

**WPEC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 2, 2007**

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

Absent: Rachel Zellmer.

AFT-W Vice-Presidents: Kevin Steffens.

Staff/Guests/Members Present: Tom Ellett and Doug Swanson

Meeting was called to order at 8:37 AM by Greg Georg.

Roll was taken.

Minutes of the April 14, 2007 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Mertig to approve. Second by Litwin. Motion approved.

Minutes of the May 5, 2007 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Berry to approve. Second by Litwin. Motion approved.

Minutes of the 2007 WPEC Convention were reviewed.

Motion by Mertig to approve. Second by Litwin. Motion approved.

Presidents Report:

Georg reported that AFT-W has inquired about our change in fractional per-caps and we responded with an explanation. Some locals are collecting per-caps on a percentage of salary basis. The Group of 18 met on May 11, 2007. Discussions focused on background checks and dental insurance. WSEU doesn't appear too interested in the dental insurance plan. OSER seems to be looking for an expression of interest from the locals without providing any details out about the plan. The next meeting of the group will be on June 11, 2007.

A labor/management meeting was held with OSER. In attendance were Swanson, Georg, Wil Mikelson and the state's coster. Discussion focused on frozen payroll data and the PPA survey. Georg reported that the stewards retreat had been held and the release time has been paid. The issue of back pay from the last contract is still being addressed. One person was identified by OSER and paid. They are still looking at additional people. The projector was purchased and already has been put to use by the BSC. The projector cost \$822.

Membership Report:

Berry presented and discussed the membership report. The editing of the data from OSER is getting better. We should be caught up soon.

Treasurers Report:

Dasso presented the report. A discussion on rolling over CD's followed. Dasso will be working on voiding old checks. We need to order new check stock. A discussion of the differences between accrual and cash accounting followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Contracting Out Committee:

Hynum reported that LAB has done white papers on some of our issues. Examples of the issues are server consolidation, IT technology reporting and IBIS. There has been a flood of solicitations because we are at the end of the fiscal year. One item to be especially watchful of is billing rates.

Parts of the management of a new hires registry system, required by a federal mandate, are being contracted out by DWD. This violates our contract in that sensitive information about our members is being handled by an outside contractor. A grievance on this issue has been denied by DWD and another grievance has been filed with DOA. Berry expressed the need for WPEC to take a position on IBIS because it affects so many of our members and functions.

SEC Report:

Steffens reported that there hasn't been a meeting recently. They will be looking at travel issues for bargaining.

AFT-W Report:

Steffens had no report from the last meeting. The board's budget committee has met to finalize the budget. The next meetings for the committee will be June 21 and July 12, 2007. The board will meet next week.

Bargaining:

Steffens stated that the BSC had identified 109 issues to look at and determine their level of interest. The bargaining survey has been completed and the general results will be shared with the Council. The first bargaining dates are July 9 and 10, 2007. The BSC's goal is to have most language ready by that time. Swanson noted that the UW Hospital unit's bargaining should be done by the end of July. We have 38 members in that unit and their issues focus on money.

Policy and Procedures Committee:

Litwin presented the amended financial policy. A discussion followed of travel and room rates.

Motion by Kieck to approve the policy. Second by Berry. Motion approved.

Litwin asked to attend a seminar on writing policies. The cost would be \$249. Further discussion of this request will take place later in the meeting.

Audit Committee:

Mertig noted that we have a bid to do the next audit and the Council needs to formally accept it. The price came in at \$3,200.

Motion by Litwin to accept the bid of \$3,200 to do our next audit. Second by Hynum. Motion approved.

Budget Committee:

No report.

Classification and Compensation Committee:

Georg stated that we are still waiting on the PPA survey to be finalized. The committee is working on setting up a meeting with DFI to look at their agencies' issues. The next meeting of the committee will be on June 11, 2007.

Convention Committee:

Mandell reported that the evaluation responses from the convention will be looked at in July.

COPE:

Murphy noted that the next meeting will be on July 28, 2007. She was unaware of the last meeting and will bring this up at the July meeting..

Grievance Committee:

Ellett stated that we had gotten settlements on some of our arbitrations. There were both wins and losses. Others had to be rescheduled. The "Me Too" arbitration will be heard on June 8, 2007. A discussion of risks to employees who serve probationary periods on promotions followed. The stewards training was completed and it was found to be a very good session.

Communications Committee:

Georg noted that an eInsider had gone out. The camera approved for the committee had been purchased. The communications retreat was held with about a dozen people attending. Brainstorming at the retreat produce a lot of good ideas, some of which have already been put into practice.

Promoting State Employment:

Verberkmoes reported that a good group showed up at Pedro's. The program is still under budget and we have received a lot of positive feedback.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Employee Conference:

Georg stated that Dasso asked to go. He will replace someone who is not able to attend.

Motion by Hynum to approve Dasso and Thomas Smith to replace two people who could not make the conference. Second by Steffes. Motion approved.

Annual Report:

Georg stated the Zellmer will be adding a couple of extra reports to the one passed out at the convention. It will be posted on the web site.

WPEC COPE:

Georg stated that three (3) names had been submitted of individuals interested in serving on the committee. Murphy offered to serve on the committee, as well.

Motion by Litwin to appoint David Thompson-Hall, Dan Cody, Joe Rossmeissl and Suzanne Murphy to the committee. Second by Steffes. Motion approved.

They will meet and develop a direction for the committee.

Georgia Thompson Case:

Georg noted that Thompson is pursuing a law suit to get her legal bills paid.

Contributions are being solicited from locals to cover additional legal costs.

Motion by Hynum to approve up to \$750 to cover legal costs to file documents supporting Thompson's right to restitution from the state. Second by Steffes.

Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

ULI Attendees:

Georg stated that requests to attend ULI had been made by Litwin, Linda Hilker, Hurley Price and Paula Little-Graham.

Motion by Mertig to approve sending Litwin, Hilker and Price to ULI. Second by Steffes. Motion approved.

Training Requests:

Georg stated that Litwin and Mandell wished to attend the Policy Writing Workshop.

Motion by Mertig to approve the training request. Second by Berry. Motion approved.

AFT-W Convention:

Georg discussed the amendments that WPEC wants to offer at the convention and issues of importance to WPEC. Litwin noted that presidential succession in the event of the office becoming vacant is lacking in the AFT-W constitution. Gunderson suggested an amendment to get rid of the Solidarity Fund. Georg said that drafts of amendments to be offered should be brought to the next Council meeting.

Bargaining Amendment Committee:

Georg noted that we will need to address the creation of this committee which was a direction given to the Council by the convention.

General Membership Meeting:

Georg noted that the idea for a general membership meeting was brought up at the communications retreat as a way to connect with the members. Meetings should be held around the state with agendas and reports. A committee needs to be established to pursue this made up of the president, vice-president, district reps and membership secretary.

Motion by Steffes to approve the establishment of this committee with the recommended list of members. Second by Mandell. Motion approved.

Verberkmoes commented that the meetings should include local workplace issues as part of their agenda.

Contribution Request:

Verberkmoes stated that we had received a request for financial support from ICWJ. They no longer receive funding from the United Way. A motion to make a donation of \$500 was made and seconded but failed on a vote of the Council.

Genthe commented that we should budget for requests like this in the future.

Credentials Committee:

Mandell noted that we need to staff the committee as Wnukowski is retiring. Steffes offered to help out.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Mahoney. Second by Steffes. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Next meeting: July 14, 2007