International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 70

ONSITE / INSIGHT

VOLUME 41 ISSUE 4

April 2021



2722 County Road D East, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (651) 646-4566 Local 70 Website: www.iuoe70.org

FOR AND BY THE MEMBERS UNION STEWARDS....PLEASE POST AT YOUR JOB SITE

FOR OUR FUTURE:

- Organizing
- Education
- Training
- Experience
- Knowledge

Dave Monsour

Business Manager/ Financial Secretary

Mickey Dowdle

President

Ken Wieken

Vice-President

Linda Powers

Recording Corresponding Secretary

Skip Metcalf

Treasurer

April 2021 MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:00pm Local 70 Office 2722 County Road D East, White Bear Lake, MN

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEETING

THE ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



PLEASE NOTE

The Local 70 office will be closed Friday, April 2, 2021 to observe Good Friday!

(SEE PAGE 2 FOR IFORMATION ON UPCOMING ELECTIONS)

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NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR AN ELECTION COMMITTEE

FOR THE 2021 ELECTION OF LOCAL 70 OFFICES

As established by the Constitution of the International Union of Operating Engineers and as outlined in the Bylaws adopted by Local 70, notification is hereby being given that an election will be held at the May 11, 2021, General Membership Meeting for the establishment of an **Election Committee**.

To serve on the Election Committee, a person must meet certain qualifications. These qualifications include: 1) A person must be a member in good standing. 2) A person cannot be a candidate for any position on the ballot. 3) A person cannot be a current officer. 4) The person must be present at the May 11, 2021, General Membership Meeting to accept the Nomination. In the case that the person cannot be at the May 11, 2021 meeting a signed statement must be available at the May 11, 2021 meeting stating the reasons for not being present and stating a willingness to serve on the Committee.

The nomination of members of the Election Committee will not take place until at least twenty minutes after the scheduled starting time of the May 11, 2021, meeting. The normal starting time for the meeting is 5:00 p.m. Check the May 2021, newsletter for the exact time and location of the General Membership meeting.

There must be at least three persons and not more than five persons on the Election Committee. If more than five eligible persons are nominated, a paper ballot must be taken. The five nominees receiving the highest votes will serve on the Election Committee. The President will appoint tellers for the counting of the ballots; however, any teller is subject to disqualification by an objection and vote of a majority of members present at the meeting. If five or less eligible members are nominated, the Recording-Corresponding Secretary will cast a white ballot electing those nominated to the Election Committee. If less than three eligible members are nominated, within ten days of the May 11, 2021, General Membership meeting the President will appoint eligible members until there are three members on the Committee.

A Chairperson will be selected by the members of the Election Committee. The Chairperson of the Election Committee must be selected prior to any Nominations for Officers. Following the election of a Chairperson, the Recording-Corresponding Secretary and the President will be notified of the name of the Chairperson selected. The Election Committee must conduct the General Election in accordance with federal laws, the International Constitution and the By-laws of Local 70. The Election Committee will make any and all decisions on eligibility for office and procedures of conducting the election, unless reversed on appeal, as per the International Constitution.

The Election Committee will be allowed to expend usual and normal funds to conduct the election and such funds as to assure that governing regulations are upheld. Additional expenditures of funds are subject to prior approval of the Executive Board and/or the General membership. A member of the Election Committee must not actively campaign for any candidate. This will not restrict a committee member from expressing an opinion or preference on any and all candidates. At the option of the membership, the State of Minnesota Bureau of Mediation may be called upon to supervise the Election.

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The positions that must be filled by the General Election are:

- Business Manager/Financial Secretary
- President, Vice-President
- Recording-Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer
- (8) At-Large Executive Board Members
- (3) Trustees
- (3) Auditors
- (1) Guard
- (1) Conductor.

The Notice of the Election and Nominations for Local 70 Offices will be published in the May 2021, newsletter and will contain the qualifications of these positions.

Submitted by:

Linda Powers, Recording-Corresponding Secretary

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FROM THE DESK OF DAVID MONSOUR, BUSINESS MANAGER

April 2021

Spring is in the air. This past Saturday March 20, 2021, was the official beginning of spring. I am pleased that spring has arrived. Even though the winter was not terrible spring always signals a new awakening.

With spring comes hope for the future. Additionally, I believe that we are making progress in the fight against COVID-19. I encourage everyone to educate themselves and make the best decision when the vaccine is made available to each of you. I know people are forming their own opinions and making their own decisions on moving forward. I choose to trust the facts, trust the science. Hopefully, working together we can beat this terrible pandemic and move forward with life.

2021 is an election year here at the Local. You will be seeing several notices posted in our posted newsletter dealing with the formation of an election committee and soon after that the Notice of Nominations for elected officers at the Local. As the situation improves here in Minnesota and barring any future restrictions, I anticipate we will be holding our first General Membership Meeting on May 11, 2021 at the North St. Paul American Legion to facilitate the election process.

As the State continues to open up more and more it is still important to practice social distancing, to wash your hands and to observe common sense hygiene. Yes, more and more people are being vaccinated but now is not the time to totally ignore best practices in dealing with a pandemic. Yes, schools are open, the CDC has relaxed some of the distancing that had previously been established. Travel is coming back although not at the same level that was present pre-COVID but that will happen. Patience is a virtue that is difficult to practice.

Many states have opened up more than Minnesota. I believe that our Governor has followed the science and made the most informed decisions with the best information available. I know some disagree and that is where we need to practice patience.

As employers attempt to unravel the rules moving forward and make decisions that will affect others, we need to monitor the situation. We need to respond to the actions as they arise.

Know your contract, ask questions when you have them. Keep the Local informed of changes in your workplace, changes in your position that may affect your representation. Notify the Local with changes in your contact information.

Local 70 has all our Agreements posted online. Feel free to browse them if you like. In addition, the Local 70 By-Laws and the IUOE Constitution are posted as well. Those two documents are the internal directions that we are bound by. The rules that the Local is required to follow, The rules that members should be aware of. These are where many of our operational decisions are derived from.

Lastly, I hope that those of the membership that may be interested in attending training at the IUOE Training Facility in Texas take advantage of it. Ask your employer, ask your representative. The more trained the member, is the more valuable you become.

Be safe and enjoy the weather.







Statewide and Proud

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Please make sure you notify the Local 70 office at 651-646-4566 with any changes in your home mailing address, job location, hours you are working and wage information. We want to maintain accurate information on our members so you receive important mailings and other information pertaining to union membership, pension information, proposal meetings and contract votes for your job site. Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.



