

FIRST CLASS



October 2021

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF POSTAL CREDIT UNIONS

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NCUA MARIANTE

NCUA Chairman Todd Harper's quest for re-nomination got off to a good start during his hearing before the Senate Banking Committee. Chairman Sherrod Brown (D-OH) was receptive to the nomination and a full vote by Senate could be on the November calendar.

The only roadblock could be GOP senators who might attempt to hold up all appointments due to the Democrats slim (or non-existent) margin in the Senate.

Speaking of the Senate, at this time it appears that the Republicans will take back both the House and Senate in 2022. This sets up a difficult dynamic for the Biden Administration as the Republican majority will not be inclined to provide any "wins" for the White House as we head into the 2024 presidential race.

USPS



In May, the Senate confirmed Anton Hajjar, Amber McReynolds and Ron Stroman to serve on the Postal Board of Governors. The Postal Board now has a full complement of governors for the first time in more than a decade.

The Board is responsible for major decisions about the Postal Service's operations, policies and expenditures.

The new Governors will have the power to push for speedier delivery, fight against post office closures, expand postal services and work to keep the Postal Service committed to a vibrant plan of action.

As currently constituted, the Board consists of eleven members which includes the Postmaster General and Deputy Postmaster General.

The Board consists of:

Ron Bloom, Chairman

Roman Martinez IV, Vice Chair

John Barger | Robert M Duncan

Anton Hajjar | Donald L. Moak

Amber McReynolds

Ron Stroman | William D. Zollars

Douglas Tulino,

Deputy Postmaster General

Louis DeJoy,

Postmaster General

The first meeting of the new Board got off to a tense start as the newest Board members voiced their displeasure with the agency's direction while Postmaster General Louis DeJoy stated he will still move forward with reforms.

The disagreements surrounded Postmaster General Louis DeJoy's plan to slow down deliveries for some mail and packages, a key element of the embattled leader's 10-year blueprint to improve USPS' service and financial footing.

Continued next page...



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USPS (continued)

It was the first meeting with a full slate of governors on the postal board in more than a decade, after Biden nominated and the Senate confirmed individuals for the final three slots in recent months.

Ronald Stroman, the former deputy postmaster general and one of Biden's nominees, took the most aggressive approach in criticizing the plan, saying the delivery slowdowns would hinder the agency's ability to provide prompt and reliable service without federal funding. He said the plan is "strategically-ill conceived, creates dangerous risks that are not justified by the relatively low financial return, and doesn't meet our responsibility as an essential part of America's critical infrastructure." USPS expects to save about \$170 million annually from the changes, a small fraction of its operating budget.

Although Democrats in Congress would like to see the Board name a new Postmaster General, there don't appear to be enough votes to do that as Chairman Ron Bloom, a Trump-appointed Democrat, has voiced support for DeJoy.

National Council of Postal Credit Unions

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