



IBEW LOCAL 30

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers AFL-CIO-CFL

October 22, 2020

Good Morning Sisters and Brothers,

It has been some time since you've heard from me, so I thought I'd reach out and give you a quick update. As of today, we continue with our negotiations on furlough days and COLA adjustments. Nearly a month ago we gave the administration a counter and we continue to wait for their response. Needless to say, their silence is deafening. In light of these developments or lack thereof, this union remains entrenched and continues the fight for our fundamental beliefs and core values. While the doom and gloom of July faded into the approval of the borrowing plan of August and finally into the budget of September, we have entered this fall having a nearly full pension contribution made and a reserve fund of \$2.55 Billion sitting in the treasury. The reality of October is very different than the prognosticated outcomes as discussed in July. At this point, we remain steadfast in our belief that the administration insisting on furlough days from us in Management is tantamount to a billionaire beating up a beggar for a nickel.

To reiterate what I've said countless times before, our contract put us on a two to three year path to fiscal equality and financial stability. The terms of that contract were bargained, voted upon, and ratified. Career service managers such as myself and a majority of you waited years for our dreams of equality to become a reality, and we fought like hell to make these dreams come true. It wasn't the path to equality that we had envisioned. In fact, it came with the strings of a multiyear wait and the agreement to accept cut rate health insurance forced upon us without input to its creation or say in its

implementation. But still, we accepted these terms to get us to our goal of wage equality.

As I have said repeatedly: I did not place the membership of Local 30 on a three year path to wage equality, this administration did. Where the first step on that path was the migration to a new pay table, the second step was the COLA that we have yet to receive. The administration made the unilateral decision to withhold the July COLA stating that it was easier to not pay us the COLA, than to pay it and then take it back once we reach an agreement about furloughs. While I understand their logic, this union did not endorse their refusal to pay the COLA as owed. While there are many reasons we did not endorse their action in July, given the budget of late September, I can think of 2.55 billion more reasons why we have no business endorsing their blatant disregard for our ratified agreement. We remain today as we did during the 22 month negotiations cycle for our current contract: at the ready to meet and discuss any matter with them on a moment's notice. Rest assured, we will provide you with all of the information about whatever the proposal might be, so that you'll be able to make an informed decision. We continue to do everything we can to get a measure that we can take out to you for a vote. While I sound like a broken record, your Bargaining Committee appreciates your continued support! We really do love hearing from you and still appreciate the time that you take to reach out to us!

At this point I do not see me getting out another update between now and Election Day, and so I will leave you with one additional thought. As Americans, our nation asks remarkably little of us. Other than Jury Duty, Military Service under a Draft, and Paying Taxes, our democracy requires very little active participation. There is, however, one obligation that we all share and that is our responsibility to vote. Our Local holds a very auspicious title within the IBEW and that is our Local Union has the greatest number of registered voters of any IBEW Local Union in the country with better than 99% of our membership being registered to vote!

On this Election Day, make sure you exercise your right to vote. Generations have fought and died not only to preserve this right, but to make sure the right to vote is enjoyed by all of us. As a Public Service announcement, please take the time to vote, our

Democracy is counting on you!

Stay Safe, Stay Well, and Stay Tuned!

Al

Al Laubsch
Business Manager
IBEW LU30

Need to update your email or home address? Let us know by sending your change of address to Lisa Ginther at info@ibewlocal30.org - Thank you!