

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO Milwaukee Area Local P.O. Box 1995, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-1995

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Milwaukee APWU **Executive Board**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES September 24, 2025

General Officers

Glenn Griggs President APWU Milwaukee Area Local 003

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Larry Brown, Jr. SGT AT ARMS: Crystal Mack and Asia Howard were appointed Sgt. at Arms.

Vice President

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present: Arneson, Brown Jr., Canady, Conley-Burrell, Chris Czubakowski, Grant, Griggs, Liggans, Paige, Rivera, Victory, Walker Excused: Miceli, Local Business Agent; Canady

John Miceli

ROLL CALL OF STEWARDS: Present: Conners Felber, Gutowski, Howard, J. Brown Mack, Moye, Ward

Pamela Walker

READING OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEMBERHIP MEETING MINUTES:

North Sectional Di Griggs: Motion to accept the previous General Membership Meeting Minutes for July 21, 2025, as printed. Motion Seconded. Vote taken. Motion Passes. Unanimously.

Trent Canady

Craft Officers

South Sectional Direction OF THE PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Griggs: Motion to accept the previous Executive Board Meeting Minutes for August 13, 2025, as West Sectional Dir.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Takaita Conley-Burrell cording to our national website, pay increases took effect on August 23, 2025, with a Manual & Mechanization Dir. 3% general wage increase and a \$395 COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for career missed 1.3% general wage increase and a \$395 COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment)

Christopher Paige smployees. The 2nd COLA of \$811 for career employees became effective September 6, 2025. Postal Support Employees (PSEs) also received the 1.3% increase plus an additional 1.0% due to Automation Dir. not receiving COLAs, for a total of a 2.3% increase. These increases were reflected in paychecks

dated September 12 and September 26, 2025, respectively Kenni Liggan Customer Service Dir.

James Arneson Maintenance Dir.

- Retroactive payments for the "stopgap" period between November 16, 2024, and August 22, 2025, have also been announced
- The tentative date for the retroactive payments for the pay raises is April 10, 2026.

Larry Victory Motor Vechicle Dir.

- Recipients: Any APWU employee who worked or received paid leave during the retroactive period will receive a payment.
- Separated employees: For employees who have retired, resigned, or otherwise separated from the Postal Service, a retroactive check will be sent to their last office of record.
- Retired employees: The Postal Service will also update the records of retired employees with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). OPM will eventually adjust the annuities of these retirees.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED:

Reason for delay: According to the APWU, the programming for the pay system is complex and requires a significant amount of work from IT staff.

While the April 10, 2026, date is a tentative target, the APWU has indicated that it believes the payment can be completed sooner and has been pressing the Postal Service on the issue.

We have a national election going on. You should have received your ballot in the mail by now. All ballots must be returned to the address listed on the return envelope by October 6, 2025, in order to be counted. So, if you still have your ballot, get that mailed asap.

Also, we are having a raffle for anyone who votes in this upcoming election. All you have to do in order to be entered into the drawing you must show your sealed ballot to a union steward, and they will add your name to a list of people who participated, and you will be entered into a drawing at the next GMM with a chance to win \$100 dollars. You do not have to be present to win. You do not have to show the steward who you voted for either. Just your sealed ballot after you have made your selection.

The candidates that have been endorsed by the executive board are as follows.

- > For President: Jonathan Smith, who was also endorsed by outgoing President Mark Dimondstein who is retiring.
- > For Vice President: Vance Zimmerman, who is also endorsed by outgoing President Mark Dimondstein
- For MVS: Nigel Devon Thomas
- For Maintenance Division Assistant Director (A) Curtis Walker

We believe these endorsements to be a responsible "business" decision and are convinced that these candidates are the best choice in this election.

Earlier this month the Postal Service notified the union that the CFS unit will be closing here in Wisconsin, and the mail will be moving to Minneapolis. We were very pissed off behind this for several reasons! One being such short notice given to the union and clerks. This will have major impact on our members currently working there and the ones that were looking forward for a chance to work there. We are still meeting with management and will file any appropriate grievances that may be in violation of our contract and our members' rights.

We may have reached a tentative agreement to delay the clerks from moving out of CFS, but not the mail. Management is willing to let the clerks remain in CFS for at least 60 days in order to try and secure a bid versus being an UAR (unassigned regular) we have a meeting scheduled there tomorrow morning.

We are currently looking for a couple of good stewards for tour 3. If you know someone that you think may make a good union steward, have them get in touch with my office. We are looking for someone to step up and join the team. Keep in kind just because you submit a letter, it doesn't mean you will automatically become a steward. That decision will be up to the executive board, but we welcome all that may be interested in applying.

Once again, thank you for all you do, and thank you for being such dedicated union members!!! can request either 8hrs or 4hrs of leave. If you have any questions, feel free to contact a steward or my office.

As always, thank you for all you do, and thank you for being such dedicated union members!!

ACTION TAKEN UPON APPLICATIONS OF NEW MEMBERS: Griggs: Motion to accept applications of new members. Motion Seconded. Vote taken. Motion Passes. Unanimously.

TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Griggs.: Motion to have the next General Membership Meeting on Friday, November 21, 2025, at 7:00 A.M. Motion Seconded. Vote taken. Motion Passes. Unanimously.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Local Business Agent: Chris Czubakowski:

FALL RETIREMENT CLASSES

The Milwaukee Area Local has scheduled retirement classes on Wednesday, October 22nd, 2025, from 7p-9p and Saturday, October 25th, 2025, from 9a-11a. These classes will be held at the APWU Union Hall, 417 N. 3rd street, Milwaukee, WI. 53203. Financial Advisors Greg Johnson and Brandon Littleton from Union Financial Inc. will cover FERS, CSRS, TSP and how to invest and manage your money in retirement. Any current APWU or NPMHU member and their spouse/ partner are invited to attend. If interested in attending, please contact the Union Hall at 414 273 7838 to reserve your spot. Deaf/hard of hearing members should contact the Union Hall two weeks prior to the classes so that we can request an interpreter. These retirement classes have been held for many years and have helped countless members achieve financial success in retirement. If you are looking forward to retirement, we are looking forward to you joining us.

SAVE BIG MONEY THIS OPEN SEASON

The Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) Open Season for 2026 will run from November 9, 2025, to December 7, 2025. During this time, eligible federal employees, retirees, and their families can change their health insurance plan, enroll or cancel their health insurance or make changes to their coverage, such as adding or dropping dependents.

The USPS will continue to pay 95% of the health care premium for career APWU bargaining unit members who elect the APWU consumer driven option and who have previously been enrolled in a PSHB plan for more than a year.

The current premiums for APWU Consumer Driven Option are Self is \$16.12 per PP, Self Plus One is \$35.05 per PP, Self Plus Family is \$38.23 per PP. Now, compare this to the premiums you may be paying to basic BlueCross/ Blue Shield; Self is \$134.12 per PP, Self Plus One is \$280.99 per PP, Self Plus Family is \$317.62 per PP. Switch to APWU Health Plan consumer driven option from basic Blue Cross/Blue Shield would result in the following premium savings; Savings of \$3,068 per year for Self, Savings of \$6,394.44 per year for Self-One, Savings of \$7,264.14 per year for Self and Family.

The APWU Health Plan is the best health plan in the PSHB, and we would like to be your partner this Open Season. I encourage you to speak to other APWU members who have the APWU consumer driven health plan. I believe that you will find that most, if not all, are very satisfied with their health plan and the savings they receive.

Please contact me at the union hall at 414-273-7838 for more information and for any help you need making these changes (or changes to FEDVIP) during open season

REPORTS OF OFFICERS CONTINUED:

West Sectional Director, Marvin Rivera:

Automation clerks, when filling out the one person to a machine grievance form, please make sure that it is filled out completely. Make sure you complete the step in pay section so that you are getting paid properly. And in case you didn't know, you get a step increase every 36 weeks (9 months) as long as you don't accumulate a lot of LWOP hours because LWOP will delay your next step (accumulated LWOP hours of 13 weeks or more will defer your step in pay). Also, I don't know when that happens for everyone and that is something that you will have to keep track of.

READING AND COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS: None READING AND COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS CONTINUED: None UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Marvin Rivera: Motion to get two new refrigerators at approximately \$600 each. Motion Seconded. Vote taken. Motion Passes. Unanimously.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

#370 was drawn and Gordon Goodman was not present at the meeting for the current \$150.00. The next raffle will be held at the general membership meeting on Friday, November 21, 2025, at 7:00 A.M. and will be for \$175.00. Members must be present to win. Names and numbers in the membership list are subject to monthly roster changes.

COPA Quarterly Raffle for \$100 each:

#18 Takaita Conley-Burrell #12 Kenneth Liggan

Griggs: Motion to adjourn at 7:32 P.M. Motion Seconded. Vote taken. Motion Passes. Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Walker, Recording Secretary

and ball