

# ALASKA STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



## United We Stand

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### Bargaining Update # 8 March 16, 2007

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The **CNC** met with the state March 12-14 in Juneau in an effort to reach an agreement in accordance with the statute that requires the Legislature to consider monetary terms if they are submitted before the 60<sup>th</sup> day of the legislative session, March 16. **We were unable to achieve our goal largely due to the state's unwillingness to bargain.**

**There was no response or counter-offer to our monetary proposal.** When asked why, the state's chief spokesperson explained that the state was "*nervous*" about our bold monetary approach at the table and that our initial proposal "*scared them to death.*" **They did tell us they could make another monetary offer—but declined to do so during these negotiating sessions. We need to keep the pressure on the state !**

**The state had only one proposal to pass across the table**—an attempt to lengthen probationary periods under Article 11.02.B. The state does not want to count time served in a lower job class towards time served in a higher one. *This could have the effect of extending probation for up to 23 months.* **This proposal is unacceptable to your CNC !**

**The state's actions are sending a message that bargaining is not its number one priority:**

1. One example is that the Director of Personnel/Labor Relations left Juneau on the morning of the last day of bargaining. *A day when they knew we were expecting to see a new monetary proposal from them.* Apparently she had some unknown pressing matter to deal with that was a higher priority than our contract negotiations.
2. **Another example was the state's reluctance to set meeting dates.** *We told them we were willing to meet any day, any time, every day until we get an agreement.* **We want to work ! Contract negotiations are our priority!** Instead of following our lead, the state proposed that we meet April 3. When asked why such a delay, the chief spokesperson stated that "*his principals*" gave him those directions. The state's chief spokesperson said they were hesitant to meet frequently, as we proposed, because they were "*concerned about our intent.*" **Our intent is to get a fair contract—but it won't happen unless the state is willing to meet, and work, towards that end.**

The **CNC** did TA (tentatively agreed) Article 8 (**Emergency Personnel**) and Article 34 (**Examination of Records**) with the status quo. We also TA'd Article 16 (**Grievance—Arbitration**) with a minor change to 16.01.I.4 removing the duplicate language requiring the union contact the state to select an arbitrator.

The Juneau Chapter sponsored a rally on Tuesday noon in front of the Capitol Building. There were about 300 union supporters there waving signs and chanting for a fair contract. **Thank you Juneau !**

#### Central Region

Toya Winton, Negotiator  
Sue Layton, Alternate

#### Seasonal

Steve Thomsen, Negotiator  
Vacant, Alternate

#### Class I

Chris Lyou, Negotiator  
Katie Sullivan, Alternate

#### Southeast Region

Chris Pace, Negotiator  
Sheila Fowlkes, Alternate

#### Northern Region

Vicki Spear-Shiple, Negotiator  
Shawn Alexander, Alternate

#### Rural

Jerry Farrington, Negotiator  
Pam Chatham, Alternate

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[www.afscme-local52.org/cnc](http://www.afscme-local52.org/cnc)