

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2024

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 –Absent	Clerk Craft Director A– Suzi Boyd
Executive Vice-President –Absent	Maintenance Craft Director – Absent
Treasurer – Linda Chandler	Motor Vehicle Craft Director - Chris Fisher
Recording Secretary-Absent	Clerk Craft Director B – Ameka Jones
Sergeant at Arms-Absent	

The following officers were absent: President-Michelle Mack, Executive Vice President-Michael Long, Recording Secretary- Awanda Jennings, Maintenance Craft Director-Jennifer McKinnon, and Sergeant at Arms- Todd Hodges.

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by: Dana Mclean, seconded by: David Janes; to accept the June 1, 2024, General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried

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

Motion by: Suzi Boyd, Seconded by: Jeff Schellinger. Carried

Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Report ending August 31, 2024, was read. Motion by: Suzi Boyd, Seconded by: David Janes

President's Report: Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I'm sure everyone has noticed the upgrades we have made to the hall since we met in June. The parking lot was completed in mid-August and the kitchen and bathrooms completed at the end of June/early July. The money spent adds value to this property; is a good investment and helps support the increase in the rental prices for 2025. A big Thank You to Linda for all the work she did, meeting with the contractors. I am sure some of you have heard, I am resigning as President of WMAL 281 effective end of day September 20,2024. I have health concerns that need to be addressed which is difficult to do holding the position of President and the many demands that come with it. I have spent 8 years fighting for the WMAL membership, filed numerous grievances and have made lifelong friendships. I appreciate each one of you and know our Union is in good hands. I will do my best to continue to support our union and help in any way I can. I'm hoping to return as a steward sometime after the first of the year, if all goes well. Please continue fighting for our membership and being the best stewards you can be. It has been a pleasure serving with all of you; Solidarity Forever!

At the National Convention in July, a resolution passed calling for a National Day of Action. This encompasses the "We won't be silenced" campaign and Good Contract Now/ Better Staffing Better

Service. This will take place on October 1st. It would be nice to get together as a group to picket downtown at 12 noon. We are hoping to get 15 of us to participate. Please let me know if you are interested. ****This activity cannot be on the postal clock.** The 2024 peak season penalty exclusion period is November 30th through December 27th. The 6th and final COLA raise for this contract of .47 cents goes into effect today and will show up on your 9/27/24 paycheck. The APWU Leadership Institute is slated for 2025, and applications are being accepted through September 13th. If you are interested, please apply. We were notified that lunches will be re-implemented once again on September 21st. This was for the plant and not for the GR installation. This is improper and Mike Long will be filing on this. Management is determined to have everyone take a lunch. So, unfortunately, here we go again. If you have anything for the upcoming Labor management meeting, let your craft director know.

Executive Vice-President's Report: Absent

Recording Secretary: Absent

Clerk Craft Report A: s I want to thank you for coming tonight. The Sips machine is being moved from the PSA building to the P-3; from what we are hearing it most likely will not be up and running until after peak. Management is stating they will staff it with PSE's and MHA's until they decide what hours and how many bid jobs they will be posting. In the Grand Rapids Installation management is required to post a 3-day holiday schedule. This is to be posted no later than Tuesday preceding the service week in which the holiday falls. If this is not happening, please let your steward or craft director know. PSE's do not receive COLAS (cost of living adjustments), they will see the increase in their base pay when converted to career.

Maintenance Craft Report: Absent

Clerk Craft Director B: If supervisors are doing TACS work in the AO's, send me a statement, and let me know if this is happening in your office.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report: We have no news from management on routes. We are still hiring drivers.

Sergeant at Arms Report: Absent

Committee Reports: None

Correspondence: Thank you letter from Wings Home for our donation, and Thank You letter from the Bernie Schimke family for flowers sent on the loss of his wife.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

E-Board Recommendations: None

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

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: Nathan Blakemore (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$125.00 total collected. \$62.50 to the winner – Chris Fisher

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. If 40 or more are present, there is one additional drawing per ten members).

1. #02 David Janes
2. #08 Ann Hill-Graves
3. #23 Michael Snyder
4. #09 Chris Fisher
5. #15 Jeff Schellinger
6. #20 Ameka Jones
7. #4 Linda Pollins

Motion, seconded. Carried
Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yours in Solidarity,

Recording Secretary