

MINUTES OF THE WASHTECH GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
January 7, 2009, 6:00 PM
Minutes taken by Brian Roberts and Rennie Sawade

I. Call to Order

Bill Montgomery called the meeting to order. There was no call for a quorum count, and therefore the presence of a quorum was assumed.

II. Reading of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of 9/23/08 were read and approved.

III. Officer/Chair Reports

Treasurer's Report (Mitchell McMurry)

Mitch reported on the budget and expenditures, presenting a spreadsheet that showed fiscal year-to-date income (as of 12/31/2008) of \$56,500 and expenditures of \$77,500, for an overage of \$21,000. We had budgeted \$97,000. There was \$23,000 in our checking account. The reason for the overage, Mitch reported, is that we still have not received the funds that CWA National has committed to us.

Curt Eidem moved to accept the budget and report, and Bill Montgomery seconded.

Action: Passed. The budget and report were approved.

President's Report (Les French)

Les reported that the Pierce County Emergency Employees was successfully negotiated. We may try again in the fall to organize the AT&T Network Operations Center (NOC).

Legislative Report (Curt Eidem)

Curt said 2008 had been a successful year because Barack Obama was elected president, Christine Gregoire was reelected governor of Washington, and we retained a Democratic majority in the state legislature. Unfortunately we didn't succeed in getting Darcy Burner elected to replace Washington's U.S. Representative Dave Reichert. Curt thanked everyone for helping the political campaigns.

Curt said that SIF training would be tomorrow and Friday, and introduced the trainers: Shari Wojtowicz of CWA Local 7250, shari@cwalocal7250.org, and Chris Washburn of Local 7777, cwashburn@cwa7777.org.

Technology Report (Rennie Sawade)

Rennie reported that the WashTech website and e-mail have been moved to the new BlueHost server, and a new certificate was purchased for the Dover server.

Vice President Report (Bill Montgomery)

Bill passed out copies of the latest Unity newsletter that WashTech distributes to its AT&T members.

IV. Resolutions

Employee Free Choice Act

Curt passed out a resolution regarding the Employee Free Choice Act, which is under consideration in Congress. He moved that the resolution as drafted be endorsed by WashTech, and Bill Montgomery seconded.

Action: Passed. WashTech endorses the proposed Employee Free Choice Act.

Workers Privacy Act

Curt passed out a resolution and fact sheet regarding the Workers Privacy Act, which is under consideration in the Washington State Legislature. He moved that the resolution as drafted be endorsed by WashTech, and Anna Bloomquist seconded.

Action: Passed. WashTech endorses the proposed Workers Privacy Act.

V. New Business

A letter was passed out from Louise Caddell, Assistant to the Vice President of CWA, regarding retired members who wish to remain active. Because there are at present no retired members of WashTech, there was no discussion.

VI. Good of the Order

Steward Photographs

Bill requested all shop stewards to have their pictures taken by Curt for posting on the workplace bulletin boards. He asked them to please forward the pictures to him.

Ten-Year Anniversary and Pins

Les noted that WashTech has passed the tenth anniversary of its founding in 1998. Originally founded to represent temporary IT employees at Microsoft and elsewhere (the so-called "permatemps," who had no hope of ever becoming regular hires), WashTech has progressed to where it has contracts with three employers. Seven original members are still members and are eligible to receive 10-year pins. They are spread about the country, and our co-founder Marcus Courtney now has a labor organizing job in Geneva, Switzerland. Only Brian Roberts, now the local secretary, could be present to receive his pin. Les pinned it on Brian, congratulated him, and presented him with a certificate. The other charter members will receive their pins and certificates by mail.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.