

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2026

The 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 –David Hoyle	Clerk Craft Director A– Awanda Jennings
Executive Vice-President – Vacant	Maintenance Craft Director – Jennifer McKinnon
Treasurer – Steve Leach	Motor Vehicle Craft Director - Chris Fisher
Recording Secretary- Kayla McKie	Clerk Craft Director B – Kwynn Tillman
Sergeant at Arms-Todd Hodges	

The following officers were absent: Joshua Gray was appointed at the Exec. Board meeting.

Motion by Michael Long, Seconded by Dana McLean to suspend the order of business to swear in the new Executive Board. Carried.

Michael Long (as the MPWU Secretary-Treasurer) swore in the new Executive Board using the language in the APWU National Constitution. Regular of Order business resumed after swearing in.

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion by Ricky Jackson, Seconded by: Jeff Cowley to accept the December 3, 2025, General Membership Meeting Minutes. Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership)

Linroy Marshall	Ashley Fulton
Kaliyah Thomas	Billie Chimel
Margarita Cruz	Ginger Barlett
Clariss Collins	Rayanne Bender

Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Report ending December 31, 2025, was read. Motion to accept by Brittany Thompson, seconded by Ameka Jones . Carried.

President's Report: I would like to send my appreciation to all of you. I am going to try my best to do this, I appreciate any input that you give me, because I have never done this. I've been a Steward for a long time. I know I'm going to do things wrong but I would appreciate it if you say it to my face if I'm doing anything wrong. I would like to thank the old board, carrying it on for us, allowing us to pick it up where they left off. Hopefully we can carry on the torch that you have handed off to us. So, just like with every meeting we need more Stewards, with the old E-Board leaving it has left

a lot of holes. So if you can think of anyone that wants to be a Steward, write statements and come talk to us; then we will go from there. So, the issue I've been having is getting Union time. I did hear that Kwynn was having trouble getting Union time for the holiday meeting before she started. Hopefully that was just because it was before she started, and not now but I can already see by her face that is not the issue. So that is something we are going to have to try to work on and figure out together because my boss does the same thing. Christmas, we all know management was doing a lot of our work, we are keeping Suzi on to help with that so she can help Awanda, and Awanda will help bring it home. We are still having issues with TACS and ERMS with the Lead Clerks, so we are working on that. I know with me they have issued discipline on AOT's, failure to follow. If you guys hear anything about that let us know. I know a couple people down at the GMF that have gotten them. So, if you guys hear anyone else, let us know. So, I am going to ask for leniency from the membership, we are a new board, its going to be a learning curve, so please be patient with us, we are going to try our best. If you guys have any problems just reach out to us and let us know. So, we are looking forward to helping our local out. It's something we feel like we are called to do. That's all I got for now; we do not have a vice president right now. Josh Gray was the only one that put in for the Vice presidency, so that was one of the motions we did.

Executive Vice-President's Report: None

Recording Secretary: None

Clerk Craft Report A: I don't have anything as of yet, we are working on the PSA grievances, I did get an extension on it. So far that's it, I do have until the middle of January for that. So far, I haven't been trained yet for the Clerk craft, but Suzi will get to it. David still has to train me on the TACS and what report I have to print. That's all I have for right now.

Clerk Craft Director B: You did mention that we were having issues getting Steward time, but people are having issues getting a Steward. Make sure you are ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS, asking for a Steward. That's the way to make sure we can do our job to support you all. Also, if you're not getting a Steward within those 2 hours, you really need to go and ask again, write it down, go tell the Steward that that's what's going on if you do run into them. Keep track of your time, if you ask for one at 11 and you didn't get one until 3'o clock, that's an issue. It shouldn't occur. Make sure that you are continuously asking for a Steward, and keeping track of the time. The time starts when you ask for a Steward, and stops when you receive one.

Maintenance Craft Report: My line H for the stations and branches 25 are all settled, I am also getting payouts for past years for the stations, downtown and the Annex. I am also having issues with management not giving my Stewards Union time. And making sure they don't have more than one person on a floor or building, So I am working on that with some of my other Stewards. Other than that, that's all I got.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report: Grievance report, there's not very many, just a couple this month, but of course I was gone a week. The grievance we have for displacement and overtime, I am working on that one. If anyone is familiar with that one it's been since last March. We also have a grievance up there, we have 2 types of drivers we have TTO's and MDO's, MDO's are level 7 and TTO's are level 8. When they hired them all they were all hired under level 7's. Theres 3 or 4 of them that are level 8 qualified, and there's still an MDO when they get hired, until they get a different job. Well, these guys have been filling in 80-90% of the time in a tractor trailer still making level 7's. A couple of them are full time, been there 6 months and is still making level 7. Over Christmas there

wasn't really a transportation grievance here. Might be the first time ever. MDO training, so what happened is they hired a bunch of drivers and then they hired some more, and they were all MDO's 6 or 7 people, and now were expanding and they make TTO runs, they hired a couple more TTO's, but then you have people that can't drive hardly any of the runs and what are they going to do? I told them what was going to happen, so we just had our re-bid, and of course what happened, some of the drivers took the nice runs, some of them were straight some of them weren't, none of them were left for the MDO's to bid on. Only one. And now there are 6 open TTO jobs. And the contract says to start training them on the clock starting with the senior MDO. So now were going to push this. If they're not going to have a training, we will have to send them to truck driving school on the clock, it would be expensive. That's what we got going on.

Sergeant at Arms Report: None

Committee Report

Correspondence: None

Old/Unfinished Business: None

E-Board Recommendations: Motion to send up to 25 people to the MPWU convention April 21-26 in Traverse City to include mileage, per diem, hotel, registration, and applicable taxes. -Carried

Motion to send up to 25 people to the APWU National Convention from August 15-21 to Los Angeles, CA to include air fare, hotel, per diem, registration, parking, transportation to and from airport and applicable taxes. -Carried

Motion to send up to six (6) people to the Labor Arbitration Institute in Southfield Michigan on March 20, to include registration, mileage for 2, lost time, per diem, and applicable taxes. -Carried

New Business:

Motion to nominate all those who have attended at least 3 meetings last year within the proceeding 12 months to National APWU and to the State Union conventions – seconded by David Janes.

The floor is opened for additional names to attend the MPWU Convention (NOTE: The three meeting requirement is only for the National APWU Convention; since there are elections at the MPWU Convention, there can be no meeting requirement, per the Department of Labor): Brian Thompson, Alfonso Bolson, Jeff Cowley.

Motion by Brittany Thompson, Seconded by Dana McLean that the local cover Brittany Thompson for up to 5 hours of LWOP and round-trip mileage for an Arbitration case on January 9, 2026 in Dewitt, MI. -Carried

Labor Management: If you have anything for Labor Management, please let the President, your Stewards, 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: Levi Schwartz *(If she was at this meeting, she would have won!)*

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$130.00 total collected. \$65 00 to the winner – Jennifer Rizzon

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 #1 Michael Long
2. #2 David Janes
3. #16 Charles Dougherty
4. #17 Michael Greene
5. #30 Jeffrey Cowley

Motioned to adjourn by Michael Long, Seconded by Brittany Thompson – Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

{Signed}

Kayla McKie
Recording Secretary