Region 15 Meetings

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

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

**Meeting Date: June 3, 2021**

**Locations:**

Thursday, June 3, 2021  
Virtual Meeting  
11:30am – 1pm

**AGENDA**

1. **Officer Reports**

* 1502 President (Brad Berce)
  + As of June 1, 2021 there are 212 members (69.09%), 95 non-members (30.94%); slightly below state levels of 69.44% (10,616 members and 4,671 non-members).
  + Anticipate resuming in-person meetings this summer depending on contract negotiations. If an agreement is reached, we would want to discuss in-person and have a virtual Q&A via Zoom. In the past, there have been local meetings in Thief River Falls, Detroit Lakes, and Moorhead, but if there is enough interest another location could be added as long as we can justify the time and labor.
* 1502 Treasurer (Larry Moe)
  + Current balance as of April 30, 2021 is $20,967.11. Check book currently at $4,600 after checks cashed and have to request $400 for meetings and audit cost. There were no findings in the audit report.
* 1502 Membership Secretary (Amanda Stegmaier)
  + We’ve had a lot of new employees in the last couple years who will wait to complete the probationary period to become a full member. Please talk to new employees in your area. Currently emailing and calling, but not leaving voicemails at this time due to unknown remote work status. If no response to email or return call is received, discontinue to not bug them.
* 1501 (Katherine Kingsland)
  + Local membership is down to 65%, usually around 70%.
  + As of February, balance is over $44,000 and have begun to offer door prizes.
  + Looking for new Treasurer.

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

* Announcements
  + Delegate assembly will be virtual again this year on September 18, 2021. Schedule time via President Megan Dayton if you would like to speak. <https://mape.org/committees/delegate-assembly-da>
  + Complaints were filed and MAPE lawyer has been asked to review our policies and make sure we’re following them.
  + Intended to organize moments of silence as part of George Floyd memorial, but were not scheduled in time to notify members. Governor Walz issued a statewide proclamation for a moment of silence on May 25, 2021 to honor George Floyd.
  + Layoff notices were sent to nearly 38,000 MAPE employees due to the state legislature not reaching a budget agreement. MinnState gets tuition dollars, so members there likely didn’t receive notice. Some agencies may take IT steps to shut off accounts after being laid off. If there is a shutdown and it lasts over one week, members will likely be asked to contact their legislators to get a deal done.
    - See <https://mape.org/news/state-employees-receive-layoff-notices> for more information.
* BOD Updates
  + Filled all organizational business agent positions – now fully staffed. One enforcement agent vacancy due to phased retirement (Kathy Fodness our EBA). Enforcement agents are necessary to assist with contract issues, like a recent issue where an employee was forced to sign an agreement for a position and which has since been reversed. If you have a question, if it doesn’t feel right, give us a call/email for advice and next steps.
  + Need more stewards up in the northern part of the state. Minimal requirements – keep an eye on new members, be available for any issues that arise, etc.

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

* Contract negotiations meetings began April 6 and since then have had eight full day meetings. Negotiations have been very difficult, with very little movement on issues from the state. There are 143 state proposals and 30 union proposals, which are grouped by topic. Very minor/technical changes have been accepted by MMB. Contract negotiations are currently in mediation. Met on June 2 and agreed to one proposal related to discipline with a number of proposals dropped. Connect 700 proposals have made some progress.
* Legislative session closed without budget agreement and will reconvene in a special session on June 14. This makes negotiations difficult because the employer has said they are not willing to discuss economic proposals without these numbers.
* Push Week is now July and instead will be meeting June 16 and 17 with employer, Bryan covering for Region 15 while Val is unavailable.
* Healthcare coalition is also meeting. Things there are just as difficult as at main table and they are meeting again on June 7. If things are not settled there, they will be resolved during Push Week at main table.
* Brad mentioned AFSCME has not agreed to move Push Week to July. Since they are MAPE’s “sister union”, there could be issues with AFSCME on a different timeline; first time we won’t be in-sync that Bryan can remember.
* See MAPE website for proposals from the union and the state – <https://mape.org/bargaining>

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

* Not in attendance.

1. **Member Questions and Concerns**

* Larry Moe asked if there will be instructions sent about what to do if laid off and Bryan said yes. MAPE will have a better understanding of potential layoffs by June 14.

Val motioned to adjourn, Amanda seconded.

Winners of the $25 check were meeting attendees Gary Wass, Rachel Loraas, Lindsey Ternes, Shane Roden, JoDee Haugrud

Submitted by Nicole Anderson, MAPE Local 1502 Secretary