

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm at the APWU Union Hall, located at 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the Pledge of Allegiance and short invocation.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following officers were present

President-Amy Puhalski

Executive Vice President-Josh Gray

Recording Secretary-Suzi Boyd

Treasurer-Linda Chandler

Clerk Craft Director A-Jeff Schellinger

Maintenance Craft Director-Mike Long

Motor Vehicle Craft Director-Chris Fisher

Sergeant of Arms-John Hansma

The following officers were absent: **Clerk Craft Director B**-David Janes

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion, Seconded, Carried

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

David Zerfas.

Welcome New Members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending October 31, 2017 read. Motion to accept report by: Mike Long, Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger. Carried

President's Report: We received an impact statement for the Grand Rapids installation to excess 12 full time clerks. We will be meeting at the area level to discuss the impact on November 17th. Our National Business Agent and regional coordinator will be involved. We have been successful at getting some of the jobs back locally. Jobs are created and maintain by all available work hours, please refrain from taking early outs, they are killing us. There also has been some start time changes, we are meeting on the cause for these. If you have any questions about what is going on with these changes, please direct them to your steward or reach out to me @ 776-1489. We need to stand together, we are all one union and we need to stay unified.

We are doing much better with our representation in our Associate Offices. I would like to say Thank You to Josh, Jeff and David. Combine Federal Campaign should be starting soon. Please consider the Postal Employees Relief Fund when you make your donation. November 14th is the health fair. It will be at the P-3 conference room from 7am-Noon and 3pm-7pm. Function 4 clerks make sure you are on the correct operation number. That is part of the information we use to help save your job. Drawing for postal pulse survey will be done at the December meeting.

On December 2nd, will be honoring our veterans after the next meeting, please let me know if you will be attending. I would like to wish each one of you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Executive Vice Presidents Report: Thank you for allowing me to attend the multi craft conference. It was very informative. Steward training was last week, it was my first time instructing. I felt it went well, looking forward to the next one.

Recording Secretary Report: Wage increase will be effective Nov 25th, it will be reflected in the paycheck dated Dec 15. It will be a 1.3 % increase for career employee. On Thursday Oct. 26th the house of representatives voted to approve the senate budget resolution. There will be no pay or benefit cuts for postal employees. More info at APWU.org.

Clerk Craft - A Report: We have a P-2 annex for Christmas. It is located at 3070 Schafer street. The building needs updated before the Postal Service can begin using it. We are working with maintenance and Osha to make sure the building is safe. The vacant building availability for grand rapids is at 2 percent so it was difficult to find one. There is currently no fire restraint system in place. The building is split into 2 sections. 1 section does not have heat, osha regulations space heaters are to be provided. If management is asking you to deliver missed mail from one facility to another mail facility, get with your steward. MVS is the primary craft for moving the mail. They should be utilized first. It is a liability for you to drive your personal vehicle, your insurance will not cover your loss due to the fact you were driving for work.

Maintenance Craft Report: Line H in the associate office, I have and extension until Dec 1st to cover this. The P campus and stations are being handled by Joe Hall, the GMF is being handled by Greg Carlson. If management hands you any information about Line H, do not except it. They need to send it to the correct designee or to Amy.

Motor Vehicle Director Report: MVS currently has a posting up for new drivers. Art Menzel just transferred over to MVS, welcome.

Clerk Craft Director B Report: Absent

Sergeant at Arms Report: Please remember you need to ask your supervisor to see your steward. You need to fill out a complaint form, it helps us to know what we need to work on.

Committee Reports: Children's Christmas Party will be Saturday Dec.9th from Noon-3pm. Presents for children 10 & under. Please RSVP to Amy or your steward by Dec.1st Please include your name, your child or grandchild's name, age and gender. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact Amy @ 776-1489. Hope to see you there.

Correspondence: Betty and Jill Junewick
480-481 Area Local

Old/Unfinished Business: None

E-Board Recommendations: None

New Business: None

Labor Management: If you have anything for Labor Management please let your President or Craft Directors know.

Drawings: \$250.00 *Attending the Meeting Drawing:* Samantha Kunst (if she was at this meeting, she would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$124.00 - collected. \$ 62.00 to the winner -John Niswonger

25.00 Gift Cards for Thanksgiving drawing:

- 1.#35 Kathy Oracz
- 2.#37 Ann Hill Graves
- 3.#1 Hattie Mitchell
- 4.#7 Lisa Stockdale
- 5.#18 John Niswonger
- 6.#25 Melissa Thomas
- 7 #26 Christina Saenz
- 8 #19 Josh Gray
- 9.#36 Rokita Whitley
- 10.#6 Dessa Long

Five (5) - Twenty (20.00) Dollar Door Prizes: (NOTE: According to local policy, 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.# 8 Mike Greene
- 2.# 23 Chris Fisher
- 3.#10 Cathy Strunk
- 4.#9 Mike Long
- 5.#27 Michelle Mack
- 6.#31 Joe Makarewicz
- 7.#12 Amy Puhalski
- 8.#34 Jennifer Rizzon

Motion to adjourned the meeting at 1:43 pm. Seconded, Carried.
Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary