

**St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO**  
**Official Minutes**  
**May 17, 2011**  
**I.B.E.W., Local #1 Hall**

The meeting of the St. Louis Labor Council was called to order by President Robert Soutier at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

President Soutier led the delegates in the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance to our country's flag.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call of officers disclosed the following: **Present:** Robert Soutier, John Ebeling, Chico Humes, Jeff Aboussie, Joseph Barrett, Dave Cook, Tom George, Michael Goebel, Earline Jones, Patrick Kellett, Keith Linderer, Kevin McNatt, Tom McNeil, Jr., Mike Mehringer, Gary Reay, Tony Rippetto, Joe Steiger, Joseph Schonlau, Gary Smith, Patrick White, Don Willey and Mark Woolbright.

**Excused and Recorded as Present:** Mary Armstrong, Nancy Cross, Gordon King, Mark Staffne, John Stiffler, and David Zimmermann.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the April 19, 2011 meeting minutes. Copies of the minutes were available at the entrance of the room.

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

President Soutier reads the 2011 United Way Resolution as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS:** The Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, enthusiastically supports the United Way because we believe it to be the way to meet the many needs of all of our citizens in the area of health, welfare, and social services through nearly 200 local agencies; and

**WHEREAS:** There can be no doubt that the United Way possesses the talent and ability to assure the highest degree of use for the voluntary dollars collected than any other group or any other fundraising campaign because of its experience and expertise; and

**WHEREAS:** When the leadership of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, has called upon the United Way labor staff to provide assistance to union brothers and sisters, the response has been swift and extremely positive;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, endorses the 2011 United Way Campaign and urges all members of organized labor to help people in our community by making a contribution to the 2011 United Way Campaign.

Fraternally Submitted,

Robert A. Soutier, President

Voted on and adopted at the St. Louis Labor Council Executive Board Meeting on: May 12, 2011  
and at the Council Delegate Body Meeting on: May 17, 2011.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the resolution as read.

President Soutier read the resolution from the American Water employees as follows:

### **Resolution on American Water**

#### **Whereas:**

American Water (AWW) employees in the U.S. are represented by 11 unions, including AFSME, IBEW, IBT, IUOE, LIUNA, Plumbers and Pipefitters, SEIU, UE, UFCW, USW, and UWUA, most of which bargain together for a national benefits agreement; and

The unions charge that AWW has illegally declared impasse after bargaining in bad faith, and unilaterally imposed major cuts in healthcare benefits, including a 52% hike in employee premiums for family health insurance, steep increases in out-of-pocket expenses, and deep cuts in healthcare coverage levels; and

Women employed in the Company's call centers – many of whom are single mothers – are by far the lowest paid workers at American Water and will suffer the most from this cost shifting, which in some cases may be greater than the minimal pay raises the Company has offered in local negotiations; and

Across the nation, the Company has demanded the unlimited right to contract out all employees' jobs, which would destroy any semblance of job security for American Water employees; and

American Water is demanding these concessions from workers despite huge profits, including \$268 million in net profits on \$2.7 billion in revenues during 2010; and

American Water companies have petitioned for huge rate hikes from consumers across the country, including 6.5% in NJ, 13% in WV, 22% in VA, 14.7% in TN, 29% in KY, 35% in CA, up to 56% in AZ, and a staggering 160% wastewater increase in southeastern PA; and

American Water granted more than \$12.5 million in total compensation during 2010 to only seven top executives;

#### **Therefore, be it resolved that:**

This body stands with American Water employees resisting the Company's unfair contract demands and bargaining tactics; supports local consumers opposed to the Company's unreasonable rate hike petitions; and authorizes the leadership to take whatever actions are necessary in conjunction with the affected affiliated unions to persuade American Water to abandon its attacks on working families and consumers.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the resolution as read.

### **AFFILIATIONS**

#### **SEATING OF DELEGATES**

President Soutier called Ann Dolan from Musicians Association of St. Louis, Local #2-197 and Jen Stuhlman, Professional Firefighters of Eastern Missouri, Local #2665, to the podium and gave them the oath of office to represent their local unions as delegates to the St. Louis Labor Council.

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

First Vice President, John Ebeling read the Executive Board report as follows:

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT**

St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO  
Location: Machinist's District No. 9  
Thursday, May 12, 2011

The meeting of the St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO Executive Board was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Robert Soutier on Thursday, May 12, 2011.

A roll call of officers disclosed the following: **Present:** Robert Soutier, John Ebeling, Chico Humes, Jeff Aboussie, Dave Cook, Nancy Cross, Mike Goebel, Earline Jones, Pat Kellett, Kevin McNatt, Jeff Roorda, Gary Smith, Patrick White, Don Willey, Mark Woolbright and David Zimmermann.

**Excused and recorded as present:** Mary Armstrong, Joseph Barrett, Tom George, Gordon King, Keith Linderer, Tom McNeil, Mike Mehringer, Gary Reay, Tony Rippetto, Joe Schonlau, Mark Staffne and John Stiffler.

Also present were Ed Finkelstein, Labor Tribune; Roz Sherman Voellinger and Marcia Cline, United Way; Jennifer Stuhlman, Fire Fighters, #2665 and Karen Lyons, St. Louis Labor Council.

President Soutier announced that there will be a fundraiser for Councilman Steve Stenger at Maggie O'Brien's Restaurant on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

President Soutier read the 2011 United Way Resolution as follows:

**WHEREAS:** The Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, enthusiastically supports the United Way because we believe it to be the way to meet the many needs of all of our citizens in the area of health, welfare, and social services through nearly 200 local agencies; and

**WHEREAS:** There can be no doubt that the United Way possesses the talent and ability to assure the highest degree of use for the voluntary dollars collected than any other group or any other fundraising campaign because of its experience and expertise; and

**WHEREAS:** When the leadership of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, has called upon the United Way labor staff to provide assistance to union brothers and sisters, the response has been swift and extremely positive;

**THEREFORE: BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, endorses the 2011 United Way Campaign and urges all members of organized labor to help people in our community by making a contribution to the 2011 United Way Campaign.

Fraternally Submitted,  
Robert A. Soutier, President

**Executive Board Meeting**  
**May 12, 2011**  
**Page 2**

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the 2011 United Way Resolution as read.

Earline Jones stated that she had been asked to be on the hiring committee to replace the position that Roz Sherman-Voellinger held at the University of Missouri. She asked if there was anything in particular that she should be looking for in a candidate.

It was concluded that while it would be an extremely difficult task to replace Roz in that position, the candidate should ideally possess leadership skills, the academic background as well as knowledge and experience with unions. It was also the general consensus that Roz should be part of the hiring process if possible.

President Soutier thanked all who have been donating to the Five for the Fight Fund and gave special thanks to Hammond & Shinnors, PC and Laborers', Local #110 for their most recent and extremely generous donations.

President Soutier informed the Board of Fred Sexauer's health issues and asked that we all remember him in our prayers.

Soutier proposed to the Board that they cancel the July 14<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting, due to so many members being out of town attending other meetings that month. A motion was made, seconded and approved to cancel the 2011, July Executive Board meeting.

President Soutier thanked everyone for their participation in the Robert O. Kortkamp Memorial Labor Mass. He announced that there was record attendance at the mass – which was a tribute to Kortkamp and the brunch at Maggie O'Brien's raised \$4,500 for the Shrine of St. Joseph.

President Soutier gave a pension plan update and announced that we are moving forward by sending a letter to the National AFL-CIO requesting a constitutional change reflecting the one-time \$1.00 assessment and the .10 cent per capita increase beginning in January of 2012. Soutier also said that he is looking into merging the plan with another union's pension plan thereby eliminating PBGC fees.

President Soutier spoke about the upcoming Labor Day Parade and asked for 100 percent participation. He said he would like to make this Labor's next big event, taking up where the March 11<sup>th</sup> rally at Kiener Plaza left off. A motion was made, seconded and approved to all wear "safety" orange t-shirts with black lettering. The artwork will be provided by Ed Finkelstein free of charge, so that everyone will look unified on parade day! Each union will be responsible for purchasing their shirts and getting the artwork to a union printer. The shirts will have a "RTW" in a circle with a slash thru it on the left breast pocket area of the shirt and the back of the shirt will have the national slogan of "WE ARE ONE." The front of the shirt can be personalized with each union's name above or below the anti-RTW insignia at the left pocket area.

Soutier asked that everyone get their union members and their families and friends excited and involved in this year's Labor Day Parade. A motion was made, seconded and approved to have Mark Woolbright of the Fire Fighters try to get Corp. Todd Nicely, USMC as our Grand Marshall. Another motion was made, seconded and approved to secure a large banner to read "WE ARE ONE" and have union members (i.e. Firefighter, Police Office, Teacher, Nurse, etc) in their work clothes or uniforms to walk behind the Grand Marshal holding the banner.

**Executive Board Meeting**  
**May 12, 2011**  
**Page 3**

Mark Woolbright, Fire Fighters, Local #2665 informed the Board of the event at the Family Arena in St. Charles to raise money to help build a house for Corp. Todd Nicely, USMC and quadruple amputee. The concert will star Gary Sinise & the Lt. Dan Band, Comedian Tom Dreesen and tenor Daniel Rodriguez and will be held on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

President Soutier spoke about the unity meetings recently held in Jefferson City. A discussion followed regarding the position of the Humane Society and if their involvement will hurt or help our cause. A motion was made, seconded and approved to table the discussion until more information was gathered.

Gary Smith, Musicians asked for help from Bob Soutier in dealing with the people at the new Peabody Opera House.

Pat Kellett, Plumbers & Pipefitters announced he would be leaving St. Louis for a position with his National Union in business development and marketing. He said that John O'Mara would be taking his place on the Board.

Everyone on the Board congratulated Pat on his promotion, but also expressed sadness in losing him. He will be missed greatly by his many friends in the St. Louis Labor community.

With nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Fraternally



Robert A. Soutier, President  
opeiu#13

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes as read.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Soutier spoke on the Labor Day Parade theme being "We Are One". He urged all unions to participate and encouraged everyone to help make this the biggest labor event since the March 11<sup>th</sup> rally downtown. The t-shirts will all be fluorescent orange in color with black lettering, and will read We Are One on the back with RTW within a circle with a slash thru it on the left breast pocket.

Soutier mentioned that the Musician's Union will try to secure music for the event. He also stated the need to raise the parade entrance fee to help defer the costs of making the event bigger and better.

President Soutier also reminded the delegates to get their fees in early and to let the Council know if their union will be celebrating a special anniversary, as that will affect their placement in the line-up.

President Soutier spoke about the Unity Meetings that have been taking place in Jefferson City and how groups from all across the state are participating.

Soutier also mentioned that there would be a “debriefing” meeting on June 1, 2011.

President Soutier also spoke about the UFCW Steward’s Seminar and their discussions of RTW and the Unity Meetings.

Soutier also said that \$750 from a 50/50 raffle at the UFCW Seminar was donated to the \$5 for the Fight Fund.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

President Soutier reported the BLS index at 673.717 for April 2011.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Roz Sherman Voellinger, United Way thanked everyone for their kind remarks regarding finding a replacement for her position at Washington University.

Roz also announced the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual United Way Trap Shoot which will be held on Friday, September 23, 2011. She said that more information will follow as it becomes available.

Also, there will be an email forthcoming to inform everyone of a “We Are One” rally on Thursday, June 9 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Gus Frank, Letter Carriers, Local #343 thanked everyone for their contributions to the Letter Carriers Food Drive.

Earline Jones, CWA announced that May is “Older American’s Month” and invited everyone to a “celebration” of seniors on May 27<sup>th</sup> at the Pavilion in Forest Park from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to celebrate seniors and what they bring to the community.

Pam Stepney, Letter Carriers, Branch 343 asked for a copy of “union printers” which was supplied. She also spoke of “every door direct mail”.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES DRAWING**

The community services’ drawing was held. A drawing was also held for baseball tickets.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to come before the delegates, a motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting.

Fraternally,



Robert A. Soutier, President

## **May 2011 Attendance**

The following Delegates were present:

**Administrator's Association of the St. Louis Public Schools, Local #44**  
88 Members

**Aluminum, Brick & Glass Workers Local #169** – 284 Members

**Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers Bakers No. 4** – 963 Members

**Bricklayers No. 1** – 1093 Members  
Joseph Schonlau

**Chemical Workers Union No. 432** – 172 Members

**Communications Workers No. 6300** – 4248 Members  
Earline Jones

**Print & Media Sector**  
John Ebeling  
**No. 6350** – 209 Members  
**No. 6390** – 150 Members

**St. Louis Mailers Union No. 3/CWA 14620** – 250 Members

**St. Louis Newspaper Guild No. 47/CWA 36047** – 353 Members  
Tony Pecinovsky  
Joe Pollack

**Intl. Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers No. 818** – 21 Members

**Intl. Bro. of Electrical Workers No.1** – 4300 Members  
Tom George  
Tom Berger  
Yvette Goods  
Brian Lavac  
Bernie Ryan  
Bill Waterhouse  
**No. 2** – 600 Members  
**No. 4** – 296 Members  
Fran Dilliard  
Michael Pendergast  
**No. 1439** – 593 Members  
Mark Staffne  
**No. 1455** – 650 Members

**Elevator Constructors No. 3** - 352 Members

**Operating Engineers No. 148** – 1,453 Members  
Keith Linderer  
Michael Yates

**Federal Labor and Trade Unions No. 20711 (Advertising, Publicity and Newspaper Representatives)**  
8 members

**Fire Fighters No. 73** – 434 Members  
**No. 757** – 72 Members  
**No. 1889** – 118 Members  
**No. 2665** – 1,839 Members  
Mark Woolbright  
**No. 2677** – 21 Members

**Lindbergh Federation of Food Service Employees Local 6006** – 40 Members  
**Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastic and Allied Workers (GMP) Local 182B** – 45 Members

**American Federation of Government Employees No. 3354** – 50 Members

**GCC/IBT International Union No. 38 N** – 100 Members  
Dennis Clancy  
William Sullivan, Jr.  
**No. 6-505M** – 1240 Members

Chico Humes  
Donald Osiek  
Kenneth Truemper

**Insulators and Allied Workers Local 1** – 369 Members  
John Stiffler

**Iron Workers Bridge and Structural Iron Workers No. 396** – 850 Members  
Tom McNeil  
Bill Brennell  
Mike Butler  
Don Robertson  
Bill Trendley  
Frank Winterer

**Laborers International Union**

**No. 42** – 250 Members

**No. 53** – 400 Members

**No. 110** – 500 Members

Don Willey

**No. 660** – 225 Members

**Letter Carriers Branch No. 343**

1400 Members

Gus Frank

Melvin McNair

Pamela Stepney

**Longshoremen**

**No. 1652** – 20 Members

**Machinists & Aerospace Workers**

**Progressive Lodge No. 41**

697 Members

Stephen Branson

Michael Diefenbach

Michael Ribbert

**Tool and Die Lodge No. 688**

167 Members

Bob Meilink

**Automotive Lodge No. 777**

1769 Members

Mark Conner

Calvin Davis

Michael Louis

Dave Meinell

Mike Musgrove

Dennis Schleeper

Terry Sutton

Ron Wolff

**District 837 Lodge “A”**

1948 Members

Sandra Henderson

Chuck Hendricks

Kurt Manns

Rich Peppers

**District 837 Lodge “B”**

1465 Members

Don Lummus

**Production Workers Lodge 1345**

1455 Members

Robert Soutier

Ellen Arbogast

Marvin Gray

**Lodge No. 1745** – 303 Members

**Musicians No. 2-197** -543 Members

Gary Smith

Ann Dolan

Jan Scott

Jen Stuhlman

**Office and Professional Employees**

**No. 13** – 329 Members

**No. 277** – 10 Members

**Plumbers and Pipe Fitters**

**No. 562** -- 1000 Members

Patrick Kellett

**Sprinkler Fitters No. 268**

350 Members

**Police Officers**

**St. Louis Police Officers Assoc.**

**FOP #68**

**Postal Workers Union**

**St. Louis Gateway Area Local 8**

1950 Members

**Local 7043** – 100 Members

**Professional Airways System Specialist (PASS) Gateway Chapter, #255**

86 Members

**American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees**

**Institutional and Public**

**Employees No. 410** – 150 Members

Erv Hupp

Kris Mueller

**Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Wkrs.**

**Roofers No. 2** – 400 Members

**Seafarers International Union**

300 Members

**Service Employees Intl. Union**

**No. 1 (The MO Division)**

– 3650 Members

Nancy Cross

Marcia Cline

**Sheet Metal Workers**

**No. 36** – 1,731 Members

David Zimmermann

Joseph Feldman

Jason Randl

**I.A.T.S.E.**

**Theatrical Stage Employees,**

**Moving Picture Technicians,**

**Artists and Allied Crafts**

**Studio Mechanics**

**No. 493** – 90 Members

**Theatrical Employees - (Ushers,  
Ushettes and Ticket Takers)**  
**No. B-2** – 225 Members  
Kevin Whalen  
**Theatrical Brotherhood – (Stage  
Hands) No. 6** – 124 Members  
**Projectionists, Audio Visual  
Engineers & Computer  
Technicians**  
**No. 143** – 35 Members  
**Treasurers and Ticket Sellers**  
**No. 774** – 57 Members  
**Theatrical Wardrobe Attendants**  
**No. 805** – 28 Members

**United Steel Workers International  
Union**

**U.S.W. – Gasworkers, No. 11-6**  
917 Members  
Pat White

**U.S.W., No. 11-152** – 45 Members

**U.S.W., No. 11-194** – 251 Members  
Paul Presson

**U.S.W., No. 884** – 87 Members

**Steelworkers**

**No. 9014** – 659 Members  
Gary Reay

**Wholesale Upholsterers**

**No. 25** – 32 Members

**Awning & Tent Workers & Decorators  
Decorators & Displaymen**

**No. 39** – 50 Members

**Teachers**

**St. Louis Teachers**

**No. 420** – 1852 Members  
Mary Armstrong

**Lindbergh Federation**

**No. 2420** – 2 Members

**Junior College Dist. Federation**

**No. 3506** – 87 Members

**Wentzville Federation of School-  
Related Employees,**

**No. 4894** – 150 Members

**Teamsters**

**No. 688** – 500 Members

Michael Goebel

John Becker

Dave Lalumondier

**Transit Union**

**No. 788** – 1,220 Members

Charles McNeil

**Transport Workers Union of America**

**No. 529** – 423 Members

**Transport Workers Union**

**Railroad Division**

**No. 1647** – 10 Members

**Utility Workers**

**No. 335** – 446 Members

**UNITE HERE - Union of Needletrades,  
Industrial and Textile Employees**

**St. Louis District Joint Board**

**No. 56A** – 75 Members

**No. 74** – 2000 Members

Kevin McNatt

**No. 104** – 10 Members

**No. 254C** – 10 Members

**No. 428** – 5 Members

**United Food and Commercial Workers,**

**No. 655** – 10,965 Members

David Cook

Michael Kelley

Robert Spence

**COUNCILS, DISTRICTS,  
JOINT BOARDS**

Building and Construction Trades Council  
Jeff Aboussie

Communications Workers of America  
City Council

Intl. Union of Electronic, Electrical,  
Salaried, Machine & Furniture  
Workers, IUE/CWA, District 8-6

MO State Conference of Electrical Workers

MO State Council of Fire Fighters

St. Louis District Iron Workers

District Council of St. Louis &  
Vicinity

St. Louis Union Label and  
Service Trades Council

Eastern Mo. Laborers

District Council

Machinists & Aerospace Workers

District 9

Tony Rippetto

District Lodge No. 837

Gordon King

Painter's District Council No. #2

Joseph Barrett  
Gary Otten  
St. Louis Allied Printing Trades Council  
Laura Moore  
Seafarers, St. Louis Port Council  
Eastern Missouri Steel Council  
SEIU MO / KS State Council  
Teamsters Joint Council No. 13

**AUXILIARIES**

Missouri State AFL-CIO Aux.  
International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers No. 1 Aux.  
Graphic Communications Aux.  
Allied Printing Trades Council Aux.  
Auxiliary 29 to Typographical  
Union No. #8

**SUPPORT GROUPS**

St. Louis Labor Council  
Retirees Council  
St. Louis Chapter, Coalition of  
Black Trade Unionists  
A. Philip Randolph Institute,  
St. Louis Chapter (APRI)  
Coalition of Labor Union Women

opeiu #13