

AFGE Local 2823 August 2024 Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2024

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*Conference line was in use.*

**CONFERENCE CALL DIAL IN:**

<https://hello.freeconference.com/conf/call/3966569>

**dial in: (605)562-88400**

**(605)475-4120**

**ACCESS CODE: 3966569#**

Conference was called to order at 11:48 am by Dwayne Walker

*If you want to review the financials, please contact Daphne Coleman, treasurer for an appointment on your personal time.*

**New business:**

- VSC issued letters of concern. Local requested information from Front Office to determine how the agency made these determinations. The period the agency is referencing is the 90-day acclimation period which should not be allowable. This is a nationwide attack by the agency. The local will be meeting with the agency by close of this week.
  - We will be fighting against employee targeting (employees who don't meet will all have to be addressed). The reason behind this is that the agency will manipulate the data to make it appear that only a small number of employees are failing so the standards are reasonable.
  - Although the letters are not considered adverse at this time, the local can use this data to prepare for possible actions from the agency.
    - Keep in mind this is "paper" that has to be included in your personnel file and can adversely affect promotions, within grade increases, etc.
- Changed compressed work schedule days. Employees who elected Mondays and Fridays were forced to select a new day based on seniority.
  - Local is fighting to ensure all employees have to adhere to this policy to include: coaches, managers, HR, etc.

- Thank you to all that joined us today on the new platform. Please be sure to enter your name next month so that we can keep track of attendees.
  - Do not use government equipment to join the call (online or phone)
- Please check out the newsletter emailed out August 27, 2024.
  - We are in need of volunteers for several committees: elections, legislative, audit, budget, and women and fair practices
- National convention outcome:
  - Elections:
    - Dr. Everett Kelly, re-elected National President
    - Eric Bunn, Sr., re-elected National Secretary-Treasurer
    - Dr. Kendrick Roberson, Womens and Fair Practices National Vice-President
  - \$1.50 dues increase over the next three years (\$.50/year 2025 – 2028)
- Please vote!
- Union office is temporarily located at 1249 (directly across from the 12<sup>th</sup> floor store)

**Old business:**

Second VIP arbitration is scheduled to begin September 11, 2024. We will continue to keep the local updated. The local won the first arbitration for the same issue; however the agency filed an appeal and we are awaiting the final decision from FLRA.

**MISC:**

- [www.afgel2823.org...this is our webpage where you can find helpful information](http://www.afgel2823.org...this is our webpage where you can find helpful information)
- Please do not share local business. Communications, meetings, etc. are for due paying members only!
- Lanetta Spencer: letters of concerns...local is working on this issue and an update will follow.
  - Remember to document any work interruptions: VBMS and WATRs outages, express work days (claims with less than 4 contentions), etc.
- Remember that you are entitled to union representation for meetings, discussions, etc. that may result in adverse action. Weingarten rights!

Motion to adjourn @12:15 – Daphne Coleman

Second by: Dwayne Walker