



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 March 28, 2019

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

NDC

Gary Tollefsrud

Fargo

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: Absent

Local President Jeff Larsen called the Executive Board to order at 10:23 a.m.

Review of the December 28, 2018 minutes.

A motion was made to accept the minutes by MNSR Ryden and 2nd by Treasurer Frey. Motion carried.

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

Local issues:

- Fiscal year change
- Regional Instruction 399 update
- Field Negotiating Committee
- Open Season -MHBPM
- Local 323 Dental Program
- Local website
- FEFA Retirement seminar

Branch Activities:

- Branch Meetings
- Labor management meetings

Contract Proposals:

- 204Bs
- MHA & PTFs

- District cap for MHAs
- Sunday Premium for MHAs
- Overtime after 8 for MHAs

MHBP – discussion

Settlement agreement between the USPS and the APWU review

Local President Jeff Larsen submitted for review his Expense Report and Time Sheets. NDSR Engstrom moves to authorize the Local Presidents expenses for the time frame reported. V.P. Schultz seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Review of the Local Presidents leave hours for 2018.

Retirement letters: Disseminated and reviewed

Treasurer’s report:

Local Treasurer John Frey submitted the Local's Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statements. V.P. Schultz motioned to authorize the expenses of the Local Union for the time frame enumerated. The motion was seconded by NDSR Engstrom, motion carried.

President Larsen opens the floor for general discussion, comments, questions.

Note: Filing of unemployment benefits electronically has been resolved by accounts.

Congressional Resolutions

- H. Res. 23 Door to door delivery
- H. Res. 33 Privatization
- H. Res. 54 6 day delivery
- H. Res. 60 Restoration of service standards
- H. Res. 756 Postal service reform act of 2017
- S. 2629 Postal service reform act of 2018

Recording Secretary Abatte motions to adjourn the Local Executive Meeting. The motion was seconded by V.P. Schultz. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dean Abatte
Recording Secretary Local 323
National Postal Mail Handlers Union

cc: **Local Union Council**
All Branch
File



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

March 28, 2019

Local President's Report

Local 323 Complement:

The Local 323 career complement as of Pay Period 5-19 is 633 (550 MN & 83 ND) and the MHA complement is 111 (98 MN & 13 ND). Combined Membership is 667.

Local Issues:

- **Fiscal Year Change**

All the Members of the Local Executive Board, along with anyone who reads these reports on an ongoing basis, knows that January 1st represents a new fiscal year for the Local Union. This change requires many tasks to be performed so that the Local Union remains in compliance with the Uniform Local Union Constitution as well as with all applicable laws and regulations.

The following is an outline of the tasks performed:

- Issuance of W-2's to employees (all Representatives)
- Filing of W-2's with both States
- Filing of W-2's along with W-3 with the Social Security Administration
- Issuance of 1099's to vendors
- Filing of 1099's along with 1096 to IRS

Following these activities, we prepared for our annual audit. That was conducted from February 25th through the 27th. Local Treasurer John Frey and I completed the uploading of our LM-2 to the Department of Labor on March 27th. A copy of the LM-2 was provided to the Members of the Local Executive Board via email prior to its submission. Our additional filings with the IRS and the States aren't due until May 15th.

The Local Executive Board will receive the audit results from Legacy Professionals at its next meeting.

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
NDC

Gary Tollefsrud
Fargo



- **Regional Instruction 399 Inventories**

Throughout both States our Representatives have been busy working on updated jurisdictional inventories for each facility. This process is resulting from the updated RI-399 settlement which was reached at the National level last year.

As of this date, inventories have been completed in Minneapolis, St. Cloud, and Duluth. Progress is ongoing in the remaining facilities; although, there is one location which is proving to be problematic.

This process is nearing the end of the allotted time and locations unable to complete this task will be appealing any remaining issues.

- **Field Negotiating Committee**

In early February, I was in Washington, DC, to serve as a member of the Field Negotiating Committee. Serving on this Committee provided me with an opportunity to see all the contract proposals which have been submitted by Mail Handlers from across the country. It was clear from the onset that many people took the chance to provide input into their future very seriously.

This was the third time I've served on this committee and I was impressed by the focus of the people involved. Our National Officers are to be commended for assembling a group of qualified and committed people for this task. We discussed and evaluated all the submissions. I must admit that it was impressive to see the wide range of proposals submitted by Mail Handlers. Still, what impressed me most was seeing that an idea from one of our plants in Eagan, or a suggestion from Minneapolis, or an issue we discussed in Fargo, was now a proposal in Washington DC. It made me proud of our Members, our Stewards, our Officers, and it made me proud to be a Member of Local 323.

So, when all's said and done, will a proposal from Local 323 make it into the National Agreement? I can't say for sure; but I can say we've gotten some in before.

- **Open Season – Mail Handler Benefit Plan Marketing**

Follow up from the Federal Employee Health Benefit Plan Open Season indicates a modest increase in enrollment locally. Monthly reports received so far this year show that increases in enrollment are continuing. From a National perspective, the Mail Handler Benefit Plan saw the best increase in enrollment in several years.

- **Local 323 Dental Program**

Along with marketing the Mail Handler Benefit Plan, our Dental Program is indicating slight gains in enrollment. These gains are coming from the Regular Membership. Recording Secretary Dean Abatte and I assembled and mailed invoices for associate dues to the Federal and Postal associates participating in our plan. That process has mostly been completed; although, there are a couple of issues remaining to be addressed.

- **Local Web Site**

Regular updates continue being made to the Local 323 web site. Additional and updated manuals have recently been added to the Steward's Resource Center. Specifically, an updated Stewards manual, the Article 12 manual, and the Step 4 manual, are now available to the Representatives with access to this section of the web site. These newer manuals, along with some of the older ones, are of significant file size. It is recommended that a user "right click" on the item and use "Save As" to save a copy of the desired manual to their desktop. Any Representative with questions concerning the Steward's Resource Center should contact me at the Local Office.

- **FEFA Retirement Seminars**

Federal Employees First Alliance retirement seminars continue to be scheduled throughout both States. Members continue to be interested in attending these events and feedback remains positive. A mailing has been sent to all Members informing them of the date and locations where seminars are currently scheduled. That information is also available on the Local 323 web site.

Branch Activities:

- **Branch Meetings**

On February 16th I attended a meeting of the Mankato Branch which was held in Mankato, MN. Minnesota State Executive Board Member Shane Ryden accompanied me to this event. All but one of the Branch Members were in attendance and the meeting covered a variety of topics. In addition, I would like to welcome David Bachmann on board as an Alternate Steward for this Branch. Thank you for stepping forward to help in the representation of Mail Handlers.

- **Labor – Management Meetings**

Since the last meeting of the Local Executive Board I've attended one Labor – Management meetings at the St. Paul P&DC.

Upcoming Events:

FEFA Retirement Seminars – St. Paul

Sunday, April 7, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 4:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

161 St. Anthony Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103

Mankato Branch Members Event – Saturday, April 13, 2019

FEFA Retirement Seminars – St. Cloud

Sunday, April 14, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 4:00 P.M.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

4322 Clearwater Road, St. Cloud, MN 56301

Semi-Annual Meeting of the Local Unions – Atlantic City, NJ

April 29 – May 1, 2019

Fargo Branch Meeting – Saturday, May 4, 2019 – 3:00 P.M.

Holiday Inn Fargo

3801 13th Ave. S, Fargo, ND 58104

FEFA Retirement Seminars – Fargo

Sunday, May 5, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 4:00 P.M.

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 – 10:00 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

4335 23rd Ave. S, Fargo, ND 58104

Legislative Conference – Washington, DC

June 4 – 5, 2019

Local 323 Picnic – June 22, 2019

Como Park in St. Paul

Fraternally,

Jeff Larsen

Local President

cc: All Branches

File