



WAYNE COUNTY RETIREE SUB-CHAPTER 38

WE MAKE MICHIGAN HAPPEN

Ronald Yee
President

September 13, 2022

Douglas Wadlin
Vice-President

Richard Noelke
Secretary Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Mary Etta Kreklau
Recording Secretary

Faith Cairgle
Sergeant-At-Arms

John McCall
James Sockolosky
Julie Bauman
Executive Board

Pamela Hyde-Shelton
Paul Pendracki
Jerry Smith
Trustees

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by President Yee and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Bauman, Kreklau, Hyde-Shelton, McCall, Noelke, Pendracki, Smith, Sockolosky, Wadlin, and Yee

EXCUSED: Cairgle

ABSENT: None

GUEST: None

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Brother Pendracki made the motion, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept the roll call of officers. The motion carried.

Sub-Chapter 38 minutes for the Executive and Membership meetings are recorded to help the Recording Secretary to produce minutes for each meeting. Pursuant to the previous direction of the membership, these recordings shall be disposed of as soon as reasonably possible after the Sub-Chapter 38 membership has approved the minutes. The minutes are not or intended to be an actual verbatim record of the proceedings but are summarized notes of the agenda items, motions, makers of the motion, votes, and lengthy discussions.

Motion by Brother Macdonald, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to suspend the regular order of the meeting to allow Ann McCarthy, candidates for Wayne County Third Circuit Court Judge, to address the membership. The motion carried.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to return to the regular order of business at 1:05 PM. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

READING OF MINUTES:

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of August 16, 2022, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Membership meeting of August 16, 2022, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Thanks to the Macdonald Class Action lawsuit settlement; the majority of class members who are Medicare eligible will be getting a raise in their January 2023 Health Care Stipend of 2% or \$2.70 monthly to \$137.96 and another raise on January 1, 2024 of 2% or \$2.76 to \$140.92. For those getting the higher stipend, the amounts will be \$5.00 more.

The monthly stipend payment for September was delayed and MERS was contacted. We believe the payment to MERS/Alerus was on time, but it seems everyone is pointing the finger at everyone else. However, we have been assured that if you have not received your payment, it should be coming out this week.

The Sub-Chapter attempted to get an increase in the monthly stipend through the budget process and thought we were in good shape, but at the last minute, we were told that the support was not there due to a priority of employee retention and recruitment. I requested that those Commissioners that supported us to put forward an amendment to the budget even if it voted down to see where each Commissioner stands.

The county is working on a replacement for the group health-care plan for Medicare eligible retirees. It is suppose to offer the same or better coverage at a lower price. We were hoping that it would be rolled out during the upcoming open enrollment period, but haven't heard anything recently.

Finally, this week is your last chance to sign a nominating petition for the vacant position on the Retirement Board. Hugh Macdonald and I are running for that position along with possibly two other candidates. Hugh is the current member and is running for re-election. You can only sign one petition. Hopefully, one of us will be elected to a new four year term to represent you. The Primary election will be in November and a runoff election, if needed in December.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Noelke, to accept the President's report as submitted. The motion carried.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Brother Wadlin reported that at the last meeting of the Wayne County Labor Coalition, the representative from the Wayne County Sheriff's finally showed up. There were seven (7) bargaining groups represented out of the thirty-three (33) eligible to attend. The September meeting has been cancelled. The meetings are via Zoom so you don't even have to leave your house.

Motion by Brother Macdonald, properly supported by Brother Pendracki, to accept the Vice-President's report as presented. The motion carried.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Financial Report:

The Sub-Chapter has \$229,555.02 in cash and investments as of August 30, 2022. There are 1,258 current members with 167 participating in the PEOPLE Plan and (111) members lost this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin to accept the Treasurer report for August 2022 as presented. The motion carried.

Brother Macdonald's Report:

Medical Insurance for Disability Retirees

As reported many times, the arbitration case contesting the Wayne County discontinuance of health care insurance coverage for disability retirees was heard in October 2020 and the arbitrator found that **“The County violated the collective bargaining agreement when it made changes to healthcare benefits for newly approved duty and nonduty disability retirees. The County must rescind Administrative Personnel Order 1-2010 and make whole the duty or nonduty disability retiree who was improperly denied healthcare benefits after 2010 by virtue of the fact that they did not meet the age and service requirements for “normal” retirement.”** The award only applies to AFSCME disability retirees who retired after the personnel order was issued. Those disability retirees, who retired prior to the order, did not have their healthcare status changed.

In response to a motion by the Council 25 attorneys on July 8, 2022, Judge Susan Hubbard issued an “Opinion and Award” ordering Wayne County to implement the arbitration award within 30 days and, also, that the court would retain jurisdiction until the award was implemented plus that the court **shall assess a penalty for failure to timely implement the Arbitration Award.** Wayne County has also filed a motion for reconsideration claiming that Judge Hubbard erred in all of her conclusions in the order. That motion is still pending. In the meantime, our attorneys are seeking a “make whole” plan from the County consistent with the arbitration award.

HEALTH CARE INSURANCE SETTLEMENT (STIPENDS)

The payments by Wayne County of non-Medicare eligible stipends are consistent with the settlement agreement through the payment due September 1, 2022. Wayne County is providing monthly reports of stipend amounts transferred to MERS/Alerus. The Sub-Chapter continues to assist members on stipend issues that are, generally, quickly resolved. It is noted that the payment by Wayne County to Alerus for the September payments was not received by Alerus until September 9, 2022, causing the reimbursements to be late this month.

The Sub-Chapter leadership is currently working with Wayne County to find a group health care plan for the Medicare eligible retirees that provides expanded benefits at a significantly lower premium while giving retirees the option to enroll in a plan of their own choosing. It is hoped that this new group health care plan can be implemented for 2023.

Wayne County has acknowledged that there are instances where the files related to retirees are incomplete. In an effort to address that problem and during the annual stipend verification process for Non-Medicare eligible stipends, Wayne County will be sending every Wayne County retiree the “verification form” requesting that the form be completed, signed and returned. While the Sub-chapter did review and comment on this process, the Sub-Chapter did not endorse the process nor the contents of the form. It should be understood that the settlement agreement gives Wayne County the ability to conduct this verification process.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept the report as presented. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PEOPLE Committee:

Sister Bauman reported that the Council 25 PEOPLE Committee had met the previous Friday in Troy and new officers had been selected whom are members of Sub-Chapter 38 are: Betty Bishop, President; Kim Curry-Smith, Secretary; and Pam Hyde-Shelton, Treasurer. The endorsements for the November election have all been made and notices are being sent out via mail to all members.

Sister Bauman stressed that the Sub-Chapter meeting in October is a special meeting that along with the election of a Trustee, Council 25 President Larry Roehrig will be present to swear in the new Trustee and he will be bringing other guests. It’s important to fill the hall for this event.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Macdonald, to accept the PEOPLE Committee report. The motion carried.

CHAPTER 255:

Brother McCall emphasized the importance of Sub-Chapter 38’s PEOPLE Committee members and all the members of the PEOPLE Committee stood and were recognized.

The Chapter 255 quarterly Executive Board Committee meets on September 22, 2022 to discuss what’s been going on over the last four months. Brother McCall reported that Brother Henry Lykes had submitted his resignation effective immediately as President of Chapter 255. The letter was read to the membership.

Motion by Brother Macdonald, properly supported by Brother Pendracki, to accept the Chapter 255 report as presented. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Brother Macdonald, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to ratify the action of the Executive Board, to nominate Pam Hyde-Shelton, to the position of Trustee with a term ending October 2025. The motion passed.

Brother Yee asked for nominations from the floor, three times. He added that nominations will also be accepted at the October 11, 2022, meeting.

GOOD AND WELFARE

There was a moment of silence for deceased

There were 34 attendees that signed in.

Regular Attendance Drawing:

\$20 -#19 Jerry MacGillis \$10 -#22 – Mile Hildebrandt \$10 - #28-Judy Koths

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brother Pendracki, to adjourn the meeting at 1:59 pm. The motion carried.