



Alaska State Employees Association ASEA/AFSCME Local 52

Anchorage Chapter

2601 Denali Street, Anchorage, AK 99503 907-277-5200

President

Braxton Bundick

Vice President

Paul Keller

Secretary

Samantha
Simien

Treasurer

Portia Hall

Board Members

Billy Stapleton
R. Tanner Howard
William Hurr
Vacant

Trustees

Lawrence Camp
Deadra Browne

Minutes

Anchorage Chapter Meeting

March 11, 2026

- I. **Call to Order at 5:35pm** – Quorum established - 15+ members in person and virtually
- II. **Agenda** – Motion to approve by Will Hurr; second by Ed Smyers; approved without objection
- III. **Secretary's Report (Samantha Simien)**
 - a. Samantha S. reported that when members attend meetings, please remember to sign in with QR Code and don't forget to complete survey after and give suggestions about future events in mobilize. We plan to have a calendar of events for the next couple of months that will be put on our website calendar and presented at the meetings for future updates.
 - b. **Minutes – Motion to approve January 14, 2026, minutes by Will Hurr, second by Tanner Howard; approved without objection. Motion to approve February 11, 2026, minutes by Portia Hall, second by Barbara Hall; approved without objection**
 - c. Mail – Samantha S. reported an invoice from Flowers by Louise, AT&T Bill, and another flyer from Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission for donations came in. We plan to look at future volunteer opportunities with the AGRM group.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** - Portia Hall presented Treasurer's report. Will Hurr asked about pending expenses based on prior motions made during the past EBoard and Chapter meetings and Portia H. stated she pulled everything that has been reported to her since February 2026. Kimberly Reynolds asked if the transfer of Treasurer documentation from the previous EBoard Treasurer has occurred because there is a difference from last month's report that was Quick Books, to this month's report that is in Excel. Portia H. indicated she currently has the chapter check book and Jodi Andres had the chapter's budget report updated to the end of January 2026. Portia H. then subtracted the February 2026 expenses and was able to present the chapter with the figures reported today. Jodi Andres has not provided the Treasurer's notebook and computer that has access to Quick Books. Once audits are completed, she should have everything transferred.
- V. **Staff Updates – (See email attached)**
 - a. MaryAnn Ganacias reported that the Anchorage Municipal Employees Association voted to join ASEA effective April 1, 2026. We are excited to have them join the ASEA team. Next week we have our ASEA Convention, she explained the meaning and process for the ASEA Convention, Friday March 20, 2026 at 5:30pm the Anchorage Chapter will sponsor a reception at the Sheraton Hotel and chapter members are welcome to attend, members can view our Business sessions on Saturday and Sunday March 21-22 starting at 8:30am, and we are having a special guest speaker – AFSCME International President Lee Saunders. Steward's training is coming up so if you are interested in becoming a Steward, please sign up before the next Basic Training on April 1, 2026.



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- b. Ed Smyers asked if we had any seats available for more delegates. Braxton Bundick said yes and if anyone is interested in becoming a delegate let him know to get more information. MaryAnn G. explained that delegates get time off covered by the union.
- c. Alliana Salanguit gave a legislative update. On the Municipal front, she spoke about the Labor Walks, endorsed candidates who were announced for each district and all bonds presented are supported, and the Legislative Townhall. Ed Smyers let everyone know that HB 78 will be presented to the legislature tomorrow at 1:30pm if they want to listen. Samantha Simien indicated members who are interested in joining the Saturday Labor Walks contact her so they can be added to the list and the list will be turned in to the CLC so they can get a head count.
- d. Samantha Harris reported membership numbers and gave information about the Alaska Teamsters in Matsu who are on strike in support of their school bus drivers.
- e. Bev Gagaring reported the next Lunch & Learn will be Wed. March 25, 2026, at 12pm.

VI. **State President and State Executive Board Comments/Report** – Ed Smyers reported he is the Central Seat for the State Executive Board, and they had an executive board meeting on February 24, 2026, in Juneau. They had a good time, they met a lot of new faces, and they were able to meet with legislators to talk about HB 78: Defined Benefits.

VII. New Business

- a. Braxton Bundick reported ASEA Convention is happening March 17-22, 2026 – Delegates packets can be picked up at Head Quarters (HQ)
- b. Audit Update – Samantha Simien reported that Trustee Lawrence Camp connected with her and provided an audit update. Trustees have received fiscal year 2022-2023 to have an audit completed. He was on the Anchorage Chapter EBoard that year and will not be able to complete that audit, but past Trustee Dante Graham will complete it. Trustees are still in need of fiscal years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, & 2025-2026 (July – Dec 2025 only). Dante Graham confirmed he received an email and will need to follow up.
- c. Samantha Simien updated the chapter regarding the past Chapter Meeting concern documented in the February 2026 meeting minutes regarding the chapter having five check signers instead of just three, and it was stated that the Chapter was in violation of the AFSCME Financial Standards Code by passing a motion to have five check signers. The EBoard has followed up with that concern and wanted to report to the chapter that based on findings reported in an email from Head Quarters (attached), **the Anchorage Chapter is not in violation of AFSCME Financial Standards Code** by having five check signers. The banks also have no concerns regarding that issue.
- d. Upcoming Calendar Events –
 - 1. Braxton Bundick reported the chapter purchased 60 Wolverine Hockey game tickets for March 13th and March 14th games (30 tickets per game). A Mobilize sign up went out for members to sign up and we have 150 members who have responded so far. Whoever is chosen will be notified tomorrow morning about picking up their tickets (member + guest) at HQ.
 - 2. Braxton Bundick talked about the importance of Labor Walks and encouraged members to attend on Saturdays at 10am.
 - 3. Tanner Howard presented a flyer and talked about the upcoming Rec Nights/Hot Fridays starting Friday, March 27th 5:30pm – 8:30pm here at HQ. There is no formal



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agenda, there will be video and board games available, and it is a way for members to connect within a safe place. Members are welcome to bring a craft or a book if they want to read. RSVP is not required but encouraged, and members can sign up with the QR code on the flyer.

4. Samantha Simien reported that the Solidarity Picnic will be on June 13th, 2026, at the Anchorage Airstrip, we spend \$5,000 to help sponsor this event, so please plan to come out. More updates will be given.
5. Braxton Bundick reported there is 1 vacant EBoard position available and vacant Committee Chair positions. Tanner Howard expressed the importance of joining and getting involved to get your voice heard. If it's not a board position, we also have the following committee vacancies - Refreshments, Website, Rallies, Elections, Adopt -a-Highway, League Sports

VIII. **Old Business** - Samantha Simien reported the Valentine's Day Card Making Event was a success. Over 40 members and their family attended and cards that were made went to the elders at the Anchorage Pioneer Home.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. **Stewards** - Billy Stapleton reported he got a motion approved to start doing Chief Steward Chats which are onsite visits at worksites with Stewards, members, and non-members twice a month starting in April 2026, donuts will be provided. Steward's Basic Training is April 1, 2026, Virtual Monthly Steward's Meeting is March 26, 2026 @ 12pm – 1pm. Please register with QR code or link and use the Zoom link in the invite that was sent. He was approved to purchase name tags for all Stewards. Remember to stay for the end of the meeting to be included in the door prize drawing. He handmakes amazing wooden plaques that the winner will be able to choose from.
- b. **Good & Welfare** - Report (attached) Kimberly Reynolds explained what G&W is and reported that new website language and forms were submitted to be updated and knowing her budget is helpful.
- c. **Scholarships** - Portia Hall explained the scholarships we currently have and where to find the information. Scholarships will start May 1st – June 19th. The website is being updated with new apps and information. New application questions are included, and don't forget to attend your required three meetings to be eligible.
- d. **Refreshments** - Braxton Bundick reported food came from Mama Carol's. If you would like to see food from a particular place, please let us know.
- e. **Veterans** – Ed Smyers reported that Memorial Day (May 25, 2026) and Veterans Day (November 11, 2026) are coming up. If anyone has any ideas about what they may want to do, please let him know.
- f. **Public Relations & Marketing (Portia Hall)** – No report
- g. **Next Wave** - Braxton Bundick reported the Super Mario Galaxy movie will be the next event coming up in April. More information will go out by email regarding this event and Easter gifts will be given out at this event. The Next Wave committee will also help to sponsor the Solidarity Social during the convention on Saturday at 6:00pm at the Sheraton Hotel. Business Agent Ryan Kopiasz showed a flyer and talked about the annual Solidarity Social hosted by the State Next Wave Committee and all Anchorage Labor Unions are invited to attend. Delegates and a guest are allowed to attend, and the



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Anchorage Chapter Next Wave will purchase tickets for their members and a guest to attend. We have a limit of 250 people who can attend. **Motion #26-03-C-01** made by Ed Smyers, second by Tanner Howard; passed without objection. Will Hurr asked about tickets for the event, and Ryan K. stated they will be printed by Friday. Will H. clarified his question and asked how the Anchorage member will obtain their ticket. Ryan K. stated once the email goes out, it will be first come first serve. Will H. suggested for the future we find a different way other than just emails to get information out about limited tickets offered for specific events. Samantha Simien called to question; no objections were made to end debate. Ryan K. thanked everyone for their consideration and for supporting the event.

- h. **No reports for the following Committees that are also vacant** - Hot Fridays, Website, Rallies, Elections, Adopt -a-Highway (This will be starting soon when break up happens), League Sports (Anyone interested in starting a team for any adult sport, let us know - Basketball, horseshoes, soccer, softball, flag football, bowling, axe throwing, etc.)
- X. **Member Comments** – Paul Keller explained what delegates and parliamentary procedures and how getting involved at this level will help you to learn more and get involved in future activities. Samantha Simien spoke about member participation with creating events for Rec Nights or on alternate nights where members can teach other members their crafts. We would like to start with making Graduation Leis in April, so if you know another member who can teach others how to do this, please let her know. The Leis that will be made can be kept or go toward scholarship recipients. Barbara Hall suggested the Leis could be given to seniors that are foster children.
- XI. **AFSCME International Convention (Chicago, IL)** – MaryAnn reported this convention will occur from Aug 17th – 21st. There are 7 seats available and staff are working on getting the notice of nominations out the week of April 20th by email. There is only a 15-day timeframe to get your nominations in, and the election will be an online ballot that will be sent in June. The trip is fully funded by ASEA, the only requirement is that you be a member in good standing. Watch for emails that will come out.
- XII. **Adjournment** – motion made by Portia Hall, second by Ed Smyers; passed without objection

Attendance obtained in person and through mobilize – Braxton Bundick, Paul Keller, Portia Hall, Samantha Simien, Tanner Howard, William Hurr, Billy Stapleton, Deadra Browne, Dante Graham, Ed Smyers, Sherry Cole, Susanne Oshiro-Yoshimura, Carolyn Wuitschick, LaVerne Kent, Christel Brito, Kimberly Reynolds, Belinda Miller, Seth Boyer, Joe Heitkamp, Barbara Hall, Isabell Wilkinson, Rachel Krane, Jo Auginaus, Eugene Loftin, Dixie Duryee, and Crystal Berwick

Samantha Simien



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PLEASE SIGN IN WITH THIS QR CODE, or LINK:



https://www.mobilize.us/afscmewesternregion/event/853928/?check_in_timeslot=5610618

Anchorage Chapter- General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, 3/11/2026, 5:30pm–6:30pm AKDT



samantha simien <samantha.simien@gmail.com>

Fwd: Staff updates for Mar 11, 2026 Membership meeting

1 message

Secretary ASEA-ANC <secretary.anc52@gmail.com>
To: samantha simien <samantha.simien@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 16, 2026 at 10:41 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Samantha Harris** <SamanthaH@afscmelocal52.org>
Date: Wed, Mar 11, 2026, 6:46 PM
Subject: Staff updates for Mar 11, 2026 Membership meeting
To: Anchorage Secretary <secretary.anc52@gmail.com>
Cc: Alliana Salanguit <AllianaS@afscmelocal52.org>, Bev Gagaring <BevG@afscmelocal52.org>

**Forgot to mention the highlighted portion
Shortened website and email addresses!**
Old emails addresses work but you can now simplify and send to staff first name plus first letter of last initial @asea52.org instead of @afscmelocal52.org

Same for our website - both will work but now can go to asea52.org instead of afscmelocal52.org

Anchorage Chapter numbers:

- BU size: 3950
- Members in good standing: 3073
- Percent membership: 77.8%
- Percent non: 22.2%
- Target to reach 80% = 87
- Target to reach 90% = 482

Alaska Teamsters Strike information:

If you have any time (on your personal time*), please stand in solidarity with our Teamsters brothers and sisters as they strike for a better contract not just for them, but for the students and parents who rely on their important work.

Join the picket line M-F, 8:30am -4pm. Note that pickets might be canceled during extremely cold or dangerous weather conditions.

Wear your ASEA green or come as you are - bundled up:

- Monday through Friday
- 8:30AM – 4:00 PM
- Location: Park and ride
 - [7450 E Blue Lupine Dr, Palmer, AK 99645](http://7450EBlueLupineDrPalmerAK99645)
 - You will be picked up by a Teamster shuttle driver and brought to the picket line. Parking is not available at the line.
 - Dress warm and prepare to be walking in icy conditions.

Alliana's AKLEG slides, attached

- Anchorage caucus town hall on Sat, Mar 14 from 2-4pm at Wendy Williamson Auditorium at UAA
- Labor Walks on Saturday mornings at IBEW (3333 Denali St.) at 10am
 - March 14
 - March 21
 - March 28 (last for this cycle)
- Text 52akleg to 237-263 for ASEA legislative updates
- Text 52akpac to 237-263 for ASEA PAC updates
- Contact AllianaS@asea52.org if interested in attending or joining the pac

- Lunch and Learn on Wed, March 25 at noon. Sign up through Mobilze: <https://www.mobilize.us/afscmewesternregion/event/859992/>

Solidarity Social

- Saturday, March 21 @ 6pm at the Sheraton Hotel - Howard Rock Ballroom

ASEA Convention

- Saturday, Friday, March 20 - 21 at the Sheraton.
- Members in good standing are welcome to attend as a guest on their own time if interested

AFSCME Convention

- Aug 17 - 21st
- In Chicago!
- Email with more info forthcoming



Text 237-263 52AKLeg for AK leg updates 52AKPAC for PAC updates.pdf
7504K

**HB 78: RETIREMENT
SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT
OPT**

**HB 300: STATE EMPLOYEES:
MEALS/TRAVEL EXPENSES**

**GEOGRAPHIC
DIFFERENTIAL STUDY**

HB 263 - OPERATING BUDGET

Text 237-263

***52AKLeg
for AK leg updates***

***52AKPAC
for PAC updates***



Hang out w/ us
every third
tuesday (Sign up
to be a PAC
director here)



Endorsed Candidates



LABOR WALKS - MARCH -

Join the Alaska AFL-CIO and Anchorage Central Labor Council as we knock on thousands of union member doors this election cycle!

COFFEE + DONUTS PROVIDED

- ✓ Saturday at 10 AM
- ✓ Anchorage IBEW Hall
- ✓ 3333 Denali Street #200



7th
14th
21st
28th

Sydney Scout

Assembly District 1, Seat B

-

Kyle Walker

Assembly District 2, Seat C

-

Anna Brawley

Assembly District 3, Seat E

-

George Martinez

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

George Martinez

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

Zac Johnson

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

Rachel Blakeslee

School Board

-

Paul McDonogh

School Board

Text 237-263

52AKLeg for AK leg updates

52AKPAC for PAC updates



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Ballot Proposition Information Fair

Hosted by the Office of the Mayor



 **Thursday, March 19**
 **5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**
 **Loussac Library**

3rd Floor –
Ann Stevens Room & Galleria
 Coffee and cookies provided

Join Mayor Suzanne LaFrance for an information fair about the funding measures appearing on the April municipal ballot.

Staff from several **Municipality of Anchorage** departments will be available to share information and answer questions about the ballot propositions.

Participating MOA Departments:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Loussac Library | • Police |
| • Fire | • Project Management & Engineering |
| • Maintenance & Operations | • Public Transit |
| • Parks & Recreation | • Traffic |

Sydney Scout

Assembly District 1, Seat B

-

Kyle Walker

Assembly District 2, Seat C

-

Anna Brawley

Assembly District 3, Seat E

-

George Martinez

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

George Martinez

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

Zac Johnson

Assembly District 5, Seat I

-

Rachel Blakeslee

School Board

-

Paul McDonogh

School Board

Text 237-263

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Participating MOA Departments:

- Loussac Library
- Fire
- Maintenance & Operations
- Parks & Recreation
- Police
- Project Management & Engineering
- Public Transit
- Traffic

Scan to learn
more about the
ballot measures



Text 237-263

***52AKLeg
for AK leg updates***

***52AKPAC
for PAC updates***



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please join us

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
2 - 4 pm

Wendy Williamson
Auditorium at UAA

2533 Providence Dr, Anchorage, AK 99508

ANCHORAGE DELEGATION
is hosting a

LEGISLATIVE TOWN HALL



Text 237-263

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for AK leg updates

52AKPAC
for PAC updates



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- Anchorage Caucus Townhall
 - *Sat. Mar. 14, 2-4 pm*
- Municipal Election Door-knocking
 - *Every Saturday, 10 am*
- HB 263 operating budget testimony
 - *Fri. Marc. 13, 1:30 pm*
 - *Call 907-465-4648 or 907-586-9085*
 - *Email house.finance@akleg.gov*

Text 237-263

***52AKLeg
for AK leg updates***

***52AKPAC
for PAC updates***



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PAC/Contributor
director here)



Fwd: Motion for appointed trustees & multiple signers

Braxton B <braxtonlocal52@gmail.com>
To: Samantha Simien <samantha.simien@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 17, 2026 at 9:04 AM

Braxton Bundick
Next Wave Committee Chair
AFSCME Local 52
www.afscmelocal52.org
NEXT WAVE



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Maryann Ganacias** <MaryannG@afscmelocal52.org>
Date: Wed, Feb 11, 2026, 11:50 PM
Subject: Motion for appointed trustees & multiple signers
To: Braxton B <braxtonlocal52@gmail.com>
Cc: Samantha Harris <SamanthaH@afscmelocal52.org>

Hi Braxton,

The motion to appoint secondary trustees is out of order – which means it conflicts with our governing documents – specifically, your chapter bylaws.

- Your bylaws provide for elected trustees. If there is a vacancy in the trustee seat, then and only then can the Chapter Executive Board appoint or elect if there is a showing of interest from more than one member. If a trustee submits a written resignation, then the seat can be declared vacant. If they are absent, that is not a vacancy.
- Can second/alternate trustees be appointed if done through an amendment in the bylaws? Only if those alternate trustees are also elected.
- Risks: Undermining the vote of the membership, who have elected the trustee to do the job. There can also be confusion on authority as the role of an elected officer is not transferrable. The elected trustees carry the fiduciary responsibility.
- If you want to avoid delayed audits in the future, my recommendation is the chapter amend the bylaws to add a third trustee position and specifying a quorum for audits – e.g., Audits to be performed by a minimum of two trustees.

The motion on the five (5) signatories is in order as internal controls are specified in the chapter's bylaws.

✍ There are no provisions in our governing documents that limit the number of signers; however, should be specified in our governing documents.

✍ AFSCME Financial Standards states that there shall be at least one additional signer.

✍ Chapter Bylaws – Article V has specific internal controls for the signers and the chapter must follow the language specified under the duties of officers.

✍ The bylaws allow for up to five check signers in the following manner:

1. [TREASURER] The Treasurer prepares and signs.

2. [PRESIDENT] The President is the countersigner (second signer on the check).
3. [DESIGNATED BOARD MEMBER] The President can designate a countersigner, with board approval, to countersign in the absence of the President. In the absence of a designee, the duty falls to the VP.
4. [VP] The Vice-President acts in absence of the President. The VP can, in the absence of the Treasurer, prepare, sign and countersign.
5. [SECRETARY] In the absence of the VP acts as the President. The Secretary can, in the absence of the Treasurer or VP, prepare, sign and countersign.

Feel free to forward this to your board and we can discuss further at training.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Best regards,

MG



MaryAnn Ganacias
Asst. Executive Director
ASEA/AFSCME Local 52

(907) 277-5220 Desk | (907) 787-9590 Cell
(800) 478-2732 Toll Free | (907) 277-5206 Fax
www.afscmelocal52.org



MaryAnn Ganacias
Asst. Executive Director
ASEA/AFSCME Local 52

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(800) 478-2732 Toll Free | (907) 277-5206 Fax
www.afscmelocal52.org

image001.png
41K

G&W committee update

5 messages

K Reynolds907 <kreynolds907@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 4, 2026 at 1:08 PM

To: Braxton B <braxtonlocal52@gmail.com>

Cc: ANCGood.n.Welfare@gmail.com, samantha simien <samantha.simien@gmail.com>, "secretary.anc52@gmail.com" <secretary.anc52@gmail.com>

Hello,

The transition has been challenging for a variety of reasons, and I haven't yet had the space to fully step into the role or manage requests from start to finish. To keep things organized and ensure nothing is missed, I've asked Samantha, the previous chair, to complete the outstanding items (she accepted). I'm hopeful that things will settle into a smoother rhythm in the coming weeks.

Below is a suggested update for the website to include celebratory events and refreshed contact information.

Suggested change**Good & Welfare Committee Support Program**

The Good & Welfare Committee is a source of care within our union. A group committed to honoring the full range of life's moments with compassion, presence, and solidarity. We recognize that every member carries joys, burdens, milestones, and losses, and that these moments feel different when a community reaches out with kindness.

As part of this support, we may send flowers, a plant, a small gift, or make a charitable donation in honor of a member, union staff person, or their immediate family within the 2nd degree of kindred (spouse, children, stepchildren, mother, father, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister, brother, grandparent, or grandchild). These gestures are meant to bring a bit of comfort, encouragement, or shared joy—nothing grand, just a quiet acknowledgment that someone is held in community.

Support is available for:

- **Times of loss**, when a member or an immediate family member has passed away and the community's comfort can help ease the weight of grief.
- **Times of illness or healing**, when a member or an immediate family member is facing serious illness or recovering from surgery and could use a gesture of strength and solidarity.
- **Times of joy and new beginnings**, when births, adoptions, marriages, retirements, or other meaningful milestones invite celebration and shared happiness.

To request support, the member simply completes the order form for the person being recognized. Send the completed form to ancgood.n.welfare@gmail.com. If you have any questions, the Anchorage Chapter Good and Welfare Committee Chair is available to assist.

Contact information needs to be updated.

Also, I've also included the updated request form, which now reflects those celebratory options.

