

AFSCME SMRLS Union Meeting Agenda: February 19, 2026

- Call to Order
- Attendees:

Mana Kleiser Tiffany Fearing Sarah Palm Kalene Engel Mario Solis

Angie Bohnstengel Mary Thies Kristin Boynton Valerie Snyder Sam Rahn

Rylee Banks Mai See John Buhta

- President's Report
 - CBA Negotiations Update
 - Next is 3/25
 - Negotiation day on 2/17
 - Making progress, hopefully only need to do a few more negotiation days
 - Sticking points are domestic violence leave, sick leave, vacation, wages
 - Budget Crisis
 - Budget Committee no longer meeting, recommendations were made to management. The committee did not agree on any one recommendation.
 - On 2/25, management plans to announce lay offs of 13 people. No list of positions or people has been shared with the Union or NOLSW
 - This process, along with other cost savings (pay freeze, hiring freeze, voluntary retirements, and voluntary change to part time) is believed to complete the needed \$3M in savings, but to have a balanced budget we need to save \$5M. It is not clear the plan for the other \$2M. A new immigration grant was received, which helps some. It is also why management is asking both unions to vote on a reduction in retirement contributions.
 - We will vote on the retirement contribution reduction via Opa vote.
 - AFSCME/Legal Aid Day on Hill 2/19

- Mana attended and gave update
- Met with 6 legislators and distributed materials. We were in a group with reps from VLN and MMLA. AFSCME also represents CMLS.
- Asking for \$13 M to make up for loss of federal funding. The breakdown would ask \$4M for SMRLS.
- There was support expressed, but more conversations need to be had about how the legislature can do this. AFSCME envisions funding could be provided via the Board of Civil Legal Aid. More meetings will happen.
- Treasurer's Report
 - N/A
- Council 5 Update
 - AFSCME Day on the Hill 3/10
 - This is advocacy on behalf of all of AFSCME
 - we are encouraged to participate
 - Anyone interested needs to connect with Kyle, feel free to reach out to Mana or Sarah to help you get connected if interested.
- Old Business
 - N/A
- Good and Welfare
 - N/A
- Adjourn
 - Next Meeting -