

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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 –Michael Long	Clerk Craft Director A– Suzi Boyd
Executive Vice-President –David Janes	Maintenance Craft Director – Jennifer McKinnon
Treasurer – Linda Chandler	Motor Vehicle Craft Director – Chris Fisher
Recording Secretary-Awanda Jennings	Clerk Craft Director B – Ameka Jones
Sergeant at Arms- Todd Hodges	

The following officers were absent: None

Motion by Diep Huynh to suspend tonight's business to go through the nominations of the upcoming Board. Second, by David Janes. Carried.

Election Committee appointed Diep Huynh as Chairperson. The other members of the committee are: Suzi Boyd, Racheal Hutchinson, Michael Long. We will be using a three-call vote then closed for nomination.

<u>Nominations</u>			
Officer Position	Nominated	Nominated by:	Seconded by:
President	David Hoyle	Cory Fox	2 nd Kylan Sherman
Vice President	Jeff Schellinger	Cory Fox	2 nd Kylan Sherman
Recording Secretary	Kayla McKie	Jennifer McKinnon	2 nd David Hoyle
	Dana Mclean	Brittany Thompson	2 nd Cory Fox
	Aaron Harvey	Aaron Harvey	2 nd David Janes
Treasurer	Steve Leech	David Hoyle	2 nd Kylan Sherman
Clerk Craft Director A	Awanda Jennings	Jennifer McKinnon	2 nd Cory Fix
	Kylan Sherman	Cory Fox	2 nd Kylan Sherman
Clerk Craft Director B	Kwynn Tillman	Ameka Jones	2 nd Brittany Thompson
Maintenance Craft Director	Jennifer McKinnon	Awanda Jennings	2 nd Ameka Jones
	Lance Herman	Charles Dougherty	2 nd Jodie Minda
MVS Craft Director	Chris Fisher	David Hoyle	2 nd Cory Fox
Sergeant at Arms	Todd Hodges	Ameka Jones	2 nd Jennifer McKinnon

Motion by Brittany Thompson seconded by David Janes to return back to regular business. Carried.

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion to accept the September 6, 2025, General Membership Meeting Minutes. David Janes was seconded by Brittany Thompson. Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership)

Jenetta Epps Christopher Tower Kimberly Hamm Anthony Enos Lori Mangan
Thomas Howe Jemikia Whitman Takeshia Spencer Lamont Blackmon Isiah Newson
Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Executive Board Officer's Reports

Treasurer's Report: Report ending September 30, 2025, was read. Motion to accept David Janes. Seconded by Brittany Thompson. Carried.

President's Report: At the last meeting it was asked how many people voted in the National contract ratification 726 ballots were sent out 226 ballots were returned, of that 217 was yes 9 were no. That means only 31% of our membership voted.

In September, we had two pay increases, one on September 12th paycheck for 1.3%, and the other on September 26th, which was for the COLA for July 2025 equates to .43 more an hour in your paycheck. Some people were thinking they were getting a lump sum of \$812.00. I received several calls on this. The next increase will be in November 1.4% and the pse's will receive 2.4% contractual raise since they do not receive COLA raises.

The parking committee is being reestablished at the GMF (downtown), right now you might be seeing some changes coming down on the back dock, you may be seeing tickets issued pretty soon. They are talking about moving a handicap down to where the ramp is because they may need the ramp to get up.

David Janes has been out at the p-campus on Tour 2 until we are able to get stewards for that Tour, and we do have stewards coming in early and staying later so if you have questions, you may reach out to them.

Executive Vice-President's Report: We are still doing the TACS grievances for the Gmf at this point, management is still doing it at this point, all your manual inputs are still going in there, I'm still spotting them it's all becoming a part of a bigger grievance now management can't decide who their Step 1 designee is so I appealed it up to Step 2.

There were some injuries that had happened, and there seemed to be not enough people who knew what they were supposed to do. When you are injured on the job and it is catastrophic injury, and it can be isolated to a single incident (ex you get your finger smashed in an apc) you need to do your CA1. Make sure you get that CA1 filled out and CA16 because what they are trying to do and I have seen this twice now, people are getting hurt and management does not know what paperwork to fill out so we make sure if anyone is hurt that they get the CA1 and they are entitled to see their doctor on the clock. The CA2 is used for Occupational disease (e.g. repetitive motion) is a little bit different something that happened over an extended period or an aggravation of a pre-existing condition.

Recording Secretary: Management continues to hand out discipline. Management is getting very strict with the cell phone policy to the point even if you are not clocked in you cannot have it on the workroom floor. While some in management is becoming argumentative and antagonizing and at times even bullying employees, make sure you do not fall into this trap and start yelling or becoming threatening yourself if this happens to you ask for your steward immediately and write a statement, if need be call the threat assessment line or file an EEO.

AFL-CIO to Trump Administration: 'Fund the Government. Fix the Health Care Crisis. Put Working People First.'

The federal government is shutting down right now because President Trump and his administration chose chaos and pain over responsible governing. Now, countless jobs, the essential government services we all rely on and the economy powered by our workforce are in jeopardy –all because the administration wants to take one more swing at wrecking the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and throwing working people off our health care.

Hundreds of thousands of federal workers are being looked out and stand to lose the paychecks their families depend on. Federal contractors, including custodians and cafeteria workers, will not have the assurance of back pay. It's not Washington politicians who are at risk here- it is working people just like us, more than 80% of whom live outside D.C. and 30% are veterans. These are the people who get our Social Security checks out on time, keep our food and water safe, care for our veterans, and protect us at airports and during natural disasters. Under the administration's Project 2025/ DODGE agenda, federal workers have been fired, rehired, and fired again. They have been stripped of their collective bargaining rights and union contracts. Now, President Trump is shutting down the government, using federal workers as pawns and threatening to illegally fire them-all to avoid fixing the mounting health care cost crisis that will hurt millions of Americans. The labor movement's message to the administration is clear; Get to work. Fund the government. Fix the health care crisis. Put working people first.

Clerk Craft Report A: Still working on the Labor Day holiday grievance.

As far as the SIPS, a lot of clerks have asked are we supposed to sweep after we have filled up the containers with non-machinable mail. If the SIPS is not running and there is no mail handler crew there pull it. If the machine is running, mail handlers are contending it's their work. We are currently waiting for management's decision from the RI399 committee on this.

Clerk Craft Director B: eRMS they took that away from some of the stations so we are waiting for Bill Rowe to return it. I will be filing a grievance on this. With the recent TACS award from National, we will be looking at this to rectify this situation.

Maintenance Craft Director: Full time position for custodian in Newaygo going up to Step 3. Met at Step 2 for the emergency system checks for the stations and branches in district 2 they denied it so that will be going up to Step 3.

It's time again for Line H. Will be meeting with management this next month to start looking at their numbers and comparing.

Motor Vehicle Craft Director: All the payments have been paid out. Management is doing more background checks and hiring more drivers.

Sergeant at Arms. Still working on the outside contractor's grievance; will be addressing after the All-Craft Conference to settle it.

Committee Report: A & E committee, if someone would like to step up and steer it for the children's Christmas party let me know.

Correspondence: Letter from Pennies for Parkinson's thanking the local for its' donation.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

E-Board Recommendations: Motion to endorse "People over the Pentagon Act" - Carried

Motion to endorse Hillary Scholten as the Representative of the 3rd District Congressional seat.
Carried

Motion to send up to 2 people to the National swearing ceremony on November 1, 2025 at Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD. to include flight and hotel only. (Amy Puhalski (former local President and current Central Region Coordinator will be sworn in)

Labor Management: If you have anything for Labor Management, please let the President or 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: #192 Ronita Jackson *(If she was at this meeting, she would have won!)*

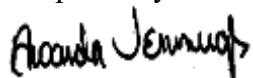
COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$160.00 total collected. \$80.00 to the winner – Brittany Thompson

Fifteen (10) - 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 # 09 Jennifer McKinnon*
- 2 # 18 Kylan Sherman
- 3 # 28 Rebecca Craig
- 4 # 11 Jodi Minda
- 5 # 17 Jason Bauer
- 6 # 04 Cory Fox

Motioned to adjourn at 7:20 pm by David Hoyle seconded by Brittany Thompson. Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary