



AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION
AFL-CIO

THE BAY BREEZE



Next Meeting:

Wed, September, 18th

2:30 pm

Gallagher's

2655 W. Mason St.

Green Bay, WI 54304

Food & Refreshments

\$10 Fleet Farm Gift Card

Door Prize

\$120.00 Rolling Jackpot

Hello union peeps, the 2024 summer picnic was a great time for those that attended. The food was awesome, and all the help was much appreciated. The location was nice, comfortable and spacious. Thanks to all that came and all the desserts that were made. Now, for the union members that couldn't stop by and get a plate of food for work and win a door prize or for the peeps that couldn't come after work –all I'm going to say is that you missed a good time. Is it possible that the young people that are on their phone 24/7 can hold a normal conversation in a public setting? Well, it was my last union picnic that I ran so thank you to all that assisted and attended. We had just over 100 people come. I will say with inflation it is hard to keep the summer picnic budget under \$4000.00, corporate greed is definitely making an impact.

For those of you supporting me in my absence I appreciate it very much. I am going to keep this short and sweet, on the union website there are several pictures from the picnic. Employees from associate offices,

remember cleaning is in addition to clerk hours. You shouldn't be expected to clean when it's quiet on

the window. Employees at the plant – let us know every time management is doing clerk work, there are forms in the breakroom. Management are the ones that are reverting jobs because we have "too many" employees. We need ballot watchers on every tour. These are employees that walk around with supervisors at the beginning, middle, and end of tour to ensure ballots are out. This is to be part of your day. That is if management allows you to leave your machine for this project

Enjoy the rest of the summer,

Kelly



President	Kelly Heaney
Vice President	Jennifer Ewald
Secretary/Treasurer	Molly Crevier
Recording Secretary	Emily Ewald
Editor	Bill Kabacinski
Clerk Craft Director	Sebastian Zeutzius
Motor Vehicle Craft Director	Clade Adkins
Maintenance Craft Director	Samantha Fritz

The Bay Breeze is the official voice of the American Postal Workers Union, Northeastern Wisconsin Area Local, published six times a year. The due date for publication is the first day of the odd month unless otherwise publicized.

The Bay Breeze attempts to keep the membership abreast of all important issues. We are proud members of the National Postal Press Association and International Labor Communications Association. We are also members of the APWU of WI, Wisconsin State AFL-CIO, Greater Green Bay labor Council and were the first local in WI to join the APWU Accident Benefit Association as a 100% local.

Letters, correspondences, and articles by members and officers are encouraged. Send them to the return address on this newsletter. Articles must be signed by the author and names may be withheld upon request. Opinions are those of the contributors and not necessarily the Union, the Officers, or the Editor.

The Editor reserves the right to delete, edit, or rewrite to fit the format or this newsletter, to disallow any attacks of individuals, and to refuse to print any article deemed improper or unfit for publication. Articles that are not credited are those of the Editor.

STEWARDS

Packerland Drive Office (GMF)

Tour 1

Clerk Chief Steward	Jenny Ewald
Clerk Alternate Steward	Kelly Heaney
Maintenance Chief Steward	Jesse Weber
<u>Maintenance Alt Steward</u>	Sam Fritz, Kelly Heaney, Lance Bouyear, Jesse Weber

Alternate Clerk Steward Sam Fritz, Kelly Heaney, Christine Bouyear, Brian Conklin

Emily Ewald, Sebastian Zeutzius

Tour 2

Clerk Steward	Sam Fritz
<u>Clerk Alternate Steward</u>	Kelly Heaney, Jennifer Ewald, Christine Bouyear, Emily Ewald

Customer Service	Sebastian Zeutzius
Maintenance Chief Steward	Ekaterina Bouyear

Alternate Maint Steward Sam Fritz, Kelly Heaney, Frank Sleik, Lance Bouyear

MVS Chief Steward Clade Adkins

Tour 3

Clerk Chief Steward	Christine Bouyear
<u>Clerk Alternate Steward</u>	Kelly Heaney, Jenny Ewald, Sam Fritz, Emily Ewald, Sebastian Z.

Maintenance Craft Director Sam Fritz

Maintenance Chief Steward	Kelly Heaney
Alternate Maintenance Steward	Kelly Heaney, Lance Bouyear

MVS-VMF

Chief Steward	Clade Adkins
Alternate Steward	Vacant

Cofrin, Hansen, Downtown

Clerk Chief Steward	Dave Sass
Clerk Alternate Steward	Mike Anderson, Kelly Heaney, Jennifer Ewald, Sebastian Zeutzius

DePere Post Office

Clerk Chief Steward	Sheri Beauleau
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Trump gutted federal employee unions. They believe he'd do it again

NPR August 15, 2024

Andrea Hsu

Labor unions are among Kamala Harris' most fervent backers in her run for president, and federal employee unions especially so.

Not only do they love her unabashed support for labor, but they also fear what her opponent Donald Trump might do if he's elected president again.

It's not hyperbole to say that since becoming vice president, Harris has played a key role in bringing federal employee unions back from the brink.

"Things have been kind of night and day different under this administration versus the previous administration," says Britta Copt, a 26-year veteran of the Environmental Protection Agency.

With the sweep of his pen, Trump disempowered federal employee unions

Labor unions represent roughly half the federal government's civilian workforce of 2.1 million people, according to government statistics.

Through a series of executive orders signed in 2018, Trump decimated the power of those unions, weakening their ability to bargain contracts and curtailing the amount of time union representatives can spend helping members with their complaints.

"We lost our ability to file grievances over most everything," says Copt, who's also president of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 3607, representing EPA workers in Colorado and Montana.

A plan to dismantle "the Deep State"

Late in his presidency, Trump came up with something even bolder, creating a new category of political appointees called Schedule F.

He did this via another executive order, saying it was part of his plan to rid the government of "rogue bureaucrats" and dismantle what he calls "the Deep State."

An unknown number of career civil servants were to be reclassified as political appointees, meaning they could be fired at will and replaced. There was talk of converting some 50,000 positions.

"The concern was a lot of our employees might be on the Schedule F list," Copt says.

The executive order targeted civil servants in policy-related roles, but Copt says no one really knew what that meant. She worried that she herself might make the list.

She never found out, because Joe Biden was elected president, and one of his first moves was to rescind the Schedule F executive order, along with others that Trump had signed targeting federal employee unions

(continued on page 5)



MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL #2247

Date: Wednesday, July 24th, 2024

Place: Gallaghers

President Kelly Heaney called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

A quorum was declared with 18 members in attendance.

Kelly led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

The following officers were present: President Kelly Heaney, Vice-President Jenny Ewald, Clerk Craft Director Sebastian Zeutzus, Maintenance Craft Director Samantha Fritz, Motor Vehicle Craft Director Clade Adkins, Recording Secretary Emily Ewald, and Bay Breeze Editor Bill Kabacinski. Secretary/Treasurer Molly Crevier was excused.

Minutes of the May 2024 meeting were printed in the Bay Breeze. A motion was made by Clade Adkins and seconded by Sebastian Zeutzus to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

The financial report for March was read by President Kelly Heaney.

Executive Committee: The e-board talked about belonging to the Green Bay Labor Council and having to decide if we want to keep paying dues or withdraw from the council. Discussed the fall seminar in Wisconsin Dells and if we want to send any officers there.

Labor/Management: Items discussed were management not opening an office because an employee calls in and they don't use the overtime list, when scheduling for holidays PSEs are not being maxed out before they mandate regulars, the timeline for clearing first class mail and periodicals some being left to sit, why manual clerks are being utilized on machines when manual is left to sit, the tour 1 manual register/expeditor job, outgoing flats are not being pulled down every day.

Grievance: Grievances on over 60 hours, MM painting, out of schedule pay. Step 3 grievances on register cage, improper holiday mandating, 2 reversion grievance, and harassment case.

Safety/Health: File a report when hurt, mail handler hurt their finger and told management that day but didn't file a report, about a week later it was really hurting but was too late cause they never filed.

Legislative: Joe Biden dropped out of the race and endorsed Kamala Harris.

Lost Members: Kim Weckler

COMMUNICATIONS

Discussion briefly held on Kelly Heaney's emergency placement, but nothing is known of the reason. Kelly discussed with the Executive board if he should step down as president and everyone agreed that he should not step down.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Pam Krause and seconded by Bill Kabacinski to pay the bill for the Green Bay Labor Council and then withdraw from the Labor Council. Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

The union picnic is Sunday August 4th, doors will open at 10:00am and will need help setting up the tables, chairs, and food at that time.

NEXT MEETING

A motion was made by Clade Adkins and seconded by Sebastian Zeutzus to have the next meeting on Wednesday, September 18th at 2:30pm at Gallaghers. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Deborah Nehmer and seconded by Sebastian Zeutzus to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm.

The \$10 door prize was won by Pam Krause.

The \$100 jackpot winner was Bryce Pierquet. Member was not in attendance so it will be \$120 at the next meeting.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Emily Ewald.

A Harris-led task force revitalizes the unions

Biden put Vice President Harris in charge of the new White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment, whose goal was to strengthen unions across the country.

The task force ordered federal agencies to give their unions a bigger seat at the table and to ensure that new and existing employees were aware of their right to join a union.

"This will be a model of what all industries have the capacity and the ability, if not the imperative, to do," Harris said at a meeting of the task force in October 2021.

By 2023, federal employee unions had added some 80,000 new members.

Copt says these changes also paved the way for a strong new labor contract at the EPA. It included, among other things, a scientific integrity article that ensured that employees feel safe raising concerns when science isn't being considered at all or appropriately, something they experienced in the Trump years.

Still, Copt knows all of this could go away in a second Trump term.

Federal employees "should be nervous"

Georgetown political scientist Donald Moynihan says there's no doubt that if Trump wins in November, his old policies, including Schedule F, will be back.

"If you are a federal career employee, you should be nervous right now," he says.

Currently, the federal government has about 4,000 political appointees, up from 3,000 three decades ago.

Moynihan warns that if tens of thousands of deeply knowledgeable civil servants are replaced with partisan loyalists, the American public will suffer.

"It will slowly corrode the quality of government," he says.

"We don't want to be replaced"

That scenario is profoundly troubling to Tryshanda Moton, a senior aerospace engineer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

"I think that's the fear because, you know, we see what Project 2025 says," says Moton.

Project 2025, the 900-page plan pulled together by the conservative Heritage Foundation, details how a Republican administration would expand the power of the president and gut the federal workforce.

Moton, who also holds a union leadership role with the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, recently joined a "Labor for Harris" Zoom call, pledging to do everything in her personal capacity to get Harris elected.

"We've sworn an oath to the Constitution to be representative constituents for the American public, and we don't want to be replaced."



PROJECT 2025 AND UNIONS

Project 2025 is the 920-page document by Donald Trump and his allies that spells out what they plan to do during a Trump second term.

How would this agenda affect union members and working families?

Project 2025 includes proposals to:

- Make it easier for employers to get rid of workers' unions in the middle of our contracts.
- Ban all public employee unions.
- Allow states to ban labor unions, eliminate overtime protections and choose not to follow the national minimum wage.

Even eliminate the child labor rules that protect children from working in mines, meatpacking plants and other dangerous workplaces.

We are deeply concerned about pro-corporate policies that would put people out of work, endanger people's lives and make it harder for working people to get ahead. For unions, this agenda would make it tougher for members to win gains in our next contracts and stack the deck in favor of CEOs

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APWU National Executive Board Endorses Vice President Kamala Harris for the Next President of the United States

On July 23, 2024, the APWU National Executive Board voted unanimously to endorse Vice President Kamala Harris for the next President of the United States. One day earlier, the AFL-CIO Executive Council, where the APWU is represented by President Mark Dimondstein, voted unanimously to endorse Kamala Harris for U.S. President.

These votes and endorsements came on the heels of the changed circumstances in the presidential campaign, with President Joe Biden declaring he is no longer a candidate in the upcoming 2024 election.

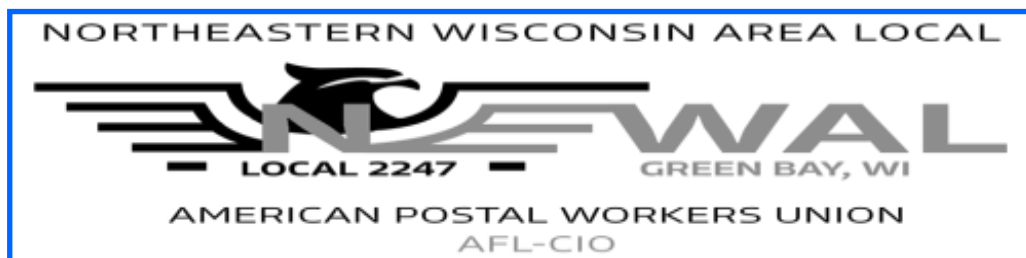
The APWU National Executive Board vote also reflects the guidance and direction of the APWU National Convention where 2000 delegates, just last week and prior to Biden's withdrawal, overwhelmingly voted to endorse the Biden-Harris ticket.

The National Executive Board recognizes and respects that our members reflect many different political affiliations and viewpoints. The Executive Board does not dictate how our members vote.

The National Executive Board does encourage our members and their families, regardless of political affiliation, to vote based on the issues that uplift and promote a better life for postal workers and all working people.

"The outcome of this presidential election will have a huge impact on postal workers and the choice in this election is stark," declared National President Mark Dimondstein. "Either we elect Donald Trump who plans to destroy the public Postal Service, our jobs and union, further undermine workers' rights, women's rights and voting rights, and send us on a path to dictatorship, or elect Kamala Harris who has proven as Vice President and in prior political office, to have demonstrated support for postal issues and some genuine advocacy for workers' rights, women's rights, unions, respect for all people and common decency."

The APWU will continue to share with the membership issue-based assessments of the 2024 presidential and congressional candidates and encourage our members to be fully engaged in the upcoming and vitally important presidential election as we work together to expand our democratic rights and protect our jobs, our union and the public Postal Service.



The Bay Breeze
PO Box 10323
Green Bay, WI 54307-0323



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Union Meeting

Wednesday September 18th, 2024

Executive Board 2:00 pm

General Meeting 2:30 pm

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\$120.00 Rolling Jackpot