Negotiations took place over the past two days, again with a focus on the issue of VJ’s. This issue has paralyzed these negotiations since June of last year. The parties considered numerous concepts of how the utilization of VJ’s could be successfully proposed taking into consideration the intense distaste the Minicam unit has for this subject.

Approximately 40% of the unit joined the committee prior to Thursday’s meeting to make sure the Company is aware of the attention they are paying to the negotiations.

At one point on Friday, the discussion reached a point where the Union advised the Company that if the concepts continued to move further away the Union was ready to cease discussions on the matter as it has been stated numerous times that any discussion over ceding jurisdiction to non-bargaining unit persons, even if another represented Union, is a matter of permissive discussions that NABET-CWA is not obligated to discuss. The Company disagrees and believes it can keep this discussion going until an agreement is reached.

Your committee has spoken to most of you regarding this matter if you are affected directly by the topic. If you have questions or comments, you should talk to a member of the Negotiating Committee.

The parties have agreed to return to the table February 5th and 6th. Additional dates will be held in March.

The quickest path to a successful contract resolution is a solid, united bargaining unit. For the past 28 years, it has been a fact that KMEX has been at the forefront of NABET-CWA unity. In the past 6 months that unity has been tested. If you want the results this unit is used to achieving, it’s time to get back to being the model of unity that all other units strive for.

Fraternally,

NABET-CWA/KMEX Negotiating Committee

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