



President's Report December 2016

2017 Oregon AFSCME Biennial Convention

The 2017 Oregon AFSCME Biennial Convention will convene at 6:00 p.m. on Friday April 28, 2017 at the Salem Convention Center, and adjourn on Sunday April 30, 2017.

Local 88 is entitled to 11 voting delegates, representing 3,513 convention votes (up from 10 delegates two years ago). The four Officers of the Local are automatic delegates per the Local 88 constitution, Article VII. The remaining 7 delegates will be elected by the membership at large. Additionally, the Local is entitled to elect up to 11 alternates.

The election process and eligibility requirements for delegates is consistent with that of electing officers, in that written notice of nominations must be mailed to members 15 days prior to the nomination. Notice will be in the Northwest Labor Press on January 2. Nominations will be taken at the January 18 General Membership meeting. Elections will be held at the February 15 General Membership. The deadline for submitting credentials to the Council is March 29. To be eligible, the candidate must be a member in good standing for one year at the time of the election.

It has been our past practice that nominees that do not receive enough votes for election are the alternates, in order of the number of votes received. For instance, we are voting for 7 delegates, the number 8 vote getter is the first alternate, number 9 is the second alternate, and so forth. Conflicts can and do arise, and at least one alternate has attended in place of an elected delegate in each of the last few Council and International conventions.

Resolutions and Constitutional Amendments must be certified by the President and Secretary, mailed to the Salem AFSCME office and postmarked by February 27th. As such, any amendments or resolutions to the convention must be passed by the Executive Board or General Membership no later than the February 15th General Membership meeting.

Any delegates may volunteer for any of 6 committees that are convened for the convention. The volunteer form will be submitted with the credentials. The committees are: Constitution, Credentials, Elections, Resolutions, Rules of Order, and Sergeant-at-Arms. Please note that members of the Credentials and Elections committees are not eligible to run for any office at the convention, including Executive Board. Please do ask if you have any questions about the committees.

The business of the convention mainly consists of voting on proposed constitutional amendments, resolutions, and elections. Elections for statewide officers and trustees (3) take place on Saturday. Elections of the Sector and Regional (PAC) District Vice Presidents take place on Sunday. The statewide officers and Sector and District VPs make up the Executive Committee (the equivalent of our Executive Board). Only one member from a given local can serve on the Executive Committee. Trustees are non-voting members of the Executive Committee and members from the same local can serve as trustees, in addition to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee meets monthly.

The Statewide Officers are President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Sectors include State, City, County, Independent, NLRB, and Special. Local 88 votes in the County Sector and to be eligible to run for Sector VP, you must work in that sector. The Regional District VPs are members of the Political Action Committee (PAC) and coordinate political activities for their districts. Local 88 votes in Regional District 3. To be eligible to run for Regional District Vice President (or serve on the PAC), you may work or live in that district. For instance, if you live in Regional District 1, you could run for District 1 VP or District 3 VP.

The Executive Board is the larger governing body of the Council and meets quarterly in Salem. The Board seats are distributed proportionally by sector, for which the County Sector, as the largest sector, has 36 seats. That said, each local can have no more than 2 members from the same local serve on the Executive Board. Elections for the Executive Board take place on Sunday after the Sector and Regional VP elections.

To recap, Local 88 can have one member on the Executive Committee, one or more Trustee, and up to two Executive Board members.

This year the annual Leadership Conference will take place on the Friday the 28th 10am-4pm, prior to the convention convening. Saturday, the Women's Committee is holding a fundraiser luncheon, and Saturday evening there is an AFSCME PEOPLE Casino Night with raffle prizes.

The host hotel is the Grand Hotel, next door to the Convention Center. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel prior to March 27th. It was our experience 2 years ago that the earlier reservations are made the better and at least a portion of our delegation had to stay at overflow hotels and had to drive or take a shuttle to the convention.

Respectfully submitted

Jason Heilbrun, President AFSCME Local 88