

General Membership Meeting Minutes: February 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by President Adam Evenstad and a quorum was declared.

The minutes of the November 19, 2025 general membership meeting were distributed. Motion made and so carried to approve as printed.

The minutes of the November 2025, December 2025 and January 2026 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, 2026 unaudited financials for the year as follows:

Checking/Savings	\$530,195.24
RBC Wealth Management – Investments	\$1,382,813.23
Strike Fund	\$191,299.20
Other Assets – Investment in Building Corp. (Union Hall minus depreciation)	\$150,122.00
Other Assets –Red Wing Labor Temple Stock	\$14,750.00
Fixed Assets – office furniture/fixtures/equipment minus depreciation	\$9,385.03
Total Assets	\$2,330,237.90

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Total Revenue	\$520,844.52	\$520,844.52
Total Expenses	\$419,967.83	\$419,967.83
Net Income	\$100,876.69	\$100,876.69

Motion made and so carried to approve ST Tastad-Damer’s preliminary financial report.

President Adam Evenstad reported that retail bargaining has begun with all five employers at the table represented by an outside attorney. There has been minimal progress made thus far. Bargaining has also started with Long Prairie Packing.

Staff Reports

Secretary-Treasurer Diana Tastad-Damer gave a report on state legislative issues where two major bills will be lobbied on behalf of UFCW 1189 members: 1). Price gouging/AI to block employers from using this technology. A lobby day, in conjunction with UFCW 663, will be held on March 25, 2026. Retail pricing coordinators and department heads are encouraged to participate and should contact UFCW 1189 if interested. 2). Vertical Integration –

blocking retail employers from owning meat packing plants and selling these products. In addition to these two major bills, long-term care funding will also be worked on. Long-term care pay structures are entirely based on state reimbursements, the sole funding mechanism.

Internal Organizing Department Lead Ray Gandy reported that there has been a lot of servicing work done with cannabis members – new stewards, creating solidarity and establishing labor/management committee meetings. Servicing has increased in our retail stores. There is a unified front in Red Wing with the pending merger of UFCW 571 and UFCW 1189 members.

Grievance Department Lead Deanna Hughes reported there are currently 28 open pending grievances, 10 of those with Green Goods/Vireo.

New Business

President Adam Evenstad reported the Executive Board voted to approve the merger of UFCW 571 and UFCW 1189. UFCW 571 currently represents approximately 230 members employed at Rydell Skates and Red Wing Boot & Shoe in Red Wing, Minnesota. Members will be notified of the scheduled vote to approve this merger.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Denn-Bauer
Recording Secretary

tad/opeiu #12