

SUMMARY
TEA Regular Monthly Meeting
November 15, 2017

Room 4-C
4th Floor, KSC

1. Alton Gaskill opened the meeting at 12:05.
2. WTD Bargaining Update. WW have been out of contract since December 2016. After a lengthy discovery process for the existing ULP (having to do with the increase in JLMIC reserve funds) meetings will be scheduled in December to move the bargaining process ahead. There has been pressure to join with other unions in adopting the Master Contract, which the TEA Wastewater bargaining unit has been resisting.
3. Transit Bargaining Update. The process of implementing the arbitration decision is proceeding. The remaining work is to ensure that the newly drafted contract contains everything that was agreed to in the arbitration decision. For example, there were TA's that were agreed to at the initiation of arbitration that need to be checked. There has been some disagreement between TEA and the County over whether the agreement needs to be signed and whether the healthcare premium is to be deducted pre-or post-tax. A member requested that the list of TA's be made available. Colin Asquith agreed to make that list.
4. Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer, Sally Turner, will be convening a committee to look at the dues formula. The next TEA Times will solicit volunteers for the committee and set some dates and time expectations. The goal will be to determine the appropriate formula for dues that will provide the necessary monies to pay for legal counsel and other expenses that the union incurs. In other words, what the right target should be. Rylan Knuttgen noted that the current website needs to be updated to show the 2017 financial statements and financial audit. Sally noted that while audits have been done, she is in the process of accumulating the documents and completing the transfer of responsibility from the previous Treasurer. Ken Madden pointed out that typically we ask for volunteers to do the audits.

5. Election Procedures Discussion. This was to be response of the Board to comments provided by Rylan Knuttgen in mid-October, following the election in September. Alton Gaskill started the discussion by offering kudos to the volunteer participants who worked on the election process. He said that the Board was open to comments on its activities but that it had not had time to review and respond to the comments provided by Rylan. One of the observations on the election had to do with the process of disqualifying votes on the basis of a member not being in “good standing”. Ken Madden said that the list is maintained by the Treasurer and is available. Gillian Zacharias reminded the Board that Jim Cline had offered to review the comments and respond but had not provided that review yet. Jennifer Ash said that at times it feels like the comments and observations made by members are taken by the Board as a challenge or criticism the response is defensiveness. Alton apologized on behalf of the Board if that is how it seems to members. He said that all change begins with knowledge and awareness and the Board does not want members’ interest in interacting with TEA to be quashed or for members to feel discouraged from participating in TEA because their participating is key to our survival as a union. Rylan asked that the Board set a date to discuss the election process and respond to the comments provided in October. The Board agreed to put the item on the regular meeting agenda for December 20.
6. Meeting was adjourned at 1:02.