

National Association of Hispanic Journalists
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday July 8th, 2025
9:00 a.m. CT In Person at Chicago Conference

I. Call to Order

President Dunia Elvir
9:07 meeting to order

II. Roll Call

Secretary Jackie Padilla

In attendance: Dunia Elvir - President, Julio Cesar Chavez Andino - VP of Broadcast, Jaime Cardenas - VP of Online, Nancy Martinez Preyor-Johnson VP of Print, Carlos Rodriguez-Financial Officer, Jackie Padilla - Secretary, Pedro PJ Cabrera - Academic at-Large, Nicole Roesler Iniguez, David Cordero Mercado- Region 1, Kiara Alfonseca - Region 2, Melissa Macaya - Region 3, Samantha Rivera -Region 4, Jessica Elizarraras - Region 5, Diana Gutierrez -Region 6, Johnny Cordoba - Region 7, Cristy Fajardo - Region 8

Guests: Blanca Rios, Yaneth Guillen, Zack Baddorf, Andrew Sherry, Jennifer McKay

III. Welcome - President Dunia Elvir

IV. Consent Agenda - Julio Cesar Chavez

Gave insight that this process, which is included in NAHJ bylaws, is an opportunity to approve efficiently approve multiple items through one vote.

A. Approval of the minutes for March 15th, 2025 board meeting

Julio Cesar Chavez made the motion to approve
Carlos Rodriguez seconded the motion

Motion passed via unanimous voice vote

B. Approval of the electronic meetings minutes from March 27,2025

C. Regional Directors' Reports

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4

- Region 5
- Region 6
- Region 7
- Region 8

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

- **Discussed her status of organization report that was previously sent to the board via email**
 - She thanked everyone in the room and acknowledged the hardship journalists face in this political climate.
 - Student projects - did not get sponsored this year but NAHJ did budget for 12 students (60 applied) to attend the conference. She acknowledged the student mentors who contributed before and during the conference for free.
 - Adelante Academy- 7 leaders in training
 - Noted the presence of the Military Veterans in Journalism, which held its conference in conjunction with NAHJ this year
 - Zack Baddorf, Director of Military Veterans in Journalism, thanked NAHJ for offering a new space for the veterans' organization to amplify its visibility.
 - Gave a quick breakdown of sponsors and special events at the conference and board members' roles to support conference initiatives, sponsors and new booths.
 - Referenced her report that lists estimates for income this year. Reminded the board that we did not meet our budget goals: approx. \$450k short.

VI. Auditors Report - Barnes Denning 10:00AM

Welcomed Jennifer McKay-

Findings were presented and the report established NAHJ is financially healthy.

Financial Officer Carlos Rodriguez will provide an overview during the next board meeting.

Board Responsibilities: Dunia Elvir

Emphasized the importance of members of the board remaining diligent in their positions.

David Cordero Mercado, director of Region 1, announced that he will not be running for re-election in August due to time commitments and a job change. He also stated that he will be available to work and collaborate with NAHJ on various initiatives.

VII. New Chapter Approval Student Chapter - Nicole Roesler Iniguez

A. Loyola University NOLA

- Nicole made the motion. Pedro PJ Cabrera seconded the motion. Motion approved via unanimous voice vote

B. A&M University - Texas

- Nicole made the motion. Jessica Elizzarraras (region 5) seconds the motion. Motion is approved via unanimous voice vote

Nancy Preyor Johnson offered big kudos to new student chapters.

VIII. St. Louis Professional Chapter Approval: Diana Gutierrez Region 6

Diana Gutierrez was virtual for this meeting.

Diana made the motion to approve St. Louis professional chapter

Carlos Rodriguez Seconded the motion

Motion is approved via unanimous voice vote

IX. NAHJ's Communication: Andrew Sherry

Andrew references the background briefing he sent to the board regarding the conference.

X. Noon- Working Lunch

Called back into order 12:47 pm

XI. Public Questions & Comments

No members of the public present

XII. New business:

A. Membership meeting set for upcoming Saturday at the conference

B. Board Meeting - July 13th @ 9:00AM Room PDR2 - Dunia Elvir
Dunia: items will include items to place on agenda.

C. Coming Meetings Dates -

Dunia suggested that the fall board meeting be September 6 instead of October to be hosted Sept 6, Dec. 6, March 7

XIII. Next board meeting date: After deliberation with the board, the next meeting after July will be Sept. 6, 2025 at 9am

XIV. Adjournment

Dunia adjourned at 1:06