

Purpose: Quarterly Membership Meeting

Date: 8/3/2025

Time: 8:00 PM Eastern Time

Platform: MS Teams (virtual)

Attendees:

Otis Johnson, AFGE District 14 National V.P.

Michael Knowles, President, AFGE Local 1924

Vicente Lopez, Executive Vice President, AFGE Local 1924

Robert Minnock, Treasurer, AFGE Local 1924 (outgoing)

Ryan Baugh, Treasurer, AFGE Local 1924 (incoming)

Elizabeth Trivette, Secretary, AFGE Local 1924 (incoming)

Alex Cook, Local Vice President (HQ), AFGE Local 1924

Amber Hodgen, Local Vice President (Arlington Asylum Office), AFGE Local 1924

Anna Corio, Sergeant at Arms, AFGE Local 1924

Daniel Houck

Max Gelber

Andrea Timal

Alfredo Milade

Annadelia Rodriguez

Donna Chu

Edrick Kirkman

Eric-Michel Sossou-Glah

Erin James

Faith Benton

Genelle Hawkins

Gary Lau

Jason Scott

Jessica Liao

Jessica Stigall

Kayla Randolph

Ken Chendel

Ken Cannon

Kristen Ruther

Luke Hall

Marzia Narosi

Matthew Bayor

Meredith Miller

Mohammed Mayor

Navrite Channah

Noah Piluk

Noman Akhtar

Rose Johnson

Saif Alabaeji

Thomas Mayor

Devonne Phillips  
Taylor Sutton  
Katrina Traynum  
April Hunt  
Giacomo Pichiato  
Ebony Turner  
Alejandro de Mario  
Cheryl Land  
Sontrina Hicks  
William Merck  
8 Unnamed Callers

Tonight's meeting was delayed from the first week of July in order to wrap up the election.

Michael Knowles praises the Election Committee for their efforts and requests an after action report.

Michael Knowles recognizes outgoing board members: Bob Minnock, Treasurer of around 22 years; Vanessa Allyn, Secretary; Alex Cook, HQ V.P.. Alex was elected by acclamation but has recently taken a job in Michigan. The Executive Board will vote to replace him in the near future.

Michael Knowles recognizes Max Gelber for running a collegial race.

Swearing in and remarks by Otis Johnson. Otis also mentions last night's game night and the upcoming cookout on 8/16/25 at Fort Washington Park.

No updates requested from officers, but Michael Knowles opens the floor to each member of the Executive Board (incoming and departing) to offer words regarding their vision for this term and encouragement for members during this difficult time.

Michael states a goal of growing Local 1924 and getting back the 200 members we lost during the transition to E-dues. Michael reminds everyone that for the first 40 years of AFGE, we had no bargaining rights; we worked from outside the government.

Vicente Lopez notes that the Agency is not responding to grievances right now. They are responding to EEO complaints and Reasonable Accommodation requests. Vicente notes we currently have 1072 active members.

Bob Minnock offers his thanks and well wishes to all, saying it was his honor and privilege to serve.

All Executive Board members offer words of encouragement.

Motion: Ryan Baugh moves to extend the meeting to 9:35 PM ET.

Second: Jessica Leal seconds the motion.

Vote: Motion approved. Meeting extended to 9:35 PM ET.

Motion: Max Gelber moves “to formally establish a member-led communications committee for Local 1924,” citing an Axios article (among other arguments) to support his motion.

Question: Matt Beyor asks how membership will be determined.

Answer: Max Gelber answers that the Executive Board should solicit for 3 members.

Motion: Vicente Lopez motions to amend the motion to take off the words “member-led.”

Second: Jessica Leal seconds the motion to remove the words “member-led.”

Matt Beyor moves to call the question.

Vote: Motion approved. The motion is now “to formally establish a communications committee for Local 1924.”

Question: Joe Mancias Jr. asks about the purpose of the committee, suggesting a survey of membership should first be conducted to inquire as to the need for the committee.

Motion: Luke Hall motions to include Max Gelber as a founding member of the communications committee.

Second: Max Gelber seconds the motion.

Vote: Motion approved. The motion is now “to formally establish a communications committee for Local 1924, including Max Gelber as founding member.”

Motion: Ryan Baugh motions to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

Second: Vicente Lopez seconds the motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

Vote: Motion approved. Meeting extended by 10 minutes.

Support: Luke Hall speaks on behalf of the motion as it is now, “to formally establish a communications committee for Local 1924, including Max Gelber as founding member.”

No one speaks against the motion.

Support: Anna Delia speaks in support of the motion.

No one speaks against the motion.

Support: Jessica Leal supports the motion and suggests that the committee as formed should undertake the task of conducting a survey of membership regarding communications.

Amber Hodgen moves to call the question.

Vote: Motion “to formally establish a communications committee for Local 1924, including Max Gelber as founding member” is approved.

General Business:

James Driver asked questions the Secretary could not hear to record.

Michael Knowles discusses an intention to schedule a leadership retreat in the near future.

Eric-Michel Sossou-Glah asks a question regarding probationary employees.

Michael Knowles gives background and context regarding Eric-Michel Sossou-Glah’s question. The question concerns 46 employees who were fired en masse earlier this year. Thanks to AFGE lawsuits, those employees were reinstated but put on administrative leave. These employees have now passed their yearlong probationary period.

Comments for the good of the Union: Joseph Mancias notes, “The sun’ll come out tomorrow.”

Motion: Luke Hall motions to adjourn.

Second: Vicente Lopez seconds the motion.

Vote: The meeting is adjourned.

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Questions from the MS TEAMS chat:

Noman Akhtar: CBP has telework, but uscis is not granted telework while under the same DHS umbrella, what is the reason for this and what union is doing for this?

Noman Akhtar: other agencies like IRS and patent office are still doing telework, why uscis is still in strict RTO instructions, 5 days in office, while we do have other agencies with telework granted.

Jeff Sander: I'm a IRIS HQ employee that works out of BVOC. Who is our union steward and contact number for questions. I went to local 1924 website and couldn't find. Thank you so much!!!

Luke Hall: noticed we were sent two ballots in mail. Was that a vendor error? We didn't have to pay for all that postage and prepaid postage did we?

Luke Hall: What is the total number bues who work in 1924 jurisdiction?

Luke Hall: What strategy do you have for boosting membership?

Noman Akhtar: why the bargaining rights are affected for ucsis but cbp union is going strong with favors to employees.

Beth Trivette: Michael Knowles before I forget, did you motion to waive reading of last meeting's minutes? Did I miss that?

Edric Kirkman: Does anyone happen to have a contact in the DHS General Counsel Office? If so, Please connect with me offline 706-627-5670 [edric.L.kirkman@gmail.com](mailto:edric.L.kirkman@gmail.com)

Alfredo Miledi: When is our next meeting?