

Riverside County Bargaining Update (August 17, 2017)

Your Bargaining Team met with the County's Bargaining Team yesterday morning. It was an extremely brief meeting. We resubmitted the proposal we made back in May, and then we concluded the meeting.

The Board of Supervisors do not meet again until the 29th, so we won't know anything before then.

And to refresh all of our memories, our proposal at this point is quite simple. We are requesting bumps in our flex benefits to help with the insurance premium rate hikes. We have proposed that the flex benefit increases take effect in November of this year, as well as in November of next year. We have proposed that all other provisions in our current MOU remain in place for the next 24 months.

I think that this proposal represents sacrifice on our part, and demonstrates that we understand that the County is in a very difficult spot. But it's as far as we can go. It is our hope that the Board will see that continued attempts to solve the budget on the backs of their employees is neither fair nor practical.

We will notify you when we have another meeting scheduled, but, as I said, the 29th would be the absolute earliest we will hear anything.

Take care for now, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

In Solidarity,

Stephen Switzer, Business Manager