



SEIU 517M
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

The **E-Former**

The Official Electronic Newsletter of
SEIU Local 517M

November 2024

State Contract Ratification Election Results

On Friday, November 1, 2024, the ratification ballots for the three SEIU Local 517M state units were counted by members of the SEIU Local 517M Election Tally Committee. The results show overwhelming support for the recently negotiated three-year agreement. The results were:

Human Services Support unit: **97.4% approval margin.**

Scientific and Engineering unit: **89.8% approval margin.**

Technical unit: **87.1% approval margin.**

The Civil Service Commission will vote on the tentative agreements at their December meeting. If approved, the new contracts will be effective on January 1, 2025.

Halloween Roller Skating Party

On Thursday, October 30th, 100 SEIU Local 517M and SEIU Local 1 members and families gathered for a spooky good time at Northland Roller Rink in Detroit. Members came from as far away as Saginaw to participate. From costumes to treat bags, fun was had by all!

Picture 1 L-R: Janice Cosey (HSS) and Valley Ginn (City of Saginaw).
Picture 2 L-R: Janice Cosey and Ellina Simmons-Gibson both of HSS. Picture 3: Valley Ginn City of Saginaw member in a 1970's themed costume.



Staff Directory

Interim Executive Director:
Joey Combs - 517.267.2065

**Information Services/PDF/
Union Member Discounts:**
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Human Services Support Unit:
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Technical Unit:
Kevin Karpinski - 517.267.2088

**School and Local Government Labor
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www.seiu517m.org

Union Election Positions by Acclamation

According to Article 10, Section 10.F, “If any candidate is unopposed, then no voting for such position is necessary and the candidate shall be declared the winner by acclamation.”

The following candidates meet the criteria and are declared the winner by acclamation:

Local President – Greg Merricle (Scientific and Engineering Unit)
Secretary/Treasurer – Joey Combs (Human Services Support Unit)

Region 1 Board

Region 1 Secretary – Roberta Oldenburg (Saginaw Public Schools)

Region 2 Board

Region 2 DVP – Yolanda Johnson (City of Battle Creek)

Region 3 Board

Region 3 DVP – Carmella Johnson (Flint Community Schools)
Region 3 Secretary – Jan Martin (Flint Community Schools)
Region 3 – Combined – David Thompson (Westland Public Library)

Human Services Support Unit Board

HSS President/DVP – Janice Cosey
Vice President – Roland Whitelow
Unemployment Insurance Examiner – Sonya Robinson
Unemployment Insurance Analyst – Rabia Keo, Torrie Nobles
Combined Less than 25 member units – Ellina Simmons-Gibson, Kevin Benson

Scientific and Engineering Unit Board

Secretary – David Lawrence
MDARD – Tori Rottman-Turner
DNR – Robert Corbett, Matt Lincoln
DHHS - Tonya Heyer
Combined units under 60 members – Anna Schiller (LARA)

Technical Unit Board

Tech Secretary/Treasurer – Patti Kanipe
Tech Chapter 1 President – Jilaine Berquist-Ayotte
Tech Chapter 3 President – Nate Maddern
Tech Chapter 4 President – Michael Boylan
Tech Chapter 11 President – Ken Herr
Tech Chapter 13 President – Fred Roeder

The following positions have contested elections and will be voted on beginning Monday, November 11th.

Region 1 Board

Region 1 DVP
City of Saginaw Board seats

Scientific and Engineering Unit Board

Unit President/DVP
DHHS Board Seat

Union Election Process Continues

Elections for officers and board members in all School and Local Government Regions and all 3 State Employee Units continues. Nominations have been received and approved by the Election/Tally Committee at their November 1st meeting.



The election calendar is stated below:

November 11 – December 1, 2024 - Voting Period. The voting will begins at 8:00 a.m. on November 11th and concludes at 5:00 p.m. on December 1st.

November 22, 2024 - Final deadline for requesting a paper ballot in lieu of electronic voting.

December 2, 2024 - Ballots are counted and election certified by the Election/Tally Committee.

January 1, 2025 - Newly elected leadership takes office.

If you have questions about the election process, contact Dave Corrie at corried@seiu517m.org.

Constitution and Bylaw Changes Proposed

The following changes to the SEIU Local 517M Constitution and Bylaws are being presented to the membership by the SEIU Local 517M Executive Board for their approval.

Article 5 - Adds a 3-person Board of Auditors to oversee financial records. [View exact language here.](#)

Article 17 - Cleans up language and processes for charges and the process for hearings on charges against a member. [View exact language here.](#)

The ratification vote for these changes will appear on the union election ballot in November.

Saginaw Holidays in the Heart of the City Event

SEIU 517M will host a Holidays in the Heart of the City pre-event for members and their families at the SEIU Local 517M office located at 203 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607 on Friday, November 22nd. Members will take the historic elevators to the second floor where refreshments will be provided prior to the tree lighting ceremony. The time of the pre-event will be 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm.

The Holiday Lighting Ceremony begins at 5:45 pm at the Water Treatment Plant with the lighting to begin at 6:00 pm.

RSVP before Noon on Tuesday, November 19th. [Register Here.](#)



Holidays in the Heart of the City will take place on Friday, November 22, 2024 from 5:30 to 8:30PM. We will feature free Christmas Concerts, Horse-Drawn wagon rides on Ezra Rust Drive, open houses at many venues including the Childrens' Zoo, Andersen Enrichment Center, Japanese Tea House, The Montague Inn and the Mexican American Council. Free pony rides for the kids in Borchard Park, food vendors on the streets and much more.