

FIELD NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE MEETS IN WASHINGTON DC















ANTHONY COLEMAN







he NPMHU's 2019 National Agreement is set to expire on September 20, 2022. Negotiations with the Postal Service will formally commence on June 10, 2022; preparations at the National Office, however, have been ongoing for many months.

The Postal Service continues to claim, both publicly and privately, that it is in dire financial condition. This pronouncement is exacerbated by the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic which began in February 2020 and the long-term implications of the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act. It was this legislation that gave rise to the requirement to prefund retiree health benefits through the year 2056. These statutory obligations to prefund retiree health care are unlike expenses imposed on most other federal entities or private-sector businesses that offer such benefits.

It is not all doom and gloom, however. While the Postal Service experienced a significant decline in mail services during the pandemic, the USPS enjoyed substantial growth in sales from shipping and packages. Moreover, the USPS could gain significant relief from the Postal Service Reform Act which addresses the prefunding mandate and retiree healthcare costs. This legislation has cleared the House and is awaiting a vote in the Senate.

The challenges we face in National Bargaining are not insurmountable, but they are substantial. The NPMHU will work to achieve a negotiated National Agreement; that is certainly our goal. But there are many hurdles to overcome.

NPMHU preparation for negotiations are ongoing and include:

A national bargaining strategy session was conducted with all Local Union representatives at the November 2021 Semi-Annual Meeting of the Local Unions in Washington DC.

Bargaining proposals were solicited from the membership and Local Unions through January 2022. The NPMHU's Field Negotiating Committee met at NPMHU Headquarters in Washington, DC from February 7 through 11, 2022 to discuss each proposal submitted.

Based on the proposals submitted, the feedback of the NPMHU's Field Negotiating Committee will help formulate the Union's initial bargaining proposals.









The Field Negotiating Committee included all members of the National Executive Board, all National CAD Representatives, and an array of Local Union Presidents, including:

- Paul Hogrogian, NP
- Michael Hora, NST
- June Harris, Local 306
- John Gibson, Local 308
- David Wilkin, Local 309
- Don Sneesby, Local 316
- Lawrence Sapp, Local 318
- Kevin Tabarus, Local 300
- Dan St. Marie, Local 301
- Tony Coleman, Local 302
- Eddie Cowan, Local 303
- Felandria Jackson, Local 305
- James Haggarty, Local 307

- Pervous Badilishamwalimu. Local 310
- Charles Charleston, Local 311
- Nick Mosezar, Local 318
- Kelly Dickey, Local 322
- Jeff Larsen, Local 323
- Todd Larson, Local 328
- John, R. Macon, Local 329
- Sheldon Adams, Local 334

On behalf of all Mail Handlers, the NPMHU expresses its deep appreciation to all members of the Field Negotiating Committee for their invaluable work on these proposals.

Once bargaining kicks-off, the National Office will be posting periodic updates of the status of negotiations. Please watch your local bulletin boards and other means of communication for the latest updates.











SHELDON ADAMS







EUGENE HORTON

JUNE HARRIS











CHARLES MANAGO

