

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Oct 7, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm at the APWU Union Hall, located at 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the Pledge of Allegiance and short invocation, along with a moment of silence for those effected by the Las Vegas tragedy.

Roll Call of Officers:

The following officers were present:

President -Amy Puhalski	Maintenance Craft Director - Mike Long
Treasurer -Linda Schellinger	Motor Vehicle Craft Director -Chris Fisher
Clerk Craft Director A -Jeff Schellinger	Sergeant of Arms -John Hansma

The following officers were absent: Executive Vice President -Josh Gray, Secretary- Suzi Boyd and Clerk Craft Director B- David Janes

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by: Jeff Schellinger, Seconded by: Lisa Borchardt to accept the September 10, 2017 General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

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

Edward Kamphuis
Brad Konwinski
Welcome New Members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending September 30, 2017 read. Motion to accept report by: Michael Long; Seconded by: Lisa Borchardt. Carried

President's Report: In the Grand Rapids and in the Associate Offices, management has reverted a bunch of jobs. We have filed multiple grievances. We were successful locally to get 18 positions back in Grand Rapids. However, we will continue to file if management violates the contract.

We just got back from the Multi-Craft conference two days ago, we will have a report out in November. We will be holding stewards training at the end of October.

We received some upcoming retirement information – Ed Danowski; Robin Neilson; Lou Aranguren

We had a retirement seminar on Oct 24th. We had 60 people in the morning, and even more in the afternoon. Good turnout and very informative.

The next meeting will be at noon on November 4th, we will be honoring our veterans.

Early Outs – it is hurting our arguments.

\$20,000 for Puerto Rico was collected by the Multi-Craft attendees.

Clerk Craft - A Report:

At the Multi-Craft training we received information on the Postal Service wanting to cut 16,000 jobs nationwide. Early Outs are job killers. Plain and Simple. We have to keep all available hours and when you take an early out, you are hurting jobs!

We did get 18 of the jobs back that management reversed previously. The Peckler award – was a great award. It provided out of schedule to those who bid.

Pre-Disciplinary meeting – ASK FOR A STEWARD. While there is a difference between a discussion and Pre-D meeting, when you are brought in for a meeting and questions are asked and discipline could be forthcoming, this is a Pre-D meeting and you have a right to a steward. Ask for one!! If you are not provided one, you need to let the union know.

Signing of the discipline. Signing it or not signing it is up to you; however, signing it only means you received it. It doesn't mean that you are in agreement with it.

Thoughts and Prayers for those who were in Vegas.

Maintenance Craft Report:

I have been gone to training the last 2 weeks, and will be gone again for two more weeks starting next Sunday.

MS-1 Award was received. The union did not prevail, but we got language.

eWHEP staffing.

CTC in the stations. Should have began on October 1st; however, didn't get back approved staffing packages. Will be following up.

Sign-up for classes for Norman – they are posted for next year. If you want to go, now is the time for you to sign up. Otherwise, per Article 38, you could be forced by juniority.

Glad to hear everyone at the Multi-Craft for the APWU was safe.

Thank you to Jim Ruark for his time as a steward. If you want to become a steward and represent the membership, please contact your steward or officer.

AO Custodians – we are attempting to combine offices, but we are waiting to hear if the language issues have been resolved. With the new language, smaller offices in a cluster can be combined into the installation; however, this might lead to clerks who were doing the cleaning to lose some hours. Thus we are waiting to hear how this was resolved.

Runkel's job will be reposted. I don't know why it hasn't been yet. Will be following up with management this week to make sure.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report:

PVS side – one of them is the scanning. Our bosses said that we have to scan everything. Make them to tell you to stop scanning; however, scan everything you can.

OSA – everyone that has gone to a physical has been getting a sleep test. We will be grieving.

VMF side. We have a lot of reading to do regarding the subcontracting.

Sergeant at Arms Report: None

Committee Reports: A&E meeting will be October 26th. We will be discussing the children's Christmas party which will be December 9th. If any of you would like to be a part of this, let Amy know.

Tigers Baseball game was great.

Correspondence: Ken Jones and Family

Old/Unfinished Business:

E-Board Recommendations:

To establish a policy that there will be no live streaming from the executive board or general membership meeting unless approved by the president. Carried.

To expend up to 750.00 for the purchase of supplies and or necessities or to send monies or a combination of the two to the APWU in Puerto Rico. Motion by Lisa Borchardt, Seconded by Jeff Schellinger to expend up to \$1,000. Amendment carried. Motion as amended carried.

To spend up to 500.00 to honor our veterans at the November general membership meeting. Carried.

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:* -- Deb Smith (if she was at this meeting, she would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$ 73 collected. \$ 36.50 to the winner – Suzi Boyd.

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. #15 – Jeff Schellinger
2. #25 – Sherrie Veneklas
3. #19 – John Hansma
4. #26 – Geraldine Davis
5. #9 – Chris Fisher
6. #5 – Michael Greene
7. #18 – Troy Crowner
8. #28 – Heather Giradela

Motioned by Michael Long to adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm. Seconded by Lisa Borchardt Carried..

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary