

UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA
AFL-CIO, LOCAL 483
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
January 10, 2009
Laughlin, Nevada

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am

Roll Call:

Officers:

Vice-President, Mike Minor
Secretary-Treasurer, David Brown

Trustees:

Joe Pena
Gary Lerch

Area Officers:

Tony Arnold
Robin Downs
Bruce Cline
Mike Schneider
Bruce Lawrence
Bob Hamburger
Alberto Montano

Absent:

Troy Stallard
Vic Kingsley

Flag salute lead by Roy Bozarth

Swearing in of new officer: Gary Lerch, President, Joe Armstrong, Trustee,
Manus Myanjios, Area Officer

Secretary-treasurers report: Minutes from the last Executive Board meeting,
held on September 13, 2008, was handed out to all board members in
attendance of today's meeting. There were no comments or corrections.

MOTION BY SCOTT HOSKINS,

"That the minutes of the meeting held on September 13, 2008 be approved as
true and correct record.

SECOND BY BRUCE LAWRENCE

CARRIED

Financial Update: Financial reports for the first quarter of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 were handed out to all board members in attendance. There were no sufficient changes from last quarter.

MOTION BY BRUCE CLINE,

“To accept the Secretary-Treasurer financial report.”

SECONDED BY ALBERTO MONTANO

CARRIED

Trustees' Report: Audit of the financial books and records was not performed by the trustee.

Newly elected President, Gary Lerch appointed Joe Pena to fill the remaining term of his term as Trustee.

Transmission Safety Report, by Robin Downs:

There are several safety committees, including the Executive Safety Committee, Safety Champion, and East and West, none of the information is consolidated. I am working with Brett Lane to find a way to put all the safety concerns and information together.

Every year only a limited number of employees attend the Safety Congress. A two day conference might be the solution. That way more employees would benefit from the Safety Congress. In the past there haven't been any Transmission or Storage presentations. The Safety Stand Downs gets people involved step up and take control.

Whenever a near miss is reported, superiors fill out the report. The report is then sent to Jon Garcia. Finally the form is sent to Brett Lane and Dave Taylor for approval. The current procedure takes the near miss report out of the hands of employees. The new form requires fewer number of individual to looking at the report.

Our current training programs are not adequate. Employees are given just enough to be make them dangerous. Most of the trainers do not have any experience in the field.

MOTION BY BOB HAMBURGER,

“To accept Robin Down's safety report.”

SECONDED BY ALBERTO MONTANO

CARRIED

Other Safety information:

Storages have been a little relaxed in their preparations for Safety Stand Downs.

Gary Lerch, "Since I didn't receive any positive response from Mike Towns, I resigned from Storage's safety committee. I have emailed Rudy Wiebel and Mike stating that if they want up the safety committee again they have my support."

Fire ball shoot out of a baker tank. A small fire started. No one step up to do anything. The next fire ball of forty feet get everyone attention.

Contract Negotiations Update Gary Lerch: There have been zero changes, same old information nothing new.

Managements who are negotiating the new contract believe the reason why the contract failed was because members didn't understand it. I believe the margin of failure would suggest members understood it quite well. Company and the Unions are looking at our calendars and scheduling additional dates to meet.

The Company has filed labor charges against Unions, accusing the JSC of surface bargaining.

Mass meeting is scheduled for January 25th at Pasadena Convention Center.

New Business:

Employees need to be aware of Company's procedures. Major incident involving the PIP team occurred during pressure control. The crew was tapping 16 inch high pressure line when removing the tapping machine it blew. When in the hole don't take things for granted. Pay attention to what is going on. Wear your personal protection equipment.

The causes of this near miss could have been: they didn't have a collar on or used the wrong cutter.

Safety packs, (fresh air), supervisors are starting to check to see if employee are using them.

Arc flash warning sticker was placed on some equipment but not other of the same type. No sticker was placed on transfer switches. Over all a lot of electrical equipment was missed. They should have placed stickers on everything 480 and lower.

We have ordered a new banner for Local 483.

MOTION BY DAVID BROWN,

“To allow Area Officers from Needles, Taft, Victorville, and Blythe to rent a van in order to attend mass meeting scheduled in Pasadena. Union will pay rental fee and gas.

MOTION SECONDED BY BRUCE CLINE. CARRIED

Round Table and Area reports:

Scott Hoskins, maybe we should consider starting a strike fund.

Meter and regulation employees from Local 132 have been officers stating their desire to become a local 483 member. All board members reminded not to participate in any discussion with any members of local 132 regarding their wishes to change local.

In the Taft area we had an employee who passed out on the job. Employee was taken to the doctor. Employee was at the doctor after his shift. Under the circumstances, would the employee be entitled to overtime?

Next meeting April 18th in Valencia

MOTION BY MIKE SCHNIEDER,

“I made the Motion we adjourned.”

MOTION SECONDED BY BRUCE CLINE. CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm