

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

General Membership Meeting Minutes

April 1, 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

Executive Vice-President – Josh Gray

Treasurer – Steve Leech

Recording Secretary- Kayla McKie

Clerk Craft Director A– Awanda Jennings

~~Maintenance Craft Director – Jennifer McKinnon~~

Motor Vehicle Craft Director - Chris Fisher

Clerk Craft Director B – Kwynn Tillman

Sergeant at Arms-Todd Hodges

The following officers were absent: Maintenance Craft Director – Jennifer McKinnon

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion to accept the March 7, 2026, General Membership Meeting Minutes made by Brittany Thompson, seconded by Amy Puhalski. Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership)

Suzanne Burr

John Lynch

Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Report ending March 31, 2026, was read. Motion to accept by Chris Fisher seconded by Amy Puhalski. Carried.

President's Report: I am dealing with a closure of Macatawa. I reached out to Amy; she got me help with Stevenson. We are trying to figure out that because I am having issues with Leanne. I went there today and talked with Stevenson he said I needed their letter that they are using to close the Post Office. So, I sent that to him and I am waiting on clarification on what to do next with that. Other issues we are having is our Stewards aren't getting time. If you are being denied time I need your statements so that we can follow up. I know Kwynn is having issues with Travis. I tried to set up a meeting with Bill Rowe; I guess he is on vacation. I will try to deal with that afterwards. Kayla is having issues with Stewards time, so I hope you bring that up as well. So those are the main things I've been dealing with is that and Stewards being denied time.

Executive Vice-President's Report: I am so glad to be a Steward again! Tons of discipline, kicking managements ass on discipline just like old times. They're just disciplining everyone on everything. Make sure you are filing a grievance if you get discipline. 204B's is an ongoing issue. You are going to hear the same things from me every month basically because most of the stuff I deal with is going to be ongoing... forever. They have 204B's up, they don't notify the Union that the 204B's are up so I hear from the people on the floor and then I follow up and I handle it. If you have a 204B on the floor, if you are reading these minutes and you have a 204B on the floor make sure I know about it.

Mandatory overtime for the 10am people in automation, this is something else that I've been working on. I literally cannot even get management to even come to the table to meet with me on this. Every pay period I file a grievance with their Class Action designee who is Joe Rann, I can't even get a text back so I just continue to move them through the process. They are mandating the non-listers, they are not giving overtime to the listers, they're not taking volunteers, they're not using PSE's. At some point they are going to pay. I look forward to that day, maybe then they will come to the table when they start writing checks. We just did a big new Stewards training; I wasn't here last month so I would have talked about it then. I had like 6 people, I am about to do another one. We're going to have like 6 more new Stewards. And the overall Stewards training is coming up in the next month or two. I will get that information out to you guys so that everyone will be able to come to that.

Recording Secretary: None

Clerk Craft Report A: I did the Presidents Day grievance for the PSE's working 12 hours. Discipline, they're still handing out discipline for Attendance. Last night we only had 2 people working in the Michigan rack, people are still not coming to work. A couple weeks ago we went to the Labor Law and Labor Arbitration which was very informative. They also gave us a website that we can also look up arbitrations. I can give you guy's that website as well naarb.org which has a list of different arbitrations there that you can also research.

Clerk Craft Director B: The Arbitration training was amazing! I do want to put this out again about Stewards especially at the stations. We desperately need them! If you know anybody who wants to be a Steward that is possibly at one of the Stations even if they are in an AO, I would appreciate that you all will let us know. Get something written, give it to us, it will be very appreciative. Arbitration training that was so good, we did go over Due Process and the one thing that stayed in my mind was Just Cause principles. I notice that about our grievances, we do use them to a "T". I am not saying to not use them as a "T", but I am saying how the arbitrators put it out there is there is more to just going through those 7 Just Cause principles. So sometimes you do have to look at those cases and see what other things should be considered other than those principles can be expanded on. If you are writing your grievances just think about that those Just Cause principles are like a guideline but it isn't just that. Think about all the other stuff you can use to expand on those.

Maintenance Craft Report: Absent

Motor Vehicle Craft Report: Going over grievances first, these guys have been turning them in I think its probably close to another \$2,000 this month just for overtime, displacement type of thing. It just keeps going. I have one at Step-2 right now for failing to fill an RFI. Still one at Step-3. Still getting grievances for people getting LWOP'd on their pay for little weird reasons. You guys have to start checking that at least once a month. Don't come to us 6 months later and then complain about the outcomes. If you see errors bring it to us right away. That's going to be better for you in the long run. The 20th we went to Arbitration training, that was one of the best ones I have been to; it was like a real class. The thing that sticks out to me in that is there's 4 or 5 arbitrators up there and they're all reading the same case and they go down the boat and only half the time did they all agree. So, a lot of it is how they show you how to present it, and they're all different. You just have to write the right things to influence the right people.

Sergeant at Arms Report: None

Committee Report: If anyone wants to join the A&E committee let David Hoyle know.
If anyone wants to be in the Legislative meeting let David Hoyle know.

Correspondence:

APW ABA Scholarship is due by May 15th, 2026

Old/Unfinished Business: None

E-Board Recommendations: None

New Business:

Motion made to suspend the July and August meetings, seconded by TyShanica Patterson. Carried

Motion to move the June meeting to Thursday the 4th at 7pm. Carried

Motion made by Suzi Boyd to donate Liza Person family \$500 for funeral expenses. Seconded by Amy Puhalski.

Motion to amend by Tasha Patterson to donate \$1,000 to Liza Person on behalf of the Western Michigan Area Local for funeral expenses, seconded by Amy Puhalski. Carried

Motion made by Ricky Jackson, to have \$125 drawing in June for the July and August (\$125 for each month) for the people in attendance at the June meeting. Defeated

Motion made by Mike Long to send the Stewards who will be attending the National Convention the option to attend the pre-convention workshop Friday August 14th, and the craft conference on Saturday and Sunday August 15th and 16th to be paid LWOP, per diem, registration, applicable taxes. Seconded by Brian Thompson. Carried

Motion made by Brittany Thompson to be reimbursed for lost time and mileage for an Arbitration hearing on May 29th seconded by Josh Gray. 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 #392 Carl Shumpert (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$90.00 total collected. \$45 to the winner – Steve Leech

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).

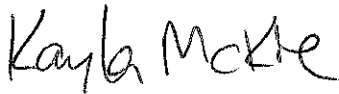
- 1 #20-Kayla McKie*
2. #12-Brian Thompson
3. # 13-Todd Hodges*
4. #5-Phill Heintzelman
5. #1-Ricky Jackson
6. #3-Laurie Barszewski
7. #6-Ameka Jones

Ten (10) – Twenty-five (\$25.00) Gift cards for Easter:

- 1 #17- Julie Boomsma
2. #31- Rob Ramsey
3. #11- Ramona Bogan
4. #22- Aaron Simmons
5. #19- Kwynn Tillman
6. #8- Ann Hill-Graves
- 7.#7- Josh Gray*
- 8.#30- TyShanica Patterson
- 9.#14- Mike Long
- 10.#28-Rebecca Craig

Motioned to adjourn by Brittany Thompson 7:55pm seconded by Chris Fisher. - Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Kayla McKie
Recording Secretary