



**NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20572

(202) 692-5000

In the Matter of the  
Application of the

**ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT  
ATTENDANTS-CWA AND UNITED  
STEELWORKERS**

alleging a representation dispute  
pursuant to Section 2, Ninth, of  
the Railway Labor Act, as  
amended

involving employees of

**THE PINNACLE SYSTEM**

39 NMB No. 43

CASE NO. R-7324

FINDINGS UPON  
INVESTIGATION-  
AUTHORIZATION OF  
ELECTION

May 17, 2012

On June 9, 2011, Association of Flight Attendants-CWA (AFA-CWA) filed an application with the National Mediation Board (Board) pursuant to the Railway Labor Act, as amended, 45 U.S.C. § 152, Ninth, alleging a representation dispute involving the craft or class of Flight Attendants of Pinnacle Airlines, Inc. (Pinnacle), Mesaba Aviation, Inc. (Mesaba) and Colgan Air, Inc. (Colgan) (“the Carriers” collectively)<sup>1</sup>. The application requested an investigation to determine the existence of a single carrier for representation purposes among the craft or class. The application was assigned NMB File No. CR-7017 and Eileen Hennessey was assigned to investigate.

At the time this application was filed, AFA-CWA represented the Flight Attendants at Mesaba. The United Steelworkers (USW) represents the Flight Attendants at both Pinnacle and Colgan. The Board found in *Pinnacle Airlines/The Former Mesaba Aviation/ Colgan Air*, 39 NMB 327 (2012) that Pinnacle and Colgan are operating as a single transportation system known as

<sup>1</sup> The Carriers are subsidiaries of Pinnacle Airlines Corp. (Pinnacle Corp.).

the Pinnacle system for the craft or class of Flight Attendants.<sup>2</sup> The Board based this determination on its investigation, including submissions from the participants.

For the reasons set forth below, this decision authorizes an election among the Flight Attendants.

AUTHORIZATION OF ELECTION

Once the Board determines that a single transportation system exists, it examines the potential representation issues. The Board's investigation establishes that there are 1,912 Flight Attendants in the Pinnacle system. Both organizations have submitted a sufficient showing of interest and the Board authorizes an election among the craft or class of Flight Attendants on the Pinnacle system, using a cut-off date of June 1, 2011.<sup>3</sup> AFA-CWA and USW will appear on the ballot and the count will take place in Washington, DC.

The Carrier is hereby required to furnish, within 5 calendar days, 1" X 2-5/8" peel-off labels bearing the alphabetized names and current addresses of those employees on the List of Potential Eligible Voters. The Carrier must also provide to the Board the name and sequence number of those potential eligible voters who reside outside of the United States.

By direction of the NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD.



Mary L. Johnson  
General Counsel

Copies to:  
Chris Harrison  
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<sup>2</sup> Mesaba ceased operations on January 4, 2012. The former Mesaba Flight Attendants are included in the Pinnacle system.

<sup>3</sup> The showing of interest requirements are met in this case regardless of whether the Board employs the standards set forth in RLA Section 2, Twelfth, 45 U.S.C. § 152, Twelfth or the standards set forth in the NMB's Representation Manual (RepresentationManual) Sections 19.601 and 19.602.

Carol Landry  
David Jury  
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