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UNION UPDATE



Members elect bargaining team

Nearly 200 bargaining representatives from across the state voted this weekend to elect Local 1000's 63-member Bargaining Unit Negotiating Council (BUNC). These member activists and leaders will be responsible for negotiating the successor contract. The current contract expires July 1 of 2016.



"Our newly elected BUNC is comprised of a group of skilled, experienced negotiators who, among them, share many years of bargaining team experience."

—Margarita Maldonado
Vice President for Bargaining

Representatives from each of the nine state bargaining units met Saturday afternoon and evening to elect their bargaining teams.

At the master table, the nine unit chairs will negotiate a contract that affects all 95,000 Local 1000-represented employees on issues including wages, benefits, pensions and working conditions. Additionally, each bargaining unit will negotiate sections of the contract that relate only to classifications specific to that unit.

Seasoned negotiators

"Our newly elected BUNC is comprised of skilled, and experienced negotiators who, among them, share many years of bargaining team experience," said Margarita Maldonado, vice president for bargaining for Local 1000.

The Statewide Bargaining Negotiating Committee (SBAC) meets three times yearly for training and strategy sessions related to contract negotiations and enforcement. Last weekend's meeting welcomed a number of newly-elected District Bargaining Unit Representatives (DBURs) who act as liaisons between their DLC and the bargaining team.

Bargaining begins now

With our contract set to expire in just 11 months, efforts are already underway to execute a plan designed to protect our hard-earned rights while making improvements to our wages, benefits and working conditions.

Local 1000 is working to engage more state employees in the fight for a fair contract. "Bargaining isn't like negotiating over the price of a car," said Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 president. "Bargaining is about power—the power of committed members—and how we leverage that power at the table."

UNION INFORMATION



Preparations underway for new contract

With less than a year remaining before our current contract expires, Local 1000's efforts to bargain a fair contract took a big step forward this weekend with the election of a new bargaining team and the installation of new and returning bargaining representatives.

"With our team in place, our focus turns toward building better relationships and more power among the ranks of the 95,000 state employees we represent," said Margarita Maldonado, vice president for bargaining of Local 1000.

Contract efforts include a comprehensive series of worksite meetings and town halls where Local 1000 members will gather to identify their priorities for bargaining for the new contract.

"The key, as always, will be member involvement," added Maldonado. "We have selected a skilled and experienced bargaining team, but to secure the best possible contract we need to have thousands of members standing together while we negotiate."



"Our strength in bargaining comes from projecting power... What we achieve at the table is a direct result of members committed to act in support of better wages, benefits and working conditions."

—Yvonne R. Walker
President

members secured a 4.5 percent pay increase.

That contract, ratified by members in the summer of 2013, met each of the four key priorities identified by members: besides an across-the-board pay increase, we enjoyed a contract that prevented new furloughs, preserved our 80/20 health benefit formula and protected our hard-earned pensions.

Leveraging member power

"Our strength in bargaining comes from projecting power," says Yvonne R. Walker, president of Local 1000. "What we achieve at the table is a direct result of members committed to acting in support of better wages, benefits and working conditions."

In 2013, Governor Brown and his bargaining team pushed for a "cost-neutral" contract that included no pay increases for Local 1000 members. After thousands of members rallied on the west steps of the Capitol, backed by thousands more standing in solidarity at worksites up and down the state, Local 1000-represented

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