

MICHIGAN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, SEIU LOCAL 517M
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, July 29, 2023 – Zoom Meeting – 10:00am

I. ROLL CALL /ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A. Roll Call, Declaration of Quorum:

Secretary-Treasurer Bryan Grochowski conducted roll call. Board Members President Joey Combs, Secretary-Treasurer Bryan Grochowski, DVP Carmella Johnson, DVP Janice Cosey, DVP Michelle Kusnier, DVP Roderick Jackson, Director Greg Merricle, Director Anna Schiller, Director Roland Whitelow, Director Roberta Oldenburg, Director Jan Martin, and Director Lori Steele were present. DVP Leticia Trevino, DVP Yolanda Johnson, Director Jason Jackson, Director John Eck, Director Leni Steiner-Zehender, and Director Kevin Mercado were absent. A quorum was declared at 10:07AM.

B. Approval of Minutes: Change in the meeting minutes it will state January 2023 with a correction of the year. The meeting minutes from the April 29, 2023 Executive Board meeting were presented by Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski. DVP Johnson made a **MOTION** to approve the meeting's minutes. **SUPPORTED** by DVP Cosey. The **MOTION** carried.

II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

A. Opening Remarks: President Combs wished everyone a happy morning and thanked everyone for talking time out of their Saturday to be on the meeting.

B. Oath of Office for New Executive Board Member: Anna Schiller: President Combs swore in new executive board member, Anna Schiller from the S&E unit.

C. 2023 Executive Board Meeting Reminder (November 4): President Combs announced the meeting date being Saturday, November 4, 2023, at 10:00am.

D. Summer of Action/Labor Day Action:

President Combs spoke about the summer of action and the scheduled meeting with legislators. The goal of these meetings is to have members go out to these coffee hours and talk about SEIU 517M's top priorities. Executive Director Jonovan Luckey spoke about targeting where we have the highest number of members is where we need to set up coffee hours meetings. Once we have more details on these meetings, we will disseminate this information. President Combs explained that this year the Labor Day march will be held in Detroit. We are working on shirts for the Labor Day picnic. ED Luckey spoke on EO discretionary fund for a Labor Day event in Muskegon.

E. Ethics Oath Reminder: President Combs reminded everyone that the ethics oath is required annually. She also explained the importance of the oath and why we sign it every year. Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski spoke about the importance of confidentiality.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. 2023 – SOM Reauthorization: ED Luckey explained that we are on pace from last year. About 40% of State Employees have reauthorized. We will be sending out biweekly emails, phone calls and adding text messaging. We have reached out to the International who agreed to help us with a larger push for reauthorization. It is encouraging that we are on the same path as prior years.

B. Information Services Report: ED Luckey presented the Information Services Report prepared by Dave Corrie. Full details of the report are in the packet. Unionware organizing module is being implemented to help with phone banking and internal organizing. Free college is still closed. The Scholarship Golf Outing was held on June

9, 2023, at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course in Williamston. There were forty-seven golfers that day and we raised \$3,589.99 for the Scholarship Fund.

C. Member Strength Update: ED Luckey spoke about Olivia Jelinek collaborating with units to sign up new members. Ms. Jelinek is currently working with Andy Johnson in Kalamazoo schools. Ms. Jelinek will be our contact with the International for the Drive to 85. We are making strides in Member Strength. Grochowski asked about the follow up with NEO meetings. ED Luckey spoke about the way that we will complete follow up. Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski requested a way to track this data moving forward. A way to measure this information moving forward.

D. Legislative/Advocacy Work: ED Luckey spoke on the payroll deductions for school employee legislation that passed and that will start March 2024. Staff are tracking the unit contracts that need to have language added or a letter of understanding regarding this legislation. Meetings will be set up with the SLG units in the upcoming weeks regarding the school dues deduction changes. We are making moves this summer regarding preemption which is the bill that DVP Johnson spoke about.

Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski requested state bargaining status information. ED Luckey gave an update on the bargaining meeting and let everyone know that the kickoff meeting is Monday July 31, 2023. State bargaining surveys have gone out and are being accessed by the bargaining teams.

IV. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

A. Financial Report (March, April, May Financials): Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the March, April, and May 2023 financial statements. President Combs made a **MOTION** to accept the financial statements. **SUPPORTED** by DVP Johnson. **MOTION** carries.

B. COPE Report: Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the COPE report.

Our 2023 goal is \$23,770 and we reached 26% of our goal at the end of June 2023.

C. Approval of Proposed Dues Rate Increase (State/SLG): Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the proposed dues rate increases for the SLG tiered system for October 1, 2023, and April 2023. Director Merricle made a **MOTION** to approve the proposed dues rate increase. **SUPPORTED** by President Combs. **MOTION** carries

Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the proposed dues rate increase for the State of Michigan raising their dues to \$31.00 per pay period. Director Merricle made a **MOTION** to approve the proposed dues rate increase. **SUPPORTED** by DVP Kusnier. **MOTION** carries.

D. Approval of SEIU 517M 2023 6-Month Budget: Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski presented the proposed 6-Month 2023 Budget. ED Luckey provided additional context. DVP Johnson made a **MOTION** to approve the budget presented. **SUPPORTED** by DVP R. Jackson. **MOTION** carries.

V. UNIT & REGION REPORTS:

A. Detailed reports included in Board packet.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski requested creating a 20% committee.

President Combs and Director Merricle joined the bylaws committee.

President Combs proposed creating a stipend committee.

The annual meeting will be rescheduled and announced soon.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Secretary-Treasurer Grochowski unit boards will be reaching out to have more face-to-face interactions with unit leaders.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The **MOTION TO ADJOURN** was made by Secretary-

Treasurer Grochowski. **SUPPORTED** by
Director Oldenburg. The meeting
adjourned at **1:13 PM**.