



WAYNE COUNTY RETIREE SUB-CHAPTER 38

WE MAKE MICHIGAN HAPPEN

Ronald Yee
President

Douglas Wadlin
Vice-President

Richard Noelke
Secretary Treasurer

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

June 13, 2023

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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

PRESENT: Bauman, Cairgle, Kreklau, McCall, Noelke, Pendracki, Smith, Sockolosky, Wadlin and Yee

EXCUSED: Hyde-Shelton

ABSENT: Smith

GUEST: None

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Brother Macdonald 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.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

READING OF MINUTES:

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Macdonald, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of May 9, 2023, 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 Macdonald, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Membership meeting of May 9, 2023, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

The Actuary Report for WCERS for the Fiscal Year 2022 (October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022) was presented to the Retirement Board at our last meeting held on Wednesday, May 31, 2023. There was a loss in 2022 of 200 million dollars due to the poor stock market returns and the

rising interest rates. However, the County's Retirement funded level remained at 65% and the Airport retirement fund remained at 70%. This was due to the smoothing of assets over a 4 year period. What this means is that the actuary only recognizes ¼ of the gains or losses each year so there is not a large gain or loss in any given year. The County and the Airport are current in all of their required contributions and are making additional contributions to bring down the unfunded accrued liability (County 468M; Airport 40M). Payments-County 58.5M; Airport 7.3M.

Approximately 50% of the retirees have responded to the Retirement System's request for information. That is good, but that means many retirees have not responded yet. The form can be filled out and mailed in or can be returned electronically. If you have not responded, please make sure you do or your pension benefit will be suspended until the form is completed and returned. If you did not receive the form, please contact Jim Magee at 313-224-0571.

We are working with the Wayne County Labor Coalition, the County, and TMR & Associates to implement the BCBSN\Medicare Advantage Plan as an option for Mirrored Retirees, age 65 and above. Hopefully we can get this approved soon for a January 1, 2024, effective date, but we are running out of time.

If you have a Defined Contribution Plan (401a) or a Deferred Compensation Plan (457) with the County and you have not updated your beneficiary information, you should contact Kandie Myers of Empower at (248) 840-0655 or kandie.myers@empower.com to make sure your beneficiary Information is correct.

Just a reminder, the Chapter 255 annual luncheon is being held on June 16th, beginning at 10 am at the MESA, AFSCME, and Local 5 offices located at 6035 Executive Drive #104, Lansing, MI 48911. You can call Kathie Sherrill at (586) 219-4562 to register. They will be speaking on the new retirement tax bill; changing impact of Social Security on retirement income and a legislative update. We will see if copies of the presentations are available and, if so, will post them on our website (www.wcsubchapter38.com)

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

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Same issues. There is no communication going on between the different bargaining units in the County. On May 5th, the Treasurer of the Wayne County Sheriffs' Retirement group passed.

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

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Financial Report:

The financial report was presented by Brother Noelke, Treasurer. The Sub-Chapter has \$232,593.35 in cash and investments as of May 31, 2023. There are 1,209 current members with 178 participating in the PEOPLE Plan and (41) members lost this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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 with an award stating 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.

In spite of the fact that the arbitrator and the courts have repeatedly ruled against Wayne County the county is still considering more appeals. The encouraging sign is that the county has sat down with the Council 25 attorney to discuss a method to comply with the arbitration award. As a last resort going back to Judge Hubbard may be necessary. There was no progress in settlement discussions since the Mail 2023 report.

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 June 1, 2023. Wayne County is providing monthly reports of stipend amounts transferred to MERS/Alerus. We currently are not aware of any stipend payment issues.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD AND WELFARE:

There was a Moment of Silence for members who have passed.

There were 37 attendees signed in.

Regular Attendance Drawing:

\$20 - #16 – John Wiktor
\$10 - #17 – Janet Wiktor
\$10 - #8 – Delphine Fairbanks

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brother Pendracki, to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 pm. The motion carried.