



Mail Handlers Local Union No. 323

1602 Selby Ave., Suite 5 St. Paul, MN 55104
(651) 646-2827 Fax (651) 646-0991 LocalOffice@local323.org

Minutes of the Local Union 323 Executive Board Meeting ST. PAUL, MN June 17, 2013

Jeff Larsen

Local President

Kathy Schultz

Vice President

Dean Abatte

Recording Secretary

John Frey

Treasurer

State Executive
Board Members

Shane Ryden

Minnesota

Brock Engstrom

North Dakota

Branch Presidents

Dean Abatte

Minneapolis

Gerald LaBarre

St. Paul

Mike Straiton

BMC

Gary Tollefsrud

Fargo

Local President Jeff Larsen called the Executive Board to order at 10:38 a.m. Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Dean Abatte.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Local President: Jeff Larsen

Vice President: Kathleen Schultz

Recording Secretary: Dean Abatte

Treasurer: John Frey

MN State Representative: Shane Ryden

ND State Representative: Brock Engstrom

The Local Executive Board reviewed the previous meeting minutes from March 28th, 2013. Vice President Kathleen Schultz motioned to accept the minutes and was seconded by NDSEBM Brock Engstrom. There were no objections and the motion carried unanimously.

Local President Jeff Larsen reports: (see attached for full report)

- SAMLU – local Negotiations Training
- Local 323 Dental Program
- Branch President's Meeting

Branch Activities:

- Fargo Branch Meeting
- NDC Branch Meeting
- St. Cloud Branch Meeting
- St. Paul Stewards/Branch Meeting
- Rochester Consolidation Status
- Mankato Consolidation Status
- St. Cloud Consolidation Status
- Duluth Consolidation Status
- Labor-Management Meetings
- North Dakota Branch Issues

Local President Jeff Larsen submitted for review his Expense Report and Time Sheet. NDSEBM Brock Engstrom moves to authorize the Local Presidents expenses for the time frame reported. MN State Rep. Shane Ryden seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer John Frey reports:

Treasurer John Frey submitted for review the Local's Profit and Loss Statement. Recording Secretary Dean Abatte motioned to authorize the expenses of the Local for the time frame enumerated. The motion was seconded by V.P. Kathleen Schultz, motion carried.

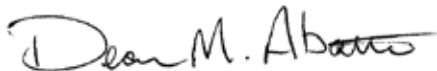
Vice President Kathleen Schultz reports on her visit to Washington D.C. to the Legislative Conference.

NDSEBM Brock Engstrom reports: the Steward in the Bismark ND Facility has resigned. Brock has requested and strongly encourages the Local to actively pursue a replacement. The added workload to his already burgeoning case file is overwhelming and is encroaching on his personal time away from work.

President Larsen opens the floor for general discussion, comments, questions, hearing none, Vice President Kathy Schultz motions to adjourn the Local Executive Meeting.

Dean Abatte seconds, Motion carries meeting adjourns at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dean Abatte
Recording Secretary Local 323
National Postal Mail Handlers Union

cc: Local Union Council
Branch Leaders
File



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June 17, 2013

Local President's Report

Local 323 Complement:

The Local 323 career complement as of PP-11-13 is 625 (571 MN & 54 ND) with career Membership at 571. In addition, more than 30 1187's have been processed for MHA's and 21 MHA's currently appear on the dues check-off.

Local Activities:

- **SAMLU - Local Negotiations Training**

In early April I was in attendance at the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Local Unions in Las Vegas, NV. Joining me for this SAMLU as well the Local Negotiations Training were Recording Secretary Dean Abatte, Treasurer John Frey, ND State Executive Board Member Brock Engstrom, St. Paul Branch President Gerald LaBarre, and NDC Chief Steward Keith Unterseher. This was the first meeting of the Local Unions since the issuance of the Fishgold award establishing the terms of the 2011 National Agreement. Consequently, there was thorough discussion with regard to the implementation of the new contract as well as the identification of issues in need of further clarification. If anything became clear during this meeting, it was that the implementation of the 2011 National Agreement will be an ongoing process.

The Article 30 training about Local Negotiations proved to be quite informative. This aspect of the meeting provided a general overview of the process; and, gave guidance regarding specific requirements. Subsequent to the training, a CD containing a manual on this subject was sent to all representatives.

- **Local 323 Dental Program**

The process of billing Associate Member dues related to the Local 323 Dental Program is near completion. This dental plan is available to all Members including MHA's. Any newly hired Members who are interested in this plan should contact me at the Local Office.

Jeff Larsen

Local President

Kathy Schultz

Vice President

Dean Abatte

Recording Secretary

John Frey

Treasurer

State Executive

Board Members

Shane Ryden

Minnesota

Brock Engstrom

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Fargo



- **Branch President's Meeting**

On May 9th the metro area Branch Presidents met again at the Local Office to discuss implementation of the 2011 National Agreement. The discussions centered on contractual application related to MHA's as well as the elimination of the PTF position in offices of 200 or more man years. With regard to the latter, the Union has initiated grievances concerning the proper granting of retreat rights to former PTF's. These Branch President's meetings have been a productive forum in which to identify issues and they will continue to be scheduled as needed to provide a uniform approach to common problems.

Branch Activities:

- **Fargo Branch Meeting**

On April 28th I was in attendance at a meeting of the Fargo Branch. Several issues, such as grievance activity, MHA's, overtime, holiday scheduling, and Local Negotiations, were discussed with the concerned Members who took the time on a Sunday to attend this meeting. Grievance activity in the Fargo Branch continues at a brisk pace.

- **NDC Branch Meeting**

On April 30th a Branch Meeting (2 sessions) was held at the Minneapolis/St. Paul NDC. While I was unable to attend due to other meetings, it was reported that there were discussions related to the 2011 National Agreement. It was also reported that some of our new MHA Members were in attendance at one of the sessions; and, I would like to commend these new Members for their interest in the Union.

- **St. Cloud Branch Meeting**

On May 11th I was in attendance at a meeting of the St. Cloud Branch. Due to the upcoming excessing of Mail Handlers from this facility this meeting was well attended. During this meeting extensive discussions were held regarding the rights of Mail Handlers excessed from a facility. Management has indicated that the people excessed from the facility would be reassigned to the NDC. The impacted Mail Handlers are very unhappy with management's decision and understandably so. It is anticipated that another meeting of the St. Cloud Branch will be held in the near future.

- **St. Paul Stewards/Branch Meeting**

On May 17th I was at the St. Paul P&DC for a Branch as well as Stewards meeting. While these meeting were sparsely attended, several issues were discussed which were of importance to the Branch and its Representatives.

- **Rochester Consolidation Status**

As previously reported, the consolidation of mail processing operations from Rochester into the Saint Paul P&DC has been completed. However, grievance activity for Rochester Steward Jim Crawley and MN State Executive Board Member Shane Ryden remains ongoing.

- **Mankato Consolidation Status**

The partial consolidation of mail processing operations from Mankato into the Minneapolis P&DC has been implemented. This partial consolidation involved the originating mail. The 3 Mail Handlers excess to that facility were reassigned to the NDC effective June 1st. As previously reported, management has identified the Mankato installation for a full consolidation at some future date.

- **Saint Cloud Consolidation Status**

Article 12 meetings concerning the partial consolidation of Saint Cloud operations into the Minneapolis P&DC are ongoing. Like the Mankato event, St. Cloud involves the consolidation of originating mail. As of the date of this report, it is anticipated that 5 Mail Handlers will be reassigned to the NDC around September 7th.

- **Duluth Consolidation Status**

Meetings concerning the consolidation of Duluth operations into the Saint Paul P&DC remain suspended as of this date. As previously reported, management has identified the Duluth installation for consolidation at some future date.

- **Labor-Management Meetings**

I'm continuing to attend Labor-Management meetings in the Minneapolis, the NDC, and St. Paul Branches as my schedule permits. So far this year I've attended several monthly meetings at the NDC and numerous weekly meetings in Saint Paul.

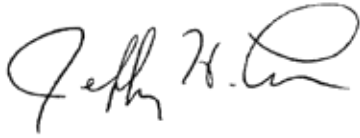
- **North Dakota Branch Issues**

ND State Executive Board Member Brock Engstrom has been busy with grievance activity in the North Dakota. This activity is primarily in Bismarck, Grand Forks, and along with Branch President Gary Tollefsrud, in Fargo. The continuing cause of these grievances is inadequate Mail Handler staffing.

Upcoming Events:

2013 Local 323 Scholarship Award – July

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff H. Larsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being the most prominent.

Jeff Larsen
Local President

cc: All Branches
File