



AFT-West Virginia AFL-CIO

AFT-West Virginia
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CONVENTION CALL

AFT-West Virginia

To be held virtually on November 14, 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Vice President

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Jerry Throckmorton

Terry Cunningham, Ex-Officio

October 2020

ALL AFT-WV MEMBERS

Fraternal Greetings:

In compliance with Article VI of the AFT-WV Constitution, the Executive Board officially issues this call for the Federation's Constitutional Convention, scheduled to convene as follows:

Date/ Time: **Saturday, Nov. 14** \$40.00 Delegate Registration Fee per delegate is waived this year

9:00AM - 3:00 PM **Convention & Workshops**

Convention & Election of Officers

The 2020 AFT-WV Constitutional Convention will be held virtually this year due to COVID-19. This is not an election year. It is the main purpose of this convention to review any needed or requested amendments to our state constitution and/or by-laws and conduct the regular convention business of the union. We wish to encourage every local to send representation. Your participation in your state federation will help to ensure its success in the coming years.

Fraternally submitted,
Executive Board

Fred Albert, President

Excerpts of Constitutional Provisions Relating to Conventions

AFT-WV CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE VI - CONVENTIONS

Section 1: ARTICLE VI- CONVENTIONS

SECTION 1: Conventions of the state federation will be on an annual basis. A special convention may be called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the executive board, or by a petition of a majority of the affiliates.

SECTION 2: Every affiliate shall be allowed one (1) delegate to the annual convention for every 25 dues-paying members or portion thereof.

SECTION 3: For the purpose of this article, membership shall mean the average number on which per capita has been paid for the first six (6) months of the eight (8) month period immediately preceding the month in which the convention meets, provided:

A. That no affiliate in bad standing (as defined in Article IV, Section 2) at the time of the convention shall be entitled to representation.

B. That, in the case of affiliates which have been established during the eight (8) months preceding the convention, the average shall be computed on the basis of the number of months of affiliation, the minimum for such computation to be two (2).

C. The treasurer of the state federation shall notify each affiliate of the roll call strength of that affiliate for convention vote purposes. Prior to the casting of any roll call vote, the treasurer shall post a notice reflecting the roll call vote entitlement of each affiliate in attendance at the convention.

D. For the purpose of determining the delegate strength of an affiliate at a state convention, all members are to be counted in proportion to the amount of state per capita paid. Such payment shall be made to the state office no later than 15 days prior to the convention.

E. Every affiliate within Local #8046 is entitled to elect its convention delegates from among its ranks. These delegates are thereby eligible to cast votes during any state convention for that affiliate. Members not attached to an affiliate may cast their own votes in the election of officers. These members may caucus and elect a delegate from among their ranks. Any delegates elected under the provisions of this paragraph shall follow the stipulations as outlined in Section 2 of this Article.

SECTION 4: Delegates to the convention must display proper credentials in order to be seated at the convention. The appropriate number of credentials will be sent to each affiliate by the state treasurer at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the convention.

SECTION 5: Delegates to the AFT-West Virginia convention shall be elected in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1A, of the American Federation of Teachers.*

**Delegates and/or alternates to the convention shall be elected by secret ballot. Members of each local must be given suitable opportunity to nominate candidates for the office of delegate and alternate. Notice of the right to make nominations must be sent to each member or given prominent place in the local publication and on bulletin boards. Notice of the right to make nominations and notice of the election may be combined in one (1) notice. Written notice announcing the time and place of the election of delegates must be mailed to each member at least fifteen (15) days prior to the election. The results of the election must be published and the ballots kept for one (1) year.*

ARTICLE VII - VOTING

Section 1: Voting on issues may be by voice, division of the house, or by a roll call.

A) A motion calling for a roll call vote shall require a one-fourth (1/4) vote for adoption.

B) On all roll calls at the convention, each local represented shall be entitled to a number of votes equal to the average membership as defined in Article VI, Section 3, of this constitution. The votes of a local shall be distributed as evenly as possible among the delegates present at the time of the voting, but votes shall not be fractionated. All additional votes shall be assigned by lot or by an objective formula which has been previously reported to the treasurer of AFT-West Virginia, with no delegate getting more than one of the additional votes.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1: This constitution can be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting at a state convention provided one of the following conditions is met: **a)** an amendment can only be submitted by an affiliate after gaining approval of its general membership vote according to the affiliate's constitution; **b)** amendments may be submitted by the Executive Board after gaining approval of a majority of the board.

Section 2: A proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the secretary so as to be postmarked at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention date.

AFT-WV BY-LAWS

ARTICLE II - COMMITTEES

Section 3: Credentials Committee - A) The Credentials Committee shall consist of three (3) members: the treasurer, who shall chair the committee, and two (2) members who shall be recommended by the president and approved by the executive board in a meeting prior to the convention. **B)** The primary duties of the Credentials Committee shall be the

registration of delegates and the determination of delegate voting strength represented at the AFT-WV Convention.

ARTICLE III - AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote at any convention provided notice of the contemplated change has been submitted to the secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

ARTICLE IV - RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Section 2: Resolutions to the convention may be introduced by locals, affiliates, or the Executive Board of AFT-West Virginia. No resolution shall be introduced later than two (2) weeks prior to the opening of the convention except by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the convention. All resolutions shall bear the signature of at least two (2) elected officers of the local or

affiliate introducing the resolution. The officers' signatures on the resolution shall certify that the resolution was approved for submission to the convention. The resolution shall contain the title and shall be submitted to the president of AFT-West Virginia in typewritten form. Resolutions so submitted shall be mailed from the AFT-WV office to locals and affiliates prior to the convention, if possible.

Section 3: The Resolutions Committee shall present to the convention each resolution properly submitted. Resolutions shall be addressed by the convention as time allows. In no event shall resolutions be considered until all proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws have first been voted upon and resolved.

Section 4: Resolutions upon which no action has been taken shall die when the convention adjourns.

LOCALS IN GOOD STANDING

Affiliates of the AFT-WV shall pay per capita which is due on the fifteenth (15th) day of each month for the previous month. An affiliate will be considered in bad standing on the sixtieth (60th) day of nonpayment of per capita. Locals in bad standing are not entitled to delegate representation at the Convention or the election.

A local in good standing is defined as being less than sixty (60) days in arrears in dues payment. For the purposes of the 2020 Convention, locals must have per capita paid through August 2020. SUCH PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE TO THE STATE OFFICE NO LATER THAN 15 DAYS PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION (October 30, 2020).

SELECTION OF DELEGATES

Each local must conduct an election to determine its delegates. These delegates and/or alternates shall be elected by secret ballot. Every affiliate shall be allowed one (1) delegate to the convention for every 25 dues-paying members or portion thereof. The number of delegates allowed shall be determined by the average number of members on which per capita has been paid for the first six (6) months of the eight (8) month period immediately preceding the month in which the convention meets (i.e. the average number of members from February through July).

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES

Due to COVID-19, credentialing will be conducted online this year. Local presidents will receive an email with an electronic credential link. The local president will provide the link to each of their elected delegates to complete. Each credential shall be submitted to the state office no later than October 30, 2020.

Federation officers, by virtue of their office, may be delegates to the AFT-WV Convention with the ability to cast only one vote. If an officer is a delegate of an affiliate, he/she may not also serve as a delegate by virtue of state office.

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AFT-WV CONVENTION CALL

**Due to COVID-19, the convention will be held VIRTUALLY this year.
Therefore, the \$40 delegate registration fee will be waived.
Please visit www.aftwv.org to register for convention.**