



## National Weather Service Employees Organization

### ~~IMPORTANT OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ELECTIONS~~

May 3, 2018

Dear NWSEO Member,

This letter is your notification of nomination and election procedures for 2018. It also contains information about the 43rd Annual NWSEO National Convention. NWSEO will post this letter on our website: <http://nwseo.org/convention.php>.

You are invited to attend the 2018 NWSEO Convention at the award-winning Pittsburgh Marriott City Center on September 30-October 1, 2018 (Sunday-Monday event). The Pittsburgh Marriott City Center is located at: 112 Washington Place, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219. This hotel is just minutes from the best of downtown Pittsburgh - from Duquesne University to PNC Park.

All NWSEO members are invited to attend the convention and attendance is free. Transportation, lodging, and most meals are at your own expense. NWSEO will provide lunch on both days of the convention and a banquet dinner on Sunday evening. **Please note the NWSEO Recruitment Incentive:** For any NWSEO member who recruits two or more new members to join NWSEO using the [1187 form for payroll deduction](#) (not by credit card) from August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018, NWSEO will provide reasonable airfare\*, 3-nights lodging, and approved group meals for the 2018 NWSEO Convention at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. The name of the recruiter must be on the submitted 1187 in order for them to receive recruitment credit.

*\* In order for airfare to be reimbursed, you must be able to provide documentation that it is the lowest available rate, purchased at least 21 days before the convention, unless approved otherwise. Printed copies of airfares from Expedia or other travel sites will serve as documentation.*

**Hotel Reservations:** If you plan to attend the convention, you are responsible for making your hotel reservations. NWSEO has successfully negotiated a room rate starting at \$129 per night plus taxes. Room reservations must be made by September 10, 2018. They can be booked directly with the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center by calling [1.877.645.3553](tel:18776453553) or using the link: [Book your group rate for NWSEO Annual Conference](#) Please mention that you are an NWSEO member and attending the convention in order to get the negotiated room rate.

**Each NWSEO Branch is required to elect a delegate and an alternate delegate to the convention.** The delegate and alternate delegate vote on all matters that come before the convention. A delegate holds one vote for each NWSEO member in the branch(es) represented. If you are elected as a delegate, but cannot attend, then the alternate delegate will cast the votes in your place.

You do not have to be elected as a delegate or an alternate delegate to attend the convention. Any member may attend, participate in the discussions, and vote. If you attend the convention and are not a delegate, you will cast your own vote, and the delegate elected for your branch will not cast a vote on your behalf for your branch.

## 2018 ELECTIONS

The procedures to nominate NWSEO members for NWSEO branch positions and convention delegate positions and to participate in elections are set forth below. If more than one member is nominated for an NWSEO branch steward, vice-steward, convention delegate or alternate delegate, then branch elections for that position must be conducted by secret ballot.

1. **NOMINATION PROCEDURES** – If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else as branch steward or vice steward, convention delegate or alternate delegate, **you must notify your current local branch steward AND regional chair in writing no later than Friday, June 1, 2018.** Email nominations are acceptable.
  - A. **Branch Steward/Vice Steward Nominations** – If you are a member in good standing of a branch, you may nominate yourself or any other member in good standing **from your local branch** for the position of branch steward or vice steward. Nominations must be in writing, dated and signed by the member making the nomination and presented to the Steward or designee by the deadline. In the alternative email nominations are acceptable.
  - B. **Regional Officer Nominations – Due in writing by June 1, 2018.** If you have been a member of NWSEO since September 2017, you may nominate yourself to run as a candidate for any regional office. Regardless of how long you have been a NWSEO member, you may nominate any other union member in your region as a candidate for regional officer, provided that the person you nominate has been a member since September 2017. If you nominate someone for regional chair/vice chair, please contact your nominee to ensure they accept the nomination.

Nominations for Regional Chairperson and Regional Vice Chairperson may be mailed to:  
Daniel A. Sobien, National President  
National Weather Service Employees Organization  
601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, South Building, Suite 900  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Once received, NWSEO will contact nominees to verify they accept their Regional Chair/Vice Chair nomination. The election of the Regional Chair and other regional officers will be conducted by delegates at the Convention. The newly elected regional officers will take office at the conclusion of the convention at which the election was held.

- C. **Convention Delegate/Alternate Delegate Nominations** – If you are a member in good standing of a branch, you may nominate yourself or any other NWSEO member **in your region** to serve as a convention delegate or alternate delegate *for your local branch*. You may be elected as a delegate or alternate delegate from more than one branch within your region. You may nominate yourself or any other NWSEO member in your region to serve as a convention delegate or alternate delegate *for any other branch in your region*. Nominations must be in writing, dated and signed by the member making the nomination and presented to the Steward or designee by the deadline. In the alternative email nominations are acceptable.

### **Convention Delegates Incentive:**

Any member who accumulates a minimum of 25 percent of the Region's available delegate votes (which must include delegate votes from at least two branches from Regions that have more than one branch), NWSEO will reimburse reasonable airfare\*, 2-nights lodging at the Convention hotel, and approved group

meals for attendance at the 2018 NWSEO Convention at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. The 25 percent threshold will be based on the certified 2017 total votes for each respective region.

*\*In order for airfare to be reimbursed, you must be able to provide documentation that it is the lowest available rate, purchased at least 21 days before the convention, unless approved otherwise. Printed copies of airfares from Expedia or other travel sites will serve as documentation.*

<b>Unit/NWS Region Name</b>	<b>2017 Delegate Votes</b>
Aircraft Operations Center	27 votes
Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory	11 votes
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service	73 votes
NOAA Attorneys Guild	54 votes
NWS Alaska Region	75 votes
NWS Central Region	259 votes
NWS Eastern Region	228 votes
NWS Headquarters Region	118 votes
NWS National Centers for Environmental Prediction Region	126 votes
NWS Pacific Region	53 votes
NWS Southern Region	287 votes
NWS Western Region	200 votes

The names of branch stewards are listed on the NWSEO website at:

[http://www.nwseo.org/Directory/dir\\_index.php](http://www.nwseo.org/Directory/dir_index.php)

You may also obtain the names and email addresses of current branch stewards by contacting Christy Fox, Director of Membership Services via email at: [membership@nwseo.org](mailto:membership@nwseo.org).

**If you run as a delegate or alternate delegate, please plan to attend the convention.**

Nominees for delegate and alternate delegate should notify the appropriate Credentials Committee member as listed on page 6 of this letter. This will enable the Credentials Committee to ensure that all nominees appear on the ballots.

**2. VOTING PROCEDURES FOR BRANCH ELECTIONS- Mail ballots by Friday, July 6, 2018.** If more than one member is nominated for any branch office (branch steward/vice steward) or convention delegate/alternate delegate, the current branch steward must prepare a ballot for that position with the names of the nominees listed individually and mail the ballot to each member of that branch at the member's home address.

The steward **MUST** place the names of all nominees on the ballot. If this is not done, the branch votes may be invalidated. If you are a steward and you need help obtaining the home addresses for the members in your branch, contact Christy Fox at [membership@nwseo.org](mailto:membership@nwseo.org).

You may ask your vice-steward or any other NWSEO member in your branch to assist you with preparing and mailing the ballots. Do NOT do this on work time or with government equipment.

**THESE ELECTIONS ARE NOT OPTIONAL.**

**THE BRANCH STEWARD MUST HOLD AN ELECTION IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE NOMINEE. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, NWSEO MAY BE FOUND IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW AND COULD BE SUBJECT TO ENFORCEMENT ACTION BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.**

HOWEVER, if there is only one nominee for any particular office, there is no need to hold an election for that office, and there is no need to include that position on the ballot. That person is automatically “elected.”

Please notify your Regional Chair and your Credentials Committee member by email immediately after nominations close on Friday, June 1, 2018, if you do not need to conduct an election because there is only one nominee for each branch office (branch steward/vice steward, convention delegate/alternate delegate) and regional office.

If there are more than two nominees for any particular office on the ballot, then you should vote preferentially for each candidate. This means that you should designate your choices as “1”, “2”, “3”, etc. for each office. If you need help preparing the ballot or experience any difficulties, please contact Credentials Committee member for your region listed on page 6 of this letter. **Also please notify the credentials committee of your election results.**

**DO NOT SIGN OR OTHERWISE IDENTIFY YOURSELF ON YOUR BALLOT.**

**3. BALLOT COUNTING AND REPORTING** - The branch steward will establish a sealed box in which members will return their ballots no later than **Friday, July 20, 2018**. Although it is not required, it is recommended that the steward convene a local NWSEO meeting for the purpose of opening the ballot box and counting the ballots.

Each nominee has the right to have an observer at the polls and at the tallying of the votes per Article 8, Section 1 of the NWSEO Constitution and Bylaws. **The counting of the ballots should take place as soon after Friday, July 20, 2018 as possible.** Notification to the winning candidate of the results should be made **immediately** thereafter.

*If you are the branch steward*, you are responsible for counting the ballots. The elected steward is responsible for reporting the results. A branch steward may obtain the assistance of the vice-steward in counting the ballots and notifying all parties of the election results.

NWSEO By-Laws, Article IX, Section 2 states in part: “A newly elected branch officer will take over the position to which he/she was elected at the end of the meeting at which the election was held.”

**It is the responsibility of the new branch steward to ensure that the notification of election results is made.**

**There are three steps in reporting the election results:**

1. Post the election results locally and notify the current Regional Chairperson and Credentials Committee member of the election results.
2. Complete the "Designation of Delegate" form. Be sure to have it signed by the newly elected Branch Steward and mail it along with the ballots to the appropriate Credentials Committee member listed in the enclosure to this letter. Email notification of the convention delegate to the Credentials Committee is acceptable in lieu of a dated and signed "Designation of Delegate" form. If an election was held, the ballots must be sent to the Credentials Committee for certification of the results.
3. Provide a copy of the "Designation of Delegate" form to the delegate that you have elected.

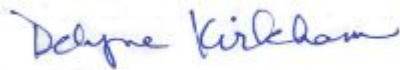
**Campaign Rules**

It is against the Department of Labor regulations to campaign for NWSEO office, to make nominations, or to solicit votes as a delegate from another branch using NWSEO stationery, NWSEO postage, an NWSEO email account, or otherwise at any NWSEO expense. It is a violation of Federal Law to campaign using any government property, including NWS or any other NOAA telephones, stationery, or email.

It is permissible, for a steward to use NWSEO stationery, postage or telephone to conduct the local election; i.e., preparation or mailing of ballots, or notification of results. A steward may claim reimbursement for any election expenses that are incurred by submitting a request and appropriate receipts to Dave Solano at the NWSEO mailing address. If you become aware of any NWSEO member campaigning at NWSEO expense, you should report the matter immediately to the Credentials Committee representative for your region listed on page 6 of this letter.

The procedures above are required by the NWSEO Constitution or By-laws or have otherwise been approved by NWSEO's National Council to ensure fair and democratic elections. If you become aware that any of these procedures are not being complied with, you should first discuss the matter with your local steward. If this does not correct the problem, please contact the Credentials Committee representative for your region listed on page 6 of this letter. They will be available to provide local branches with assistance needed to carry out local elections.

Very truly yours,



Delyne Kirkham  
NWSEO Elections/Credentials Committee Chair

**NWSEO Mailing address:**

National Weather Service Employees Organization  
601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, South Building, Suite 900  
Washington, D.C. 20004

## CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

If an election was held, the ballots must be sent to the Credentials Committee for certification of the results. (Email notification of the convention delegate to the appropriate Credentials Committee is acceptable in lieu of a dated and signed “Designation of Delegate” form.)

Copies of all nominations for delegate, “Designation of Delegate” forms and **hard copy** ballots must be **mailed no later than Monday, August 20, 2018** to the following Credentials Committee Contact for your region:

Credentials Committee Contact	Region	Regional Chairperson	Email
<b>Martin Lee</b> P.O. Box 3086 Duluth, MN 55803-3086 Email: Lee55803@gmail.com Cell: 218-206-4785 Work: 218-729-0645 Ext. 2	Central Alaska Pacific	Jim Lee Jim Brader Chris Jacobson	<a href="mailto:j.lee@nwseo.org">j.lee@nwseo.org</a> <a href="mailto:jimbrader@gmail.com">jimbrader@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:c.jacobson@nwseo.org">c.jacobson@nwseo.org</a>
<b>Delyne Kirkham</b> 3720 Paradise Drive Elko, NV 89801 Email: delyne@gmail.com Cell: 775-397-1993 Work: 775-778-6716	AOC AOML NESDIS	Todd Richards Jay Harris Hugh Sharkey	<a href="mailto:hurricane2tech@verizon.net">hurricane2tech@verizon.net</a> <a href="mailto:jayharris1@gmail.com">jayharris1@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:hughsharkey@yahoo.com">hughsharkey@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Angie Margrave</b> 3609 Memory Lane Amarillo, TX 79109 Email: AngieMargraveNWSEO@gmail.com Cell: 806-640-7224 Work: 806-318-4624	Eastern NCEP Southern	David Solano JoAnn Becker John Werner	<a href="mailto:hydrodave2@comcast.net">hydrodave2@comcast.net</a> <a href="mailto:j.becker@nwseo.org">j.becker@nwseo.org</a> <a href="mailto:srchair@nwseo.org">srchair@nwseo.org</a>
<b>Gerry Claycomb</b> 2050 Road 124 Cheyenne, WY 82009 Email: claycombge@gmail.com Cell: 417-379-5074 Work: 307-772-2468	Headquarters NAG Western	Mike Dion Mitch MacDonald Suzanne Sims	<a href="mailto:m.dion@nwseo.org">m.dion@nwseo.org</a> <a href="mailto:mitchmac2001@yahoo.com">mitchmac2001@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:s.sims@nwseo.org">s.sims@nwseo.org</a>



National Weather  
Service Employees  
Organization

**DESIGNATION OF DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE  
TO THE 2018 NWSEO CONVENTION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do certify that the members of Branch \_\_\_\_\_ elected, according to the rules of the National Weather Service Employees Organization's Constitution and Bylaws, the following delegate and alternate delegate to vote on any and all matters for the members of our branch, individually or collectively, that might come before the 43rd Annual National Convention to be held in Pittsburgh, PA on September 30-October 1, 2018.

Delegate-Elect (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Delegate-Elect (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steward or Vice-Steward