

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. 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:

Executive Vice-President – Ray Novakoski
Recording Secretary – Michael Long
Treasurer – Linda Chandler;
Sergeant at Arms – Dan Quillin

Clerk Craft Director – Roy Bailey
Maintenance Craft Director – James Smith
Motor Vehicle Craft Director – Tracy Fleming
Associate Office Director – Jack Fryling

The following officers were absent: **President** – Amy Puhalski (Excused per constitution (due to being at the President's Conference))

Review of previous meeting's minutes: To accept the February 2013 General Membership Meeting Minutes. Motion by: Jack Fryling, Seconded by: Michael Long. Carried.

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

Jennifer S. Kovacs (PSE – Grand Rapids)
Joshua M. Gray (PSE – Grand Rapids)
Emily J. McCarty (PSE – Grand Rapids)
James Stein (PSE – Grand Rapids)

Ian R. Flikkema – (PSE – Grand Rapids)
Philip Heintzleman (PSE – MVS Grand Rapids)
Ameke Stinson (PSE – Grand Rapids)
Matthew C. Mandochi (PSE – Grand Rapids)

Motion to accept these individuals into membership: Doug Warren, Seconded by: Michelle Wilson. Carried. Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Report ending February 28, 2013 was read. Motion by: Michael Long, Seconded by: Roy Bailey to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Carried

Vice-President's Report:

We have been meeting with management regarding Non-Traditional Full-Time positions. We are supposed to receive more information next week. The way things are going in Customer Service right now, management is reducing staffing and the union feels staffing should be increased. We will file any and all necessary grievances to ensure that the contract is followed.

Changes in the Plant. There have been some changes and some people have received letters of abolishments (most recently on the AFSM on Tour 2). As soon as we find anymore information, we will put more information out.

Have some arbitration cases coming up in April and May for the local.

We have a new steward – Shandrea Thomas. Welcome.

Recording Secretary Report:

Contact your Representatives and Senators to support HR 630 and Senate Bill 316. These are the new bills for this Congressional Session. December 31, all bills currently before the house and senate died. All bills had to be reintroduced. These are the new bills and numbers.

Clerk Craft Report

Three job abolishment letters were received from Tour 2 Flat Sorters; these clerks will be excessed. Management gave the union no prior notification on this. We were supposed to have a meeting but it was cancelled and not rescheduled.

Non-Traditional Full-Time (NTFT) jobs in Customer Service. We had a meeting with management regarding this. They are proposing jobs in Northwest, Downtown, Wyoming, and East Paris. Their proposal: Downtown: 4 full-time traditional, 1 NTFT flex of 8 hours; 6 - 36-hour positions. East Paris: Six full-time employees; 4 NTFTs. Wyoming: 2 or 3 – NTFTs. Northwest: 1 - NTFTs

Thanks to Jim Smith – Went to Lowell Post Office to do a Staffing Package for the office. We got extra hours at the Lowell Office for the PTF clerks for cleaning.

Maintenance Craft Report

Lowell – the clerks gained hours in the offices to do the cleaning.

Information Requests for Snow Removal – 4776 need to be used to show that custodians are used for snow removal. Make sure to fill out your 4776 and show what you actually did.

Holland Staffing. Finished the Holland Staffing – and we should have another full-time position at this location (in addition to the other full-time). We should prevail in this grievance. We have staffing packages in for every office now.

Jobs with VERA. We need to start pushing management to ensure the positions are posted in accordance with the contract.

Stewards time. This issue has been resolved in regards to the Maintenance Craft Director steward's time.

PER and PAR. It is your paperwork! When you see a bid going up, make sure to check your paperwork and what you have in for positions. If you are promotion eligible, make sure you have a PAR in for those jobs as well (otherwise, you could be promoted to something you don't want).

We have a lot of vacancies; stewards are assigned to keep watch.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report

Welcome to Mick Wilson to the craft now. Thank you for your support as a steward in the Clerk Craft.

In September 2011, management decided that if a Tool Parts position was vacated, they would revert it; as of February 5th, this has been rectified.

Residuals – We have three vacancies in Tractor Trailer. We are having a difficult time getting them filled.

There has been a lot of movement in bid jobs since the retirement.

Associate Office Report

Job Reversions – Management is hitting the Associate Offices. One in Jenison and one in Holland.

Full-Time jobs – Trying to create a few Full-Time jobs in offices.

PSEs in the Associate Offices – Keep in mind what the Contract states regarding staffing of PSEs and working the window, etc. There are rules and we must hold management accountable to these.

Discipline – If management wants to bring you into the office, make sure to ask if this will lead to discipline; if so, ask for your steward.

Committee Reports:

Building – We have new tables and chairs. 35 tables and 190 chairs. We got rid of all the old tables and chairs (Thanks to the members who came out and took away the tables and chairs).

Correspondence:

1. Joan Pepper – Thank you card for retirement.
2. Catherine Beemblossom – Thank you for retirement.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

E-Board Recommendations:

- To suspend the rules for the 2013 Scholarship to change the submission/turn-in date to April 26th, 2013 and drawing/selection at the May 2013 General Membership meeting. Carried
- The local purchase 10 tickets for the Union Label Collation Pancake Breakfast and distribute them at the April General membership meeting at a cost of \$60.00 (six dollars per ticket). Carried
- To donate \$250 to the Michigan Postal Workers Union Educational Assembly Hospitality Room. Carried.

The floor was opened up for new business:

Constitution Changes: (See Bulletin Board (or attached))

1. Article 10 – Section 3, Paragraph b (re: Election Committee)
2. Article 9 – Section 9: (Delete the paragraph)

Labor Management: If you have anything for Labor Management please let your 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: Kevin Quick (If he were at this meeting, he would have won)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$70.00 total collected. \$35.00 to the winner - #958844 – Shaundra Thomas

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 than are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

1. #24 - George Folk
2. #18 – Kathy Strunk
3. #22 – Lori Schimke
4. #20 – Dan Quillin
5. #9 – Shaundra Thomas

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yours in Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael A. Long". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Michael A. Long
Recording Secretary