

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm 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-Michelle Mack	Clerk Craft Director A- Susi Boyd
Vice President Michael Long	Treasurer-Linda Chandler
Recording Secretary-Awanda Jennings	Sergeant at Arms-Todd Hodges
Maintenance Craft Director-Jennifer McKinnon	

The following officers were absent: Clerk Craft Director B-Ameka Jones, Motor Vehicle Craft Director- Chris Fisher

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by David Janes, seconded by: Michael Long to accept the March 2, 2024, General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

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

Bliss Hollie Timothy Wingard Seth Idema Carson DeVries Folashade Salako Joseph Cho
Welcome New Members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending March 31, 2024, was read. Motion to accept report as read by David Janes, seconded by Mike Long. Carried.

President's Report:

It appeared; everyone enjoyed the Red Wings game this past weekend. I want to give a big thank you to Mike Long for filling in for me while I was at the Leadership Institute.

- Ground Advantage. Suzi is in the process of settling a grievance with Management for the Clerks So, I will let her give an update on this.
- Badge/timecard control. I have filed a grievance for the GR Installation this past week with management for their improper implementation and past practice. I have pulled clock rings from the GMF and the Annex. There are many that are not abiding by the rules and Management is not holding everyone accountable to include Supervision. If Supervision can have their timecards and be trusted with them, so can we. We will have to see how this plays out.
- We are looking into forming a Safety committee and would like to gauge interest. If you are interested please let me know. We are looking for volunteers and possibly a chairperson to lead the committee.
- I have attended the 1st and 2nd week of the Leadership Institute. Thus far it has been exciting. meeting folks from all over the country. There are some great minds in this group of 32. The training thus far has covered Labor history from the late 1800s to present, discussed the success of postal campaigns "US Mail in not for Sale" and "Stop Staples" with Judy Beard our APWU Legislative/Political Director. We also got to tour APWU headquarters, meet with our APWU officers and have dinner with them. As a group, we also got to tour the History Center at Headquarters.

On April 1st the organizing drive went LIVE from the Leadership Institute with Director Anna Smith. The organizing drive will run April 1st through June 25th. We also had writing and speaking in public workshops, website/media training, and getting involved politically with those who favor postal issues. The third and final week is in May. I want to finish my report by having the membership watch a video on the Great Postal Strike of 1970 to remind all of us how the APWU was formed and how important our Union is, especially right now.

Executive Vice-President's Report: The Red Wings bus trip everyone had a good time from what I'm told.

The district meeting and conference is next week, most of the stewards will be at the district meeting but we will have our phones if needed.

I am meeting with our new AO/Step 2 Designee Ed O'Brian on the Higher level 7 while the postmaster supervisor is away.

Welcome to our new Maintenance steward Lance Herman -GMF. We still can use stewards in a lot of areas so if you are interested, please let us know.

Recording Secretary's Report: Management is still handing out discipline for attendance, as well as doing PDI's for not turning in timecards at the end of your shift.

Clerk Craft (A) Director Report: Michelle and Mike covered most of my list. Reversions have seemed to slow down at least for now. There was (1) one abolishment of a District position at the main office, the appropriate grievance will be filed. There have been quite a few questions about the new Postal Service Health Benefit plan and Medicare Integration. There is a class next week at the convention I will be taking and will report back at the next meeting.

Thank you for coming out today.

Clerk Craft (B) Director Report:

Maintenance Craft Director Report: Still waiting on the Line H for the stations and branches.

Management is handing out discipline for attendance.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report:

Sergeant at Arms Report:

E-Board Recommendations:

Motion to send all stewards that are delegates to the National Convention July 12-14, 2024, in Detroit, MI to attend the pre-convention workshops and respected craft conference to include hotel and applicable taxes, per diem, registration, mileage, lost time and or current base rate for non-scheduled days. Carried.

Motion to spend up to \$500, plus any leftover monies from the monthly food budget for membership appreciation, for the June 1, 2024, 3-6 pm prior to executive board and general membership meetings, Membership/organizing cookout. Carried.

Motion to increase the signup bonus for the organizing drive April 1- June 25, 2024, only from \$50 to \$100, and to allow executive Board members to also receive it except for the president and vice-president. Carried.

Motion to use the points from the Western Michigan Area Local credit card for the organizing drive, the new-member and the organizer will be entered into the drawing(s). Carried.

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

Drawings:

\$250.00 Attending the Meeting Drawing: Bradley Barnaby (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$160.00 collected. \$ 80.00 congratulations to the winner, Michelle Mack.

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).

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| 1.# 23 Michael Long* | 6. # 14 Linda Chandler* |
| 2.# 17 Barbara Elmblad | 7. # 08 Ann Hill-Graves |
| 3.# 18 Irene Erickson | 8. # 07 Michelle Mack* |
| 4.# 13 Todd Hodges* | 9. # 04 Dana McLean |
| 5.# 09 Jennifer McKinnon* | 10. # 03 David Janes |

James Sweeney Scholarships Five (5) \$1000.00

1. Lauryn Jackson/Ricky Jackson
2. Bryanna Stine/Theresa Stewart
3. Jacob Heemstra/Jennifer Heemstra
4. Annabelle Rabidoux/Shawn Rabidoux

Motioned by Mike Long, seconded by Linda Chandler to adjourn the meeting at 1:16pm. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Awanda Jennings
Recording Secretary