

MINUTES OF:
MCO Central Committee Meeting
SEIU Local 526M
May 5, 2011

The meeting of the MCO Central Committee was called to order by President Tom Tylutki at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2011, at the Ramada Inn of Lansing.

The chair asked for a moment of silence for the following officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the public this year. Jayme Biendal – Washington State, Greg Malloy – Florida, and Ronald Johnson in South Dakota who was murdered, on his birthday while performing his duties, during an attempted escape. The chair also acknowledged to keep in mind those currently off work due to assaults and those currently on duty.

Roll call was taken and the following were present: Brent Kowitz, Mildred Smoker, Aaron Hawkins, John Clements, Charles Nagele, Stan Fredrickson, Thomas Gould, Russel Doyle, Scott Marriott, Joe Coats, Phil Fleury, James Whiting, Scott Allen, Thomas Tylutki, Wayne Thompson, Jeff Bierstetel, Paul Faverman, Bruce Waldron, Christopher Schmidt, Mike Morang, Joe Voorheis, Harold Warr, Sheryl Shreve, Bob Tingley, Anne Michelin-Smith, Mark VanAmburg, Paul Jensen, Morgan Smith, Michael Payton, Cary Johnson, Robert Potter, James McHenry, Howard Wheeler, Gordon Gilray, Penny Musser, Joshua Teneyck, Sean Spahr, Jonathan Hoath, Michael Leo, Larry Henley, Jennifer Nayback, Wade Wakefield, Beverly Morse, Mark Klingel, Brian Mahoney, Joe Milliner, Todd Ninnis, Darren Ansorge, Kris Witham, Lashae Simmons, Michael Presley, Terry John, Kevin McDaniel, Ponda Esu, Thomas Bonczar, Eric Williams, Kim Sheffer, Daniel Miller Dennis Beecham, David Pasche, Jeff Armbrustmacher, Andrew Potter, Stephen Leazier, Marcia Berry, Adam Douglas, William Bridges, Fatima Olden, Ron Niemi, Gabe Justinak, David Aisthorpe, John Ost, John Gallagher, David Altenberndt, Kacy Datema, Scott Doesburg, Wayne Sipperly, Alfred West, Rochelle Phipps, Tonya Hodges, Doug Orweller, Terry Bridges, Robert Fisher, Neil Siefker, Eddie Hendershot, Joe Hemenway, James Richardson, Lori Conant, Michael Guerin, Michael Bradley, Daniel Reed, William Henderson, Robert Champlin, Loretta Smith, Dave Armstrong, Tim Blain, William Botos, Jay Whitman, Nicholas Soper, Cecil Pedrin, Byron Osborn, David Belanger, David Hall, David Siler, John Hassen, Danny Powers, Ralph Golidy, Phyllis White, Thesia Wilson-Upshaw, Mel Grieshaber, Cindy Kogut, Sacha Crowley, Lori Iding, Stephanie Short, Jeff Foldie, Karen Mazzolini, Tangee Laza, Dustin Drabek, Jeremy Tripp.

The minutes of the October 25, 2010, Executive Board meeting were presented for review. Motion by Larry Henley to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Al West and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the October 27, 2010, Central Committee meeting were presented for review. Motion by Larry Henley to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Al West and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the December 9 & 10, 2010, Executive Board meeting were presented for review. Motion by Dennis Beecham to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Paul Jensen and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the January 11 & 12, 2011, Executive Board Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Paul Jensen to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Jon Hoath and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the February 10 & 11, 2011, Executive Board Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Al West to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Jon Hoath and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the March 17 & 18, 2011, Executive Board Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Ponda Esu to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Paul Jensen and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the April 14 & 15, 2011, Executive Council Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Paul Jensen to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Phil Fleury and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the August 19, 2010, Executive Council Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Wayne Thompson to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Larry Henley and MOTION CARRIED.

The minutes of the May 6, 2010, Central Committee Meeting were presented for review. Motion by Larry Henley to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Al West and MOTION CARRIED.

The financial report for the year ending September 30, 2010, was presented for review. Motion by Ron Niemi to accept the report as given. Supported by Larry Henley and MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Brian Mahoney to suspend Agenda and recognize Central Michigan facility as a Chapter. Supported by Wayne Thompson and MOTION CARRIED.

Mel Grieshaber gave his Executive Director's Report. A written report is attached.

Tom Tylutki reported on the following topics:

There has been a ton of activity since we last met and unfortunately not much is positive.

Work Crews in the Northern Region were brought inside. No officers were displaced from facilities except for Baldwin TRV Center. Five of those officers went to the Oaks.

At Tuscola Re-entry five officers were initially displaced however it was reduced to four who ultimately went to the Thumb.

The Department announced the closing of Florence Crane in Coldwater with approximately 145 officers. The bump region was determined to be Coldwater (Lakeland) which kept the highest seniority in Coldwater. Explained that MCO has regional bumping to keep officers with the highest seniority closest to home. MCO was successful in convincing the Department to go 15 over at Lakeland and 98 officers received layoff notices. Most will have a job because of several vacancies around the state.

Also in the Florence Crane Closure 4 CTO positions were abolished and they can either transfer to vacancies in Jackson or Adrian. Alternatively, they can utilize their seniority to stay in Coldwater as an RUO or CO. One CRR position was also abolished and will follow the same process.

Pennsylvania announced the cancellation of its contract with Michigan and MCF is slated to close again. The bump region was determined to be Brooks and West Shoreline. There are approximately 145 officers at MCF, 90 officers received layoff slips. Most will have a job because of several vacancies around the state. No CTO's were affected in Muskegon this time.

Stated that the House and Senate are pushing and included in their budgets to privatize SAI, food service and storekeepers. MCO is against this and feels private vendors are a security risk inside the prison.

GEO, a private prison contractor, has visited Muskegon and Standish and are interested in purchasing those facilities. They already own the prison in Baldwin and are lobbying heavily to take Michigan prisoners. MCO views this as a serious threat.

Discussed 12 hour shifts and stated that we were invited, but refused, to sit on the Committee. Stated that under current contract language the Department cannot force officers on 12 hour shifts. Also, the State Executive Board felt that this is a subject for the bargaining table, not a Committee where we would be vastly outnumbered by the Administration.

Stated that bargaining surveys will go out shortly and encouraged all members to complete and return it to MCO.

Closing of assignments. Has spoken to all involved, up to the Governor's Office. MCO will continue to lobby against it and also let the Committee know to please report any incidents associated with the closing of assignments.

Reported on the 3% healthcare contribution lawsuit. The State, as ruled, can keep the contribution in an interest bearing account until the outcome is determined by the Court of Appeals.

Spoke of several anti-union bills such as RTW zones, Administrative Leave and health care legislation mandating an 80/20 premium split for all public employees. Feels that the mid-west state public employees are under attack.

Discussed Town Hall meetings in Ionia, Kinross, Ojibway, Baraga and Newberry. Working on further meetings in Detroit (Mound) and Chelsea (SAI).

Closer- to- Home transfer list has been forwarded to the Department for finalization. The State Executive Board has given preference to officers involved in regions that have closures in effect. Until the closures are complete the Closer- to- Home transfers are on hold.

Reported that the Misconduct Committee for tickets will reconvene soon and reminded officers to forward their concerns to committee members.

Reminded the Committee to pay close attention to staffing patterns now that many Level I units are reopening and assure that they are properly staffed.

The budget process continues. The House Budget Committee, in an unprecedented move, proposed closing the Mound Correctional Facility. The Department was unaware of this call for a closure. MCO is lobbying to keep the facility open.

MCO has posted and filled a professional staff position. The qualifications were a licensed attorney practicing in Michigan. It was filled from within with Jeff Foldie from MCO who has represented us in court on several occasions. Sachs and Waldman is still retained for complex legal issues and we will use Jeff on targeted issues.

As of May 2, 2011, we had 141 open grievances: 0 at 2nd Step, 41 at 3rd Step, 72 at Pre-Arb, 0 combined with other grievances, 1 on hold, 8 pending settlement, 9 at Arbitration, 1 redetermination, and 9 on appeal to the Board.

Brent Kowitz reported on the activities of the Uniform Committee. (Brent Kowitz, Larry Henley, John Gallagher, Dan Miller, Terry Bridges, Lashae Simmons). Brent reported that some problems still exist with the ordering process, such as screen formatting, rogue icons on desktops and insufficient system requirements. Explained a handout given to chapter presidents with email addresses and instructions on how to proceed with a system concern. Also asked for the email addresses to be posted on chapter bulletin boards to allow members to pursue individual concerns directly. Thanked Committee members and also Tim Mackie, the system architect.

Bill Henderson gave the Treasurer's report. Motion by Ron Niemi to accept the report as given. Supported by Dan Miller and MOTION CARRIED.

Bill Henderson reported on the activities of the Efficiency Advisory Committee (Bill Henderson, Andy Potter, Bruce Waldron). Bill reported on proposed savings by the Committee in the following areas: training, light duty assignments, vehicle leasing, acting positions and prisoner accounting among others. Thanked all members who have given ideas to the Committee and expressed hope that more will come in.

Andy Potter reported on the activities of the Crisis Fund Committee. Thanked the Crisis Fund Committee and chapters for raising money for the Crisis Fund. We raised more in one year than many years in the past. According to Cindy Kogut, that number was about \$36,000. MCO was able to assist 49 officers and their families. Stated that we still have chapters who have never donated to the fund. He also emphasized to them that this doesn't mean not to ask for assistance for your members in need...just help the cause by contributing.

Andy met with the Corrections Officer Training Council and had a discussion about our PA 415 training. Brought up concerns about speakers not working with the headsets and programs which are malfunctioning. Asked all central delegates to report to him how many were on their local training committees.

Reported on the SEIU National Republican Member Advisory Committee. Feels a lot of members are skeptical at this point about Republicans and SEIU. Believes we need to use all of our resources and all of our members - regardless of party affiliation. As Mel discussed earlier in his report about the "Fight For a Fair Economy", MCO is not the only local in this fight. We are SEIU and we have brothers and sisters in other locals in this state and the nation that are under attack just like we are. We need to be united with all of them in this fight.

Thanked local chapter officials for their sacrifice and hard work as the board understands their difficult job in these times. From grievances to disciplinary's to Labor Management meetings keep fighting for what is right. Asked that all hang in there and stick with us through these challenging times.

Adam Douglas reported on the activities of the Health and Safety Committee as well as the Misconduct Committee. Douglas stated the next Health and Safety Meeting will be in June at SAI. Spoke about the Misconduct Committee and heard concerns with the process. Urged members to email him with concerns and they would be addressed at the next Committee meeting.

MCO Central Committee Minutes

May 5, 2011

Page 5

As there was no further business, motion was made by Paul Jensen to adjourn. Supported by Larry Henley and MOTION CARRIED. The meeting stood adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent Kowitz
Recording Secretary

BK:sc/opeiu459afl-cio

Executive Director's Report

MCO Central Committee
May 5, 2011

Submitted by Mel Grieshaber

A packet has been distributed at registration, containing certain informational materials. Following are various issues I will be discussing today. Other leaders or staff will expand on some items referenced in this report.

Issues and Matters of Interest

- Current MCO Contract
 - Expires December 31, 2011
 - Bargaining of next contract to start summer 2011
 - Sick leave payout pilot has failed – payout for eligible, May 26
 - Bargaining survey going to members
 - Contract requires mutual agreement for Dept. to go to 12 hr shifts
 - \$95 million in concessions being called for by Governor Snyder
- Facility closings & organizational change
 - Flo Crane to close May 15
 - Muskegon closing May 27 --- PA has pulled its contract
- St. Emp. Union Coalition lawsuit re retirement law (3% wage hit)
- Jan Winters appointed Director --- Office of the State Employerⁱ
- MCO leader mtgs: Gov; Lt. Gov; Chief Staff & Deputy; Gov Transition team
- New MDOC Director, Dan Hynes starts June 1
- Critical incidents up
- MCO PR campaign update
- Corrections deaths: Washington state; Florida; South Dakota
- Member Surveys
- Fight for a Fair Economy

Legislation and Related Issues

- DOC, DCH and State Budget
 - Governor proposed \$180m – concessions by State Employees
 - OSE targeted MCO bargaining unit for \$95 million in concessions!
 - Gov. proposed \$1.5 billion tax cuts for business
 - Gov. proposed taxing state pensions & eliminate certain tax breaks
 - House Corrections budget version: cuts additional \$100 million
 - House Corrections budget: privatize SAI and close Mound prison
 - Senate Corrections version cuts additional \$100 million
 - Senate also calls to privatize SAI
 - Republicans plan: DOC privatization; cut OT & do "reforms"
 - Republicans plan: reduce public employee pay & benefits to private sector level

- Corrections "Reform"
 - Prisoner good time credits. MCO opposed
 - Sentencing Guidelines & Truth In Sentencing on hold
 - Privatization; C/O pay/benefit pressures
 - Chair Sen. Proos (GOP) supports limiting prisoner time served

- Rumors of limiting future pension benefits

- Over 40 bills introduced that are anti-union and anti-worker

- Unions busted in WI and Ohio thru legislation; threats in other states

- Massive protests in above states and in Michigan

Politics and Political Program

- MCO PAC Fund and SEIU COPE
 - Member Political Organizer (MPO)
 - Town hall mtgs. with Senators and Representatives
 - Elections: Republicans taken control entire St. Gov't and S. Court
 - Republicans taken control U.S. House of Representatives
-