



# WAYNE COUNTY RETIREE SUB-CHAPTER 38

## WE MAKE MICHIGAN HAPPEN

**Ronald Yee**  
*President*

December 12, 2023

**Douglas Wadlin**  
*Vice-President*

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Yee and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Richard Noelke**  
*Secretary Treasurer*

**PRESENT:** Bauman, Cairgle, Grysko, Hyde-Shelton, Kreklau, McCall, Noelke, Pendracki, Sockolosky, Wadlin, and Yee

**Mary Etta Kreklau**  
*Recording Secretary*

**EXCUSED:** None

**Faith Cairgle**  
*Sergeant-At-Arms*

**ABSENT:** None

**John McCall**  
**James Sockolosky**  
**Julie Bauman**  
*Executive Board*

**GUESTS:** Macdonald

**Pamela Hyde-Shelton**  
**Paul Pendracki**  
**Gerard Grysko**  
*Trustees*

**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.**

**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 November 14, 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 Wadlin, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Membership meeting of November 14, 2023, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried

### REPORT OF OFFICERS

#### President:

Brother Yee reminded the Board that the Medicare stipend for eligible members will be increased to either \$140.72 or \$145.72 monthly effective January 1, 2024. You must file a new reimbursement form with MERS/Alerus especially if you are requesting reimbursement for your Medicare Part B premium. Forms are available today from me or you may download them from the [mersofmichigan.com/waynecounty](https://mersofmichigan.com/waynecounty) website. You

must include a copy of your social security statement indicating what your Medicare Part B withholding is monthly for 2024.

We have asked all Unions that are currently negotiating new contracts with the County to attempt to negotiate an option for "mirrored retirees" to have an option to select the BC/BSM Medicare Advantage Plan. They agree they will, but say that the County has not been overly receptive to this demand at this time. We have also heard that the Unions and the Airport Authority have tentatively agreed to allow Airport Retirees to opt for the BCBSM Medicare Advantage Plan as a healthcare option under the new contract. We will have to wait and see the actual contract to see if that is true.

As of September 30, 2022, there are 4,285 retired members from the County. The average age is 74.4 years with the average age at retirement of 54.8 years, average service of 24 years at retirement and average pension of \$27,752. There were 261 retirees age 90-94; 107 age 95-99; and 20 over age 100.

At the February 13, 2024, meeting, I will be giving away (4) tickets and a parking pass to a Red Wing's game on Saturday, March 2, 2024, against the Florida Panthers. If you are interested, we will have a drawing after the meeting and you must be present to win.

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

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** None

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:**

**Financial Report:**

Brother Noelke reported that the Sub-Chapter has \$237,521.74 in cash and investments as of November 30, 2023. There are 1,195 current members with 177 participating in the PEOPLE Plan and (68) members lost this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to accept the Treasurer report for November 2023 as presented. The motion carried.

**REPORT, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Presented by Brother Macdonald)**

**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.

Wayne County has filed another appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals seeking to overturn Judge Hubbard's order to implement to arbitrator's award. The appeal is in the briefing stage and a hearing has yet to be set. As a result, there has not been any real progress in implementing the arbitration award.

## **HEALTH CARE INSURANCE SETTLEMENT (STIPENDS)**

### **Prescription Co-Pay Settlement**

The payments by Wayne County of non-Medicare eligible stipends appear to be consistent with the settlement agreement through the payment due December 1, 2023. Wayne County is providing monthly reports of stipend amounts transferred to MERS/Alerus.

The monthly report of Medicare eligible stipends found many instances of spouses and dependents of deceased retirees not receiving a stipend and the County seeking significant reimbursements. The Sub-Chapter is reviewing the circumstances and will take appropriate action.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to accept Brother Macdonald's report. The motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Brother McCall gave the report on behalf of the committee. The Chapter 255 Executive Board wishes to extend Happy Holiday wishes to all.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to accept the Chapter 255 report as submitted. The motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Brother Noelke reminded the Executive Board of the Executive Board Holiday Luncheon on Friday at 12:30 pm at Rocky's on Seven Mile in Northville. He has twenty-one signed up to attend.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Noelke, to approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2024 as presented. The motion carried.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

There was a moment of silence for deceased members.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Brother Pendracki properly supported by Sister Bauman, to adjourn the meeting at 11:49 a.m. The motion carried.