Region 15 Meetings

**Local 1501 web page:** <https://mape.org/locals/1501>

**Local 1502 web page:** <https://mape.org/locals/1502>

**Meeting Date: March 23, 2021**

**Locations:**

Tuesday, March 23, 2021  
Virtual Meeting  
11:30am – 1pm

**AGENDA**

1. **Officer Reports**

* 1501 (given by Katherine Kingsland)
  + No Treasurer report available currently, so no updates from Local 1501.
  + Need Treasurer to continue as local. (President, Secretary, and Treasurer required.)
* 1502 President (Brad Berce)
  + Comparing total MAPE employees from February 2020 to March 2021, it’s only a difference of two people after all layoffs, etc. As of March 9, 2021 there are 215 members (70.03%), 92 non-members (29.97%); slightly above state levels of 70.02% (10,749 members and 4,603 non-members). Impact of retirements and new employees waiting 6-month probation to join.
  + Potential in-person meetings in late summer early Fall depending on COVID-19 restrictions.
* 1502 Treasurer (Larry Moe)
  + Current account balance as of February 28, 2021 is $19,888.06. Check book needs audit by March 31, 2021. Larry will get information together to send to group. Will provided $50 for auditors again, might not be as labor intensive this year, but Brad saying to keep it consistent.
* 1502 Membership Secretary (Amanda Stegmaier)
  + Will wait twenty minutes into meeting to take screenshot of participants for drawings.
  + Hearing from new employees they are waiting until after their 6-month probationary period to decide on membership, mark on calendar to contact people again.

1. **Regional Director Report (Bryan Kotta)**

* Announcement
  + Accepted nomination for statewide VP of MAPE. In the event of appointment, Region 15 would need new Board of Directors rep and new chief steward. Currently stewards are meeting virtually, once a month. If you’re interested in being a steward, please contact Bryan. Virtual training is available.
* BOD Updates
  + March meeting decided to use “civic organizing” model in MAPE. Strategic plan to be built around members and the contract, haven’t used global thought process for how the agencies are used, etc. MAPE has done the same thing for 40 years, so time for a change.
  + Decided to give money to Teamsters Local 120 Marathon refinery on strike over safety concerns with temporary hired labor. Negotiations proceeded but now they are locked out. Asking folks to boycott Speedway and Marathon stores due to lock out (2 months now).
* Vacant Officer Positions
* MAPE Executive Director on leave – contact statewide President Megan Dayton or Bryan directly if you need anything.

1. **Negotiations Representative Report (Valerie Dorff)**

* Summit with the Governor – Governor mentioned each member who spoke in his responses, felt he was listening to our stories. He made a commitment to state workers, it felt powerful to speak and have him respond. Link to YouTube recording (<https://youtu.be/egvt9rPPvmc>).
* Negotiations sessions continuing today. The team has been working for months – online meetings, surveys, listening sessions, and writing proposals on a number of topics. Beginning to vote some up/down aligned with priorities. Waiting for new revised budget proposal from the Governor (budget surplus now). Opening round of negotiations with State team April 6. Not too late to contact Negotiations team with concerns. May see invitation to join/observe first day of negotiations. Key MAPE message – we are 15,000 members strong speaking with one voice in negotiations.

1. **Organizing Business Agent Report (Debbie Prokopf)**

* Day on the Hill
  + Agencies included based on which committee oversees those agencies.
  + DHS, MNSure – Good turnout, legislators heard member stories, good interactions.
  + DOC, DPS, BCA coming up. Working on bill for safety due to agent workload. Should have received invitation if you work in one of these agencies.
* Statewide organizing council – spearheaded membership drive for locals. Next time will try to hold over the noon hour, April 1 and April 20.
* Governor’s budget proposal – may issue a third proposal due to COVID relief funds from Federal recovery act.
* Department of Revenue and Agriculture – To trim budgets, agencies have been looking at closing satellite offices in greater MN. Concept of closing office is fine if there are telework agreements in place, but those can be revoked at any time by management. Working on MOU for protection for employees, including language for just cause for revocation of telework agreement. Likely to rollout to other agencies. Keep an eye on this.

1. **Member Questions and Concerns**

* Chad Kraft kudos to Brad and negotiations team for getting Vision Insurance benefit which began this year – saved $500 over the premium costs for his family.
* Motion from Kathryn to provide door prizes for meeting attendance, passed by consensus.

Winners of the $25 check were meeting attendees Ben Torgerson, Larry J. Moe, Curt Brosdahl, Brittany Baker, and Scott Schroeder

Submitted by Nicole Anderson, MAPE Local 1502 Secretary