

**Western Michigan Area Local #281**  
**American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO**  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the APWU Union Hall, located at 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Short Moment of Silence.

**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 - Mike Long
Recording Secretary - Suzi Boyd	Clerk Craft Director B - David Janes
Treasurer - Linda Chandler	Sergeant at Arms-Lisa Borchardt

**The Following Officers were Absent:** Motor Vehicle Craft Director- Chris Fisher

**Review of previous meeting's minutes:** Motion by Mike Long, seconded by David Janes to accept the March 2, 2019 General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

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

Nikki Boggs, Julio Mendez, Anthony Arrington, Randall Rolfe, Ronald Perrin  
Welcome New Members of the WMAL!

**Bills:** None

**Officer's Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Report ending March 31, 2019 read. Motion to accept report by Mike Long, seconded by Jeff Schellinger. Carried

**President's Report:** Last month I was able to go to Washington DC to lobby against the privatization of the United States Postal Service. There was also management in attendance; I was glad to see their support. National has asked us to join the APWU's Tax Day of Action on April 15<sup>th</sup>. This is an informational function to inform the public and let them know that the USPS operates with NO tax dollars. If you would like to participate, let me know (616-776-1489). The Grand Rapids plant function one scheduler is in process. We did have a meeting with Shawn and Rick and we are hoping that not many changes will be made. We will keep you updated. Keeping up on attendance in Grand Rapids is back on the agenda with management. If you need help getting a medical coverage (FMLA), reach out to your steward and let us know so we may help you. We are trying to get ideas together for the Young Workers committee. We need to get the younger workforce involved in the union. The history of the APWU and the Labor movement is very important. If you would like information or have ideas, get in touch with Josh. The election committee is looking for members. If you want to be on the committee, let me know. A new APWU website coming out, it is supposed to be more user friendly. Contract update; Impasse is complete and we are moving on to interest arbitration. So you are made aware; you are not allowed to take photos or videos in the post office. Do not do this.

**Executive Vice-President's Report:** Discipline is in force over the past couple of weeks. When management is conducting a PDI, you need to ask for your steward. They are not going to provide one for you unless you speak up and ask.

**Recording Secretary's Report:** On the White House plan to privatize the USPS: You need to call your members of Congress and let them know they need to support the resolutions that are against postal privatization. 1-844-402-1001. Make your voices heard! House resolution 33 already had 205 co-sponsors as the last issue of USPS news went to press. This resolution reaffirms the strong support for the Public Post Office. Senate resolution 99 was introduced by Senator Gary Peters on March 7. This resolution expresses that the members of the House take all appropriate measures to ensure the USPS remains independent and will not be subject to privatization. More information on the fight against postal privatization can be found at [APWU.org/usmailnotforsale.org](http://APWU.org/usmailnotforsale.org). If you go to the APWU page you can find a form to fill out for this campaign and you can send it in. Please remember to give to COPA.

**Clerk Craft - A Report:** The national dispute on MDAT was a dispute over the use of all available work hours to create and keep duty assignments. Management was arguing the PSE hours were not to be used. We've ran the hours here and we are hoping to get back 11/12 jobs. We have been working on the holiday schedule grievances. The LMOU, states that PSE's should be working 12 hours before a non-volunteer is forced to work the holiday. This grievance is still in the process. The act of god grievance that was filed for this winters storm is still being worked out. Awanda Jennings will be certified as a steward pending training. Welcome.

**Clerk Craft -B Report:** Pool clerks; when you are to be assigned your schedule for the following week on Wednesday the week before. If management is changing your schedule after it is posted or on a day to day basis, notify your steward. Working at step 2's on grievances, the designee has been out of the office on training so we are still waiting to meet on some. Please be patient.

**Maintenance Craft Report:** Make sure you know what is on your PAR/PER. If you haven't updated it in a while you may get a job you do not want. If it is on your PAR/PER and it falls to you, you will be slotted into it. It is up to you to know, review and update the Line H at the stations and some of the AO's are going to step 3. A resolve couldn't be reached at the local level for FY18. Welcome to our newest custodian in Grand Haven-Arthur Detiege. A Postmaster's 15 hours of clerk work does not allow them to perform custodial duties. There is a possibility of losing one ET, one MPE and one MM under the new WHEP. This was mainly due to the loss of the DBCS/CIOSS's at the P-campus since the last WHEP. I have put in a request to get a copy and I will review. If you are brought into a meeting with management, ask for a steward. If they are asking questions, it is an investigative interview and steward representation cannot be denied. If management is giving you instructions on how to perform your job duties, that is a discussion and in accordance with the National Agreement, a steward is not allowed, but neither is another member of management. A discussion is one on one, in private not on the workroom floor. If you have questions, ask to see your steward.

**Sergeant at Arms Report:** Lisa is also the Human Relations rep- if you get injured at work please call her and notify her within 24 hours.

**Committee Reports:** If you have any ideas for events let us know.

**Correspondence:** Thank you cards were received from Geraldine Davis, thanking everyone for her get well wishes and Elaine Schipper thanking the membership for her retirement gifts.

**Old/Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

**E-Board Recommendations:**

Motion to omit the July and August 2019 General Membership meetings. Carried.

Motion to spend up to \$500.00 to purchase a new printer, within 30 days for the WMAL P-1 office. Carried

**Motions from the Floor for New Business:** None

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

**Drawings:**

**\$250.00 Attending the Meeting Drawing:** *Steve Gauss* (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

**COPA:** 50/50 Drawing: \$134.00 collected. \$67.00 to Awanda Jennings, the winner.

**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).

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. #16 Michael Greene | 5. #8 Ann Hill-Graves |
| 2. #19 Josh Gray      | 6. #7 Dana Mcclean    |
| 3. #14 Linda Chandler | 7. #11 Jodi Minda     |
| 4. #12 Amy Puhalski   | 8. #1 Ricky Jackson   |

**Ten (10)-Twenty-five (25.00) Dollar Gift Cards for Easter:**

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. #18 Awanda Jennings | 6. #24 Joe Makarewicz   |
| 2. #23 Mike Long       | 7. #13 Todd Hodges      |
| 3. #09 Suzi Boyd       | 8. #03 Lisa Borchardt   |
| 4. #02 David Janes     | 9. #15 Jeff Schellinger |
| 5. #22 Jennifer Rizzon | 10. #27 Mika Browning   |

**James Sweeney Scholarships Five (5) \$1000.00**

1. #4. Sabrina Jenkins / Pam Jenkins
2. #3. Laurel Timmer / Velda Timmer
3. #9 Adrianna Timmer / Velda Timmer
4. #5 Jalen Broussard / Patty Levine
5. #10 Destiny Craig / Rebecca Craig

***Alternates***

1. #14 Keimiya Allen / Kineka Allen
2. #08 Ally Hodges / Todd Hodges
3. #06 Lisa Reynolds / Shane Reynolds
4. #13 Esther Teng / Terrance Teng
5. #15 Keith Allen / Kineka Allen

**Easter Basket Drawing**

1. #27 Mika Browning
2. #02 David Janes
3. #08 Ann Hill Graves
4. #11 Jodi Minda

Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary