International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 70

ONSITE / INSIGHT

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August 2020





FOR AND BY THE MEMBERS UNION STEWARDS....PLEASE POST AT YOUR JOB SITE

FOR OUR FUTURE:

- Organizing
- Education
- Training
- Experience
- Knowledge

Dave Monsour

Business Manager/ Financial Secretary

Mickey Dowdle

President

Ken Wieken

Vice-President

Linda Powers

Recording Corresponding Secretary

Skip Metcalf

Treasurer

August 2020 MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

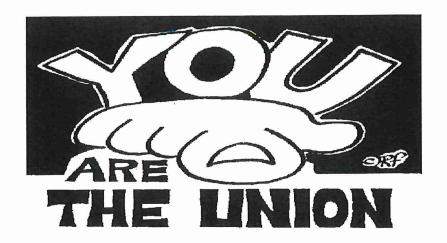
Tuesday, August 4, 2020 5:00pm Local 70 Office 2722 County Road D East, White Bear Lake, MN

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEETING

THE ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



FROM THE DESK OF DAVID MONSOUR, BUSINESS MANAGER

As we rapidly cruise through July of 2020, waiting for the month of August to be upon us in a few short days it is time for me to reflect a bit on the quickness of the summer of 2020.

From the Local 70 offices located in White Bear Lake Minnesota one draws a different perspective on the ways of the world. At least locally I need to mention that as of Friday July 17, 2020, the Mayor of this fine city put a mandatory face mask order into place. I hear from members both pro and con regarding the subject of face mask requirements. I have seen countless memes on the subject equating the wearing of some sort of face mask with everything from parachutes to seatbelts.

Personally, I do not believe that wearing of a mask is an infringement on my lifestyle or my activities. I do believe that if an employer requires an employee to wear a face mask then the employer should be the one footing the bill for that PPE. Yes, I said PPE, Personal Protective Equipment. I believe OSHA is perfectly clear, when the employer requires employees to utilize PPE, then the employer is responsible for the cost of providing same. Unfortunately, OSHA does not agree with me.

The question of schools reopening and the answer that I hope will soon be forthcoming remains up in the air. We have all seen that studies say this, and studies say that. The bottom line is this, do the schools have a safe and responsible plan in place to do just? Good question. We have yet to hear the answer.

I commend the school system for their ability to organize and implement with minimal notification a comprehensive plan this past spring to close their buildings and develop a remote learning process that I am sure was troublesome for so many learners. With summer ending and school openings around the corner what will we do?

It is extremely easy to blame someone or in some cases blame everyone. This is where we are currently. We need to fix this mess and get back to work when, and only when it is safe to do so. Part of being safe is having an organized, functional and fully funded plan in place. Hopefully, a vaccine is not far off. Hopefully, we can see numbers on the decline. Hopefully, it will be safe to return to normal. HOPEFULLY!

Please be safe. Please wash your hands. Please be considerate of others and wear a face mask.

Please research the issues that are important to you, research the candidates that support your issues and most of all get out and support the candidate that supports your issues. Please do the responsible thing, make the responsible decision and vote. Fortunately for all the residents in Minnesota we can all vote by mail. https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/.







Statewide and Proud

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Please make sure you notify the Local 70 office at 651-646-4566 with any changes in your home mailing address, job location, hours you are working and wage information. We want to maintain accurate information on our members so you receive important mailings and other information pertaining to union membership, pension information, proposal meetings and contract votes for your job site. Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

