



WAYNE COUNTY RETIREE SUB-CHAPTER 38

WE MAKE MICHIGAN HAPPEN

March 12, 2024

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

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

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

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

EXCUSED: Hyde-Shelton

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Macdonald

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Brother Wadlin made the motion, properly supported by Brother Pendracki 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 Wadlin, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of February 12, 2024, 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 Sister Bauman, to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Membership meeting of February 12, 2024, leaving the record open to the end of the meeting for corrections, additions, or deletions. The motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

President:

Congratulations to Pam Hyde-Shelton on her recent election as Vice-President of AFSCME Chapter 255. There was not a quorum at the quarterly meeting on March 7, 2024, so no official business could be conducted. On March 11th, the Chapter held a video board meeting and unanimously elected Pam as the new Vice-President. She will be an excellent addition to the Chapter 255 Board and will represent our Sub-Chapter well along with John McCall, Faith Cairgle and Julie Bauman.

It does not look promising for us to get the BCBSM Medicare Advantage Plan as an option for the “Mirrored” Retirees in this current collective bargaining session. The Labor Coalition says the County argues that the healthy retirees will move to the Advantage Plan and as such, the costs to the County will go up because they are retaining the less healthy retiree group. Since the primary insurance for Medicare eligible retirees is **Medicare**, it’s hard to see how this would affect the County’s costs this way. I hope to talk to people more knowledgeable in these matters and can possibly get back with the Labor Coalition at a future date.

If we get an increase in our Medicare Eligible Stipend in 2025, it may be our last increase as under the health care settlement agreement, we are only entitled to increases NOT TO exceed 2% in any given year with a maximum of 12% of the original base amount in total. I hope to meet with County officials and Commissioners to see if there might be support for a continuation of the benefit.

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

Vice-President: None

Secretary-Treasurer Report:

Financial Report:

Brother Noelke reported that the Sub-Chapter has \$244,722.20 in cash and investments as of February 29, 2024. There are 1,188 current members with 179 participating in the PEOPLE Plan and (12) members lost this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to accept the Treasurer report for February 2024 as presented. The motion carried.

Brother Noelke submitted three reports for consideration; the 2023 Federal income tax return; the AFSCME annual financial report; and the Surety bond report.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Sister Bauman, to authorize the execution of these forms by Brother Noelke and Brother Yee and submission of the forms as required. The motion carried.

Brother Noelke also submitted a new roster of the Sub-Chapter Executive Board and announced that the semi-annual audit will be held on March 27, 2024.

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

Medical Insurance for Disability Retirees

Council 25 won the 2020 arbitration case contesting the Wayne County discontinuance of health care insurance coverage for disability retirees 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 Administration 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.

Since the arbitration award, Wayne County has contested the award in Wayne County Circuit Court and lost, refused to enter into meaningful settlement discussions by disputing the retirees subject to the award plus the

implementation process and appealing the case to the Michigan Court of Appeals. Circuit Court has directed the parties to seek clarification of the contentious portions of the award from the arbitrator which is scheduled for June 3, 2024.

The Michigan Court of Appeals has not scheduled oral arguments on the Wayne County appeal as of today.

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 March 1, 2024. Wayne County is providing monthly reports of stipend amounts transferred to MERS/Alerus.

The Sub-chapter is not aware of any problems with the stipend program.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chapter 255:

Brother McCall reported on the March 7th Quarterly Meeting that had no quorum. The agenda for the meeting included a number of items such as the approval the minutes of the September 8, 2023, meeting; the nomination of a Vice-President; issues dealing with the take-over of Council 25; the summer picnic which is supposed to be on the west side of the state and the issue of some Michigan State retiree groups wanting to join Chapter 255. Since there was not a quorum of Executive Board members, the meeting was rescheduled for March 11 via video. The results were that Sister Hyde-Shelton was appointed Vice-President; also, the person for the west side of the state who is responsible for scheduling the summer picnic is out ill so there is a possibility it will be held on our side of the state again this year.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept Brother McCall's report on Chapter 255 as presented. The motion carried.

PEOPLE Committee:

Sister Bauman reported that the 2024 endorsement process for candidates for office has begun. She requested that if we are aware of any candidates going through this process that are looking for AFSCME endorsement should go to the AFSCME website and complete the questionnaire. The deadline for submission is May 1, 2024. She anticipates that the screening process will begin in early to mid-May 2024. She also reported that the State of the County address is tonight. It will be interesting to see what he has to say.

Motion by Brother Pendracki, properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to accept Sister Bauman's report on the PEOPLE Committee as presented. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Brother Wadlin, properly supported by Brother Pendracki, to move the start of the Executive Board meetings from 11:30 am to 12:00 noon, with lunch served at 12:30 pm. The motion carried.

GOOD AND WELFARE

There was a moment of silence for deceased members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brother Pendracki properly supported by Brother Wadlin, to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m. The motion carried.