

Minutes
April 9, 2026
Southcentral Chapter Meeting
Online via Zoom

Mike Miller, chapter chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Marta Mueller, chapter vice chair, called the roll.

Lindsay Kavanaugh, Assistant Business Manager, gave an update for the [APEA/AFT](#) Southcentral Regional Field Office. Lindsay discussed the settlement regarding the 2023 grievance filed against the state for not meeting contract deadlines to resolve notices of pay problems (NOPPs). The settlement regards NOPPs with respect to the grievance, not how individual NOPPs should be resolved. Contact the APEA/AFT office to determine if there is another [collective bargaining agreement](#) (CBA) violation.

Lindsay discussed how to request supervisory differential through the office. When you contact the office please have:

- Your employee ID number
- Your position control number (PCN), title, and copy of your [position description](#)
- Your current salary range
- The date you began supervising one or more classified employees at the same or higher range
- The names of your direct reports in your same or higher range along with PCN, title, and salary range
- Make sure your direct reports' PCNs are on your PD

Lindsay announced changes to how Union 101 and Employee Representative training are delivered. Contact chapter officers or APEA/AFT staff for more information.

Mike discussed [Bylaws](#). The Bylaws were last changed when John White was president in 2020. Mike described the three ways the Bylaws can be changed. It isn't likely the Bylaws will be changed before the next negotiator election since changing the Bylaws is a lengthy process. Chapter structure is also in the Bylaws.

Mike announced the Southcentral Chapter chair and vice chair positions are up for nominations and elections. Nominations close May 1, 2026. If there are only two nominees there will be no election. The Statewide Secretary/Treasurer position is also up for nomination and election on the same timeline. Email Jeff Kasper jkasper@apea-aft.org to nominate candidates.

Mike discussed the negotiations cycle. The Bylaws drive eligibility and nominations for negotiators. Each regional chapter has one primary and one alternate negotiator nominated and elected by the chapter members. Negotiations start with a meet-and-greet

with the state in December 2026. The subject of hiring professional negotiators is brought up every negotiating cycle. Mike stated the APEA/AFT staff assisting with negotiations are professionals. With 24 locals, staff do a lot of negotiations. They also take negotiator training through [Cornell University](#). APEA/AFT staff are union too and understand our members.

Negotiators vote on CBA articles and terms. Some CBA articles get tentative agreement early on. Wages are often the last item to be agreed on. The state pressures SU because of the need to get the CBA funded by the end of the fiscal year when the contract expires.

Watch for emails regarding “negotiator clinics”. Jesse Slone presented the last one on February 20, 2026. Members can engage with leaders. The SU Board hopes there will be meetings with candidates to go along with candidate bios.

Mike fielded questions from the Zoom chat.

- The GGU did not get a better contract than SU. SU received a step increase in the first year, not cash. Later wage increases build on the step increases whereas there are no later wage increases for the one-time cash payment.
- With respect to negotiator performance, vote for better negotiators if you want better negotiations.
- The SU app was shut down in the last cycle because the app wasn’t moderated and violated the platform rules.
- The last contract was ratified, so more members voted for the contract than those who didn’t vote for it.
- Litigation regarding the salary study records request continues. SU is still participating with ASEA. It is unknown whether the data will be available for negotiations. Jesse Slone is compiling position description and salary data on his own.

Mike announced the 2026 APEA/AFT Biennial Caucus (Caucus) will be held October 23 and 24 this year. The SU is allocated 19 of 71 delegates for the Caucus because it is the largest local in APEA/AFT. Certain delegate seats are automatically filled by regional chapter chairs and vice chairs. Two more delegate seats are filled by the Statewide President and Secretary/Treasurer. The SU Board plans to have members nominate and elect at-large delegates. Caucus will be held in Anchorage and travel will be provided.

Mike announced the SU Scholarship will be awarded in late Summer 2026. Look for an email with application details this summer.

Bookmark the new SU website at <https://local4900.org/>. The old one is not being updated.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

The employee representative roll call follows.

Last	First or Nickname	Present
Bukovich	Rena	
Foster	Jason	x
Heusser	Heather	X
Kusche	Kara	X
McDonald	Kelly	X
McDonald	Norm	
Milburn	James	
Miller	Mike	X
Mueller	Marta	X
Mullen	Janelle	x
Paperman	Dave	X
Sanders	Cris	X
Shryock	Benjamin	X
Stewart	Kandi	
Vey	Kelli	
Watson	Tyler	X
Williams	Mike	x

Approximately 101 members and APEA/AFT staff participated.