

## Voting at the Board of Governors Meeting

Voting on issues at the National level is done by Chapter Governors in any of the following instances:

- either at the regular Board of Governors meeting held in conjunction with the annual Convention
- a specially called meeting as described in Section 8.6(a) of the *Bylaws*
- when a ballot by mail is required

Much of the authority for this section may be found in Sections 4.4 and 8.6(b), (c) and (d) of the *Bylaws*.

### Determination of the Number of Votes to be Cast by Chapter Governor

The number of votes granted to a Chapter Governor is determined by the following factors as of the *date of record* (generally 30 days prior to the meeting or vote):

- A. One vote for each Permanent Member of the Chapter, as of the “Date of Record” **plus**
- B. extra votes for large Members, as provided for in Section 4.4 of the *Bylaws*. Specifically, each Member who worked more than 75,000 manhours, but less than 150,000 manhours during the previous calendar year earns 1 extra vote. The source for this information is the Service Charge Database updated from Service Charge Input and payments from chapters. Each Member who worked more than 150,000 manhours during the previous calendar year earns 2 extra votes, **minus**
- C. votes for delinquent Members, i.e., Members who have not paid the annual dues for the current year (if the voting is taking place after the deadline for annual dues payments - \$150) and/or Members who are more than 60 days delinquent in the payment of NECA service charges.

A decision at the January 1995 meeting of the NECA Executive Committee determined that any member who has paid **no** service charges during the previous twelve months is considered to be delinquent.

The formula A plus B minus C (see above) is used to calculate the votes for the Chapter. Note that while the references above are to *Members* the real issue is votes to be cast by the *Chapter Governor*. Each permanent membership is examined separately for currentness of payment. A Chapter may have reported and paid for **most** Members through the required payroll month, but the Chapter will **only** receive credit for those Members that are paid currently. Current payment means that the **Member must have paid the annual dues and service charges** for all payroll months through the *date of record* (payroll month through which service charges must be paid).

Chapters are advised of the date of record, deadlines for receipt of payments at Headquarters, and other pertinent information (including the consequences) via the ALERT. This announcement is generally made in May. Periodic reminders are also included in the ALERT. Managers are advised in advance of the meeting if their Governor will **not** receive any votes.

Determinations of vote counts are made by the Headquarters staff. Protests of Chapter vote totals may be made to Mike Thompson (301-215-4528), who in conjunction with the Credentials Committee appointed each year by the National President, will make final determinations regarding the number of votes that a Governor may cast for a Chapter.

**“DATE OF RECORD” FOR VOTING AT THE  
2011 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

Because the 2011 Board of Governors Meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 21, in San Diego, CA, the date of record is Wednesday, **September 21**. As of September 21, service charges should be paid through the payroll month of July (2011-07). Allowing for the 60-day grace period, any members whose service charges are not paid through the payroll month of May (2011-05) by September 21 will **not** receive a vote. Annual dues (\$150) for 2011 must also be paid by that date.

**Voting On Labor Relations Issues**

Section 8.6(b) of the Bylaws provides that on any matter pertaining to labor relations, the number of votes shall be limited to those attributable to members signatory to an I.B.E.W. labor agreement, i.e., the votes attributed to any Non-union Member of the Chapter shall be deducted for such ballots. The National President shall determine which matters presented to the Board of Governors meet this criteria.

Ballots presented to Governors will have two “counts” on their ballot book. One will include all qualifying Permanent Members of the Chapter (as described in the formula A plus B minus C) and will be the number cast for matters of a general nature, including elections of officers. The other “Labor Relations” count will exclude any non-union members. Of course, if there are no non-union members within a Chapter, the two counts will be identical.

**Rules for Casting Ballots**

In voting the ballot for the Chapter, a Governor must follow the **unit voting** method. This means that a Governor may **not** split his vote. The Governor may cast **all of the Chapter's votes** either FOR or AGAINST the proposal. In voting for Candidates, a Governor may cast all of the votes for one candidate. Of course, a Governor may abstain from voting on any issue.

The Governor must sign the ballot to insure that the ballot is being cast by an authorized representative of the Chapter.

Contact Mike Thompson for further information on voting.