

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

General Membership Meeting Minutes
November 7th, 2015

Preceding the opening roll call, President Amy Puhalski asked all Veterans present to stand and be recognized. Applause followed.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following officers were present:

President – Amy Puhalski	Clerk Craft Director – Jeff Schellinger
Executive Vice-President – Mike Long	Maintenance Craft Director – Joe Hall
Treasurer – Linda Chandler	Sergeant at Arms – John Hansma
Associate Office Director – Jack Fryling	Recording Secretary – Jennifer Gilbert
Motor Vehicle Craft Director – Chris Fisher	

The following officers were absent:

Review of previous meeting's minutes: To accept the October General Membership Meeting minutes with the date added at the bottom. Motion by: Jack Fryling Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership): Motion by Michael Long to accept applications for new membership in the WMAL Seconded By: Linda Chandler Carried. Welcome new members of the WMAL:

Jennifer Phillips PSE Clerk P-Campus
Heather Giardina PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Kendria Fuscone PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Arthur Menzel PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Victoria Turrell FTR Clerk Jenison
Walter Reed Maintenance Grand Rapids
Skye Singleton PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Mary Hattie PSE Clerk Comstock Park
Nicole Gresham PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Joshua Reed PSE Clerk Rockford

Stephen Newton PSE Clerk Byron Center
Melodie Leighty PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Karol Miller PSE Clerk Grand Rapids
Anthony Mills PSE Motor Vehicle Craft
Donald Hammock PSE Motor Vehicle Craft
Douglas Hoople FTR Maintenance
Scot Irons PSE Clerk P-Campus
Aaron Simmons PSE Motor Vehicle Craft
Avis Lane PSE Clerk Holland

Bills: NONE

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was read at the meeting. Copies of report are available from treasurer. Accepted.

President's Report:

Spoke about a prime choice arbitration case at the last meeting. The arbitrator accepted briefs from both parties and will decide if the issue is arbitrable. If he accepts it then it will be rescheduled immediately.

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1.6 settlements. Got a list of names. 134k in settlement money to several clerks. Not sure when the payout is going to come. Attempting to contact those receiving the settlement so they are aware.

Labor charges filed on stewards' time for maintenance steward Joe Hall. If anyone wants to be a steward even if on a short-term basis please step up and let Amy know.

Holidays in the Grand Rapids Installation. All buildings are one installation for holiday scheduling. Just because you are not automation qualified doesn't mean you get to have the holiday off. If you are junior to someone forced in automation you will be working. This is per our LMOU.

Contract: National President gave an update. We are going to arbitration. Hoping to get through arbitration by next summer. Proposals include an all-career workforce, keep colas, wage increases, better customer service, expand financial services. Current contract is still in effect until new contract is signed off on.

Since March 2014 there have been more than 24,000 PSEs converted to full-time.

APWU continues to ask members to support COPA by making contributions.

Get a copy of 3971s back when you submit for leave. Have management sign it when they receive it then request a copy and make sure they give you one.

Executive Vice-President's Report:

Stewards' training December 1st at the union hall. Stewards let me know if you are attending. Thanks to all the Veterans. Thanks for sending members of the board and stewards that went to the All-Craft conference. They will assist in training on December 1st. Roosevelt Stewart came in from National and did a Secretary-Treasurer training in Traverse City last week. Finally got the payout figured out for the overtime grievance for P-1. Welcome to David Hoyle, new steward for the P-campus. Issue with 204-bs, vacancies in the craft that are being filled by employees and those employees are applying for those vacancies. Lot of info on APWU.org, be sure to visit the website.

Recording Secretary Report

Attended the Secretary-Treasurer's training in Traverse City. First one I had been to, had assisted in one before but actually got to sit down and go through the class. Learned a lot of information. Hope everyone has been watching the debates and forums on TV. Republican debate was a three-ring-circus. Democratic debate was informational. Democratic forum was hosted by Rachel Maddow and designed to get to know the personality of candidates better. Had a lot of questions not pertaining to political issues but more geared to candidates on a personal level. Need to get our young people to pay attention and vote in the next election. APWU has not endorsed anyone as of the date of this meeting. Need to keep the strengthening of the economy going, get everybody to vote, and get people in office who are supportive of the postal service.

Clerk Craft Director Report: Holidays in the Grand Rapids Installation. In the union's opinion once you have had the OSHA training, you can work in automation and manual. Those jobs are not considered skilled. They can schedule you for work at any time on the holiday within your tour. Needed skills jobs are only SPBS and scheme-qualified jobs. If you can't get into the plant and are scheduled for holiday work, try to get in with someone else who can get in the building. Union is addressing this issue. LMOU is negotiated within a 60-day time period after the signing of the Na-

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tional Agreement. APWU starting a new safety campaign. If station clerks are being told they cannot take a lunch on Saturdays, and are working more than six hours, let your steward know. They cannot deny you a lunch.

Maintenance Craft Director Report

Staffing changes due to the implementation of the new handbook. Some custodians' days off changed. Cleanliness has deteriorated. Things are not getting done. Union is filing grievances to get additional staffing and stop the reassignment of employees. Union agreed to allow management to repost residual custodial vacancies and MM-7 jobs to reduce the impact on employees in the maintenance craft. Management notified the union of reversion of vacant residual ET and MPE jobs. I have requested a copy of the WHEP staffing package that management used as a basis for job reversions. Will review for accuracy.

In the process of reviewing the Line H hours for the Grand Rapids installation to determine if the work hours have been met. A lot of data to go through. If you are traveling between facilities you need to punch on a travel operation, don't stay on your base operation. Amy stated that you should NOT be driving your own vehicle between buildings for work assignments.

Motor Vehicle Craft Director Report:

Talked about conversions, management is not saying no but they are not moving forward. Christmas building is going to be somewhere else, not at the P-1. Shuttling of mail between the two facilities is MVS work. Please everyone watch if contractors are transporting mail between the two facilities.

Associate Office Director Report- In an effort to make himself more available he has asked that his contact info on the WMAL website be changed to his personal cell phone to make it easier to reach him. Please try to call him first before the other Eboard officers with the new contact info so that he can address your issues.

Committee Reports

Budget Committee meeting later this month.

A & E

December 12th is the children's Christmas party during the day, adults is at night. Same as last year, 10.00 paid in advance, refunded at the door. Flyers will go out with the minutes. Anyone who wants to help out contact Amy.

Correspondence

Card of Thanks from Sherrie Richardson and Family

Letter of appreciation to Amy Puhalski about COPA from National Legislative Director John Marcotte

Card of Thanks from Rick Taber

Letter from Susan G. Komen Foundation thanking WMAL for donation in memory of WMAL member Patty Matthyse.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

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E-Board Recommendations.

To donate 250.00 to UAW for Feeding America West Michigan People in Need. Carried.

Under WMAL Policies to delete the ABA language pertaining to the members dues assessment rebate for the ABA annual dues. Discussion. Carried.

Labor Management: Bring Labor Management issues to Amy or the craft directors for addressing with management.

Drawings: (The # preceding the name is either the ticket number or raffle number at the meeting it was drawn at and may change at each meeting.)

\$250.00 Attending the Meeting Drawing: #263 Khristina Myers-Cox (If she was at this meeting, she would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$80 total collected. \$40 to the winner – #972970 Lisa Borchardt

Four (4) - Ten (\$10.00) Dollar Door Prizes:

1. #30 Lisa Borchardt
2. #19 Joe Hall
3. #15 Jennifer Gilbert
4. #21 Bonnie Eckert-Mooney
5. #9 Cathy Strunk
6. #23 Mike Long
7. #24 Victor Januszewski

Ten (10) 25.00 Gift card drawing:

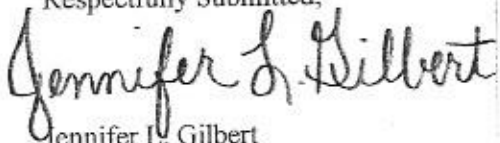
1. #6 Dessa Long
2. #11 Debbie Ohaniesian
3. #12 Amy Puhalski
4. #10 Jennifer Rizzon
5. #7 Dana McLean
6. #20 Lisa Wilson
7. #16 John Hansma
8. #14 Linda Chandler
9. #17 Jack Fryling
10. #26 Micheal Greene

(NOTE: According to local policies. When an Executive Board member receives one of the door prizes, another drawing is done. If 40 or more are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

Motion to adjourn: Jack Fryling Seconded by: Joe Hall 8:18pm Carried.

Meeting adjourned at

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer L. Gilbert
Recording Secretary