the minutes
 - Nancy Preyor Johnson moved to second the motion
 - Minutes are approved after unanimous vote

- Electronic New Student Chapter vote minutes
 - Jackie made a motion to pass the minutes for the Temple University Chapter
 - Carlos seconded the motion
 - Dunia asked for questions or remarks
 - Julio added specific dates on when votes were received
 - The motion passed unanimously

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

Yaneth welcomed NAHJ's new communications manager Jacqueline Baylon. She also mentioned the resignation of palabra's Yunuen Bonaparte.

Yaneth said she'll provide an end of year report highlighting moments from our year that show NAHJ's success and momentum going into the new year.

She applauded the success of Excelencia Awards this year and the organization's intention to make it the second main fundraising event.

The first student summit is scheduled for Orlando in Spring 2026 as well as in the fall.

Yaneth asked members to consider donating to NAHJ before the end of the year in an effort to collect more revenue to support palabra and invited members to send the fundraising link to their networks.

She also discussed maintaining corporate sponsors from this year going into 2026 and creating "corporate champions" for NAHJ.

Efforts are underway to enhance the organization's website.

Yaneth thanked Pedro for attending JEA and representing NAHJ staff.

Student projects and scholarships applications are now open and are encouraged to apply now.

Maria Elena Salinas announced 2026 will be the final year for her scholarship; Yaneth is looking for a new member who could be behind the next broadcast scholarship.

Currently, there are approx 3,365 active NAHJ members with 390 in grace period. Yaneth encouraged everyone to ensure their membership is up to date.

VI. Budget - Carlos Rodriguez

Carlos provided the budget to the board of directors. He applauded Yaneth for how she created the budget and set NAHJ up for success next year. Carlos discussed the details of the budget and new strategies for scholarships and investment funds.

Yaneth touched on the positive impact on adjusting approach on investment accounts and strengthening savings. She added that the budget is conservative and expenses are less in 2026 compared to 2025.

Nancy made a motion to approve the 2026 budget
Jaime moved to second the motion

Roll call vote

- Dunia Elvir - Yes
- Jackie Padilla - Yes
- Carlos Rodriguez -Yes
- Nancy Martinez - Yes
- Jaime Cardenas - Yes
- Julio Chavez - Yes
- PJ Cabrera - Yes
- Melissa Macaya - Yes
- Samantha Rivera - Yes
- Jessica Elizarraras - Yes

The motion was approved unanimously

VII. New Student Chapter - President Dunia Elvir Xavier University New Orleans

Jessica made a motion to approve the student chapter
PJ seconded the motion
The new chapter passes unanimously

VIII. Regional Directors Alternate - VP Broadcast Julio Cesar Chavez

Julio explained that bylaws require regional directors to have an alternate. They are asked from now to the next BOD meeting to select their alternate recruit so they can be approved. The reason for an alternate is to vote on a regional director's behalf if they are absent.

IX. Public Questions & Comments

Dunia mentioned that the executive board discussed that the board of directors will be expected to contribute \$2,500 every year to NAHJ. This can be in the form of securing lifetime memberships, silent auction items, donations, company matching programs, etc.

Dunia also mentioned there are 14 task force teams solidified.

Melissa thanked the board for everyone's support as this is her last meeting as she serves in a regional director role

And Jackie offered congratulations to Pedro who just got engaged

Dunia welcomed Jacqueline Baylon to the NAHJ family

The meeting adjourned at 12:07pm CST.

X. New business:

- A. Next board meeting date: March 7th, 2026 at 12:00 PM ET - 11:00AM CT
9 a.m. PST

XI. Adjournment

