

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Sept 9, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 12:00pm 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	Maintenance Craft Director -Mike Long
Executive Vice-President – Joshua Gray	Clerk Craft Director A -Jeff Schellinger
Treasurer -Linda Chandler	Motor Vehicle Craft Director -Chris Fisher
Recording Secretary -Suzi Boyd	Craft Director B -David Janes
	Sergeant of Arms - John Hansma

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by Jeff Schellinger, seconded by Mike Long to accept the June 2, 2018 General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

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

Randy Pepper	Marika Harris	Annette Smith	Chantel McBride
Beverly Alexander	Derrick Briel	Robert Payne	Destiny Bolden
Jacob Montoy	Diurka Cardero	Sarah Scholten	Craig Brennan

Welcome New Members of the WMAL!

Bills: Motion to reimburse Hattie Mitchell \$50.00 for cab fare to and from the airport for the national convention. Seconded. Carried.

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending August 31, 2018 read. Motion to accept report by Chris Fisher, seconded by Jeff Schellinger. Carried

President's Report: We just recently returned from the national convention. We had 15 delegates that went and I feel they represented the local well. We held a rally outside the convention center, keeping with the contract negotiation theme Fighting Today for a Better Tomorrow. We were out rallying to acknowledge to the public why the postal service needs to stay maintained. National wear your APWU gear day is every week on Thursday. Please wear your shirts in unity and in support of contract negotiations. If you want to stay up to date on contract negotiations you can log onto APWU.org. If you want to take part in the townhall phone calls you can sign up for that as well. Prior to the calls you can submit questions that they will try to address. National Joint day of action is on Oct 8 with the NALC and NPMHU, but we are looking at locally choosing a different day; we will keep you informed. There have been no new reversions in Grand Rapids. Congrats to the maintenance crafts on being successful on getting some nice settlement on line H. It has been a long time coming. Upcoming events are the casino trip which is November 11, the children's Christmas party is December 8 and there is a tentative adult Christmas party with the mail handler union on December 29th. We have a new PSE work force benefit memo that includes overtime over

8 hours in a day, penalty over 10 hours in a day and a 4 hour work guarantee. The timeline to implement this is sometime in October. Check out the upcoming newsletter for more information. We will be meeting on the RI399 craft jurisdiction disputes. Function one is in the plant. It is very important that you pay attention to who is performing what work and what work belongs to what craft. We are moving forward locally with the new inventory. A discussion is not a PDI. You may not refuse your supervisor's right to give you a discussion. A discussion is one on one between you and your supervisor and it takes place in private, not on the workroom floor. It is not grievable, you are not entitled to a steward. After the discussion, you may ask to see your steward if you do not agree with what they are telling you. At any time during the discussion, if they start asking you questions that need answers, that is when you ask for your steward. The Health Fair is on Oct 30th and it is to be held in the P-3 conference room.

Executive Vice-President's Report: There seems to have been a lot of grievances that went on while we were at convention. We have met on the July 4th staffing grievances and we are working on the Labor day one as well. Please try to be accurate when writing your statements. You need to let us know who, what, where, when and for how long a mail handler or supervisor was performing clerk work. This will help us get a better settlement. The convention was great, thanks for voting to send me. We had a lot of great debate. There has been a new settlement for 204b violations. Please keep your eyes open for new 204b's in your area. If you have any let your steward know.

Recording Secretary's Report: I would like to thank the membership for sending me to the convention. We had some great debates. I sat in a Stand Up for Safe Jobs workshop. If the environment in which you work is unsafe and unhealthy, it's because you let it be. Management does not have a right to violate your right to a safe work environment. They get away with it because you let them. You have a right to refuse a direct order if you feel you are instructed to perform a job that is unsafe and could cause harm to you. Fill out a form 1767(report of hazard or unsafe condition). Make a copy of it before you give it to your supervisor. If they do not give you a copy back with a plan of action by the end of your tour, ask for your steward to grieve it. We are coming up on the November 6 election. Get out and vote! We have an opportunity to change control of the house and senate. If you do not vote, do not complain.

Clerk Craft Director A Report: The Christmas annex will be the same building as last year. We have a new acting senior mdo, Shawn Sereseroz. They are pushing the no bags on the workroom floor and the cell phone policy. It is supposed to be equitably enforced. This seems to be an issue in the plant. I encourage you to keep your personal belongings in your locker. Please do not run a automation machine by yourself. If you are, it is a safety issue. Ask for your steward. We have appealed our reversions to step 3. We will keep you informed on the results of these. It is important to be punched in on the right operation. These are work hours that help us fight to keep jobs. Medical documentation for extended absences does not go to a floor supervisor, it needs to be sent to Linda Travis the medical nurse. Her phone number is 616-336-5340. If you are off work for an extended period of time you will need to update your documentation at the minimum of every 30 days. On Dec 21st you will receive a cola increase of .31 per hour.

Clerk Craft -B Report: We are working on trying to create more customer service positions. Hopefully this will help with clerks not having to work in more than one office. It is important that you report to work. You can and most likely will be disciplined for irregular attendance.

Motor Vehicle Craft Director's Report: Congrats to Paul Brock on his conversion to career. There is a posting up for TTO drivers, let your friends and family know. We are working with national on RFI's. Please remember to scan, it is very important. Scan over to the next run. Scan your stops. We are resolving issues with safety. Please fill out your 1767's.

Maintenance Craft Report: Thank you for sending me to the convention. It's always a good time being sergeant of arms. Info for new custodians: when you go from station to station keep track of your time(you are to be paid higher level while driving). The most recent grievance settlement has been put into gats. Congrats to new stewards pending training: Cynthia Carmichael and Beverly Alexander. Welcome new transfer to custodian craft. There are signup sheets for overtime in the stations at the P-1 and GMF. If you need info on level 7, 9 and 10 and the difference and what each level can do, please see me for a copy of the information and national level agreement. We are going into hurricane season and upcoming snow, when you give this year to CFC, please consider giving to the Postal Employee Relief Fund(PERF).

Sergeant at Arms Report: None

Committee Reports: None

Correspondence: None

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

E-Board Recommendation: Motion to spend up to \$500.00 for the Veterans appreciation dinner. Carried.

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

Drawings: \$250.00 Attending the Meeting Drawing: Leticia Silva (If she was at this meeting, she would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$94.00 collected, \$47.00 to the winner –Mike 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.#20 Lisa Wilson
- 2.#21 Tasha Patterson
- 3.#14 Linda Chandler
- 4.#30 Leanne Merrills
- 5.#17 Awanda Johnson
- 6.#15 Jeff Schellinger
- 7.# 8 John Hansma
- 8.# 2 David Janes
- 9.#6 Dessa Long

Motioned by Mike Long, seconded by Jeff Schellinger to adjourn the meeting at 1:08pm. Carried.
Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary