



WAYNE COUNTY RETIREE SUB-CHAPTER 38

WE MAKE MICHIGAN HAPPEN

December 12, 2023

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
Gerard Grysko
Trustees

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, Grysko, Hyde-Shelton, Kreklau, McCall, Noelke, Pendracki, Sockolosky, Wadlin, and Yee

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Brother Pendracki made the motion, properly supported by Brother Macdonald, 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 November 14, 2023, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried.

Motion by Brother Macdonald, properly supported by Sister Bauman, 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.

At this time, President Yee asked all officers of Sub-Chapter 38 who were elected in October 2023 to come forward to be sworn in by Brother Richard Johnson, Council 25 AFSCME. Officers sworn in were: Ron Yee, President; Douglas Wadlin, Vice-President; Richard Noelke, Secretary-Treasurer; Mary Etta Kreklau, Recording Secretary; Faith Cairgle, Sergeant-at-Arms; Julie Bauman, John McCall, James Sockolosky, Executive Board; Gerard Grysko, Trustee (term ending October 2026). All officers were sworn in according to AFSCME International guidelines.

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

Membership Meeting – December 2023 P.O. Box 648, Wayne, Michigan 48184
Email: Subchapter38@gmail.com

available today from me or you may download them from the 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 Brother Wadlin, to accept the President's report as submitted. The motion carried.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Brother Wadlin reported that the Wayne County Labor Coalition meeting has been scheduled for December 14, 2023, which is the same day as the WC Sheriff Retiree group meeting, which Brother Wadlin chairs. Brother Yee said he would try to attend the WCLC meeting.

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

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 Macdonald 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 O'Leary-MacGillis, to accept Brother Macdonald's report. The motion carried.

COMMITTEES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

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

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Members were reminded that taking second helpings and carry-out boxes of luncheon food should not be done until all members have been able to get a first helping of food. Take-out boxes are provided for left-over food at the end of the meeting.

There was a moment of silence for deceased members.

Attendance drawing:

Special drawing for ten (10) \$20 Holiday gifts in addition to the regular attendance drawing. There were 39 attendees that signed in.

Holiday Gifts: (10)

#10 – Paul Pendracki

#18 – John Allgeyer

#28 – Ernestine Cox

#30 – S. O'Leary-MacGillis

#32 – Ron LaCasse

#24 – Estelle Biesiadecki

#22 – J. Michel

#23 – Dennis Abraham

#20 – Janet Wiktor

#9 – Pam Hyde-Shelton

Regular Drawing:

\$20 - #8 – Richard Sosin

\$10 - #6 – John McCall

\$10 - #27 – Ken Giovanni

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Macdonald, to adjourn the meeting at 1:25 pm. The motion carried.