

Western Michigan Area Local #281
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
General Membership Meeting Minutes
June 4, 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 – Josh Gray	Maintenance Craft Director – Jennifer McKinnon
Treasurer – Steve Leech	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:

Review of previous meeting's minutes: Motion to accept the April 4, 2026, General Membership Meeting Minutes made by Jennifer McKinnon, seconded by Ameka Jones. Carried.

Applications for Membership (Accepted by Voice Vote of Membership)

Edwin Washinton
Brandon Mack

Welcome new members of the WMAL!

Bills: None

Officer's Report

Treasurer's Report: Report ending April 30, 2026, was read. Motion to accept by Chris Fisher seconded by Jennifer Mckinnon . Carried.

President's Report: The biggest issue I have, people not writing statements. Got an issue, write it down, don't come find me, don't come find your Steward, don't come find your Craft Director and complain about it and not write it down. Because we need you to write it down so that we have proof that a grievance exists, and we can investigate it. It's a lot easier to hold us accountable if there's a piece of paper vs you tell me in passing as I'm walking to do something because I'm going to forget it about 15 minutes later. So, write statements, if you see something, and even if it's not for you because we're having a lot of issues downtown Tour 3. If you see management on a machine, write a statement for us, if you see management doing something write a statement for us. It's a lot easier because I know Corey had issues about the Christmas one because of statements. The more statements we have, even if they overlap. The more statements we have the better we have to facilitate something. The next thing, the reversions, of course they didn't agree to them at Step-1, moved them up to Step-2. The Macatawa closure moved that up to Step-3, we never met at Step-2. Labor Management is on Monday, so if anyone has any issues they need to bring to districts attention let me know so I can bring it up to that.

Executive Vice-President's Report: Hey everybody. Same as last month, if you see anybody up as a 204B make sure I find out, make sure to let me know. Even if I already know, I would rather hear about the same person 3 or 4 times. Discipline, well most of the grievances I have right now besides the 204B's are for discipline. I am working on a removal right now, I just sent up a 14-Day, and two 7-Day's up to Step-3. So, that's probably the last time you'll hear about it from me. I am sure there will be new ones the next time we meet though. And then so on the topic of statements, if you have a problem with a Steward the first thing I'm going to ask is did you write a statement. If the answer is no, then I'm going to ask then how am I supposed to hold someone accountable when nothing got written down. Because downtown I hear all the time people talking about the Steward didn't do this, the Steward didn't do that. It's my job to train the Stewards that's what I do in the Local, well one of my main functions is to train the Stewards. So, if you have an issue with a Steward, I want to make sure that you have a statement that you wrote, so then when you come to me you tell me Hey, I wrote this grievance I never heard anything back; and that gives me something to investigate on. Either give some training to the Steward that may lack training, or maybe there was no grievance and I just need to make sure that person follows the proper procedures for letting someone know that a grievance didn't exist. But the first most important thing is that there is a statement for me to go off of in the first place.

Recording Secretary: None

Clerk Craft Report A: The only thing I have, same like Josh, discipline has slowed down. I am working on two removals. I am working on the Memorial Holiday Day grievance right now we have an extension. We're still looking for Stewards for Tour 3. Also, if you do get discipline don't wait until the 14th day to bring it to us. I had two people come up to me saying they were waiting for me to come back, and it was way past the time frame, it was 20 days past. And they are saying oh I was just waiting for you to come back; when we had Stewards there but they didn't want to talk to that Steward. And there's nothing I can do with it, its gone. So, if you get discipline just see a Steward so we can fight it.

Clerk Craft Director B: I don't really have much, I am just now finishing pay period 7 for overtime for stations. Unfortunately, I am not getting a lot of Union time so when I get to it, I get to it. That's why I never request that stuff before so they won't be like "I'm untimely". So just be patient if it's something dealing with overtime I haven't gotten there yet, I am doing the best I can, I'm only one person. Also, we need some Stewards in the stations, that's part of the reason I don't have time because I don't have help. So, if you know anybody for the stations who want to participate, want to help out, tell them to become a Steward to help me out so I can get some of this stuff off my plate. Also, I am dealing with a couple discipline grievances, some of the people are going outside their FMLA restrictions or their guidelines. Please be careful of that, I know there's quite a few of us who have FMLA. Let's say you only got a day off per week, don't take a day, come to work and then take another 3 days, don't do that because they will catch you every time. They are really cracking down on that at the stations. So please follow your guidelines so that will be less headache for y'all, and less headache for me. Lastly, statements everybody, statements, statements, statements. Its so helpful for us Stewards when you write a statement. If you tell me something I forgot it two seconds later, I forgot what I had last night for dinner let alone trying to remember what somebody told me while I'm at work. When I don't want to be there already, I have other stuff going on, so write,

write, write these statements. Don't send me no text, I don't check this phone like that, I need a piece of paper that I can see in front of me, I need an e-mail I can see. Statements, statements, statements!!

Maintenance Craft Report: I only have a couple things, first thing PMARS is coming, I don't know when. I am told its just in the pilot stage, so if we do get it I need to know immediately, because they're not supposed to roll it out until they're done doing the testing for the PMARS. Second, I am hearing a lot complaints about people given more than the time that they have for routes on the machines. Keep in mind you only have to do 7.2 hours, all that time is all estimated time that is on your worksheet. So, if you go over it they can't get you for that. So, make sure you don't do more than 7.2 hours on your work.

Motor Vehicle Craft Report: I do have a couple things, clock rings and your check and your pay stub. Our manager seems to think she can pull money right off the top of your paycheck, you guys have to check this stuff. Check it all the time, I got grievances for people getting their money back. She can't take money off your clock rings just because they're mad at you. And when I'm filing I need a lot of help. I can get the clock rings and everything, but I need you there between looking at your paycheck stubs at the same time I'm looking at your clock rings. I need all of that information so if you're going through something, pay period 6 this week I'm not sure, pay period 10, tell me what you're looking for so I can get the clock rings so we can compare and make sure things are right. Your clock rings aren't going to lie, we can look at the numbers on your clock rings who's messing with your stuff, and we will get it fixed. Same thing goes right into the grievance report, part of that is now she's lost all knowledge of how to use PTF's. So, the grievances just keep coming. Forcing people who aren't on the list, and only working a PTF 4 days a week, doesn't seem right. One more thing, it's going to start changing with these MDO runs. I can't stop them from converting a run to a level 7 when it goes up for bid. That's their opportunity to change something, when a run goes residual and nobody bids it they're going to go in there and change it, there going to change it to a level 7 if it's a straight truck run. Everybody better be clear, if you're a level 8 and you bid on a level 7 run your going to go down to a level 7 pay in that straight truck. I don't know how many will be available next time we do an annual bid, or how it'll all shake out in the end I don't know, so we're all going to have to wait and see.

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 they hold a legislative zoom on the last Thursday of every month, if you would like to receive that invitation if you don't already let David Hoyle know. He can send them and they can add you to their mailing list to get on the zoom.

Correspondence:

Old/Unfinished Business: Brittany requested that we pay half for Brian (to go to National) and it is out of order because we can't do that, all of that is done at the January meeting. It would be unfair to the other people that put in for it that were unable to go to it, to pay for him. When there are people that are in line to go that are not going.

E-Board Recommendations: None

New Business:

Motion to donate \$1,000 Melvin McLaughlin Sugermel Basketball Camp seconded by Toni Blais-Hoyle.

Motion to amend by Ann Hill-Graves to raise it to \$1,500 seconded by Toni Blais-Hoyle. Carried

Motion to donate \$1,500 to sugermel basketball camp seconded by Tyshanica Patterson. Carried

Motion to get an external hard drive for the computers we have at the Hall (tower computers/laptops) seconded by Tyshanica Patterson. Carried

Motion to get two new laptops for the Vice President/ Stewards training with a cap of \$2,000. Seconded by Ann Hill-Graves. Carried

Motion to donate \$1,000 to Angel Rivas's family. Seconded by Jennifer McKinnon. Carried

Motion to change the flowers policy from \$100 to \$500. Seconded by Tyshanica Patterson. Carried

Motion to pay for Dana McLean's dues for the next three months. Seconded by Ann Hill-Graves. 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 #-104 Charles Early (If he was at this meeting, he would have won!)

COPA: 50/50 Drawing: \$152.00 total collected. \$76 to the winner – Aaron Simmons

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 #25- Barbie Hughes
2. #18- Jennifer Rizzon
3. #21- Toni Blais-Hoyle
4. #27- Shonteka Smith
5. #10- Murphy Carl

Motioned to adjourn by Awanda Jennings at 8:00pm seconded by Kwynn Tillman. Carried

Respectfully Submitted,



Kayla McKie
Recording Secretary