The parties met for two days at the table this week for the only available negotiations dates this month due to scheduling conflicts. Monday was the 10th day of negotiations, and Wednesday is Day 11.

The negotiations on Monday began with the company presenting two proposals on 6.01a General Scope, proposing that on air talent had no limits on their ability to shoot, gather, assemble, and edit, and a proposal on 6.01g Broadcast of Non-Broadcast Material which allows use of any material beyond the current incidental or occasional basis. These proposals are a direct assault at the core job security of our members.

The company also issued a revised proposal on 19.05g Overtime. This proposal removes meals from being counted toward overtime, which combined with a 4 hour call minimum on a scheduled day off, would potentially create a 4 hour call that is regular time. Just the 19.05 and 19.02 proposals would cost a member working on an off day 6.25% for every hour worked on a day off, and an additional 50% for that day due to the potentially shortened day. It has been a longstanding reality that asking staffers to come in on a weekend when they could use a Per Diem instead, to take a major hit for coming in to help the company work through their issues.

The parties caucused until Wednesday.

When the parties returned to the negotiations table, a brief pre-grievance meeting was held regarding upcoming programming plans the company recently announced. Once this discussion was over the parties resumed negotiations. The Union presented a counter proposal regarding 6.01a, which would create the Video Journalist the company seeks, only it is done under NABET jurisdiction if AFTRA agrees to allow NABET-CWA members to perform on air reporting as part of a do all assignment.

The Union also presented proposal on 6.01g and h, eliminating the use of Non Broadcast Material and Other Univision Employees working in NABET areas. The Union also updated the proposal on Article 7 Job Duty descriptions, presented a proposal on 19.09 Night Differential which has not been adjusted since 2004, and introduces a new Weekend Differential for persons not being given at least one weekend day off and is not on a four day workweek.

The Union also presented one of the most substantial proposals of the 2016 negotiations cycle – 11.02c Per Diem Seniority. This proposal is designed to provide a measure of order to the use and scheduling of Per Diem employees. The proposal requires a minimum of 20 days worked to be placed on the list, and it gives first right of refusal to work in the order of seniority.

Dates for the next negotiations sessions are TBA.
If you have any questions or concerns, please refer to our official bulletins or your negotiating committee members. We thank you for your support and cooperation as we work through this process.

Fraternally,

NABET-CWA/KMEX Negotiating Committee

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