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| **Call to order:** | President | 1 min |
| **Approve previous minutes** | Review and motion to approve.  March 2024 minutes: [https://mape.org/locals/1601](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmape.org%2Flocals%2F1601&data=05%7C02%7Cmel.markert%40state.mn.us%7C628882e1521c40dd841c08dc5e2bcdda%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C0%7C638488789451694317%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xUXEXQWsCMkcXalrqombdJjtPY6OzuZNxgSMzM01I%2BM%3D&reserved=0)  Motion: Susie Sunda  Second: Aarica Burke  No other motions | 2 min |
| **Presidents Report:**  **Laura Czech** | Introductions and time allotted for any motions from the floor.  Virtual and in person.  6 Online | 5 min |
| **Treasures Report:**  **Aarica Burke** | Local Financial Standing.  Laura will provide update this month  No expenses besides good and welfare a few months ago and covering lunch for the in person meeting. | 3 min |
| **Chief Stewards Report:**  **Jesse O’Connor** | Updates on any issues in the region.  No new grievances.  Issues with scheduling at DHS, which is ongoing.  Issues with DNR regarding fire suppression, which has begun. Members specifically assigned to this work and others who are not and do so voluntarily. The state has changed how they want to compensate these members.  Statewide unilateral changes made by the employer regarding remote work v telework. If this is happening in your agency please reach out to Amanda. The employer is reclassifying people without telling them it’s going to happens, especially when they were hired during the pandemic. This can have financial impacts on members.  Question about people being assigned to central offices rather than a local office. It impacts travel expenses. Does need to be addressed? A: Negotiations did have some discussions about this in the last contract conversations. This is an ongoing issue and it sounds like this is impacting other agencies. MMB made adjustments to policies relating to telework and remote work. Now they are handing that policy down to each agency and allowing them to interpret it as they see fit.  Very much an ongoing issue and MAPE is trying to decide which direction we want to go.  Comment: It would be nice to have something that addresses members voluntarily or non-voluntarily moving.  Question: What about out of state travel and driving to the airport? Is milage charged driving to the airport? A: It depends on whatever the least distance/cost is (home v office). Not compensated for returning to home office.  Reach out if you are having questions about this or if you have specific examples of changes to your work or your agency’s work.  Travel and reimbursement language can be found in Article 18 of the contract:  <https://mape.org/sites/default/files/files/final_mape_23-25_agreement.pdf> | 7 min |
| **Membership Secretary:**  **Susan Sunde** | Membership totals.  70.74% Members  29.26% Non-members  Influx of hiring and that happens around this time of year with seasonal employees. This does impact the percentages (even 6 new employees is enough for a noticeable change). Susie is hosting meetings twice a month for new hires. If you know someone who hasn’t been able to attend the meeting (just local 1601 not the new employee meeting by the agency) let us know.  Found out some military staff had not been getting information after 1601 was given incorrect contact information, so it’s possible people have been missed.  This Thursday is the next new employee meeting for the local over zoom.  Stewards from the agencies with new staff are usually invited to the new employee meetings. If you are not a steward but would like to be available for new staff, please let Susie know. | 2 min |
| **Regional Negotiations Rep Report:**  **Susan Sunde** | Update on any contract information. Negotiation plans and CAT.  There was a meeting regarding the restructure. Mostly to get feedback from the negotiations team.  We are in the middle of a special election and the next negotiations team will be decided with this election. If you are interested, you can still get involved.  Aarica was assigned the position of treasurer with the treasurer and has accepted the nomination to continue in the role.  Also have a delegate assembly position open if you are interested.  Nominations are open until May 5th.  <https://mape.org/resources/mape-documents/mape-internal-election-information>  Anticipate telework/remote work being an issue in the next round of negotiations. | 7 min |
| **Regional Directors Report:**  **Darren Hage** | Update on any regional business.  No updates this time | 7 min |
| **Organizing Business Agent:**  **Amanda Prince** | Updates on any organizational business.  Frontline staff events.  Nominations open for vacant positions in the local.  Statewide initiatives about DHS use of Pips and letters of expectation. The department is using them as a disciplinary step when they should not be used in that way. This is an ongoing issue.  Multiple departments vacation accruals policies have been rolled out. They are different based on employer’s discretion and budget. Agencies are complying, but some are not being very generous in their inclusion of prior work. If these are coming up in your workplace, please reach out. The more examples we have the better to make change.  We need CAT (Contract Action Team) people as we head into negotiations. The role is for people to help spread information directly from the negotiations team to members. This helps reduce the workload for the negotiator and spread the updates/information to members. It’s also a way to get feedback from members to the negotiator. A lot is done over text.  When we move quickly and as a team we can make change. Last year there was a memo from DHS leadership regarding proposals for expanding services at their agency. When the memo came out it was actually about closing care (reducing by 50%). MAPE was able to talk with members at the care facilities and helped organize events to gather information and contact legislators. This prompted further response from leadership to address member’s concerns and they are reevaluating the originally proposed plan. Members are doing little actions like wearing Mape gear on Wednesdays. Those little actions can have a big impact by demonstrating solidarity.  If you want help organizing little actions like that reach out. We are happy to help facilitate those. | 7 min |
| **Political Council:**  **Chet Bodin** | Updates on any political council business.  No updates at this time. | 7 min |
| **New Business** | Susie will bring MAPE Swag for anyone that wants it with membership recruitment or if they are doing actions within their agency where they want to show solidarity. Special Elections.  Steward Retreat.  Steward retreat is May 24th. Invitations should be out soon. Hosted in Wadena, full day in person. Meet to talk about how we as a region (1601, 1602) can function and work together. And some basic steward training. Invites will be sent to active stewards.  Student loan reimbursement: Similar to vacation accrual. Each agency gets to make their own decisions/policy. Some are not starting the program, and some are doing it in a way the conflicts with what we were told in negotiations. MnState and DHS seem to be having the most issues right now. If you are dealing with this please reach out. Examples help us.  There is some new leadership at MMB after problems were being reported, we are hopeful this will remove some of the obstructive practices that were in place. | 5 min |
| **Old Business** | Lobby Day, New treasurer.  Restructuring Kristin Kirchoff-Franklin | 1 min |
| **Good and Welfare** | Jamie Uselman Worked at DHS in Brainerd experience a loss in the family.    Asking for $100 to help supplement cost of healthcare and funeral expenses. There was a lot of travel involved with medical costs.  Susie Sunde motion  Kimberly Pilgrim second  Motion passes on the vote. | 1 min |
| **Gift Card Drawing** | Laura or Susie will draw  Sean Higgins! | 1 min |
| **Next meeting** | 05/28/24 over Zoom | 1 min |
| **Adjourn** |  |  |