

Meeting Minutes

Purpose: Local 1924 First Quarterly Business Meeting of 2026

Date: 1/28/2026

Time: 8:30 PM Eastern Time

Platform: Teams (virtual)

Attendees

Michael Knowles, President, AFGE Local 1924

Vicente Lopez, Executive Vice President, AFGE Local 1924

Anna Corio, Local Vice President–Headquarters

Matt Beyor, Sergeant-at-Arms

Amber Hodgen, Local Vice President–Arlington Asylum Office

Elizabeth Trivette, Secretary, AFGE Local 1924

Ryan Baugh, Treasurer, AFGE Local 1924

Aleksandra Fridman

Alesha Bryant

Alfredo Miledi

Anadelia Rodriguez

Ben Laszewski

Dan Thaci

Denise Johnson

Elizabeth Keller

Erin James

Fahima Mohamood

Harry Kashdan

Jackie Kahler

James Driver

Jeff ?

Jenn McCann

JoAnn Kazimer

John Hames

Justin Miller

Keegan Marajdeen

Ken Chandel

Latoya Miller

Leia Landro
Mary Roes
Max Gelber
Ronnie Hicks
Thomas Maher
Thomas Perkowski
Xavier Correa

Meeting began with attendance.

Moment of silence for Alex Pretti

Reminders regarding rules for an orderly meeting

Motion to waive the reading of the minutes and accept them into the record: Ryan Baugh

Seconded by Ben Laszewski.

Ayes have it/none opposed/none abstained.

Updates and Reports from the Executive Board

Updates from Michael Knowles (MK), Executive President: Michael was unable to get to the Post Office due to being iced in after the recent storm, so we do not yet know if the budget passed. MK encourages everyone to check AFGE's website daily and call representatives to ask them to vote in favor of AFGE's positions on legislation. AFGE's Annual Legislative Action conference is coming up in a couple weeks (February 8-10). The National Citizenship and Immigration Services Council 119 also has its annual meeting February 6-7.

Updates from Vicente Lopez, Executive Vice President: We have lost 80-90 members since the last quarterly meeting. We are fighting to get our bargaining rights back through a lawsuit filed by AFGE and other allies in the Federal District Court of Northern California. The court issued a preliminary injunction on the implementation of the Executive Order barring collective bargaining rights in 2/3 federal agencies. The government appealed to the 9th circuit, which issued a stay of the preliminary injunction. It was a bad draw. We've been trying to appeal that decision ever since. Local 1924 currently has 1020 members (62 retirees)=the largest of all Council 119 locals (over one quarter of members represented by Council 119).

MK: When we lose membership, we lose the wind from our sails. Unions are leaders in resisting fascism; I encourage you to remain members and to encourage others to join

Updates from Ryan Baugh (RB), Treasurer: Our current balance is \$485,866.71 The last major expenditure was the mailing of the ballot for our contested election: \$12,498.61. Other major

expenditures: accounting firm services (\$4,300), the budget mailing (\$2,341.56), monthly office rent (\$458). Rent was an unexpected expense since we were kicked out of our USCIS offices. Other expenditures: a computer for the treasurer (\$1,473.39), member rebates, and reimbursements. Any questions?

Max Gelber: Why did the mailing for the election cost so much more than the budget mailing?

MK: It's more than one mailing and more complicated mailings for the election.

RB: Did those mailings include a stamped envelope for each mailing?

Matt Beyor: Yes, they did. And that is part of why it was so expensive.

RB: I would love to include postage on the budget mailing, but that could be wasteful.

MK: Also, the election votes require secret ballots, so that was a more complicated mailing. The cost covered the work performed by the private vendor, True Ballot, which prepared and copied all of the documents, handled the mailings, tabulated the results, et cetera.

Updates from Anna Corio (AC): We are still working with AFGE to stand up our local's microsite. Here is the login page for AFGE.org We'll message out to everyone once we've finished setting up the site.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Vicente Lopez makes a motion that Local 1924 will write to AFGE to express outrage over the killing of our AFGE brother, Alex Pretti. I move that: Local 1924 will write AFGE National President Kelley expressing outrage over the murder of Alex Pretti (VA Nurse and member of AFGE Local 3669) by Border Patrol Agents in Minneapolis. The letter will demand justice for Alex Pretti and an end to the unlawful and violent actions by ICE and Border Patrol that have violated basic human rights and caused unrest across the country. A draft will be sent to the members for approval no later than Saturday 31 January 2026.

Matt Beyor seconds the motion.

Ben Laszewski: I move to amend the proposal...I support the statement but I think there's a key demand that needs to be added to this. I move to amend the text of the motion to add this language: "and call on AFGE to expel the National Border Patrol Council from AFGE." So the motion should read: Local 1924 will write to AFGE National President Kelley expressing outrage over the murder of Alex Pretti (VA Nurse and member of AFGE Local 3669) by Border Patrol

Agents in Minneapolis. The letter will demand justice for Alex Pretti and an end to the unlawful and violent actions by ICE and Border Patrol that have violated basic human rights and caused unrest across the country and call on AFGE to expel the National Border Patrol Council from AFGE. A draft will be sent to the members for approval no later than Saturday 31 January 2026.

Molly Maguire-Marshall and Harry Kashdan: I move to second.

Ben Laszewski, speaking in support of the motion: For those who don't know, the BP Council is part of AFGE. ICE is no longer a part of AFGE, they were previously expelled during the first Trump administration. BP remains part of AFGE. I appreciate what AFGE has put out so far, but it's not far enough. We need to put pressure on AFGE at the national level to expel BP because BP has been in favor of striving to and now carrying out the killing of our members.

Molly Maguire-Marshall, speaking in support of the motion: Our labor issues are different from BP's labor issues. I have moral issues with them being part of our union, as well.

Ryan Baugh made a motion to extend by 15 minutes.

Vicente Lopez seconded.

MK called the question on the amendment.

Ayes have it. The amendment passed by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

Ryan Baugh calls the question on the motion made by Vicente as amended by Ben.

Ayes have it. The motion passed by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

MK: The Board will take on the task of drafting this letter. It won't be open to editing, but we'll be happy to entertain comments. Our goal will be to get the letter out no later than January 31, which will be one week after Alex Pretti's murder.

Anna: Corio I move to donate \$1000 to the fundraising effort from our Sunshine Fund for Local 3669, Alex Pretti's local.

Matt Beyor seconds the motion.

Jackie Kaylor: I motion to amend the motion to increase the amount to \$2500.

Ben Laszewski: I second. Do we have any insight on what other Locals are doing?

Anna Coio: I have no insight, I just thought it a nice, round number.

Amber Hodgen, VP of Arlington Asylum Office: \$1000 is the amount we've generally donated in memory of members of our Local who have passed, in the past.

Ben Laszewski: In light of Amber's comment, I speak against the amendment. I think we should stay consistent with what we have done in the past.

Ryan Baugh: Our line item for the Local 1924 Sunshine Fund is \$15,000.

MK: We are 3 minutes past the hour mark.

Matt Beyor moves to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

Vicente Lopez seconds the motion.

Ayes have it. Motion approved by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

MK: Any further discussion of Jackie's amendment? No further discussion.

Vote taken on the amendment to raise the donation amount to \$2,500:

Ayes have it. Amendment to the original motion passed by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

Ben Laszewski called the question to vote on the motion, as amended.

Ayes have it. Motion passed (as amended) by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

Ryan Baugh: I move to establish a Direct Action Committee to keep abreast of direct action opportunities such as marches and rallies and to encourage members to participate in direct action together.

Max Gelber seconded.

Voice vote. Passed by unanimous consent (none opposed, none abstained).

MK: Next 1924 Membership Forum tentatively set for Sunday evening, February 15th.

Next quarterly meeting should be in the 1st week of April on a date to be determined by the board.

Meeting adjourned.