

**WPEC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 9, 2006**

Present: Greg Georg, Jill Hynum, Phil Dasso, Ed Berry, Larry Kieck, Gary Mertig, Jane Steffes, Layne Litwin, John Verberkmoes, Mike Genthe, Suzanne Murphy, Rachel Zellmer, Karen Gunderson and Diane Mandell.

Absent: Janice Wnukowski and Steve Mahoney.

Staff/Guests/Members Present: Bill Franks, Doug Swanson and Kevin Steffens.

Meeting was called to order at 8:39 AM by Greg Georg.

Roll was taken.

Minutes from the October 21, 2006 meeting were reviewed.

Approval, as amended, moved by Steffes, seconded by Litwin. Motion carried.

President's Report:

Georg reported that the AFT-W building had been burglarized. Security at the building will be increased. On the background check issue, UW is moving on developing policies on checks for new hires. Each campus will develop their own policy, based on a common template. Our concern is having too many different policies to enforce. Decisions will have to be made to determine if bumping, transfers and other such personnel transactions will trigger a background check. Also, would this information become subject to public record requests. A discussion of issues related to background checks and the use of the data followed. The gang of 18 will next meet on January 8, 2007. UW-River Falls has developed a policy on workforce violence that is very stringent.

Treasurer's Report:

Dasso distributed the financial statements. A discussion of budgeting followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee:

Georg reported that the last eInsider brought out the need for an editorial board to review issues prior to release. A discussion of the types of material contained in Insiders and the need to attribute authorship followed. Distribution of the eInsider should be to WPEC leadership and Swanson prior to general release. Litwin noted that the committee needed to develop a publication schedule for the Insider. This way deadlines for the submittal of articles could be established which would give ample time for review prior to publication. Hynum suggested that the next section of the Policy and Procedures Manual to be worked

on should focus on communications issues. Mertig stated that Georg and Hynum should be involved in any editorial review. Zellmer stated that she would be interested in helping to work on the policies. Georg said that he would talk with Crandall and begin the process of establishing policies.

Contracting Out Committee:

Hynum reported that a call for additional people to become involved in the committee was in the eInsider. We are now getting more information for review on proposed contracts. We are working on training for purchasing people.

Audit Committee:

Mertig explained that we had just received the draft audit the previous day. A finding listed the review of cancelled checks as something to do more regularly. Dasso stated that we should look at moving funds over the \$100,000 federal insurance limit to another financial institution.

Motion by Verberkmoes to move \$25,000 into a CD at another financial institution. Second by Hynum. Motion approved.

Motion by Mertig to approve the draft audit report. Second by Dasso and Litwin. Motion approved.

Membership Report:

Berry reported that membership numbers continue to increase. 3320 people are now paying dues. We expect to see an increase in retirements at year's end, but any new hires will come in as MOM's. Unfortunately, we are still not being informed of new hires on a regular basis by OSER.

Swanson stated that Mindy Taranto started working with the UW Hospital. They have a new computer system and have added dozens of new people who are WPEC represented. More than 25 signed authorization cards and have become WPEC members. In fact, District 7 has achieved Fair Share status.

Berry noted that he had updated the email list for the Insider and added about 250 names. He is still setting things up in Membership Suite.

Budget Committee:

Berry noted that he is still looking for additional committee members. A meeting of the committee will be scheduled for early January 2007. A general discussion of budget issues followed.

Grievance Report:

Franks distributed the chief steward's report, discussed the outcomes of several arbitrations and expressed the need to schedule several more. Franks asked for the authority to develop Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) suits in regards to the delays we are experiencing in getting arbitrations scheduled.

Motion by Verberkmoes to approve the development of ONE (1) ULP concerning the delays we are experiencing in the scheduling of arbitrations. Second by Mertig. Motion approved

Franks noted that the annual stewards meeting and election of chief steward will likely take place in February or March of 2007. Franks presented a list of stewards to be designated by WPEC as those who can be called upon to represent members in every jurisdiction.

Motion by Mertig to pass this list, as amended, on to the President for action. Second by Verberkmoes. Motion approved

A detailed discussion of workplace problems and grievance issues followed.

Bargaining Report:

Georg circulated a proposed list of Bargaining Team members and Swanson went over their individual biographies.

Motion by Kieck to accept the list of Bargaining Team members, as presented. Second by Zellmer. Motion approved.

Classification and Compensation Committee:

Georg noted that the committee met the previous Tuesday. Swanson stated that the PPA survey is going to be done. We will work on getting information back to the members concerning the survey. A discussion of classification survey issues followed.

COPE Committee:

Georg reported that the committee will next meet on December 20, 2006. Murphy shared the draft agenda and noted that there would be a discussion of Supreme Court candidates. Berry noted that he would not be able to attend the meeting. .

SEC Report:

Georg noted that the SEC had met the previous Tuesday. Verberkmoes gave a synopsis of goings on at the meeting. A discussion of health insurance raised at the meeting followed.

Motion by Verberkmoes to support ETF's request for 51 new positions in the 2007-2009 budget. Second by Mertig. Motion approved.

Promoting State Employment:

Verberkmoes noted that the AFT-W Member Mobilization Fund Grant has \$21,000. We will be asking for \$3,000 to fund membership projects.

Motion by Mertig to have WPEC apply for the \$3,000 grant. Second by Zellmer.
Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Lakeland Times:

Georg talked with Tim Hawks about the release of public records. AFSCME had some law enforcement officers that they didn't want to be subject to such records releases.

Contract Printing:

Georg stated that OSER selected Wells Printing to print the contract booklets. They should be out by the end of 2006 and the cover will be red.

AFT-W Convention:

Georg reported that WPEC had its largest number of delegates ever. The WPEC delegation was very active in the proceedings of the convention. With the 2007 convention in Madison, we hope to have an increase in WPEC members attending.

Dues Structure:

Georg stated that we would pick the teacher's salary to use as a basis for half per caps. A notice for an entry level professor showed a salary of \$41,500.

Motion by Mertig to use \$41,500 as the benchmark for half per caps. Second by Kieck. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Constitutional Amendments-WPEC Convention:

Georg advised that anything the Council wishes to submit will be due in to the WPEC office on January 20, 2007. Forms and instructions for constitutional amendments can be found on the WPEC website.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mertig. Second by Gunderson. Motion approved.
Meeting adjourned at 2:49 PM.
Next meeting: January 20, 2007.