



# American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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*We Try To Be Letter Perfect For You*

## General Membership Meeting Minutes May 15, 2010

Meeting Called to order at 11:37.

The invocation was given by Brother Alex Aleman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brother Barry Payne.

Motion was made by Brother Ken Wise to have Sister Yolanda Deleon take the meeting minutes in place of Sister Hope Ortiz who is not present at the meeting. Second by Brother Nick Dipasquale; passes. Motion to compensate Sister Deleon administrative salary was made by Brother Nick Dipasquale, second by Brother Albert Cardenas; passes.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Alex Aleman, Jeff Greenlee, LaMonica Biggers, Guillermo Olivares, Fred Duncan, Ralph Cardenas, Barry Payne, Wade Stewart, Robert Proo, Nick Dipasquale, Lloyd Burrows.

Absent: Hope Ortiz. Excuse submitted for: Sterling Ricks, Sandra Lira, and Douglas Yarnes.

The members approved the written excuses.

The minutes for the April General Membership Meeting were presented. Motion to accept the Minutes as presented was made by Brother Ruben Almanza; second by Guillermo Olivares, passes.

**Financial Report for the month of February** is as follows: Check balance brought forward \$11,548.80; Expenses: \$38,172.59; Deposits \$36,173.90; Checking Balance \$9,550.11; Savings Balance \$117,051.01; Total Cash Assets \$126,601.12.

Motion to accept the April financial report was made by Brother Guillermo Olivares, second by Brother Jeff Greenlee; passes.

**Unfinished Business:** The SAAAL awards three \$500 scholarships. The San Antonio Alamo Area Local Jonell Mackay Memorial Scholarship was presented to Micaela Barrios and Cody Allen Balzen. Micaela is the daughter of clerk Carlos Barrios, GMF Tour 3. Micaela will major in psychology at St Edward's University. She has a GPA of 96.7 and is ranked in the top 20% of her class. Cody Allen Balzen is the son of Brett Balzen, VMF mechanic. Cody plans to attend Texas A&M University and obtain a degree in chemical engineering. He has a GPA of 100.1 and is ranked number 6 out of 626, the top 1% of his class.

Motion was made by Brother Robert Proo to divide the third scholarship between the two recipients, second by Brother Red

Cardenas; passes. Each recipient will receive a total of \$750. Note: Jennifer Forge, daughter of Eloise Forge, clerk at Cedar Elm Station, was awarded the San Antonio AFL-CIO Linda Chavez Thompson scholarship.

### New Business

#### Executive Board Recommendations:

1. To pay \$50 for luggage fee (round trip) for National Convention delegates; passes.
2. Pay one night hotel and 1 day per diem for state delegates Fred Duncan and Donna Carrera to attend the APWU workshops on Saturday, August 28th; passes.
3. Monthly \$75 contribution to the VR Boxing Club; passes.

#### Other New Business:

President Aleman reported that Recording Secretary Hope Ortiz has not responded to the certified letter that the Local sent to her regarding her duties as the Recording Secretary. Vice President Jeff Greenlee will prepare charges.

President Aleman spoke about the Informational picket to be held Friday, May 21st from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. at the GMF. It is very important. Member support is needed. APWU is against eliminating Saturday delivery. This will affect all crafts. The Postal Service pays \$5.4 B for the retiree retirement fund. The USPS is over paying. This needs to be corrected before eliminating Saturday delivery. Negotiations begin in August and the Postal Service is posturing. They have also said that they may not have enough to make payroll in the fall. Postmaster General Potter has already started talking about a 4 day delivery. President Burris has said that the APWU will not be making concessions. We are going to fight to keep what we have. The Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) will be having hearing across the country. It will be 6-9 months before the PRC gives their opinion and goes before Congress. Congress then votes, then the President would have to sign to change the delivery frequency.

#### Officer's Reports:

**President Alex Aleman:** Due to NRP no more available for limited duty employees or the limited duty hours have been reduced. President Aleman will be meeting with Acting HR

Manager Hector Rodriguez to discuss the NRP process for veterans. Carriers continue to work in the Clerk Craft.

Gloria Pesina reminded members that the Union Treatment Center ready to take care of any paperwork required.

Changes to Duty Assignments: Customer Service does not involve the Union. Customer Service makes changes to days off and begin tours and uses a template which is not specific.

Letters to employees have that a courtesy copy was provided to the APWU – not true. The Local is not notified unless a member calls the office. The Plant communicates with Sterling Ricks to present changes. President Aleman also meets with Senior Plant Manager Bruno Tristan. Customer Service is a struggle. President Aleman has to send a Request for Information. If Customer Service involved the Union, many jobs would not have to be re-posted. Customer Service does not keep members or the Union informed.

President Aleman reminded members that you can not waive your right to work only 4 hours. You are guaranteed 8 hours. Supervisors are also approaching employees to change their days off. You can not agree to waive. There is a process to change your SDO.

Supervisors are doing your work more than ever before. Management is eliminating clerk jobs.

#### **Motion to recess at 12:27 pm.**

Drawing was held for the monthly Door Prize. Names drawn were:

Peter Jimenez	PL 017
Billy Yeats	PL 752
Diane Ramsey	PL 137
Arturo Cabanela	PL 109
Edward Schurevich	PL 708

Since no one won the door prize it will be \$100 in July.

\$25 door prize was won by Gil Chagoya

Three sets of jewelry were donated by the Union Treatment Center.

1. Large pearls were won by Richard Thurman.
2. Small pearls were won by Robert Proo.
3. Silver necklace was won by Donna Carrera.

Fiesta Texas Family Fun Day drawing (5 pairs)

1. Richard Thurman- donated back to Union for drawing. David Estrada won the tickets
2. Letty Alejandro
3. Ruben Almanza
4. Phil Abney
5. Albert "Red" Cardenas

#### **Returned to regular order of business at 12:50 p.m.**

President Aleman reported that the Postal Service paid Robert Bernstock \$232,500 to oversee the Mailing & Shipping division. The Washington Times reported that the USPS brings in people with little knowledge of postal policies. 83 executives were added in 2009.

#### **Fred Duncan, Assistant Clerk Craft Director (A):**

Brother Duncan reported that supervisors are asking employees to sign old 3971's to close after the fact and then

supervisors are using the 3971's as evidence that they have discussed your attendance .

If you call in FMLA be sure the FMLA case number is on the 3971. Keep the confirmation number. Within 2 days of return you can designate the leave as FMLA. Make sure dates are on your FMLA certification.

DBCS has change in times re-posted. Check bids. To check number of bids you will need your EIN and PIN. Brother Duncan also discussed FMLA 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> opinion.

#### **Barry Payne, Motor Vehicle Craft Director:**

Brother Payne reported that he is still the Motor Vehicle Craft Director. Motor Vehicle is represented. There are 3 stewards in Vehicle Maintenance; also Wade Stewart is an assistant steward. 9 MVS employees were affected by the NRP. They are still "on the rolls". Veterans are on 30 days admin leave. The Pilot Program has been fine tuned. No runs were lost. 5 unassigned regulars were allowed to choose runs for the duration of the limited duty employee. Management can change hours up to 2 hours.

MVS employee Larry Skelton reminded members to write letters to your Congressman concerning the elimination of 6 day delivery.

#### **Robert Proo, Assistant Maintenance Craft Director:**

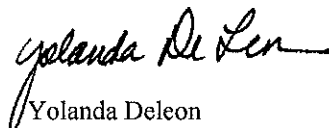
Subcontracting is still an issue. Brother Proo asked all in attendance to attend the picket on Friday. Save our jobs.


#### **Nick Dipasquale, Trustee chairman:**

Reported that the trustees met this past Wednesday and all looks in order.

**La Monica Biggers, Treasurer;** reported back to the membership on the question of the checks from the last meeting. Check 15225 is for AT & T at the main office and 4 checks were in the wrong column and corrected by the accountant.

**Motion to adjourn** made by Brother Guillermo Olivares; second by Brother Red Cardenas. Meeting was adjourned at 13:31.

  
Yolanda DeLeon  
For Hope Ortiz  
Recording Secretary  
SAAAL

  
Alex Aleman  
President  
SAAAL