

**WPEC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 25, 2010**

Present: Greg Georg, Layne Litwin, Margaret Schmelzer, Larry Kieck, Sandy Suchla, Gary Mertig, Mark Roe, Ed Berry, Mike Genthe, Steve Mahoney, Shantara Glenn and Ruth Ginzberg.

Absent: John Fries, Dave Rasmussen, Erik Coaty and Bill Sawyer.

AFT-W Vice-Presidents:

Staff/Guests/Members Present:

Meeting was called to order at 8:57 AM by Greg Georg.

Minutes of the July 24, 2010 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Schmelzer to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2010 meeting.

Second by Glenn. Motion approved.

President's Report:

Georg stated that the Gang of 18 had a meeting on September 13, 2010. There were updates on bargaining. WSEU has been meeting regularly, hoping to reach an early tentative agreement. Other locals haven't seen much progress at all. The nurses (SEIU) have reached an agreement. The discussion also focused on contracting out issues.

Jill Hynum started in August as a part time employee for WPEC. A steward's survey has been developed with the aim of using the data to create a list of known areas of expertise for stewards to consult when in need. A survey was also developed for convention delegates. WPEC now has workers compensation, rental and umbrella liability insurance policies in place. The cost of the policies came in at \$1,048 for the year.

Membership Report:

Berry presented and discussed the current report. Membership now stands at 2,808, with the total of all dues/fee payers now at 3785. There are 4979 people in the bargaining unit. A general discussion of membership issues followed. John Fries still needs to gain access to Membership Suite, but that should happen soon and we expect to actually be using this software package in a couple of weeks.

Treasurer's Report:

Schmelzer presented the current report. The number of half time employees in WPEC is larger than we expected. We had no way of knowing who was a half time employee unless they self-notified to WPEC. This will effect per capita payments. A discussion of dues payment levels and issues followed.

Motion was made by Suchla that a refund to half time employees of overpaid dues for those who had notified WPEC will be made back to the beginning of 2010. For all other half time employees, their overpaid dues will be refunded beginning in September. Second by Litwin. Motion approved.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee:

Mertig asked for clarification on release time payment. A general discussion of release time use and billing procedures followed. A discussion was also held on certificates of deposit (CD's) and interest rates.

Motion by Litwin to have the Treasurer find the best possible interest rates for CD's when the existing ones come up for renewal. Second by Mertig. Motion approved.

The auditor that did the WPEC audit will be at the next Executive Council meeting to present the audit.

Bargaining:

Georg noted that bargaining sessions with management had been happening more frequently. There have been six or seven dates in September with additional time devoted to sidebar meetings. Several issues have been tentatively agreed to by both sides but they have mostly been minor issues. Management has made a couple of counter offers to WPEC proposals. The sides will be meeting again on Monday and Tuesday of next week. There is a need to get a bargaining bulletin out to the members but there has been a distribution problem with the Salsa Labs emailing package now being used by AFT-W.

Budget Committee:

Georg noted that we need to get the committee together for a meeting to go over the budget. Berry suggested that a meeting be held after the pre-convention caucus which will be held on October 23, 2010.

Communications Committee:

Litwin stated that he is still updating the WPEC website. Fresh news items and information is added as it becomes available. Articles for the next Insider were due to Aaron Crandall yesterday. We still need to get a publication schedule established for WPEC. The committee's next meeting will be on September 27, 2010. Litwin noted that there is still a need to formalize committee assignments and appoint a committee chair.

Contracting Out:

Mahoney noted that the committee has met infrequently. A committee membership list is being developed. The Government Accountability Board is putting a lot of new responsibilities on purchasing agents. The administrative rulemaking process to

formalize this is just beginning. But some agencies have already adopted the new responsibilities. Work is being done on setting a next meeting date for the committee. Numerous cost benefit analyses of contracts are still coming in for the committee to review.

Policy and Procedures Committee:

Litwin noted that an orientation event had been held at UWM and the WPEC had a table at the event. He had made name tags for those working at the table and thought that the WPEC Executive Council should have name tags, too. He passed out individualized name tags to all officers in attendance.

AFT/AFT-W/SEC Report:

Roe noted that the SEC meeting focused on an update of political activities for the fall elections. There was a quorum at the last meeting, so they were able to update the SEC by-laws. The next meeting will be in October. Roe noted that there had been a new development at the University of Alaska regarding their organizing efforts. AFSCME has cancelled the representation election they were to have held this fall. No new date was announced. The exclusivity they were given by the AFL-CIO to organize on campus runs to May of 2011.

Georg stated that the AFT-W board met on September 10, 2010. AFT-W and WEAC are meeting to reaffirm their areas of representation. AFT-W is proposing a \$0.40 per year dues increase in each of the next two years. Art Foeste was reappointed to the public employees Program & Policy Council. There will be a Wisconsin ULI in Eau Claire in October but there has been trouble in getting the word out. The auditors presented the AFT-W audit to the board. A discussion of AFT-W's financial situation followed.

Georg noted that he attended the Public Employees Council budget policy meeting in Washington, DC. Discussions focused on developing enabling legislation for the streamlined sales tax and tax gap issues. AFT may be coming to Wisconsin next spring to work on internal organizing.

UW Hospital:

Georg stated that the UW Hospital unit has ratified a one year agreement. They did their vote by email.

Baseball Tour:

Georg commented that funds for the tour were sufficient to cover almost all costs. Work need to begin this fall to involve more locals in next year's tour. The costs for the Brewer's game in Milwaukee have gotten out of hand. An alternative event in the southeastern part of the state may have to be found.

Old Business:

Future Meeting Dates:

Georg suggested that the Council meet on October 23, 2010, December 11, 2010, February 5, 2011 and March 19, 2011. This would take us up to the next WPEC convention.

Motion by Schmelzer to approve the above dates for Executive Council meetings.
Second by Glenn. Motion approved.

New Business:

Computer Software:

Roe stated that WPEC needs to purchase a full version of Microsoft Office. After considerable discussion, the Technology Committee will discuss WPEC's IT needs, develop detailed costs and budget requests to meet those needs and then report back to the Executive Council.

AFT-W Convention Hospitality Suite:

Georg stated, that assuming we can still get space at the convention hotel, we should do this again. This will need an approval of costs for the room, food and beverages.

Motion by Schmelzer to approve up to \$750 for the cost of setting up a hospitality suite at the AFT-W convention. Second by Berry. Motion approved.

Committee on Bargaining Process:

Georg explained that a motion to establish this ad committee would be needed. It's charge would be to examine the process used by WPEC for bargaining contracts with the state.

Motion by Roe to establish this committee. Second by Berry. Motion approved.

Georg asked that Barbara Smith, Gail Pizzaro, Maggie Schmelzer, Wayne Mertens, Gail Maly, Kevin Steffens and Tim Witcher be appointed to this committee.

Motion by Mertig to appoint the above list of members to this committee. Second by Ginzberg. Motion approved.

Committee Appointments:

Georg asked that Sue Lee be appointed to serve as a DCA representative at the UW-La Crosse.

Motion to appoint Sue Lee was made by Suchla. Second by Kieck. Motion approved.

Litwin noted that the terms of three ad hoc committees need to be extended. They are the Contracting Out Committee, the Promoting State Employees Committee, and the Technology Committee.

Motion to extend the terms of the above ad hoc committees through the 2012 WPEC convention was made by Litwin. Second by Roe. Motion approved.

Litwin noted that the Election Reform Committee had completed the task assigned to it and could now be removed.

Motion to eliminate the Election Reform Committee was made by Litwin. Second by Roe. Motion approved.

Litwin presented the list of all committees and their current membership. These committees will need to be reappointed for a new term.

WPEC Committee Appointments 2010 - 2012

Audit

Chair – Gary Mertig
Larry Kieck
Fred McCabe

Bargaining Committee Review (Ad Hoc term through 2011 Convention)

Chair – (vacant)
Greg Georg (ex officio)
Gail Maly – (BT Chair)
Wayne Mertens – (BSC Chair)
Gail Pizarro
Maggie Schmelzer
Barb Smith
Kevin Steffen
Tim Whitcher

Bargaining Team

Chair – Gail Maly
Edward Berry
Gregory Georg (ex officio)
Ruth Ginzberg
Barbara Hoffhein
Layne Litwin
Stephen Mahoney
Gary Mertig (Vice Chair)
Mark Roe
Jane Steffes
Tim Whitcher

John Williamson

Budget

Chair – Ed Berry

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Layne Litwin

Bill Sawyer

Maggie Schmelzer (ex officio)

Classification and Compensation

Chair – Art Foeste

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Gail Maly

John Williamson

Tim Whitcher

Committee on Political Education (COPE)

Chair – Vacant

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Communications

Chair – (vacant)

Aaron Crandall (Insider Editor)

Ed Berry (ex officio)

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Ruth Ginzberg

Shantara Glenn

Stephanie Hayden

Larry Kieck (ex officio)

Mark Kuechler

Layne Litwin (Web Master)

Gregory Matthews

Gary Mertig (ex officio)

Dave Rasmussen (ex officio)

Mark Roe (ex officio)

Barbara Smith

Sandy Suchla (ex officio)

John Verberkmoes

Constitution

Chair – Gretchen Davies

Ed Berry

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Larry Kieck

Phil Klein

Layne Litwin

Harvey Potter

Contracting Out (Ad Hoc term through 2011 Convention)

Chair – (vacant)

Jody Calhoun

Meei-Ju Chiou

Art Foeste

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Ruth Ginzberg

Duane Konkel

Steve Mahoney

Mark Roe

John Verberkmoes

Suzanne Zipperer

Jill Hynum (Retiree)

Al Nettleton (Retiree)

David Thompson-Hall (Retiree)

Convention

Chair – Judy McAusland

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Kristen McDaniel

Diane Mandell

Elections

Chair – Lowell Attoe

James Newton

Mary Kunkel

Kristen McDaniel

Membership

Chair – Ed Berry

John Fries (ex officio)

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Matthew Halada

Suzanne Murphy

Organizing

Chair – (vacant)

Ed Berry

Greg Georg (ex officio)

Layne Litwin

Steve Mahoney

Mark Roe

Art Foeste

Gail Pizarro

Bonnie Faulkner
Jo Anderson
Larry Kieck
Gary Mertig

Policy and Procedures

Chair – Layne Litwin
Gretchen Davies
Greg Georg (ex officio)
Larry Kieck
Diane Mandell
Mark Roe

Promoting State Employees (Ad Hoc term through 2011 Convention)

Chair – (vacant)
Greg Georg (ex officio)

Stewardship and Grievance

Chair – Fred McCabe
Fred McCabe (Chief Steward)
Bill Franks
Greg Georg
Karen Gunderson
Linda Hilker
Larry Kieck
Calvin Kramer
Mark Kuechler
Stephanie LaSage
Diane Mandell
Kurt Miller
Thomas Smith
Sandy Suchla
John Verberkmoes

Technology Planning Committee (Ad Hoc term through 2011 Convention)

Chair – (vacant)
Greg Georg (ex officio)
Ruth Ginzberg
Mark Roe
Sandy Suchla

Motion by Litwin to approve all of the above appointments. Second by Kieck.
Motion approved

Gubernatorial Candidate Forum Notes:

Litwin attended the candidate forums that were held at UWM and circulated the notes that he took. There appears to be a difference between the two candidates. A discussion of the candidates and the fall elections followed. The notes will be passed on to the Communications Committee for a determination on any further use.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Schmelzer. Second by Mertig. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:47 PM.

Next meeting on October 23, 2010

NOTE:

***THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE OCTOBER 23, 2010
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING.***