



AIR TRANSPORT

DISTRICT LODGE 142



December 14, 2011
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IAM /AIR WISCONSIN COFPS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

With the rejection of the Tentative Agreement and the Company's memo released shortly thereafter, the need for an accurate explanation of these negotiations is apparent. In these negotiations, it was repeatedly communicated to your IAM Negotiating Committee by Air Wisconsin that failure to achieve savings over current costs would assuredly precipitate United Airlines to award the IAD ground handling services contract to another provider. This was the basis for the need to conduct negotiations early and as quickly as possible as communicated by Vince Portaro, Vice President of Customer Service. In addition to the needed savings associated with IAD, it was also communicated repeatedly to your Negotiating Committee by Mr. Portaro that failure to achieve these savings, in IAD and elsewhere, would likely force Air Wisconsin to leave the ground handling service business completely. This is what led us to engage in discussions with the Company ahead of negotiations set to occur in January, 2012. This is the explanation provided to our membership during the ratification process and meetings.

In reviewing the contents of the Company's memo released today highlighting the idea of sub-contracting, it would appear that the Company, specifically Mr. Portaro was not negotiating in good faith. While the Company believes they can sub-contract the work in IAD, the Agreement is very specific in Article 1 that the work in IAD is work that is normally performed by our members. The IAM will defend this provision with whatever means is necessary. Our position is, and will remain, that our members will continue to perform the work in IAD as covered by the Agreement.

In the meantime we will continue with our preparations for the Section 6 negotiations opener set to occur by the amendable date of the Agreement on January 29, 2012. We would encourage all IAM members to reach out to the Air Wisconsin leadership specifically Mr. Portaro as he apparently does not understand what you have continually communicated to him about the IAD operation as well as inefficiencies on the system. He can be reached at:

Vince Portaro - cell# 920-540-9245 - email Vince.Portaro@airwis.com

With best wishes we remain,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Tom Higginbotham
PRESIDENT-DIRECTING
GENERAL CHAIRPERSON

Kevin Heffernan
DISTRICT 142 V/P AIR WISCONSIN

James Samuel Jerry Lemke
GENERAL CHAIRPERSONS

TH/slb

cc: R. Roach, Jr.
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PLEASE POST ON ALL IAM BULLETIN BOARDS