



**MPEA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 20, 2023 - 12:00pm Federal Café Meeting Room**

Attendees: Andy Weyer, Chip Teigen, Janna Beard, Kim MacDonald, Siiri McNulty, Stacy Sorenson, Eric Gustafson. Absent: Ann Thelen and Rebecca Gaida.

- I. Call meeting to order at 12:07 am**
- II. Approval of Minutes for May - with a few corrections minutes were approved**
- III. President Report**

Discussion - proper protocol for contacting MPEA Attorney, Jim Michels and/or anything that results in expense for board. As per previous discussions and as stated during board training with Jim Michels, only the MPEA president is to contact attorney for legal advice unless specifically requested by Weyer or another Executive Board member to do so on his behalf. Weyer felt that protocol had been disregarded by board member Sorenson, showing lack of regard for protocol and was disrespectful to the members of the Executive Board.

Weyer sought input by other board members as to whether prior instructions on protocol were clear. Several board members indicated protocol was clear and sited discussion about protocol on this subject matter at March, April, and May meetings, including the board training.

Sorenson had previously asked about reaching out to Jim Michels to obtain copies of potential policies Michels had mentioned. Weyer responded that he had an upcoming meeting with Michels and that he was going to handle it. Sorenson ignored Weyers comment and reached out to Michels anyway. As a result, Weyer indicated that there could potentially be repercussions for this action.

Sorenson responded that she wants to be an active board member and meant no disrespect. Discussion ended and the matter was tabled.

Weyer provided an update on attending the Labor Management Committee meeting. Topics of discussion included LMC structure, new rules and employee safety. Weyer stated that Council members present at the meeting started yelling at people, resulting in a totally unproductive meeting.

**IV. Issues log -**

Weyer communicated to the board the member issues that he and Janna Beard have been working on and will add them to the issues log.

Discussed getting communication to members - Weyer is waiting for Rasheeda to get back to us to put out as communication - don't want to get in trouble for misuse of city email.

**V. Treasurer's Report -** Teigen passed the report around and went over what we had in our accounts and what was paid out in the last month along with balances of accounts.

a. There was a brief discussion about policies that Michels had provided to the board and Teigen noted that we are currently doing everything that the policies mention.

b. McNulty made a suggestion regarding MPEA's long-term financial goals. Discussion followed. McNulty suggested that the board should consider doing some strategic planning or brainstorming around money and determine goals and or reasons for needing X amount of money. One item mentioned was determining how much it would take to provide a period of payment to members in case of a strike.

**VI. Detail/Permit Report -** There are a lot of people added to detail/permit.

Weyer will notify person/human resources about exceeding a year. Cannot change from one position to another to extend detail. One employee has been detailed for two years this August. McNulty will contact 60 days prior to let know detail/permit expiring. Current MPEA contract allows for details of up to one year. Express written agreement for longer.

**VII. New Business**

a. McNulty brought up safety of people walking to parking ramp for second shift employees. Having good safe committed parking would help employees feel safer. Discussion - subsidy of parking. Weyer noted that similar discussions were happening at LMC.

b. Community engagement committee would like to continue to meet. Weyer mentioned that there is currently no official committee and

that some union members were pressuring Thelen about re-instituting the engagement committee. Sorenson requested committee still be able to meet and motioned for committee who has been meeting for over a year to continue. Discussion followed. Weyer noted that committee was established without the president of union being involved, which was improper. Lack of second for motion. Motion failed.

- c. Other suggestions for union engagement such as an event happy hour were discussed. At this time there is too much (State Fair promotion and Info Mtg planning) going on to allow for work on another engagement activity.
- d. MacDonald suggested follow up with new employees at periodic intervals following employment to check in and see how things are going. This would be contact by a board member to new employees.
- e. July 26 was discussed as a probable date for the MPEA Info meeting - meet the board open house style - passing out fair tickets - debrief on other things.
- f. MacDonald will be attending new employee orientation Thursday, June 22. McNulty would like to shadow someone. Sorenson also indicated interest.

## **VII. Old Business**

- a. Follow up to new business discussion item at last meeting regarding MN State Fair tickets, and blue book. Beard made a motion to make passes and fair coupon blue book available at no cost to dues paying members. Motion seconded by MacDonald. Motion passed unanimously. This will be put out to members ASAP - hopefully before next general membership mtg.
  - Put info out to members ASAP - hopefully before next general membership meeting.
  - Sign-up sheet needed for dues paying members to reserve two, adult tickets for State Fair entrance and a blue book with coupons to go with it.
  - Approximately cost to MPEA - \$40 per member - total approximately \$12,000 if all 300 dues paying members sign up. Motion was made and passed unanimously.

- Gustafson & Sorenson volunteered to assist with this venture. Teigen noted that he would assist with actual purchase of tickets and books.
- b. Board followed up on discussion from last meeting discussion regarding purchasing a cell phone and monthly plan for MPEA president.
- Goal is to have unlimited minutes, data, etc.
  - Name of account would be MPEA.
  - Phone would be passed on to next president and number would be placed on union website for members to be able to contact president if needed or desired.
  - Motion was made by Teigen. Beard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Gustafson motioned to adjourn at approximately 1:05. Sorenson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.