

**Western Michigan Area Local #281**  
**American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO**  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2021

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	Clerk Craft Director (A) Lisa Borchardt
Vice President- Michelle Mack	Maintenance Craft Director-Vacant
Recording Secretary-Suzi Boyd	Clerk Craft Director (B) David Janes
Motor Vehicle Craft Director-Chris Fisher	Sergeant at Arms – Todd Hodges

**The following Officers were absent:** Treasurer-Linda Chandler

**Review of previous meeting's minutes:** Motion by David Janes, seconded by Lisa Borchardt to accept the February 6, 2021 General Membership Meetings. Carried

**Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership):** Welcome to the Western Michigan Area Local!

Tyler Bartz, Katie Musser, Darrell Bolam, Russell Beyman, Natalie Christie, Dylan Stanaway, Olivia Lambert, Daniel Roskoskey, Lapaula Dukes, Jordan Newsome, Ernesto Soto.  
Carried

**Bills:** None

**Officer's Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Report ending February 28, 2021 was not read as the Treasurer was absent. (The membership was not opposed.)

**President's Report:** At the last meeting I reported on the mandatory mask mandate from headquarters. The Postal Service was only going to sign a mask mandate if all the unions were in agreement. The Mail-handler union was not in agreement with it. The NALC and APWU are still in talks with headquarters but the Postal Service does not want to sign unless all the unions are in agreement. Starting on March 13, we have 57 new conversions in the plant. They will be converted unencumbered. Management did assign start times and SDO's. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, in addition to the regular posting, there will be 57 newly created jobs on the posting, with 11 of them being at the GMF. These will be opened for all to bid on. The residual vacancies that come out of this, the newly converted employees will be placed into these by seniority if they have not successfully bid. We suspect that the amount of the jobs on the posting for March 26<sup>th</sup>, you might need to fill out a manual bid card due to the amount of jobs in the electronic bid system. If you do need to fill out a manual bid, see your steward for assistance. They may be turned into Lisa or Amy to be scanned and sent. Do not wait until the last minute to bid if you need help. We met with the arbitrator on the tour one arbitration for automation. We are hoping to hear something by the end of April at the earliest. Headquarters announced a VER for management(EAS),but

with no incentives. They also announced a downsize of districts, from 67 districts to 50. 204bs and OIC; in the plant or stations, we are not receiving 1723's on these. We have been filing grievances on this. If you have one in your office or area, let us know. Line H for the GMF has been signed off on. Thank you to Greg for all his hard work.

**Vice President's Report:** Line H at the P-campus has been sent up to step 3. We have a safety grievance filed for management not giving proper training in automation to the PSE's. We are working on correcting this. If management is not giving you a steward in a timely manner (2hours) you need to ask again. Management is required to get you a steward even if it is one from the P-campus. If you still are not afforded the opportunity, you need to keep asking and file a grievance on not getting a steward in a timely manner.

**Recording Secretary's Report:** The Biden Administration has named 2 Democrats and the chief of the national vote at home institute to the postal board of governors. That makes the member panel an even 4 Democrats and 4 Republicans with one independent. Lets hope that this will make a change and bring about a new postmaster general that will lead the postal service in an upward direction and take the standards of first class mail back to what it should be ;and give customer service back! Please remember to contribute to COPA.

**Clerk Craft (A) Director Report :**We have been settling grievances for 204B's in the plant and management is still using them. We will continue to file on these. We need better statements from you for supervisors performing clerk work. Who, what, where, and how long they performed clerk work. Let us know if you would like to be a steward.

**Clerk Craft (B) Director Report:** We have 5 more new window qualified clerks, so that should offer some relief on the window depending on what station they bid to. We are working with management to fill the vacancies in customer service. When you are a PSE and being converted into a scheme job, make sure you are afforded the time to study your scheme on the clock. Get with your steward if you are not being allowed to do this. If you would like to be an on the job instructor(trainer), let your steward or someone in the training department know.

**Maintenance Craft Director Report:** Position is currently Vacant

**Motor Vehicle Craft Report:** I am currently working on 2 grievances. Payments for the previous ones, should hopefully be on the next check. We have a new PTF driver and another one coming next week. We have work orders in to fix broken equipment on the docks. If things are not working properly fill out a 1767.

**Sergeant at Arms Report:** We filled the general clerk position at the VMF and are hiring another mechanic.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Old/Unfinished Business:** None

**E-Board Recommendations:** None

**Labor Management:** Let Amy or your Craft Director know if you have anything. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> for the Grand Rapids installation.

**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 Marchell Latin (If she was at the meeting she would have won).

**COPA:** 50/50 Drawing: \$202.00 collected, \$101.00 to Robert Britt, the winner.

**Five \$20.00 Dollar Door Prizes:** \*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. #08 Greg Carlson
2. #26 Geraldine Davis
3. #17 Michael Greene
4. #07 Suzi Boyd
5. #23 Robert Britt
6. #29 Chris Fisher
7. #05 Rachel Hutchinson

**Ten \$25.00 Gift Cards for Easter**

1. #09 Hattie Mitchell
2. #14 Jeff Schellinger
3. #12 Amy Puhalski
4. #19 Melissa Thomas
5. #02 David Janes
6. #21 Michelle Mack
7. #03 Lisa Borchardt
8. #15 Jodie Minda
9. #13 Todd Hodges
10. #27 Diep Huynh

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm seconded, Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Suzi Boyd  
Recording Secretary