

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 12:01pm at the APWU Union Hall, located at 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Short Invocation.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following officers were present:

President – Amy Puhalski	Clerk Craft Director (A) – Jeff Schellinger
Executive Vice-President – Joshua Gray	Maintenance Craft Director – Michael Long
Recording Secretary - Suzi Boyd	Motor Vehicle Craft Director - Chris Fisher
Treasurer -Linda Chandler	Clerk Craft Director (B) - David Janes
	Sergeant at Arms – John Hansma

The following officers were absent:

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by: David Janes, seconded by: Linda Chandler to accept the January 7, 2016 General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership):

Brandi Lee	Karen Paquette	Kapresha Pierce	Mercedes Feliciano	Megan Conn	Vickie Ivy
Monica Hopkins	Amette Baker	Danyal Laskey	Luke Merrill	Kathy Vanderlaan	Uzell Boyles
Paul Barron	Jessica Roberts	Joaquin Barahona	Jenessa Demps	Tina Jones	
Melanie Mills	Harley Kaminski	Tionnah Farmer	Jason Mazure	Katheryn Noviss	
Pam Chandler	Brandon Brady	Teresa McCormick	Amanda Stuart	Justin Reed	

Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Executive Treasurer's Report: Report ending January 31, 2016 was read. Motion by: Mike Long, Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger, Carried

President's Report: The audit committee met on January 20th. Thank You to Lisa Stockdale for stepping up to be on the committee.

Prime choice grievance payments are being finalized. That award will cost the Postal Service a little over \$70,000.

Understanding the difference between a PDI and a Formal Discussion. A discussion is one on one. It takes place off the workroom floor, you are not entitled to a steward, it cannot be grieved. A PDI (Pre Disciplinary Interview) Ask for a steward if management tells you this may lead to discipline. You are not entitled to steward for issuance of discipline. You are entitled to steward after discipline has been issued.

If you need a steward, ask your supervisor to see a steward. You need to be off the workroom floor to write a statement. It should be as detailed as possible.

There is a \$50 incentive for organizing new members.

Addy Van Dreumel is the new editor of the local newsletter. Thank You to Barb Tubbs for past years.

Executive Vice-President's Report: Steward training for new stewards is Feb 9th. The more knowledge the better. If you have a 204B over 90 days in your area, reach out to your stewards or to Jeff or myself. Still seeking members under the age of 35 for the Young Members committee. We are building a bridge to strengthened the gap between the younger work force and the seasoned one. Let me know if you're interested.

Recording Secretary's Report: Last month I participated in the Political Action committee's teleconference. Postal Reform has been in the works since 2006. Service standard Bill HR 54 did not pass. HR 31 is a new bill, that will be on the APWU website if you would like more information. The APWU has had serious meetings with the Trump Transition Team on these issues. We need to keep communicating to the public that their tax dollars do not support the USPS. Please contribute to COPA- No amount is too little, no amount is too large. Let's keep worker's rights in place!

Clerk Craft - A Report: COPA contributions are a separate contribution. Union dues do not go for COPA.

204 b's- If you see new ones, the union is suppose to get a form 1723. We do not always get these so if you see a new 204b in your area let Josh or Jeff know. Mail handler's still cannot do over 90 days as a 204b supervising the clerk craft. If you have an employee from another craft performing clerk work duties, write a detailed statement and provide it to your steward. Osha propane meters can read up to 50 parts for million, the meters at the P-3 during the Christmas season read at 15 parts per million. So within tolerance. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Jeff about the findings.

Clerk Craft -B: One thing to point out for 1.6 settlements for postmaster who are working the window in level 15 and 16 offices, are allowed work 25 hours on window, level 18 can work 15 hours. Postmasters cannot do clerk work in any office higher than level 18. Contact your craft director about cross craft violations. Discipline can happen in all offices, associated office members are welcome to participate in union meetings. Thank You to Amy for helping me with the function 4 job summit.

Maintenance Report- Joe is still helping with line H grievances. House cleaning Inspections are to be done every 6 months. I am still helping Josh with steward training during his transition to Vice President. There are seven new MMs in the Grand Rapids P&DC. We just received three pre-Arbitration awards. They were for 45k, 67.5k, and 750. All of them were for the P-Campus Custodians. The 45 & 67 were from 2009.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report – Welcome to the new PTF. Kim Newton has taken a detail to Nashville. Remember they know where you are all the time because of the scanners.

Sergeant at Arms Report: None

Committee Reports: A and E-Redwings trip is March 26th, \$60.00 a ticket, includes ticket, transportation, snacks and beverages.

Audit committee-The audit committee members were Lisa Stockdale, Lisa Borchardt, Tammy Byrnes and Barb Tubbs. The committee met on January 20, 2017. The committee reviewed the Locals checking account, savings account, credit card statements and meeting minutes for authorizations as well as the bond and LM reports. Everything was found to be in good order.
Motion to accept the report

Correspondence: Thank You from Ken Jones (maintenance) for the condolences on the loss of father

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Policy Changes-

Remove all policies under ABA. Motioned by Mike Long, seconded by Jeff Schellinger.

Cell Phones-

The current policy: Get cell phones and service for the President, Vice President, Clerk Craft Director, Maintenance Craft Directors, Motor Vehicle Craft Director, and Associate Office Director. Motion to remove Associate Office Director and replace with Hall Rental Manager. Change Clerk Craft Director to reflect Clerk Craft Director's. Motioned by Jeff Schellinger, seconded by David Janes. Carried

Craft Director/AO-

Remove the policy pertaining to Associate Office Director dated 11/4/1995. Change the policy dated 9/6/2008 to state: The Craft Directors will prepare a report at the General Membership meeting informing the members of their recent grievance activity and craft issues. Carried

Drawings: Remove the policy dated 11/6/1976. Carried

Lost Time: Change the policy dated 4/2/2005 pertaining to the Associate Office Director to read- The Vice President and Craft Directors will be paid lost time and travel involving union business to the Associate Offices that they represent with the approval of the President. Carried

Mileage: Mileage payment for outside of the Grand Rapids Installation will be documented by mapquest or google maps when submitting for reimbursement. Carried

E-Board Recommendations: : MPWU Education Assembly is going to take place May 24,25,26 2017 at the Hilton Garden in Southfield. All certified stewards will be afforded the opportunity to attend with lost time, travel, registration, lodging and per diem. Motioned by Josh Gray, seconded by Mike Long. Carried.

The floor was opened up for new business: None

Labor Management: If you have anything for Labor Management please let your President or Craft Directors 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 :Cecile Spohn (If she was at this meeting, she would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: 61.00 total collected. 30.50 to the winner – Linda Chandler

Five (5) - Twenty (20.00) 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 than are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

1. Mike Long,
2. Lisa Stockdale,
3. Jodi Minda,
4. Chris Fisher,
5. Debbie Ohanesian,
6. Bernie Schimke,
7. Kelly McGuire.

Motioned to adjourned the meeting at 1:30 by David Janes, seconded by Jeff Schellinger

Respectfully Submitted,



Suzi Q. Boyd
Recording Secretary