

OUT OF ORDER!

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER (RRO) was created after the Civil War by a US Army officer, Henry Martyn Robert. RRO lays out procedures for getting proposals raised, discussed, amended, and voted on in meetings directed by a chairperson. RRO is based on the belief that a majority can be counted on to make decisions that will work for the whole group, and that rules for orderly deliberation are the best guide to getting there.

Local 514 adopted RRO to conduct its membership meetings because is efficient at getting through an agenda. The Rules focus choosing proposals that are supported by a majority of those attending our membership meetings and empowers them to make workable decisions in a timely, orderly manner. The goal is for the membership to manage its Local.

When motions are made and the chairperson or president declares a motion to be "out of order," it is usually because the motion would violate the Local's guidelines or the TWU constitution. Sometimes a motion is ruled out of order because it would require the local to violate a state or federal law. During the last TWU board meeting, President Sam Cirri declared a motion to purchase Tulsa Talons tickets for our membership out of order. Sam knew that a previous motion to purchase hats for our members had already been made and seconded. Adding the price of the Talons tickets would violate a previous motion made by Greg Sewell back in 2008 that limits the amount of money the local can spend on promotions and entertainment.

Out of order sounds negative, and anyone who has been around AA and Local 514 very long has heard the story about how they got tired of hearing a certain union president saying, "out of order, Brother" so they will not attend union meetings anymore. The story has been told so much it has legendary status, even though that president has been gone for almost twenty years. Sam has the duty as chair of the union meeting to use the term "out of order" to steer the meeting and get the business of the union taken care of as efficiently as possible. The use of the term "out of order" may be heard from time to time; not to be confused with calling a member out of order, but to handle the business of the Union.

"Out of order" can always be challenged under Roberts rules of order. Anytime the chair makes a decision, that decision may be appealed. Any voting member who wishes to appeal a decision may do so by saying, "*I appeal the decision of the chair.*" If the appeal is seconded, the chair then asks, "On what grounds do you appeal my decision?" The member states the reasons. The chairperson then speaks briefly to the intent of the ruling being appealed. The body may then debate the ruling and the merits of the appeal. A vote is taken, requiring a simple majority to overrule the original decision of the chairperson.

Four Motions that are Always Out of Order!

1. Motions that conflict with laws (federal, state, or local), or with bylaws, constitution, or rules of the organization;
2. Motions which present something already rejected during the same session, or conflict with a motion already adopted;
3. Motions which conflict with or present substantially the same question as one which has been temporarily disposed of (meaning, *Postponed, Laid on Table, Referred to Committee, or Being Reconsidered*);
4. Motions which propose actions beyond the scope of the organization's bylaws. (However, a 2/3 vote may allow this kind of motion).

ARTICLE VIII Elections

(a) Commencing in 2011, the Election Board consisting of five members shall be elected at the regular membership meeting in February of every third year (following the regular officers elections). In order to be eligible for nomination and election to the Election Board a member must be in good standing and have attended at least three (3) regular membership meetings during the previous twelve (12) months. Replacement to any vacancy on the Election Board shall be by appointing the alternate, in order of the votes they received at the time of election.

Below is a copy of the election committee ballot to be voted on at the February 28 membership meeting. You must be present to vote. No absentee ballot will be accepted and if you attend more than one February membership meeting you will only be eligible to vote at the first meeting for which you signed in.

TWU, Local 514 Election Committee

Ballot 2011

Vote for only five (5) Election Committee Members

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Gorremans	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Cecil
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheila Bryant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Danny Kinser
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Andrasko	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Craft
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carolyn Napier	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elaine Gibson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annie Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Richards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Fridley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mark Lawson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Virginia Glynn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kendal Anderson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Dean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Fuselier
<input type="checkbox"/>	Troy Turner	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jed Barker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don Johnson		