



DENNIS MOEN
Business Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer

TODD PELOW
President

HEADQUARTERS
2510 Arctic Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
FAX (907) 279-7171
(907) 276-7211

2122 Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
FAX (907) 456-1771
(907) 452-5024

722 West 9th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
FAX (907) 586-5757
(907) 586-6993



May 18, 2018

RE: STATE CONTRACT NEGOTIATION RESULTS

Pertinent to Public Employees Local 71 members working for the State of Alaska.

Your bargaining team is happy to announce a Tentative Agreement with the State of Alaska. It's been a long journey and tough negotiations. We appreciate your support and understanding during these tenuous times.

Local 71 faced attacks on Merit and Pay increments, reduced leave accrual rates, elimination of double time pay, reductions to health and safety, contracting out our work, increases to housing charges in areas already difficult to fill positions and stripping seniority language. I'm happy to say your team stood fast and secured existing contract language on key contract provisions and achieved several successes.

In short: We strengthened the referral time frame language. After six years of efforts, we have finally achieved the option of a Volunteer Emergency Sick Leave Bank.

Members will now be guaranteed extra 130 hours of pay per year through the new 40-hour work week. This equates to achieving an additional income of one month's pay and leaves hourly pay rates the same. Annual Leave accruals will go up accordingly with this increase.

Anniversary dates do not change unless Leave Without Pay (LWOP) interferes. This is a huge help for those who are promoting and does not reset with promotion or demotion. Only ONE 2-day furlough is permitted before July of 2019. NO furloughs are permitted in 2020 or 2021.

State employer health care (Trust) contributions will increase over the life of the contract, while Member premiums stay secured at the same rate for 2018 and 2019.

We clarified Short-Term Per-Diem to ensure the first 30 days are at higher rates, and NO REDUCTIONS are applied to the Long-Term days following those first 30. Pay increment increases continue forever at 3.75% through Step N at no cap. After Step N pay increments increase change to 3.75% on a 3-year basis. Local 71 Members in rural areas, or working remotely, will not be charged leave for Jury Duty. Leave request can now be made with 30 days lead time, rather than 45. Employers now will respond to workers in 10 days, rather than 15.

Employer provided housing rentals are “grandfathered” for current Local 71 Member employees, so they don’t increase this year. Rent and utility rates will increase for new employees in 2019. Our Members will only be charged rent for the number of bedrooms utilized. (Example: a single employee in a 3-bedroom house will only be charged at the 1-bedroom rate.)

It took all Legislative Session to get here, with lots of negotiation meetings. I met personally with the Governor, Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners multiple times to get our points across. Local 71 was not willing to finalize a Tentative Agreement until we had the best possible contract during Alaska’s fiscal crisis.

This contract was negotiated by Members for Members. I’m proud and appreciative of the hard work and dedication the team brought to these negotiations. Alaskans have not faced this fiscal uncertainty of this magnitude since the mid 80’s. We believe our state will be on better financial footing when we meet for the next contract in the fall of 2020 and Local 71 negotiations team will push hard to increase wages and benefits for our members and their families.

Special Thanks to the team: Jordan Adams, Tom Brice, Trenton English, Cathy Lavender, Todd Peplow, Phil Petrie, Tracy Smith, and all of you who put the time and effort into sending recommendations to the team.

To make the changes as clear as possible, we have included a color-coded table to help you easily distinguish what changes were made, wins, status quo, or compromises.

Thanks again for your patience and support. Ballots and contract language changes will be mailed in a week or so. Local 71 Business representatives will be available to answer questions.

A YES VOTE secures this contract.

Fraternally,



Dennis Moen
Business Manager Secretary-Treasurer of
Public Employees Local 71 and
Alaska District Council of Laborers

Enclosure: Negotiation Summary