

## General Membership Meeting Minutes: February 19, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by President Adam Evenstad and a quorum was declared.

The minutes of the November 20, 2024 general membership meeting were distributed. Motion made and so carried to approve as printed.

The minutes of the November and December 2024 and January 2025 Executive Board meetings were distributed. Motion made and so carried to approve as printed and concur with the recommendations of the Executive Board.

### **Officer Reports**

Secretary-Treasurer Diana Tastad-Damer gave the preliminary financial report ending January 31, 2025 unaudited financials for the year as follows:

Checking/Savings	\$605,818.89
RBC Wealth Management – Investments	\$991,712.83
Strike Fund	\$61,299.20
Other Assets – Investment in Building Corp. (Union Hall minus depreciation)	\$161,215.00
Other Assets –Red Wing Labor Temple Stock	\$14,750.00
Fixed Assets – office furniture/fixtures/equipment minus depreciation	\$19,022.03
Total Assets	\$1,792,518.75

	Current Month
Total Revenue	\$497,298.42
Total Expenses	\$388,493.30
Net Income	\$108,805.12

President Adam Evenstad reported on Mississippi Market negotiations for their first contract.

### **Staff Reports**

Union Representative Tuan Vu reported on current negotiations with Oakland Park, Iron River and Bemidji and preparations for upcoming ARGAs negotiations.

Secretary-Treasurer Diana Tastad-Damer gave a legislative-political update: Cannabis business lottery is currently open and requested LPAs from potential businesses are pouring in. UFCW 1189 will hold a Day on the Hill at the Minnesota state capitol for cannabis members. Some legislators are currently attempting to roll back or delay paid FMLA and ESST.

Director/Organizing Claire Van den Berghe reported on the successful organizing campaign with Mississippi Market after many years and bargaining is currently underway. Claire stressed the importance of internal organizing to strengthen our membership and introduced Alyssa Roberts-Carr, the newest UFCW 1189 servicing representative based in the Duluth office, who has been working diligently to prepare for upcoming ARGAs negotiations. The International has approved funding for continued external organizing projects for UFCW 1189. Claire explained the cannabis industry LPAs, which allow us to neutrally meet with workers in these businesses to organize new members.

Union Representative Ray Gandy reported that after multiple grievances and board charges being filed against UNFI over the last several months regarding scheduling changes, we are finally being able to have discussions with management and bring members' issues to light. Negotiations are ongoing with Vertical Endeavors and SB Foot. A grievance settlement was recently reached with Hirshfield's, where the Employer refused to reimburse mileage expenses to our members.

Union Representative Abe Wangnoo reported on the number of LPA requests for cannabis businesses and that we are competing with at least two other Unions. An arbitration was held recently regarding Long Prairie Packing and their violation of the MN ESST statute. Negotiations are currently ongoing with at least seven long-term care facilities.

Servicing Representative Scottie Rotter reported on the ongoing servicing with members, pushing to connect our members to the faces of our Union, recruiting and training stewards at locations where we haven't had them before, and the ability to address member issues right away.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Denn-Bauer  
Recording Secretary

tad/opeiu #12