



# American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

13102 Lookout Run · San Antonio, Texas 78233 · Phone (210) 271-0853 · Fax (210) 224-6221

*We Try To Be Letter Perfect For You*

## General Membership Meeting Minutes April 8, 2017

**Meeting Called to order by President Alex Aleman at 11:30.**

**The Invocation** was given by Recording Secretary Yolanda Deleon.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by MVS Craft Director Faron Hierholzer.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Alex Aleman, Sterling Ricks, Jeff Greenlee, Yolanda Deleon, Chris Rincon, Carlos Barrios, Sandra Lira, Faron Hierholzer, Dennis Barboza, **Absent was:** Ruben Hernandez, Barry Payne, Jarrett Williams, Letty Alejandro and Lloyd Burrows. **Excuse provided by:** Letty Alejandro and Jarrett Williams. The members present approved the excuse.

**The minutes** for the February General Membership Meeting were presented. Motion to accept the Minutes as presented was made by Sister Pam Cano-Desso; second by Brother Faron Hierholzer; passes.

**The minutes** for the March General Membership Meeting were presented. Motion to accept the Minutes as presented was made by Brother Albert Cardenas; second by Brother Faron Hierholzer; passes.

**Financial Report for the month of February** was presented by Treasurer Jeff Greenlee and is as follows: Check balance brought forward \$58,859.52; Expenses: \$28,834.01; Deposits \$31,606.35; Checking Balance \$61,631.86; Savings Balance \$64,459.10; Total Cash Assets \$126,090.96. Treasurer Greenlee reported that we had the best February end of month cash assets, \$126,091 since 2009 which is \$19,366 above STLY. We are up \$9,636 from end of month balance for January and \$8,833 for the year. The large expenditures for February were: \$1,000 Accounting Services generation of W-2s, \$1796 for new building security lights, and the AMEX bill of \$3,087 for anniversary t-shirts, GMM food expenses and supplies. Motion to accept the February financial report was made by Sister Maria Carden; second by Sister Vanessa Nobles; passes.

**Financial Report for the month of March** was presented by Treasurer Jeff Greenlee and is as follows: Check balance brought forward \$61,737.79. Treasurer Greenlee explained the difference in the beginning balance was due to check #21991 for \$105.93 dated 12/13/16 to Sprint was lost in the mail. Expenses: \$35,233.17; Deposits \$38,938.14; Checking Balance \$65,442.76; Savings Balance \$65,491.71; Total Cash Assets \$130,934.47.

We had the best March end of month cash assets, \$130,934 since 2009, and \$11,484 above STLY. We are up \$4,843 from end of month balance for February and up \$13,676 for the year. The large expenditures for March were \$7,400 for

the Anniversary Celebration which was covered by money put into fun; \$1,200 meter postage bill for meeting notifications and grievance processing; AMEX bill of \$3,452 which was mostly Anniversary Celebration expenses (covered by Anniversary Fund) and \$2,143 for the Anniversary issue of the Dispatch. General information: next month's report will reflect in place of the Anniversary Fund will be a Property Tax fund and the Building Maintenance Fund will be there since our building is getting older, to cover actual maintenance item for the building. Motion to accept the March financial report was made by Sister Maria Carden; second by Sister Pan Cano-Desso; passes.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

### Executive Board Recommendations

1. The monthly \$75 monthly contribution be made to Meals on Wheels; passes
2. Purchase an ad for the TPWU Convention booklet for \$100; passes.
3. May General Membership Meeting is designated as "Wear Your 100 Anniversary T-shirt"; passes.
4. To approve the expenditure for the National President's Conference in Anaheim, CA, June 22 to 27, 2017 at a cost not to exceed \$1,500; passes.
5. To approve the expenditure for the TPWU Convention at cost not to exceed \$13,000; passes

Point Of Information: Place on the agenda for the May General Membership Meeting the expenditure for the All Craft Conference to be held in October.

Sister Elizabeth Quiroga addressed the membership. She would like to have the Union pay to have two people take a sign language class so she can communicate with a steward. President Aleman told her and the members that management is responsible for providing a certified interpreter. We need to make management accountable. Sister Quiroga said that the interpreter does not understand postal terms, jargon, etc. President Aleman reminded us that the steward is also in attendance with the interpreter. When a hearing impaired employee request a steward, management is to provide a certified interpreter for the employee. It is management's responsibility.

### Officer's Reports:

**Young Members Committee:** Brother Ephrem De Hoyos was named to the Young Members Committee for the Southern Region by Southern Region Coordinator Kenneth Beasley. Brother De Hoyos stated that the goal of the Committee is to create, smaller Young Members Committee at each Local to educate and communicate to our young members. The YMC is looking for 3 to 5 members, 35 years

of age or younger, to be advocates. If you are interested, submit your name to your Craft Director.

**President Alex Aleman:** thanked all for attending the 100 year anniversary celebration. It was a great success. Former presidents Herb Diaz, Robert Mendoza, and Gilbert Uriegas attended. Former president Tom Strapkovic wanted to attend but he is an arbitrator for the USPS and had to ask permission and the Post Office being how it is did not get back to him on time. President Aleman thanked Sterling Ricks and Jeff Greenlee for all their hard work in making the celebration a success. We received lots of positive comments.

President Aleman thanked all who attended the Cesar Chavez March. We are growing; we had two rows of marchers.

President Aleman reported that we are in the process of sending to the printer the copy of the LMOU. A copy will be mailed to all members. The biggest change is the 8 hours SDO. When you are scheduled to work your SDO, you are guaranteed 8 hours work. The only time you can waive is if you are sick or have an emergency.

The Heritage arbitration award was paid over \$71,000 for having an injured carrier doing clerk work. President Aleman thanked Sandra Lira. If you are aware of any station with an injured carrier, notify the office. We will need the name of the injured carrier.

Reversion – management is getting rid of jobs; mail volume down, revenue down. When you bid out, management will probably revert the job. Their motive to eliminate is so they don't have to convert PSEs to career. We have had some success in having a reverted job posted. Management wants relief; the rules have changed in our favor.

There will be a NLRB hearing with numerous charges for management not providing information. The NALC charges were consolidated with the APWU. President Aleman filed three more charges for not providing information. We are not going away – we will not be dismissed.

The Postal Service is planning to move the Alamo Heights Post Office. The contract with HEB expires 2020. President Aleman attended the community meeting. Only one person from the community showed up. The public meeting was held at 4:30 p.m. when many people are still at work. The Postal Service is trying to find an existing building in Alamo Heights to relocate. This community is very influential and they want a post office in Alamo Heights. Our interest is to have delivery, retail, and box section in one building. Our interest is to provide a service to the public. .

There are kaizen events on wait time in line. The APWU does not participate in kaizen. The District Manager had been notified and no clerks should be solicited to participate in kaizen.

President Aleman reported that the final payment for the Global Settlement should be completed by April 21<sup>st</sup> and the Postal Service paid some employee more than they should. They are issuing letters of demand because of the Global Settlement. If you receive a letter of demand, request to see a steward and file a grievance.

President Aleman thanked Faron for cooking the fajitas; Sterling, and Sandra Lira for cooking the rice and beans.

**Clerk Craft Director (B):** Sister Sandra Lira reported that the OIG walked out a window clerk. The steward should be in the

interview but the employee did not request a steward. Sister Lira reminded window clerks that if management is not making a bank run, don't use your own money to make change. Input every transaction. Supervisors are handing out stamps and taking money. Employees report that clerks are leaving their cash drawer and walking away. We don't have anyone ever brought back to work when you don't follow proper procedures. Request to see a steward. Supervisor will not tell the truth; they will be trying to save their own job. Lead Clerks lock the cash drawer. You are the only one who should unlock. Employees are getting careless; put cash drawer in safe or secure/lock the cash drawer. You have to have lock.

There is a city wide grievance on supervisors doing complaints. The clerks handle complaints; they went to the ECC training.

There are only two certified trainers for window training. We need a pool of window clerk trainers. Submit your name to Training if you are interested.

Sister Lira also re-emphasized that we need stewards at stations. Lots of grievances – carriers and supervisors doing clerk work.

**Clerk Craft Director (A):** Brother Chris Rincon reported that there is a lot of overtime at the Plant Tour 3. He introduced new PSE stewards and stated that the officers and he thank them for stepping up.

Brother Rincon stated that Austin APBS was broken and WE are doing the work!!

**MVS Craft Director:** Faron Hierholzer reported that PTFs are having their schedules changed after the schedule is posted. Request to see a steward. MVS is scheduled to receive 21 new trailers within the next few months. Brother Hierholzer reminded all to understand the PEG talks before you sign. The craft is looking for a Tour 3 VMF steward.

President Aleman thanked Vivian Kolenda, Benefits Specialist and President of Retirees Chapter; Tony Cevallos for attending today's meeting.

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Sister Pam Cano-Desso; second by Sister Vanessa Nobles. Meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

**Drawing was held for the Monthly Door Prize** which is \$200. Names drawn were:

- |                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| 1. Felix N Martinez  | PL 337 |
| 2. Jeffrey C Ivins   | PL 134 |
| 3. Pamela Cano-Desso | PL 339 |

Sister Cano-Desso was present and won the \$200 door prize.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Yolanda DeLeon  
Recording Secretary  
SAAAL

  
Alex Aleman  
President  
SAAAL