

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

General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at WMAL/APWU Union Hall, 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the pledge of allegiance and a short invocation.

The following officers were present:

President – Amy Puhalski	Clerk Craft Director – Jeff Schellinger
Executive Vice-President – Michael Long	Maintenance Craft Director – Joe Hall
Treasurer – Linda Chandler	MVS Craft Director – Chris Fisher
Associate Office Director – Jack Fryling	Sergeant at Arms – John Hansma

The following officers were absent: **Recording Secretary** – Jennifer Gilbert

Motion by: Michael Long, Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger, to accept June 2016 General Membership meeting minutes. Carried.

New Members: Thuy Vo, Wava Malenfant, Christopher Raybon, Bruce Todd, Cynthia Smith, Diane DeGroot, Kimberly Montoy, Catherine Eckelbecker, Fonda Williams, Joseph Gray, Jason Auchtung, Eric Lipski, April Treece, Raymond Lloyd, Terrence Bennett, Jennifer Birman, Steve Szirovecz, Graciela Haneckow, Kimberly Salloum, Nguyen Tran, Emily Killmer, Erik Carroll, Casey Lowing, Mary Gibson, Robert Daniels, Glennetta Riley, Kaitlin Hendrick, and Richard Seijo.

Motion by: Mike Long, Seconded by Linda Chandler, to accept those as new members of the Western Michigan Area Local.

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report read ending August 31, 2016 read at the meeting. MSC to accept the report.

President's Report:

Since June 2016 – Arbitration Advocate school. Thanks to the membership for sending myself, Michael Long, Micah Zakarzecki, Suzi Boyd. Was a grueling experience but everyone was glad they went.

National convention – 14 from our local. We had three more that went from the state. We served the membership well. Almost everyone went to the mic and spoke.

National Convention requirements. Any member in good standing can go to the National convention as long as you have attended three membership meetings in the preceding 12 months. We don't have a say in the next location.

At the last meeting, we endorsed people for the National Officers positions. We endorsed Charlie Cash for Industrial Relations – however Charlie had to drop out of the race.

Motion by: Michael Long, Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger – to endorse Vance Zimmerman for Director, Industrial Relations for the APWU. Carried.

Local Elections – October 2016 is the General Membership and nomination for Local officers.

Two new sign-offs. One is dealing with one person on the DBCS. There has to be two people staffed on the machine and the other for orientation.

Pre-Disciplinary/Investigative Interview - Make sure to ask for a steward. Management isn't going to give you one if you don't ask. This is also when an inspector might bring you in.

When someone is hired, they do a preliminary interview of your hiring application. After you are hired, the inspectors go through and scrutinize your application even more. There is no time limit for this either. We have had one person attempted to be fired after being at the Post Office over 20 years.

If anyone is looking for a job. PSEs and CCAs are up now for Grand Rapids.

Customer Service bidding process. We are having issues. I have requested a meeting with the Postmaster. Jobs that are residual are being posted. There are too many issues with what is going on now.

Prime Choice grievance – The fourth day of arbitration for the case is next week.

Holiday Temp for annuitants. Need to be signed up by September 11st.

Life Insurance Open Season – until September 30. If you choose to elect for Life Insurance. You need to check to how much you will actually be paying. Especially if you are approaching 50+ there is a sharp increase.

New Contract. We have a new contract. I think we did well.

Wage Increase – Just got one. Retroactive will be coming in November. In November there is also a 1.3% increase.

Executive Vice-President's Report:

Welcome to our new stewards – Jeanetta and Vickey. Also voted on Spencer Gilbert and Jason Auchtung (Holland).

Stewards training will be on September 28, 2016.

Congratulations to Joshua Gray for not only being at his first convention; but also being the chairperson of the Rules committee.

Upcoming elections. I don't know about you, but am getting tired of hearing it all, but it is going to get worse. Just shy of three more months of the rhetoric.

Clerk Craft Director Report:

Bill Rowe has been given the opportunity to work in the Illinois district. Welcome to Pam Bronson.

Convention – Thank the membership for sending me. The Pre-Convention workshops on Friday before the convention were well done and everyone that attended got something out of them.

National Settlement. If anyone in Management instructs you to work by the machine alone, you need to ask for a steward immediately. You should see a steward immediately, but not later than 2 hours.

We are still getting new 204Bs constantly. We are suppose to be getting the 1723s before they go up. Let us know if you see someone new. Grievances are still be filed every time a 204B goes up into a position that has been used for 90 days or more.

Maintenance Craft Director Report:

National Convention – Thank you for sending me. Went to the Maintenance Staffing class.

New MS-1; management wants to run everything to fail. We are going to Arbitration this winter. Management has decided to hold off until after the arbitration to implement (or so it seems at this time).

TL-5 for the P-Campus and the GMF. They are now looking at expanding to the stations.

Subcontracting – they resurfaced the Lobby Floors. They stripped and waxed the floors at the GMF. Management is not cooperating with providing the information. If you see contractors in your building, please let us know.

Process of building some people over to Custodians. We currently have a lot of openings. There are seven MM vacancies.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report:

This contract was good. With MVS now being all career, congratulations to the newly converted TTOs.

Associate Office Director Report:

With the new contract, LMOUs we have a timeline. If we want to open negotiations we need to notify me asap. If there is something you would like to see changed in your LMOU, please let me or an officer know.

Committee Reports

A & E Report: Tiger game is this Sunday. For those who are going, the bus will be here at 8:30 with the bus departing

Lions Game on October 9, 2016 – They are \$80 per ticket. Lower bowl, end zone seating.

Christmas party is December 10, 2016. At this point, this is only for the children party.

Correspondence

- Thank you from Genesee Flint Water fund.

Old/Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Constitution Changes: None

E-Board Recommendations: to purchase twelve (12) – twenty-five (25) dollars gift cards for a Get out the vote initiative for the National Election. Discussion. Carried.

Election Committee: Announced the committee that was appointed by the board. They are: Geraldine Davis, Michelle Leach, Rickey Jackson, Jennifer Rizzon, Lisa Stockdale, & Pam Bohn. Congratulations and thank you for stepping up.

Labor Management: If anyone has anything, please let your director know.

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: Roy Bailey. Person drawn was not at the meeting. (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$ 42.00 total collected. \$ 21.00 to the winner – Hattie Mitchell.

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

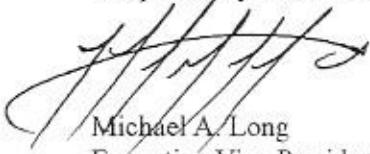
1. 23 – Chris Fisher
2. 1 – Josh Gray
3. 19 – Joe Hall
4. 10 – Linda Yarnott
5. 7 – Michael Long
6. 18 – Ann Hill-Graves

7. 2 – Lisa Stockdale

Motion to adjourn: by: Chris Fisher Seconded by: Jack Fryling Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael A. Long
Executive Vice-President