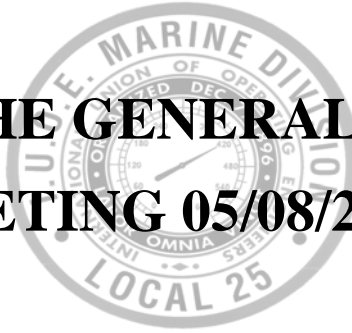


# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 05/08/2007



## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP I.U.O.E. LOCAL 25, MARINE DIVISION**

After all Membership Cards were inspected and qualified Members admitted, the General Membership Meeting was opened by President/Business Manager Ernie Whelan at 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor New Jersey in accordance with opening ritual.

### **Minutes**

Reading of Minutes of the Previous Meeting was read by Scott Winter, Recording Secretary, a motion from the floor to except the minutes as read was made by David Oldham and seconded by Doug Smith.

### **Membership Death Announcements**

President and Business Manager Ernie Whelan sadly announced that the following members passed away:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE OF DEATH</b>	<b>MEMBER SINCE</b>
Lester Vickers Jr.	04/06/2007	12/28/1959
Thomas Balinski	02/23/2007	08/19/1957
Darein Wickburg	01/03/2007	04/19/2007

### **Pension Announcements**

President and Business Manager Ernie Whelan announced that the following members applied for pension benefit:

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE RETIRED</b>	<b>INITIAL CHECK</b>	<b>MONTHLY CHECK</b>
Perry Goodwin Jr.	02/01/2007	\$1,856.62	\$617.14
Patrick Dakin	08/01/2006	\$7,895.57	\$874.04

### **THE PER CAPITA & INITIATION TAX**

President and Business Manger Ernie Whelan reported the following Per Capita and Initiation Fee Tax was paid to the International Union of Operating Engineers for February 2007:

Per Capita Tax:       \$11,269.50

Initiation Fee Tax:   \$2,125.00

## **BUSINESS AGENTS, TRAINING DIRECTOR, PLANS ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS**

- Jerry Abell, Vice President and Financial Secretary gave a report on employment opportunities in the Southern District.
- Scott Winter, Recording Corresponding Secretary gave a update on the upcoming Welder Certification Course.
- George Sullivan gave a report on employment opportunities in the Northern District.
- Scott Reeves gave a report on employment opportunities in the Northern District.

## **PRESIDENT AND BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT:**

### **JOINT UNION/EMPLOYER TRAINING TRUST FUND**

- Mr. Whelan explained to the Executive Board the financial condition of the Joint Fund, what training initiatives were instituted to date, the cost associated with those initiatives and set forth an aggressive agenda for future utilization of the fund resources to better serve the membership.

### **FRANK MALTA'S RETIREMENT**

- Mr. Whelan announced that after 48 years as a member of Local 25, Frank Malta will be retiring and wished him a happy and healthy retirement and thanked him for his outstanding service to the Union in the position of Executive Board Member of Local 25 and Lead Dredgeman with Spearin Preston and Burrows.

### **JOHN SPITALERI TO FILL UN-EXPIRED TERM AS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER**

- Mr. Whelan announced that the Line Officers have chosen John Spitaleri to fill the un-expired term of Executive Board Member created upon Frank Malta's retirement. Ernie stated that John has served in the capacity of Shop Steward on many projects throughout the years and has served the Union and its members well. Ernie stated that the Union will benefit by having a presence in the New England area, and John would serve the Union well in that capacity.

### **WEEKS MARINE BALTIMORE PROJECT**

- Mr. Whelan stated that on May 1, 2007, George Sullivan, Scott Reeves, Tony Gonsiewski Jr. and himself traveled to the job-site to confer with the crew on several issues.

### **HORIZON OFFSHORE PIPELINE PROJECT**

- Mr. Whelan stated that Horizon Offshore Project has required a tremendous effort and has been a time consuming endeavor, however the efforts have proven worth while taking into consideration that employment opportunities in the dredging industry have slowed considerably. The first reporting for crew requirements will commence on May 16 and additional labor needs of the lay-barge and supporting equipment will be crewed in specific increments thereafter.
- Mr. Whelan stated that Pete Gibson will be the Lead Dredgeman assigned to the project.

## **BEAN EXCAVATION DRILLBOAT AGREEMENT RETRO MONIES**

- Mr. Whelan stated that an agreement has been reached with Bean Excavation to pay retro wages to the Union in form of one check to be deposited in an escrow account and paid out individually to each member/employee based on contributory hours previously reported.

## **RDA CONSTRUCTION**

- Mr. Whelan stated that a meeting with RDA Construction has been scheduled to discuss employment opportunities for our members for an upcoming proposed drilling and blasting project. Mr. Whelan stated that if employment is obtained, that John Spitaleri would serve in the capacity of Lead Dredgeman for this project.

## **CABLE-LAYING PROJECT**

- Mr. Whelan stated that we have been discussing the probability of signing a Project Labor Agreement with Durocher Marine for an upcoming cable-laying job crossing the Long Island Sound from Connecticut to New York. This cable-laying project would encompass 7-cables to be recovered from the bottom of the L.I. Sound and 7-new cables to be laid as its replacement for a total of 84-miles of cable in all. The initial phase of this project is scheduled to commence on August 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.

## **GENERAL ELECTRIC HUDSON RIVER HAZMAT DREDGING PROJECT**

- Mr. Whelan stated that new developments concerning this project may include navigational dredging along with hazardous material remediation. Ernie stated that he has scheduled a meeting to discuss possible cooperative opportunities for membership employment with Dan McGraw IUOE Regional Director and IUOE Local 106.

## **MASON CONSTRUCTION**

- Mr. Whelan stated that he and Jerry Abell have met with Manson Construction to discuss the possibility of signing of a Collective Bargaining Agreement to cover all future dredging work on the East Coast of the U.S. and possibly a maintenance yard agreement for their east coast yard facilities.

## **WELDER CERTIFICATION AND SAFETY COURSE**

- Mr. Whelan stated that a welder certification will be scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>. This certification course is for incumbent welders seeking to meet the certification requirements outlined in the Master Agreement for incentive pay. Along with the certification training, a welder 10-hour OSHA Safety Course and 8-hour Welder Safety Course would be part of the overall training.

## **WATER PROJECTS BILL PASSED BY HOUSE**

- Mr. Whelan stated that Congress passed a water appropriations bill that would create many new dredging projects throughout the U.S., however as in the past, it is expected that President Bush will again veto this bill as he has done to similar bills submitted in the past. Ernie stressed the necessity and importance of voting for politicians that advice the causes of unionism and national infrastructure projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Mr. Whelan called for any new business from the floor, Brother Mike Curry was recognized. Mike announced that in the name of fairness his intention is to pick up the cost differential for an outside electoral service to handle the upcoming elections for President and Business Manager.

- Mr. Whelan stated that he would have the membership vote by a show of hands from the floor during the June general membership meeting on whether or not to proceed with an outside service and to allocate any funding requirements for such action. If approved by the membership present for an outside service, then such action would be implemented.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled General Membership Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in East Windsor New Jersey on June 12, 2007.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Being nothing further to come before the General Membership, and without objection, the Meeting was adjourned by Ernie at 8:35 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Scott A Winter  
Recording Corresponding Secretary