



AFSCME members Steve Trenhaile (left) and Corey Hibke (right) help put in a barrier to prevent flooding in Moose Lake. Both men are part of the Moose Lake Area Fire Protection District.

Workers Help Fight Flooding

AFSCME members helped protect the public from floodwaters in northern Minnesota this past week. Heavy storms overflowed Moose Lake and other bodies of water. Moose Lake volunteer fire department members Steve Trenhaile (Local 3887) and Corey Hibke (Local 1092) checked on residents and helped put up a temporary retaining wall to prevent flooding in homes and businesses. Trenhaile is a sergeant at the Minnesota Correctional Facility and Hibke works at the Minnesota Sex Offender Program. AFSCME members also oversaw inmates from MSOP and the Challenge Incarceration Program as they filled sandbags, Trenhaile says.

“To protect the public and our community, that’s why we do what we do,” he says. “You’ve got to want to help people. It’s why we’re on the fire department, and it’s the same thing where we work. We’re

part of the community.” Members are also helping each other deal with flooding: Local 1092 set aside \$1,000 to help those with water damage. Members affected by the floods should send information to jandersonmn@msn.com by **Aug. 1**.

Members Gather at International Convention

The Las Vegas Convention Center is filled with thousands of our fellow AFSCME members this week as they chart our union's course for the next two years. We don't quit when the going gets tough, because that's not who we are. When we come together and fight together, it means better public services, wages, benefits and working conditions. And we know that our union is also a powerful force to level the playing field for all working people.

See that spirit in action in this compelling video: <http://2016.afscme.org/video/quitters-dont>.

Door Knock, Vote for Change

AFSCME members are working hard to hold elected officials accountable and make sure they share our values. There are a number of things you can do to make sure these officials support working families.

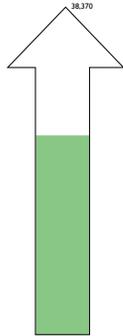
Please vote in the primary on **Tuesday, Aug. 9**. Our members and retirees have screened candidates for U.S. Congress, state House, state Senate, and county and municipal office. Check out this website for a list of AFSCME-endorsed candidates: <http://afscmemn.org/afscme-endorsed-candidates>. Can't make it to the polls that day? Just vote absentee. Find details here: <http://tinyurl.com/hpnmvmdg>.

Council 5 is holding phone banks every Monday and Thursday from now until **Aug. 9** in the Duluth and South St. Paul offices. Phone banks start with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and calling from 6-8 p.m. Email Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org in South St. Paul, and Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org in Duluth. Locations not convenient? We'll bring a phone bank on the road to you if you gather at least six AFSCME members in your area. Contact Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org. Door knock in Duluth on **Sunday, July 24** and **July 31** from 1 to 4 p.m. Call (218) 341-9117 or email zach.sias@afscmemn.org.

Look for other AFSCME International convention highlights, including your fellow members, on the Council 5 Facebook page.

AFSCME Strong Is Growing

AFSCME Strong is our program to determine our own destiny by building a stronger union with members who are more engaged. Sign a membership card to protect your job, defend our rights and preserve the quality of services we provide our communities.



We're 56 percent of the way toward our goal of 94 percent membership.

To reach that goal, we need to sign up 16,921 more workers. If each local signs up just eight people a day, we're there.

Tentative Agreements Reached

Local 2385 (Southwest Minnesota State University) and **Local 753** (St. Cloud State) reached a tentative three-year agreement with Chartwell food services. It includes hourly raises of 30 cents the first year, 35 cents the second year and 40 cents the third year; improved health insurance; dental insurance; a 401(k); and retention of previously won bargaining rights. To bridge the wage gap at St. Cloud, workers there also got \$1 an hour more at the top half of the base wage and 50 cents more at the bottom half.

State Fair Volunteers Sought

Please consider doing important and exciting work for AFSCME this summer: Volunteer at the Minnesota State Fair **Aug. 25 to Sept. 5**. Share labor values at the AFSCME kiosk, and you'll get a free admission ticket and a sharp new AFSCME T-shirt. The shifts are 3.5 hours, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 12:30 to 4 p.m. or 4 to 7:30 p.m. If you can, we'll ask you to attend a brief training in mid-August to talk about the message this year.

Interested in joining the fun? Just let us know which dates and shifts you'd like in order of preference (in case a shift is filled), plus your T-shirt size and your cell phone number. Email these details to: Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org.

Former Governor passes away

Former Minnesota Gov. Wendell Anderson died Sunday at age 83. He signed the bill that established the Public Employment Labor Relations Act (PELRA) in 1973, which gave state and local government workers the right to join unions and bargain, and was foundational in us later winning the right to strike in 1980. Anderson was known for the "Minnesota Miracle," tax reforms that shifted school financing away from such heavy reliance on property taxes

to help level disparities between school districts. His investments funded the important work we do to support Minnesota's quality of life.

Learn more at: <http://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/07/17/obit-wendell-anderson>.

Help Educators Mourn Philando

Join educators from the Saint Paul Federation of Teachers and Minneapolis Federation of Teachers, along with community and labor allies, to mourn the killing of Philando Castile and demand justice for his life and for Black lives across the country. The rally and march **Tuesday, July 19**, starts at the American Federation of Teachers Convention at the Minneapolis Convention Center, 2nd Avenue South entrance. It runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Go here for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/285334765155018/>.

Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. You can share an event by emailing Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org or download a copy to post on your workplace bulletin board at www.afscmemn.org.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place
AFSCME 42nd Annual International Convention	July 18 to 22	Council 5 is staying at the Paris Hotel, Las Vegas.
Twin Cities Labor Sing	July 26 at 7p.m.	East Side Freedom Library, Saint Paul
AFSCME Family Picnic	Aug. 21 from 1 to 5 p.m.	Battle Creek Regional Park, Maplewood
AFSCME at the State Fair	Aug. 25 to Sept. 5	State Fairgrounds, Saint Paul
AFL-CIO Central Body Labor Day Picnic	Sept. 5	Bayfront Festival Park, Duluth