

# **PACE Region XI Constitution**

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## **Constitution and Bylaws**

*of the*

**Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers**

**International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC**

**Region XI Council**

Adopted September 22, 1999

### **PREAMBLE**

Believing it to be the natural right of those who toil, that they shall enjoy to the fullest extent the wealth created by their labor, realizing that it is impossible for us to obtain the full reward of labor except by united action and through democratic organization founded upon sound principles along economic, cooperative and industrial lines through which the natural resources and means of production and distribution can best be controlled, we hereby pledge ourselves to labor united in behalf of the principles set forth herein.

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Name and Purpose**

Section One - Name. This organization shall be known as the PACE Region XI Council and shall be a subordinate body and an affiliate of the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International Union.

Section Two - Authority. These Bylaws, as approved and amended from time to time by the Delegates of the Regional Council, must at all times adhere to the programs and mandates of the International Union, as set forth herein, or as may be promulgated under the International Constitution.

Section Three - Object. The object of this Regional Council shall be to secure unity of action and promote the programs and policies of the International Union; to carry out the mandate of the Regional Councils, as set forth in the International Union Constitution; to promote harmonious relationships among Local Unions; to secure legislation safeguarding and promoting economic security and the social welfare of all workers; to remain vigilant in the interest of preserving and extending civil rights and liberties within a free and democratic society, and; to advance the interests of working men and women represented by the Local Unions affiliated with the Council.

Section Four - Affiliation and Jurisdiction. Any Local Union of the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International Union, which is located in the geographical area designated as Region XI by the International Constitution may, by authority of the Local Union's Constitution, become affiliated with the Region XI Council and upon affiliation, will be subject to the provisions and regulations as set forth herein.

Section Five - Meetings. An annual meeting of the Regional Council will be held each year at a time and place to be designated by the Council, in consultation with the Vice President/Director of the Region. Special meetings may be called by

a majority of the Locals in the Council.

Section Six - Quorum. Representatives of a majority of the Locals in the Regional Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of such business as may come before the Council. No action of any meeting shall be invalid for lack of a quorum, unless the question of lack of a quorum was raised before such action was taken.

Section Seven - Representation. Each Local Union in the Regional Council shall be entitled to three (3) Delegates. Any Local with more than three hundred (300) members shall be entitled to one (1) additional Delegate for each three hundred (300) additional members, or major fraction thereof.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Officers and their Duties**

Section One - Officers. The Officers of the Regional Council shall be: President, First (1st), Second (2nd), Third (3rd) and Fourth (4th) Vice Presidents, Financial Secretary-Treasurer, three (3) Trustees, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Recording Secretary. These Officers shall comprise the Council Executive Board.

Section Two - Duties of Officers. The Council President shall preside at all meetings of the Regional Council when possible. He or she shall be responsible for the administration of the Council and shall assure that any business before the Council is transacted.

The Council Vice Presidents shall assist the President and preside in his or her absence.

The Council Financial Secretary-Treasurer shall collect all per capita tax and other monies due to the Regional Council and see that they are deposited in a responsible financial institution. He or she shall be the custodian of the funds of the Council and shall be covered by surety bond, paid for by the Council, in an amount prescribed by the International Union, and in compliance with applicable Federal law. He or she shall keep a complete and comprehensive set of books on the financial transactions of the Council, subject to the inspection of the Council Trustees, upon their request.

The Council Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Council meetings and shall furnish copies of same to all Council Locals, to the Vice President/Director of the Region and to the International President. He or she shall send meeting notices and credentials to the Presidents or Secretaries of each Council Local at least twelve (12) weeks prior to all meetings. He or she shall inform the Council President of all correspondence that is pertinent to Council meetings.

The Council Trustees shall serve as an auditing committee and shall be the custodians of the properties of the Council. They shall audit all financial records of the Council and report their findings to the Council Delegates at regular meetings. At least two (2) of the three (3) Trustees must be present at the time of each audit.

The Council Sergeant-at-Arms shall maintain order at all Council meetings, present Delegates and guests to Council meetings, and otherwise assist the presiding Officers in running a smooth and orderly meeting.

The Council Executive Board shall conduct emergency business between regular meetings of the Regional Council, if necessary to preserve the best interests of the Council, or as a means to comply with requirements of the International Constitution. A Quorum of the Council Executive Board shall be not less than seven (7) members.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Meetings**

Section One - Recommended Order of Business.

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
3. Roll call of Officers
4. Minutes of previous meeting
5. Report of the Regional Vice President(s)/Director(s)
6. Report of the Regional Rank-and-File Advisory Board member(s)
7. Report of Committees
8. Communications and bills
9. Report of Local Unions
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Good and welfare
13. Election and installation of Officers, when applicable
14. Appointment of Committees
15. Time and place of next meeting
16. Adjournment

Section Two - Guest Speakers. Guest speakers may be introduced when convenient to the guest and to the Council.

Section Three - Convention Committees. Regional representatives to Committees and standing Committees of the International Convention shall be elected at the regular Council meeting preceding the International Convention, or as otherwise required. In addition thereto, in the case of a vacancy which arises and needs to be filled in regards to the Rank and File Advisory Board, the Regional Council shall make provisions to fill such vacancy either by special election or by action of the Council Executive Board, subject to ratification by the Regional Council.

Section Four - Voting. The type of ballot and the election/voting procedure to be followed shall be determined by the Council. The election of standing Committees to the International Convention shall be by per capita vote.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### Finances

Section One - Per Capita. The following per capita tax, per member, per month, shall be levied upon each affiliated Local Union:

Effective January 1, 2000; Ten cents (\$0.10)

Effective January 1, 2001; Fifteen cents (\$0.15)

Effective January 1, 2002; Twenty cents (\$0.20)

Effective January 1, 2004; Twenty-five cents (\$0.25)

This per capita tax shall finance the functions and activities of the Regional Council. Payment, waivers and determinations of delinquency shall be determined by the following rules promulgated by the Council:

**Rule A. – Suspension.** Any Local Union in the Council which falls three (3) months in arrears with respect to per capita tax to the Regional Council shall be suspended from all rights and privileges of membership in the Council by the Council Executive Board. The Council Financial Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the suspended Local Union.

**Rule B. – Reinstatement.** Any Local Union in the Council which has been suspended from membership in the Regional Council for the above stated reason, shall be required to pay all back per capita tax to the Council, prior to their reinstatement.

These provisions may only be waived by a majority vote of the Council Executive Board in situations where an affiliated Local Union has been engaged in a strike or lock-out, or has been seriously impacted by other financial conditions.

**Section Two – Salaries.** The Council Financial Secretary-Treasurer’s salary shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per month, plus reimbursement for any Council expenses incurred.

**Section Three - Miscellaneous.** In cases where expenditures may be required between scheduled meetings of the Regional Council, the Council Financial Secretary-Treasurer shall be empowered to do so only after he or she has conducted a phone-poll of the Council Executive Board members, and provided that a majority of these Council Officers concur with any such expenditures.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Committees**

**Section One - Appointments.** The Council President shall appoint a Constitution Committee, Organizing Committee, Human Relations Committee, Legislative Committee and a Resolutions Committee at the beginning of every Council meeting. These Committees shall consist of not more than five (5) members, each of whom shall be elected Delegates to the Council meeting. These Committees may be advised by a staff representative designated by the Regional Vice President/Director.

**Section Two - Requirements.** Resolutions and proposed Constitutional Amendments will be considered by the respective Committees if they have been forwarded to the Council Recording Secretary postmarked not later than twenty (20) days prior to the opening date of the meeting, and must be submitted by an affiliated Local Union, signed by the President and Secretary-Treasurer of same and bearing the seal of such Local Union.

The Council Executive Board may also propose Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

**Section Three - Amendments.** This Constitution may only be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the per capita votes at a Regional Council meeting. Any and all amendments, changes, modifications or revisions thereof shall be submitted to the International President for approval.

**Section Four - Ad Hoc Committees.** The Council President shall have the authority to appoint such other Committees as he or she deems appropriate in order to assist in the transaction of business before the Regional Council.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### Elections

Section One - Eligibility. No member shall be eligible for election as an Officer or Representative of the Council until he or she has been a member in good standing of a Local Union that has been affiliated with the Council for a period of two (2) years, except that this will not apply to members in good standing of newly organized groups.

Section Two - Biennial Elections. Officers of the Region XI Council shall be elected to a term not to exceed two (2) years, or until a successor has been duly elected and has taken office.

Section Three - Interim Vacancies. With an interim vacancy in the office of Council President, the First (1st) Vice President shall become President for the unexpired term. An interim vacancy occurring in any other office of the Council shall be filled by appointment of the Council Executive Board, pending a special election at the next regular Council meeting to fill such unexpired term.

Section Four - Election Procedures. The type of ballot and the procedure to be followed in the election of Council Officers shall be determined by the Council at the time of, and immediately preceding nominations, and when requested by two (2) or more of the Delegates, balloting in the election of all Council Officers shall be by per capita vote.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### Oath of Office

All new Officers, before being admitted to fill the different offices of the Region XI Council, shall subscribe to the following obligation:

“I, , do solemnly pledge my word of honor, in the presence of this meeting, that I will uphold and defend the Constitution of the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International Union (PACE), and the Constitution and Bylaws of the PACE Region XI Council. I further solemnly pledge that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge all duties incumbent upon me as an Officer of the PACE Region XI Council, and will deliver to my successor in office all books, records, papers and property of the Council which are in my possession at the close of my official term.”

Approved By:

International President

Date

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