

# NAPS OF NOTE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

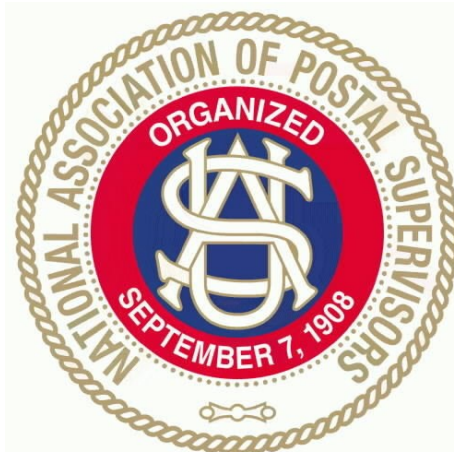
BRANCH 16

PO BOX 580333

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55458

<https://naps16.org>

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May 2026

## Branch 16 President's Report

A Message from Branch 16 President

Curt O'Donnell

Dear Branch 16 Members,

I have a brief update for all Minnesota members of NAPS. We recently concluded our State Convention in St. Cloud. It was a successful two-day event where we had the opportunity to meet several national officers who are candidates in the upcoming local/national elections this fall.

Significant changes are expected in both state and national leadership. Additionally, Brian Wagner provided training on the 650 processes. He also introduced some forthcoming documentation that will assist us in responding more effectively to the increasing corrective actions directed at the EAS staff in our district.

We have compiled several important notes from the convention. These will be made available on our website at [www.naps16.org](http://www.naps16.org).

I would also like to invite you to the Minneapolis Branch meeting this Thursday. It will be a great opportunity to ask any questions you might have and to receive documentation related to future elections. I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you and have a great day!

**Curt O'Donnell**

NAPS Branch 16 President

[cj012@gmail.com](mailto:cj012@gmail.com)



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**All Members  
Welcome!**

Next Meeting is  
Thursday  
May 21, 2026

# Next Meeting Reminder!

**Thursday**

**May 21, 2026**

6:00 PM Social Hour / 7:00 PM Meeting

**Crystal VFW**  
5222 Bass Lake Rd  
Crystal, MN 55429

**See you at the meeting!**



## Future Meetings NAPS Branch 16:

6:00 PM Social Hour  
7:00 PM Meeting

**Crystal VFW**  
5222 Bass Lake Rd  
Crystal, MN 55429

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

**May 21, 2026**

**July 16, 2026**



## Secretary's Report

**James Cavegn**  
Secretary

**NAPS Branch Meeting, 3/19/2026, 7:00PM**

### Board Attendance:

Curt O'Donnell, President, Present  
Tashi Lama, Vice President, Present  
James Cavegn, Secretary, Present  
Bruce Kuiper, Treasurer, Present  
Mark Hellermann, Sergeant at Arms, Present  
Gina Hellermann, Executive Board, Present  
Elfresh Tassew, Executive Board, Absent

Member Attendance: Josh Brantner, Tom Bishop, Ohene Amoako.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. We began by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a roll call of the officers.

President's Report: Curt started off by telling us how the Legislative Training Seminar went, pointing out some good discussions that were held with some of our legislators. Specifically, that they were unaware of the extraordinary lengths USPS goes through during election season, such as the efforts of driving a single ballot across the state to ensure it gets delivered on time. He also mentioned the upcoming State and National Conventions. He also mentioned the upcoming training provided by Brian Wagner.

We then discussed the upcoming national elections and discussed that Dan Mooney, our current North Central Area Vice President, will be running for National Secretary/Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report: Bruce presented the current treasurer's report. Ending Balance as of 1/31/2026: \$33,857.33.

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# Secretary's Report

*Continued from Page 2*



Bruce also expressed what an honor it was to be included in the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery during LTS. We decided that the video would be posted on the NAPS Branch 16 website.

Vice President/Legislative Representative: Tashi gave us a rundown of the information shared during LTS by the Postmaster General. Tashi then discussed the legislation that was covered and let us know that information on the bills and a QR code to email our legislature would be available on our website.

Other topics discussed include supervisors being made to carry mail; reports of supervisors being expected to essentially “work for free”; letters of warnings being mailed out with no investigative interview being conducted; higher level management not responding to appeals placed by NAPS representatives; employees being given discipline for failure to perform when they are on a higher level detail without having received any formal training for the position they are detailed into; no new updates for the Plant restructuring; there appears to be postmaster positions that aren't being posted; rumors that the 18B designations may be getting eliminated; rumors of a reduction in HR managers across the nation.

Old Business: Sending out a questionnaire to the membership for a vote on the elimination of the hardcopy newsletter in favor of posting on the website and emailing it out to save the current \$4 per copy.

Motion to introduce a form for requesting reimbursement of expenses introduced by Bruce Kuiper, seconded by Tom Bishop with a majority vote in favor. Motion passed.

Big Drawing for \$1,000: Jim Raynes – Not Present  
Small Drawing for \$50: Josh Brantner

**James Cavegn**  
**Secretary**

## NAPS Board 2026

### OFFICERS

#### **President**

Curt O'Donnell  
[cpj012@gmail.com](mailto:cpj012@gmail.com)

#### **Vice President**

Tashi Lama  
[naps16vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:naps16vicepresident@gmail.com)

#### **State President**

Gina Hellermann  
[bgmn10@hotmail.com](mailto:bgmn10@hotmail.com)

#### **Sergeant at Arms**

Mark Hellermann  
[bgmn10@hotmail.com](mailto:bgmn10@hotmail.com)

#### **Secretary**

James Cavegn  
[jimish2@gmail.com](mailto:jimish2@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Bruce Kuiper  
[brucekuiper@yahoo.com](mailto:brucekuiper@yahoo.com)

#### **Legislative Rep**

Tashi Lama  
[naps16vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:naps16vicepresident@gmail.com)

NAPS members must attend three or more board meetings during the year in order to meet the qualification requirement for *Officer* and *Executive Board* nomination. Elections are held every January. All NAPS members are strongly encouraged to attend and take part in the decision-making process.

### **Newsletter Editor**

#### **Ken Gardner**

[kgnaps16@aol.com](mailto:kgnaps16@aol.com)



# Minnesota State NAPS Convention

May 7-8, 2026 - Holiday Inn and Suites, St. Cloud, MN



1:00 PM

Convention begins:

\* Pledge of Allegiance

\* Call to order, opening remarks: Curt O'Donnell, Branch 16 President, remarked on all the activities going on during the convention, SPAC silent auction, raffles, hospitality room events.

\* Committees: Rules, Audit, Constitution/By-laws, Credentials, Resolutions.

Andrea explained the rules using Robert's Rules of Order, any cell phones that go off is \$20 to go to SPAC!! Preliminary credentials report from Louis.

\* Dillard Financial - Lynn Y. spoke about checking up on your beneficiaries-life events happen and make sure it is correct She discussed survivor benefits, estate planning, trusts (revocable is revocable, vs. irrevocable – 5-year lookback, better choice). Umbrella insurance is added protection. Pamphlets on wills, organizing your important information were available at the table.

- Break -

\* Resolution brought forward: We change the resolution number from 8 to 35

Whereas, Resolution 8 at the 2024 NAPS National Convention was passed with the following resolve:

That effective immediately, Executive Board VP's no longer will be reimbursed for travel

to NAPS (non-national) events outside of the VP's assigned region or area, and

Whereas, Resolution 8 prohibits NAPS Area VP's from using their respective NAPS training and executive board allowance accounts to jointly host regional training within their respective region, but outside their respective NAPS area and,

Whereas, regional training provides members with NAPS and USPS education, coaching, mentoring, national NAPS information and networking opportunities with NAPS and USPS leadership; therefore, be it

Resolved, effective immediately, Resolution 8 passed at the 2024 NAPS National Convention, be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, effective immediately, NAPS Area VP's may use their respective training and executive board allowance accounts to host regional training outside their respective area, but only within their respective NAPS region.

\* Chuck Mulidore - National Secretary/Treasurer spoke about legislation:

Legislative EAS benefits, HR 7600 Fairness Act & HR 1559 Appeal rights

- Strengthens consultative rights by accelerating and legitimizing consultative process.

- Grants due process for non-supervisory EAS level postal managers and postmasters.

- HR 491/S624 Equal COLA act

- HR 1522

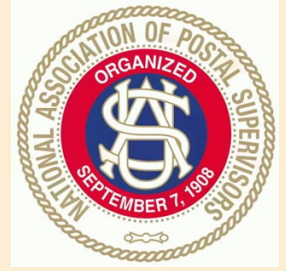
- HR 2095 Postal police reform act

- Budget reconciliation; past attacks on EAS & retirees

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# Minnesota State NAPS Convention

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- \* increase contributions
- \* change retirement formula
- \* eliminate FERS supplement
- \* increase retirement contributions
- USPS Integrity
- USPS Mission-safeguard
- USPS Delivering Democracy HR 7265

Postal Proposals to address situations: to make things better..

- raise postage NO!!
- temporarily suspend employer share of FERS contributions-done
- life restrictions on trust fund investments
- reduce PRC authority
- congressional appropriation-reform postal workers' compensation program

Pause in FERS Contributions-waive requirement:

- Suspension of FERS employer share does not impact pension benefits which saves \$2.4 billion in 2026, up \$3 billion in 2027-2030
- provides a total of \$15 billion in additional liquidity through 2030.

Universal Service Obligation: USO = mail services not be offered by profit-making entity.

- rural service- Sec 2401 B & D of Title 39 public service appropriation for rural PO's.
- uniform rates for First Class Mail
- service to noncontiguous states & territories
- free and reduced rates (nonprofits, mail for the blind, books, periodicals, oversea ballots)
- Postal Inspection Service

USO costs the USPS \$6.6 billion in 2024

- \* NAPS is working to address USO costs through legislation.

Midterm ELECTIONS; your voice

\* Dan Mooney- North Central Area Vice President-

- Our area top 5 for SPAC donations!
- Membership report – Promotion report; make sure you are looking at this
- Officers, develop relationships
- 650 mediation process is now through email only
- Postmasters downgrade more offices
- RIF's timeline - MN is last batch, 2 rounds of bidding. May 15th Form 50's will be sent out
- Lawsuit; waiting on Judge Lambert to rule on it - (6 months from summary of judgement that was made.)

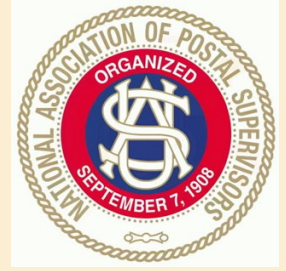
GEHA Benefits – Josh - health benefits

RECESS

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# Minnesota State NAPs Convention

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Friday, May 8th – 9:00 a.m.

- \* Memorial for past members
- \* Committee Reports: Audit, Constitution/by-laws, Credentials, Resolution vote.
- \* Resolution passed by vote; changing the 8 to 35.
- \* Q & A with officers

- BREAK -

Candidates running for National Office given 5 minutes to speak:

Chuck Mulidore running for National President

Brian Wagner running for National President

Mryna Pashinski running for National Secretary/ Treasurer- not present but had a member speak for her

Richard Green running for National Secretary/Treasurer - not present

Dan Mooney running for National Secretary/Treasurer

Chad Olson (North Dakota Branch Pres.) running for North Central Area VP

Rob Moore (St. Paul Branch Pres.) running for North Central Area VP

Drawings/raffles

- LUNCH -

650 Mediation Training - Brain Wagner

ELM 652.5 Alternate Dispute Resolution

Our members' rights... subject to circumstance

Going into mediation for a resolve!!

Requests are now online only, must be done within 10 days.

Update from St. Paul - host for 2027 Convention - will be at Holiday Inn and Suites, St. Cloud, MN on May 13-14, 2027

Respectfully submitted,

**Tammy Vail-Rimer**

MN State Br 926

Secretary/Treasurer

## 2026 Legislative Training Seminar

March 15-18, 2026 | Arlington, VA



On Sunday, March 15th, our own Bruce Kuiper was selected to present at the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

On Monday, March 16th, our NAPS people attended the Legislative Training Seminar in Washington, DC, where many speakers who are aligned with us on many postal issues had a chance to talk to us.

SPAC is Supervisor's Political Action Committee with a goal to support candidates whose voting records and positions reflect NAPS' interests. By raising money through donations, this funds the support of our candidates who understand the issues and helps NAPS in Congress. Contributions allow us to go to the Hill to make a difference!

Bob Levi is our NAPS Legislative Director of Political Affairs - Our campaign this year is urging our members of Congress to:

co-sponsor HR 70/S 147 to oppose Postal Privatization; these actions would damage postal accountability, increase postage and further reduce mail reliability.

co-sponsor HR 491/S624, the Equal COLA Act; would alleviate the financial impact on current FERS annuitants and remedy the inequality for future annuitants.

co-sponsor HR 1559 the Postal Employee Appeal Rights Act; would correct the injustice and assure MSPB access to all managerial level Postal Service employees.

co-sponsor HR 2095 the Postal Police Reform Act; support legislation to clarify that USPS police may exercise their legitimate authority to protect USPS employees, property,

US mail beyond the perimeters of a USPS occupied facility.

co-sponsor HR 7265 the Vote by Mail Act; would increase the transparency of mail-in ballots, boost confidence in elections and help Americans confirm their votes are counted by authorizing

the use of scannable barcodes with an official postmark, as well as enhancing electoral accountability.

co-sponsor HR 7600 the Postal Supervisors, Managers, and Postmasters Fairness Act; would prevent future costly, lengthy and adversarial legal fights over a flawed consultative process.

PMG David Steiner said universal service is not magical or just happens, We make it happen! We deliver to every community, aftermaths of natural disasters, and are still the most trusted entity.

The Postal Service is self-financed, cover costs with revenue, service is foundational. We will continue to find ways to grow to prosperity, improving products and service as well as operations.

Over the last 15 years, we have lost 110 billion pieces accounting for \$86 billion in lost revenue - we cannot cut cost safely to move forward. We need to make Congress understand criticism vs. correction to put us on the right path. Our borrowing cap of \$15 million we've capped; with that being said, we ask for:

1. Increased borrowing - will buy us some time to make adjustments.

2. CSRS methodology - outdated, drains resources

3. Workers' Compensation - reduce liability

4. Modern Pricing Framework - restrict ability for pricing

5. Retirement Investment - modernize obligation & culture

Treat people the way you want to be treated! It's smart, it creates a lower turnover. As leaders coach, direct, shape = respect.

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# 2026 Legislative Training Seminar

March 15-18, 2026 | Arlington, VA

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Safety needs to be prioritized!  
Metrics leads to success!

Ron Stroman is a member of the Board of Governors;  
Talked about focusing on the first and last mile, get more revenue, cut costs.  
Debt limit has to be expanded, meaning you cannot operate with numbers/volume from the 1990's Congress.

Nikki Budzinski - D-IL, Co-chairs, Congressional Postal Service Caucus  
Rep. James Walkinshaw - D-VA, Member, House Committee on Oversight & Accountability  
Rep. Nick Langworthy R-NY, Member, House Committee on Oversight & Accountability  
Work with Congress to support NAPS and continue Postal service existence. Reducing service and increasing postage (7 times during DeJoy's stance) will NOT work to sustain the viability of Postal Service. Congress has a responsibility to protect the Postal Service and to strengthen the financial stability.  
Retirement security - Congress should not delay in supporting full benefits.  
While you are still in the job, Safety is #1.. protecting our people!  
Navigate change and lead the way!!

Respectfully submitted,

**Tammy Vail-Rimer**  
MN State Br 926  
Secretary/Treasurer



## NAPS AUXILIARY MEMBER INVITE

By joining, as a new member, you can directly support your **NAPS (National Association of Postal Supervisors)** member using your Auxiliary voice to assist in NAPS legislative initiatives. Auxiliary members also assist at local meetings and support and promote the Supervisor Political Action Committee (**SPAC**) providing financial support, through fund raising at conventions.

Each NAPS member, in good standing, is entitled to **one Auxiliary member** (over 16 years of age) who may be a **spouse, immediate family member or designated representative**. (All Auxiliary dues are paid by the local branch.)

NAME _____	NAPS MEMBER NAME _____
STREET _____	____ SPOUSE
CITY/STATE _____	____ FAMILY MEMBER/ RELATIONSHIP _____
ZIP CODE + 4 _____	____ DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE (Significant/Friend)
PHONE _____	NAPS BRANCH # _____
EMAIL _____	

**NOTE:** Branch NAPS member, please return this completed form to the next local branch meeting or mail to:

Sherry Mattfield, 5016 – 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave. No., Crystal, MN 55429-3226 (763-486-6310) smatt1956@outlook.com

# NAPS BRANCH 16 — MEMBER UPDATE

Minneapolis, Minnesota | Spring 2026

Prepared by Tashi Lama, Vice President & Legislative Representative, NAPS Branch 16



## MN State Convention — A Great Success!

First and foremost, I want to say that our 2026 Minnesota State Convention held on May 7th and 8th at the Holiday Inn & Suites in St. Cloud was a tremendous success. It was wonderful seeing so many familiar faces, and the energy in the room reminded all of us why this organization matters. A big thank you to everyone who made the trip out — your participation is what makes these events worthwhile.

We were honored to have three outstanding national guests join us: NAPS Executive Vice President Chuck Mulidore, NAPS Central Region VP Craig O. Johnson and NAPS North Central Area VP Dan Mooney. They brought valuable insights and updates from the national level, and their presence really added weight and momentum to our discussions.

The agenda covered everything from governance and decision-making to member engagement and Q&A sessions with our national officers. One of the highlights on Friday was hearing from candidates running for office at the upcoming National Convention in San Francisco — which brings me to a very exciting announcement (more on that below).

We also held a Silent Auction for SPAC, which was a great opportunity to support the political action efforts that directly benefit our members in Congress. Thank you to everyone who participated and bid generously.

## Historic Milestone: Dan Mooney Running for National Office

This is something worth celebrating. Dan Mooney, our very own North Central Area VP and longtime Minnesota NAPS leader, has officially announced his candidacy for NAPS National Secretary/Treasurer at the 2026 National Convention in San Francisco this August.

This is the **FIRST** time in NAPS history that someone from Minnesota is running for a national executive board position. **That is a big deal, and we should all be proud.**

Dan brings 36 years of NAPS membership, 12 years of experience on the National Executive Board, and 34 years of USPS service to this race. He has pledged to relocate full-time to Alexandria, VA — a real commitment to the job. His campaign slogan says it all: "Trust Mooney with Your Money."

Please support Dan in any way you can. One of the easiest things you can do right now is:

- Like his Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61589173060627>
- Follow the page for daily updates (Dan is committed to posting at least once a day)
- Share the page on your own Facebook wall

In today's digital world, your likes, follows, and shares genuinely matter. They build visibility, credibility, and momentum. Please take 60 seconds and do it today — and encourage your fellow members to do the same.

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## Legislative Update — Washington D.C.



Earlier this year, our NAPS members attended the Legislative Training Seminar in Washington, D.C. It was an incredibly informative experience, and I want to share the key takeaways with all of you.

### What We're Asking Congress to Support:

Our NAPS Legislative Director Bob Levi outlined the key legislative priorities we're urging members of Congress to co-sponsor:

HR 70 / S 147 — Oppose Postal Privatization: Privatization would damage accountability, drive up postage, and hurt mail reliability for everyday Americans.

HR 491 / S 624 — Equal COLA Act: Would address the financial inequality facing FERS annuitants, both current and future.

HR 1559 — Postal Employee Appeal Rights Act: Would ensure all managerial-level postal employees have proper access to the MSPB — a basic right that should never have been in question.

HR 2095 — Postal Police Reform Act: Would clarify that USPS Police Officers can exercise their authority to protect employees, property, and mail beyond just the perimeters of USPS facilities.

HR 7600 — Postal Supervisors, Managers, and Postmasters Fairness Act: Would prevent the costly and adversarial legal battles that stem from a flawed consultative process.

### What Postmaster General David Steiner Told Congress:

PMG Steiner delivered a sobering but important message: the Postal Service is at a critical crossroads. He reminded lawmakers that universal service doesn't just happen, our people make it happen every single day, even after natural disasters, even to the most remote corners of the country.

The financial picture is serious. USPS ended fiscal year 2025 with a \$9.5 billion net loss, has hit its \$15 billion borrowing cap, and is on track to run out of cash within the next year if Congress does not act. Steiner was direct: "We cannot cut our way to prosperity."

His asks from Congress were clear and specific:

Increase the federal borrowing limit — the current \$15 billion cap hasn't been updated since 1992.

Reform the CSRS methodology — the current system is outdated and drains resources unnecessarily.

Address Workers' Compensation liability — reduce the financial burden on the agency.

Modernize the Pricing Framework — current restrictions prevent USPS from pricing competitively.

Modernize Retirement Investment obligations — update an outdated system to reflect today's realities.

PMG Steiner also reminded all of us in leadership: treat people the way you want to be treated. Lower turnover starts with respect. Safety must be a priority, and metrics drive success. Those aren't just corporate talking points: they're things we live every day.

*In Solidarity,*

**Tashi Lama**

*Vice President & Legislative Representative, NAPS Branch 16*

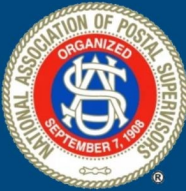
[www.naps16.org](http://www.naps16.org)



# Legislative Update Washington D.C.



# MN STATE CONVENTION 2026



TOP L-R - JONATHAN MCCAINE, ROB MOORE, MARK SETTERBERG, CRAIG JOHNSON, MARK HELLERMAN, JAMES CAVEGN, BRUCE KUIPER, CURT O'DONNELL  
MIDDLE L-R - ERIC KENT, KURTIS MORRISSETTE, BUTCH WRAZIDLO, DAN MOONEY, ELIE SOUKEY, SHERRY MATSON, BRIAN WAGNER, TASHI LAMA, CHAD OLSON  
BOTTOM L-R - CINTHIA STUWART, LOUIS SOUKEY, ANDREA ERICKSON, ARICA SUNDSTROM, GINA HELLERMAN, TAMMY VAIL-RIMER

**HOSTED BY MINNEAPOLIS BRANCH 16**