

MICHIGAN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, SEIU LOCAL 517M
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 28, 2023 – Zoom Meeting – 10:00am

I. ROLL CALL /ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A. Roll Call, Declaration of Quorum:

Secretary-Treasurer Bryan Grochowski took roll call. Board Members Leni Steiner-Zehender, Lori Steele, and Roberta Oldenberg were excused. A quorum was declared at **10:09AM**. The meeting was held via Zoom.

B. Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from the November 10, 2022, Executive Board meeting were presented by Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski. He requested an amendment to the minutes of the November 10 meeting to change the verbiage in section 3D and amend the phrase “Work on membership” so that it reads, “work on membership organizing.” A **MOTION** was made by Director John Eck to approve the meeting’s minutes with Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski’s change. **SUPPORTED** by DVP Roderick Jackson. Motion carried.

II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

A. Opening Remarks: The Executive Board welcomed incoming Executive Director (ED) Jonovan Luckey.

B. Arbitration Determination: President Joey Combs summarized the history of the grievance and expressed that the grievant had the desire to move it to the next step. The grievant appeared before the Executive Board to give a more detailed explanation of the new developments since the board was last apprised of the grievance at the November 2022 meeting. The Executive Board decided to move the grievance to arbitration.

C. 2023 Ethics Oaths: President Combs reminded everyone to sign and submit their 2023 Ethics and Confidentiality Oaths.

D. Member Engagement: President Combs spoke about the work she has done engaging the limited-term members working in the UIA and advocating with the department to make them permanent employees.

E. MI Strength in Action Council: President Combs recounted the details of the January 5 and 6 Michigan Strength in Action Council meeting and discussed the arc of work that was developed by the SEIU Michigan stakeholders. A detailed report of the arc of joint work is included in the Board packet.

The MISIAC leaders will hold a meeting on February 9, 2023 to plan a lobby day to amplify the unified concerns of all for Michigan SEIU locals. President also discussed the identifying strategic coffee hours and town halls that we can inform our members about so they can converse with their legislators. President Combs hopes that the Executive Board and Members will join more of these meetings.

F. 2023 Board Meetings (April 29, July 29, and November 4): President Combs announced the meeting dates.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

A. Legislative/Advocacy Work: ED Luckey attended the State of the State on January 25, 2023, and spoke with legislators about a number of issues to benefit the membership and lay the groundwork for future conversations to move legislation. ED Luckey spoke to the group about the possibility of moving some of our organization’s previous legislative priorities, such as, Recognition Pay and expanding secured retirement benefit options for public employees. ED Luckey would like to expand our communications and social media efforts and increase our public presence. ED Luckey is setting up

meetings to have conversations regarding Michigan's State Budget.

B. Constitution and Bylaws Vote Update:

ED Luckey informed the Board that postcards were sent out on January 9 to remind dues-paying members about the Constitution and Bylaws vote. To date, 208 votes have been cast. Voting will end on February 16, 2023, and the votes will be counted on February 17, 2023.

C. 20% Plan/Waiver Updates: ED Luckey informed the 517M Executive Board, that on January 25, 2023, the SEIU International Executive Board voted to approve the recommendation of the SEIU Public Division Executive Board to fund our 20% Plan. The Public Division Executive Board made the recommendation at their meeting on January 13, 2023. These 20% funds will be used to organize the membership and improve union density.

SEIU International approved 517M's request for a waiver to raise dues. The Board will need to approve a plan of action in a future meeting.

D. Information Services Report: ED Luckey presented the Information Services Report prepared by Dave Corrie. Full details of the report are in the packet. ED Luckey updated the 517M Executive Board on the status and need to update our phone system. The 2022 Tomorrow's Michigan Today Scholarship recipients have all received their scholarship money, and the 2023 scholarship applications will be on the website February 1.

IV. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

A. October and November 2022 Financial Report: Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the October 2022 and November 2022 financial statements. DVP Yolanda Johnson made a **MOTION** to accept the financial statements. **SUPPORTED** by DVP Carmella Johnson. **MOTION** carries.

B. COPE Report: Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the COPE report. Our 2022 goal was \$24,644 and we

reached 54% of our goal at the end of December 2022.

Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski requested volunteers to restart the COPE Committee to start up again. DVP Roderick Jackson and Director Jason Jackson both volunteered.

V. UNIT & REGION REPORTS:

A. Detailed reports included in Board packet.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

DVP Michelle Kusnier would like to hold an in-person meeting with the Chapter Governors and map out a schedule of member meetings for the year. She would like to increase our steward training efforts and in-person organizing opportunities. She wants to explore fitting that into the local's budget.

Director John Eck wants to engage members at the upcoming DNR training meetings and sign them up on-site.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

DVP Roderick Jackson wants people to attend legislative meetings, speak with their legislators, and focus on member organizing.

DVP R. Jackson is working on member engagement and signing up members. He has been utilizing the new 517M union merch as a part of his member engagement.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The **MOTION TO ADJOURN** was made by President Combs. **SUPPORTED** by DVP R. Jackson. The meeting adjourned at **12:37 PM**.