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BULLETIN # 15

KMEX, Los Angeles, California
April 13-14, 2017
May 9-10, 15, & 16, 2017
4:00 p.m. (PST)

Since April 7, the parties have met 6 times at the bargaining table. Due to the effects of the recent arbitration decisions involving Traffic and Master Control, the discussions on the KMEX collective bargaining agreement have slowed significantly. The company has spent considerable time and effort attempting to bargain changes to the decisions, which the Union has done in good faith. However it is highly likely that both decisions will be returned to the arbitrator to rule on portions of the decisions still not complied with as of May 18, 2017. This includes make whole remedies, and return of all work that was previously done by the bargaining unit. Master Control has had the most discussion with an attempt to negotiate an agreement to allow MCTD duties to remain in Houston in return for a benefit to the bargaining unit. Unfortunately, no agreement has been reachable that didn't result in the giveaway of the bargaining unit's jurisdiction in return for a short term gain. We expect the MCTD work to be returned to KMEX in the very near future.

Given the slowdown in the rest of negotiations, the company has been focused on the concept of creating a Video Journalist in the KMEX CBA. The committee has let the bargaining unit's position of not being willing to erode the current photographer jurisdiction be clearly know to the company, and has reached out to SAG/AFTRA in order to discuss the impact of this topic, which was done in the past when the Helicopter Hyphenate language was created. Unfortunately, the SAG/AFTRA response to our request was less than desirable, and has left the bargaining unit in a position of defending our jurisdiction on two fronts. This is a topic that both NABET and SAG/AFTRA bargaining unit members have deep concerns with. Since the bulk of the job is NABET-CWA jurisdiction, the number of fences and issues that have to be addressed make this a very difficult issue to define, let alone make it presentable to the bargaining unit for consideration. Since most of the discussions on this subject have been off the record, there are not many details to share. If you have questions, the negotiating committee can explain the situation to you in a "what if" scenario since no proposal properly explaining what the parties might be able to agree upon currently exists.

The parties agreed to further meetings on June 12, 13, 28 (caucus), 29, 30, July 5 (caucus), 6, 7.

Despite the apparent lack of noticeable progress, some of the discussions have been helpful in closing the gap on the balance of the remaining issues.

Please contact us if you have any questions on these matters.

Fraternally,

NABET-CWA/KMEX Negotiating Committee

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT NABET-CWA LOCAL 53'S WEBSITE AT:
<http://www.nabet53.org>