REGION 15 MEETINGS

Local 1502 web page: [http://www.mape.org/my-mape/locals/1502](https://www.mape.org/my-mape/locals/1502)

MEETING DATES: March 28 & 29, 2018

LOCATIONS:

Wednesday March 28, 2018
Northland Community College, Thief River Falls
12pm - 1pm

Thursday, March 29, 2018
Country Kitchen Restaurant, Detroit Lakes
12pm – 1pm

Thursday March 29, 2018
Boulder Tap Restaurant, Moorhead
5pm – 6pm

1) OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report (Larry Moe)
• Current balance is $18,362.71 as of 02/28/2018.

Secretary’s Report (Jane Melander)
• Minutes from the January 2018 meeting were handed out to attendees at the Moorhead meeting.
• A motion was made to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.
• Reminder: Minutes are posted under "News" on the Local 1502 web site <https://www.mape.org/my-mape/locals/1502>.

2) RALLY AT THE CAPITOL (Brad Berce)

* Despite the fact it was a bitterly cold day, over 1,000 MAPE members were in attendance for the "Pass Our Contract" Rally on February 20th at the MN State Capitol in St. Paul.
* Brad and Bryan Kotta attended from Local 1502.
* A recap of the event can be found on the MAPE web site (<https://www.mape.org/mape/news/members-tell-legislators-pass-our-contract>).

3) CONTRACT RECAP (Brad Berce)

* Brad outlined a number of proposed changes contained in the 2017-2019 contract.
* These changes are outlined on the MAPE web site (<https://www.mape.org/mape/news/summary-proposed-changes-2017-19-contract>).

4) MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (Debbie Prokopf)

* Our membership numbers have improved!
* We are above the state average: 70% full members versus fee payers.
* A BIG thank you to those who have approached fee payers about the need to become a full member.
* Just a reminder: the fee for a full member is $21.00 per pay period while a fee payer is $17.85.
* Increasing our membership level sends a clear message of support for our contract and strengthens our hand during negotiations.
* Members should approach new hires as soon as possible (especially about signing up for short term disability coverage). Perhaps have a "Welcome Wagon" person (or team) at each site to welcome new hires.

5) JANUS vs AFSCME Supreme Court case (Debbie Prokopf)

* The U.S. Supreme Court heard the case on February 26, 2018.
* The case could greatly weaken public employee unions as it challenges their authority to collect mandatory fees (aka, fair share). The fees allow unions to negotiate fair contracts on behalf of all employees.
* A decision may be rendered by late May or early June.
* In the meantime, it's great to see successes occur by teacher unions in many states (including West Virginia) after they went on strike for better pay and benefits.

6) UPCOMING ELECTIONS (Bryan Kotta)

* It is vital that we all support our local candidates who support labor.
* Plan to volunteer to door knock and/or phone bank for candidates in the weeks leading up to the election.

7) ELECTION OF LOCAL 1502 OFFICERS (Debbie Prokopf)

* Nominations will be open soon for all leadership positions in Local 1502.
* Local 1502 members are eligible to vote; fee payers need to become a full member before the due date in order to be eligible to vote.
* Elections will be held electronically.

Next Meeting: TBD

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Winners of the $25 gift were meeting attendees Glenn Whiteford and Shelly Ford.

Submitted by Jane Melander, MAPE Local 1502 Secretary