

WOEA-R MINUTES

May 21, 2025

Call to Order: 11:14

Attendance: Emmy Brudzynski, Joyce Coney-Lacey, Lori Moodie, Doris Moore, Mary Stockton, Ernie Stockton, Clarice Thomas, Shirley Worst

Guest: Pastor William Moore, Marion Witcher

Welcome: Doris Moore

Socializing and eating

11:55- Introduction of speaker: Clarice Thomas

The speaker was Marion Witcher, who is a mom of one of the students (Ashley) on the school bus that Clarice worked on when she was in Xenia City Schools. Marion spoke about her journey of raising a child with autism. She found out when her daughter, Ashley, was 3 years old that she has autism. She wrote a book called Sowing My Tears Reaping His Joy about her journey.

Marion also thanked us for what we, as educators, have done in our careers to help all students. She said that each one of us is a gift and that all parents and educators should teach and train our children, even though they have special needs. She even came with visual gifts. Marion touched our hearts and was such a dynamic speaker and left many without dry eyes.

12:45- Business meeting began

Secretary- Lori Moodie- Approval of Minutes- Unanimously approved

Officer Reports:

Chair Report- Doris Moore (She attended the Western Uniserve Council, Professional Efficacy Committee via Zoom, Human and Civil Rights Meeting via Zoom, DLAMC meeting via Zoom, WOEa Board of Director's meeting, OEA-R book study and the OEA-R Social Justice Committee.

Vice Chair Report- Clarice Thomas (Let her know if you have any ideas for events and/or restaurants for meetings). She shared her experiences from the OEA RA in May.

Secretary Report- Lori Moodie (Bring copies of the minutes and agenda each month or have them on your device to see during the meetings). She shared her experiences from the OEA RA in May.

Treasurer Report- Nola Brooks

Savings- \$35.25

Money Market- \$5,233.06

Checking- \$305.19

OEA Advisory Report- Joni Watson (Not in attendance, but she emailed out info to the members)

Past Chair Report- Phil Long (Not in attendance, but he submitted a report), (Election slate- Nola Brooks, Lori Moodie, Doris Moore, Clarice Thomas)

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Outreach- Jane Rahn- Not in attendance

Legislative- Dawn Wojcik- Not in attendance

Mailing- Willie Terrell- Not in attendance

Membership- Emmy Brudzynski/Jane Rahn- Emmy said there were 5 newsletters mailed out and none returned. So, that's good news that our mailing list is pretty current. Jane was not in attendance.

Newsletter Editor- Wayne Wlodarski- Not in attendance

Nominations/Elections- Vacant- (Phil Long has resigned. We are looking for a volunteer)

Public Relations- Vacant

Sunshine- Debbie Owens- Not in attendance

Webmaster- Debbie Owens- Not in attendance

NAACP- Willie Terrell- Not in attendance

WOEA Uniserve Councils:

AVA- Vacant

2 Far West- Nola Brooks- no report

Grand Lake- Phil Long- Not in attendance (He attended on May 6. 15 were present. He gave out retirement certificates and encouraged their use. He stayed briefly, due to Election Day.

Grand Old River- Phil Long/Annette Johnson- neither in attendance- (It met last in April)

Green County- Joni Watson- Not in attendance

Happy Trails- Doris Moore

Miami Valley A&B- Joni Watson- Not in attendance

Western- Doris Moore/Delores Rome Hudson- (They met 5/21/25).

WOEA Committees:

Collective Bargaining- Lori Moodie- no report

Legislative- Dawn Wojcik- Not in attendance- no report

Local Development and Training- Doris Moore

Human and Civil Rights- Willie Terrell- Not in attendance

Professional Efficacy- Doris Moore

Organizing Strategy- Vacant

Unfinished Business: Elections- Joyce Coney-Lacey conducted the election, since the other election committee members were absent.

The following people were elected by acclamation: Chair- Doris Moore, Vice Chair- Clarice Thomas, Secretary- Lori Moodie, Treasurer- Nola Brooks.

Congratulations to our above slate of officers.

New Business: The following motions were made that will be voted on at the May meeting:

1.The motion was made by Clarice Thomas for reimbursement of \$100 each for two members to attend the OEA Summer Leadership academy on June 23-25, 2025.

Rationale: They can keep up with new information and network with others in OEA and report back to WOE-R. It helps keep the bridge between the different organizations within the OEA strong. WOE-R can also show support to the active members through activities such as this. Also, WOE-R has money and doesn't use it much. We need to use it for our membership.

2. The motion was made by Lori Moodie to have half of the WOE-R meetings at 5:00pm and half at the normal 11:00 time for a one year trial that can be extended if members agree, starting during the 2025-2026 school year, in order to give options to increase our active membership involvement.

Rationale: Many of our members still work, volunteer, babysit grandkids, have doctor appointment and other commitments during the day. By having the meetings at different times of the day, it opens our door to those people too. The officers will prepare a schedule this summer, according to the suggestions made from various members during the May and June meetings and during the summer. Various WOE-R have expressed interest in this recently and at our last meeting.

3. The motion was made by Lori Moodie for WOE-R to start a fundraising committee.

Rationale: The committee will discuss fundraisers for various purposes. It could be to help various service projects and/or to provide funding for our members to participate in various fun

and/or educational and/or union opportunities (ex: OEA, OEA-R, NEA, etc) that will help the good of our membership. The more opportunities the WOE-R provides for its members, the more we can keep our retired educators excited and engaged and helping each other and our community. It doesn't do any good to have a bank account if we don't keep it strong and use it for our members and our community. Various WOE-R have expressed interest in this recently and at our last meeting.

-A discussion was held about having our officers follow the 3 year election schedule of that the OEA-R uses. By having our officers elected for 3 year terms, it follows the same schedule of OEA-R so we will be more aligned. It also gives our officers a chance to learn the job well because there is a learning curve whenever new officers start. There is interest by some in looking at a possible change in our Constitution and bylaws regarding this topic.

Good of the order:

Announcements: Next meeting- June 18, 2025 at Shen's Szechuan and Sushi

7580 Poe Ave. Dayton, Ohio 45414. We look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Moodie

Secretary