

**Western Michigan Area Local #281**  
**American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO**  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Oct 5, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. at the APWU Union Hall, located at 2554 Burlingame Ave SW; Wyoming, MI 49509 with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**Roll Call of Officers:**

The following officers were present:

President-Amy Puhalski	Maintenance Craft Director-Mike Long
Recording Secretary-Suzi Boyd	Clerk Craft Director B-David Janes
Treasurer-Linda Chandler	Motor Vehicle Craft Director-Chris Fisher
Clerk Craft Director A-Jeff Schellinger	Sergeant at Arms: Lisa Borchardt

**The following Officers were absent:** Josh Gray

Motion to transpose the order of business to go to the Nomination/Election committee. Carried  
The Election committee: Chair (Rickey Jackson) Lisa Stockdale, Geraldine Davis, Melissa Castillo, Jennifer Rizzon and Sarah Keena. Thank You for volunteering.

Nomination of Officers for the Western Michigan Area Local:

President: Amy Puhalski

Vice President: Michelle Mack                      Lisa Borchardt

Recording Secretary: Suzi Boyd

Treasurer: Linda Chandler

Clerk Craft Director A: Lisa Borchardt      Jeff Schellinger      David Janes

Clerk Craft Director B: David Janes              Lisa Borchardt

Maintenance Craft Director: Micah Zakarzecki      Mike Long

Motor Vehicle Craft Director: Chris Fisher              Todd Hodges

Sergeant at Arms: Jennifer Rizzon              Ann Hill Graves              Todd Hodges

Motion by Mike Long to cast one vote for all unopposed officer positions of the Western Michigan Area Local. Carried

President: Amy Puhalski  
Recording Secretary: Suzi Boyd  
Treasurer: Linda Chandler

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Return to Normal Business

**Review of previous meeting's minutes:** Correction to the September minutes was made to remove Cathy Stout and change to Cathy Strunk. To accept the September 7, 2019 General Membership Meeting Minutes with correction. Motion by: Jeff Schellinger, seconded by David Janes. Carried

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

Don Hard, Dylan Blake, David Randall, Elijah Davis and Armand Moncada. Welcome to the WMAL!

**Bills:** None

## **Officer's Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Report ending September 30, 2019 read. Motion to accept report by Jeff Schellinger, seconded by Chris Fisher. Carried

**President's Report:** Last month I reported about Labor charges for not supplying request for information and not receiving notifications of members retirements. We have worked out the issue with the retirement notifications and I apologize for missing anyone that retired during that time. Contract updates are at APWU.org to stay updated and check out our Facebook page for further info. Lets us know if you what to see anything changed at local negotiations. Last week when I check on how many members returned their ballots for National officers, out of one hundred and ninety thousand of them, only twenty-six thousand had been returned, that's not very many. We should hopefully have the results reported by next Tuesday. One proposed constitution change was submitted and that will be voted on at November meeting. I have been in contact with the UAW union to ask what we could do to support them. They asked that we come out and support them on the picket line, so we did that last Thursday. They are picketing 24 hours a day. The UAW worker were very appreciative that APWU members showed up to support them. We are planning on supporting them on Thursday. Please consider joining them at any time.

**Vice President's Report:** Absent

**Recording Secretary's Report:** Thank you for coming out tonight. FYI, if any one you have the allowed 440 hours of annual leave to carry over you can go the usps liteblue and go into postal ease and click on annual leave exchange and submit to be paid for between 8 and 40 hours of annual leave that would be advanced in the 2020 leave year. To quality for this you must not have used more than 75 hours of sick leave in the current year.

**Clerk Craft (A) Director Report:** We have now got a new step-2 labor rep (Cruz) Hidalgo Garcia DeLacruz from maintenance. So, hopefully we will begin to get back on track for our meetings. Let me know if you are a steward and are not getting your RFIs in a timely manner. Social media - stay off social media in regards to postal - if it has anything to do with work do not post. If you don't think management looks at this stuff, you are wrong. Also, do not post pictures of yourself at work.

**Clerk Craft (B) Director Report:** Christmas is coming up shortly for window clerks. Because of the CDU, it takes longer to complete a transaction. If you are on the otdl, please do not turn down hours of

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overtime. They are going to need your help. If you work in a station or ao please make yourself available.

**Maintenance Craft Director Report:** Read the information that was handed out at the meeting and posted on the boards at the GMF and P-Campus regarding the changes to staffing in Maintenance. If you have any questions, please contact me. EAP has a new provider – New Directions. With this, new things are being offered (e.g. Text and On-Line Therapy, so Say Hello to a family focused EAP. (1-800-EAP-4YOU). If management wants to change the schedule of an employee, you need to be notified by the Wednesday the week before or you are entitled to out of schedule premium. You can now view your clock rings on line at LiteBlue, so check it out. Do not give out your personal number to management. We do not get called at home, we are not on-call employees. There are 2 residual custodial positions available. October is the start of Line H (LDC 38) calculations for the prior fiscal year. Will keep you updated on what is happening with these. These stewards have stepped up to do the Line H's again this year: Joe – the P-Campus, Micah - the stations, Greg – the GMF, and Mike – the Associate Offices. According to our NBA, we are current now on all grievances that were sent to Step 3 prior to July, except last year's Line H for the stations and branches.

**Motor Vehicle Craft Report:** We have a new PTF on board, nothing has really changed since the last meeting. We are looking at filling more positions. If you have any questions, come see me.

**Sergeant at Arms Report:** Health plan premiums have gone done for the APWU insurance. I will bring back info from the health plan seminar I will be attending at the end of the month. Health Plan Fair is Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. Keep a look out for what times they will be held.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Old/Unfinished Business:** None

**E-Board Recommendation**

Motion to donate \$1500.00 to UAW workers union. Carried

Motion to transfer up to \$15,000.00 from the APWU account to the WMPW account to replace and upgrade the lighting in the union hall. Carried.

Motion to transfer up to \$7,500.00 from the APWU account to the WMPW account to replace the sign out front of the hall with a new illuminated sign. Carried

**New Business:**

Motion by Michael Long, Seconded by Rickey Jackson to spend up to an additional 3000.00 to allow the board of WMPW to purchase a sign with advertising signage on it. Carried

**Labor Management:** Let Amy or your Craft Director know if you have anything.

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**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:** Lemaro Stevens (*If he was at this meeting, he would have won!*)

**COPA:** 50/50 Drawing: \$128.00 collected. \$64.00 to the winner –Michelle Mack

**Five (5) - Twenty (\$20.00) Dollar Door Prizes:** (NOTE: According to local policies: \*When an Executive Board member receives one of the door prizes, another drawing is done; When 40 or more are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

- 1.#16 Leann Merrills
- 2.#19 Melissa Castillo
- 3.#4 Chris Fisher\*
- 4.#3 Lisa Borchardt\*
- 5.#6 Dessa Long
- 6.#7 Melissa Thomas
- 7.#23 Mike Long\*
- 8.#25 Kathy Oracz

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm seconded, Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzi Boyd  
Recording Secretary