

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2016

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:

President – Amy Puhalski
Executive Vice-President – Mike Long
Treasurer – Linda Chandler

Clerk Craft Director – Jeff Schellinger
Maintenance Craft Director – Joe Hall
Sergeant at Arms – John Hansma

Recording Secretary – Jennifer Gilbert

The following officers were absent: **Motor Vehicle Craft Director** – Chris Fisher, **Associate Office Director** – Jack Fryling

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion By: Michael Long Seconded By: Jeff Schellinger To Accept: April 2016 General Membership Meeting minutes with corrected spelling of Linda Chandler's daughter's name. Spelled McLaughlin. Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership): Motion By: Michael Long; Seconded By: David Janes to accept applications for new membership into the local. Carried. Welcome new members of the WMAL: We are finally back over 700 members.

Contessa Hood PSE Clerk P-Campus
Travis Ferguson FTR Mechanic VMF

Motion to suspend the order of business to let Peter Ross Dickow to speak. Carried.
Mr. Dickow spoke on behalf of Senator Gary Peters. Spoke to the membership about his job with Senator Peters' office. Explained the areas covered, communicating with constituents in areas the Senator represents. Senator Peters is in support of postal workers and his office wants to hear about postal issues. Willing to assist in any way that he can. Short question/answer session after speech.

Bills: NONE

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Checking account ending April 30, 2016. Motion by: Mike Long Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger to accept the Treasurer's Report.

President's Report:

The realignment of automation in Grand Rapids. Reduced the impact on Tour 2. Bid cycle closes on Monday, May 9th. Don't wait until the last minute. There will be no power for about 15 hours on Saturday night into Sunday at the GMF on Memorial Day weekend. Will most likely ask people if

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they want to take annual leave or they can work in a different facility like P-1. Open season FEGLI is September 1st through September 30th. If you want to enroll or change your enrollment you can do so at this time. Last time it was open was 2004. New Senior plant manager Rick Mortensen. APWU negotiated a special enrollment period for new hires. May 16th-June 30th. Info is hanging on the union bulletin boards. This is USPS HB not FEHB. Payouts for the 1.6 Grievance Award payout was supposed to be done by the end of April but it is not done yet. Prime choice case was scheduled for arbitration April 15th. Management wasn't ready. Arbitrator granted a continuance. Still waiting for another date to be scheduled. Amy will be serving on the APWU National Constitution committee. Honored to be serving. Clean-up was at the hall today and thanks to everyone who showed up, there were five members who showed up for clean-up. Members are out ill, Sue DeHaan and Lydia Montfort-Greene have been off work and we keep them in our thoughts and prayers. ABA came in December, 54 members sat down with them and got information about ABA benefits.

Executive Vice-President Report:

New contract arbitration is done. Decision should be rendered within 30-60 days. New contract that comes out is effective from May of last year through May of 2018.

Secretary Report

Reported on the election results so far. Importance of getting out the vote in November. Explained about what a "superdelegate" is and how the delegate counts are allocated.

Clerk Craft Director Report:

Every year about this time the clothing policy is an issue. We have a clothing policy which is not fairly enforced. Bags and backpacks are not supposed to be on the workroom floor. This policy is also not equally enforced. Please try to dress appropriately. Management is enforcing this. Clear bags are supposed to be allowed. Please get a locker if you don't have one already so you can keep your belongings in your locker. If you try to bid and the computer is down you can phone bid. Don't wait until the last minute.

Maintenance Craft Director Report

Headquarters will be auditing GMF and P-campus. Please do exactly as the handbook says. The handbook doesn't provide for complete cleaning. Waiting on approval for staffing package sent up to Area. Explained how staffing packages work. Been busy with grievances, some on sub-contracting. Trying to get plowing and salting back into the staffing package and not sub-contract work.

Motor Vehicle Craft Director Report: Absent

Associate Office Director Report Absent

Correspondence: Letter from Grand Rapids Public Schools Homeless Assistance Program on the Christmas contribution from WMAL for a family during the Christmas season. Thanks were given to Pam Bohn as well for her assistance in providing a Christmas for the family.

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Old/Unfinished Business: Constitution Committee members consisted of:
Amy Puhalski – Chairperson, Michael Long, John Hansma, Tammy Byrnes, Lisa Borchardt
Committee met on March 24, 2016.

Members heard the committee's recommendation of concurrence or non-concurrence and then voted on committee recommendation for the first two constitution changes only. Constitution changes were posted prior to the meeting in accordance with Local #281 Constitution provisions.

Article 13 Section 3: Committee's recommendation is non-concurrence. Carried.

Section 4: Committee's recommendation is concurrence. Carried.

Since Article 13 Section 4 was changed to make the voting process a vote on the actual constitution changes themselves, the following Articles were voted on per the changes and not the committee's recommendation:

Article 6: Changing meeting quorum from 20 to 15. Committee's recommendation is concurrence.
Carried.

Article 7: Officers. Pay change for craft directors: Committee's recommendation is concurrence.
Carried.

Article 7: Officers. Create Craft director "B" position and eliminate the Associate Office Director position. Committee's recommendation is concurrence. Carried.

Article 9: Duties of Officers: Eliminates the language pertaining to the Associate Office Director.
Committee's recommendation is concurrence. Carried.

Motion: Article 7 and Article 9 changes will take effect with the 2017 election process.
Carried.

New Business: NONE

E-Board Recommendations: NONE

Labor Management: 3971s. Process is sloppy. Make sure you get a signed copy of your 3971
RIGHT AFTER YOU SUBMIT IT!!

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 - Toni Blais (If she was at this meeting, she
would have won!)*

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$79 total collected. \$39.50 to the winner – Jennifer Gilbert

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

1. Debbie Ohanesian
2. Michelle Leach
3. Dana McClean
4. Kathy Strunk

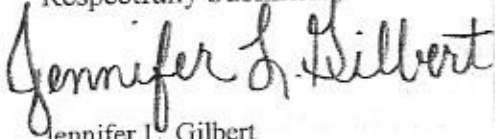
(NOTE: According to local policies. When an Executive Board member receives one of

the door prizes, another drawing is done. If 40 or more are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

Motion to adjourn: Mike Long Seconded by Jennifer Gilbert Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer L. Gilbert
Recording Secretary