

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Sept 12, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 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	Motor Vehicle Craft Director-Chris Fisher
Recording Secretary-Suzi Boyd	Maintenance Craft Director-Vacant
Treasurer-Linda Chandler	Clerk Craft Director (B) David Janes
Sergeant at Arms – Todd Hodges	

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion, seconded by Jeff Schellinger to accept the March 6, 2021 General Membership Meetings. Carried

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

Meghan Thomas, Edward Rasch, Marcus Gray, Jessie Ramirez, Andrew Dedonado, Joesephine Moore, Joey Fricke, Michelle Dolly, Khalil Moten, Shannon Collier
Latoya McClaurin, Devin Garcia, Eric Fish, Shannel McConer, Toi Whitfield, Jenny Kim, Diane Franklin, Krystal Huffman, Darcie Gray, David Fedewa, Christian Richardson, Ashley Patrick, Kyle Hadley, Rhea Anes, Alexic Hampton, Raesean Smith, Dasia Gordon, Jeremy Mullin, Samantha Gonzales, DeAngelo James, Jeremy Strouse, Timothy McClure, Diana Dean

Bills: None

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending August 31, 2021 was read. Motion to accept report. Carried

President's Report: The audit with the DOL has been completed. There were no misappropriations of any funds. The report identified that monies were recorded properly, but additional information needed to be recorded on other lines of the form. The LM report will be amended to reflect the DOL's recommendation and to put us in compliance. We have a new facility opening on 36th st. Management is putting in a SIPS machine, and 20 Rovers. The new building has heat, but does not have air. Management is saying they are not posting jobs and it will be staffed with supplemental employees. I am hoping to clarify this information soon. We are not getting 1723's from management for 204b's. We are relying on you to let us know if you have one in your area. We need you to write statements if you have supervisors and 204b's working in your area. Those are lost job hours if you are not reporting this. In the associate offices, we also need you to let us know if you have supervisors performing clerk or you have 204b's. These lost hours are hard to get back. Do not allow management to call or text you and have you come in early for overtime or on your day off. This is wrong and causes grievances. I have contacted the APWU national president about our current work environment in the Grand Rapids Installation function 1 side and discussed the total disregard for the union and contract by our management. I will keep you

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updated. The Union is not just the stewards and the Executive board; you are the Union, we all are the Union. Also, the EFEL leave is done Sept 30th. The union cannot extend this; it has to come from the President of the United States.

Vice President's Report: I have been working on the violations in automation as well as the maintenance side. Management's decision as to 204bs on the floor has gotten ridiculous. We have a new steward in automation on tour 3, her name is Shannel Conner. On the maintenance side, Greg went out to the new building and completed the measurements and we should have a new staffing package coming out for that in the next couple of weeks. We are hearing that the tentative plans are to operate the building from 5pm to 3am. I am currently working on gathering the documentation of an AMT reversion, I will be filing on that. OPMS, we are still waiting on the date for arbitration. This is a very important grievance for Grand Rapids.

Recording Secretary's Report: I would like to say Thank You for everyone that came out today for the meeting. I hope you all had a great summer. It is nice to be able to hear Amy speak and catch us up on everything that has been going on over the summer in the Grand Rapids installation. When you are filing a complaint for management performing clerk work, you need to be specific on who was working, what they were doing, where they were working at and for how long. Ask for your steward; you are entitled to time off the floor to see your steward and fill the complaint form out. It is your right. Please remember to give to COPA.

Clerk Craft (A) Director Report: We have just received a \$1935.00 COLA increase. Management did not give you this, the union fought for you to get this. Join the union!

Clerk Craft (B) Director Report: It is nice to see 4 customer service stations being represented here today along with an associate office. It is nice to see customer service getting active in the union again. I appreciate you coming today. I have been off for the last month taking care of a personal issue. I tried to take care of what I could while I was off and hope I represented you well or put you in touch with someone that did. We have not been having the holiday schedule meetings lately, management does whatever they want to anyway, so we quit attending them. If you see a violation on the holiday schedule, please contact me or Lisa and we will make sure to put you in contact with who needs to file the grievance if there is a violation.

Maintenance Craft Director Report: Position is currently Vacant

Motor Vehicle Craft Report: With the new building situation there we be a modified truck run. Management told us that it will only be open Tuesday through Friday. This would be a four/ ten hour day schedule. We are hearing that the run would be between 4am to 230pm. The thing you need to remember about that run is that if after 30 days they put out a letter saying their going to change the run and management decides to operate the building more, then the run will go back up for bid and everyone will be allowed to bid on it. When this new run start, this will be an annual bid. The contract is clear that with an annual bid it is not to abolish runs. We just had another bid go residual, so the next PTF will be converted hopefully soon. We have a couple of postings out on the everyone board, maybe now we will get to our compliment.

Sergeant at Arms Report: We need to be accountable for the names and the amounts on the sign in sheet for the COPA drawing. So please make sure you sign your name legibly.

Committee Reports: None

Correspondence: Thank You card received from Carol Grysen for her Retirement gifts.

Thank You card received from Debbie Ohanesian for her Retirement gifts.

Thank You card received from Michelle Turner for the Thoughts and Prayers for the loss of her husband.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

E-Board Recommendations:

Motion to approve Craft Directors and Eboard members to attend the zoom craft conference for their craft on 9/29, 9/30 and 10/01 to include lost time and registration. Carried

Motion to move \$30,000.00 in monies from the WMAL to WMPW to make repairs to the union hall. Carried

Motion to send Michelle Mack to the President Conference 10/2, 10/3, 10/4 to include lost time, per diem, mileage, registration, hotel, parking. Carried

Motion to approve Amy Puhalski and Lisa Borchardt to attend the zoom Health Plan conference 10/20, 10/21, 10/22 to include lost time and registration. Carried

Motion to approve Suzi Boyd to attend the zoom Legislative conference 9/26 to include lost time and registration. Carried

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

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, Matthew Jeknavorian (If he was at the meeting, he would have won).

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$106.00 collected; \$53.00 to Todd Hodges, 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. #17 Michael Green
2. #26 Geraldine Davis
3. #15 Jeff Schellinger
4. #1 Dana McClean
5. # 9 Diep Huynh

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 pm seconded, Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Suzi Boyd
Recording Secretary

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