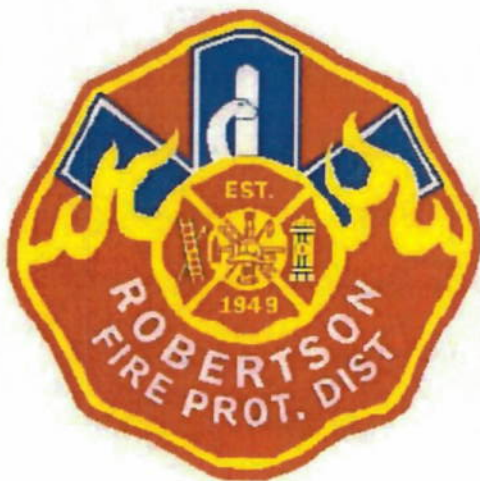


# **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTRACT**

BETWEEN THE ROBERTSON FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF EASTERN MISSOURI FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL 2665



Verbiage and Monetary Effective  
Effective June 22, 2023 until December 31, 2023

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## **PREAMBLE & RECOGNITION**

### **Article 1**

#### **PREAMBLE:**

This collective bargaining Agreement is between the Robertson Fire Protection District Board of Directors hereafter referred to as "Employer", and the Robertson Fire Protection District Shop of The Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri, Local 2665, of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, hereafter referred to as the "Union", and will include "Employee(s)", both the Employer and Union hereafter referred to as "Parties", and shall be as follows:

It is the purpose of this Agreement to achieve and maintain harmonious relations between the Employer and Employees and their Union, to provide for equitable and peaceful adjustment of differences which may arise, and to establish proper standards of wages, hours, benefits, and other conditions of employment for the members of the bargaining Union. This document shall supersede all general policies, rules, and regulations.

Furthermore, the Employer agrees to exact into law this Collective Bargaining Agreement, and all subsequent language or verbiage agreed to by the Employer and the Union, by enacting a resolution incorporating the Agreements, and Articles contained in this Collective Bargaining Agreement, thereby making these Agreements binding on all Parties. The members of the bargaining unit are entitled to "Due Process".

#### **RECOGNITION:**

The bargaining unit of the Robertson Shop shall be defined as: members working a 48/96 schedule and to include the following ranks: Battalion Chiefs, Captains, Lieutenants, Engineers, and Privates. Members of the administration will not be included in the unit clarification, will be defined as a 40-hour employee with the following title: Chief, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Administrative Assistant, and Civilian Inspector. Members that are assigned to the administration either temporarily or permanently holding the rank of Battalion Chief or below shall remain in the bargaining unit.

This collective bargaining agreement shall cover all current active employees as of or following the signing date of this contract.

## **AGENCY SHOP**

### **Article 2**

Any present or future Employee of the bargaining unit who is not a member, and does not make application for membership may be asked to pay a monthly service charge to the Union, equal to one month dues, as a contribution towards the administration of this Agreement.

## **PREVAILING RIGHTS**

### **Article 3**

All rights, privileges, and working conditions enjoyed by the Employees at the present time, which are not included in this Agreement shall remain in full force, unchanged and unaffected in any manner during the term of this Agreement. No right, privilege, benefit, working condition, rule or regulation shall be changed for arbitrary or retaliatory reasons.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Article 4**

The definition of an Employee for the purposes of this Agreement shall be; any Employee currently receiving payroll compensation from the District. The definition of Support Staff includes 40 hour Administrative Assistant.

## **HARASSMENT & DISCRIMINATION**

### **Article 5**

The Employer agrees to develop and maintain District policies to eliminate all forms of harassment and discrimination in the work place. The Union shall jointly assist the Employer in the development and implementation of these policies. The Employer agrees not to discriminate against any Employee for activity on behalf of, or membership in the Union. Furthermore the Employer and the Union agree that there shall be no discrimination against any Employee because of race, color, age, religion, sex or sexual orientation.

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE & E.A.P.**

### **Article 6**

The Employer agrees to provide an Employee Assistance Program (E.A.P.) for all Employees to utilize in a confidential manner. The E.A.P. shall provide, at a minimum, services designed to assist Employees in the areas of; drug and alcohol addiction, gambling, psychological, family, and financial problems. Furthermore the Employer agrees to provide assistance toward rehabilitation of substance abuse for any Employee who seeks the Districts help in overcoming addiction to, dependence upon, or problems with drugs or alcohol. The labor management committee may recommend changes to the drug and alcohol policy to the Administration and Board of Directors

## **UNION REPRESENTATION**

### **Article 7**

Employees shall have the right at all times to have Union representation, and or legal counsel with The Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri, Local 2665, of the International Association of Fire Fighters approval, at any meeting or hearing at which the District required the attendance of the employee.

## **DISCIPLINE / DISCHARGE & GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

### **Article 8**

#### **DISCIPLINE / DISCHARGE:**

It is agreed that the Employer has the right to discipline or discharge an Employee, but only upon a showing of "Just Cause". Disciplinary matters shall be subject to the grievance procedures as outlined in this Article, which shall include binding arbitration.

A grievance is a dispute over the terms of this Agreement as it affects the hours, wages, and or any other conditions of employment regarding the contents or interpretations of this Agreement, rules and regulations, safety issues, and general personnel policies. Discipline and discharge of Employees are covered under this Article of the grievance procedure and subject thereto.

All members of the bargaining unit are entitled to Due Process. The term "Discipline" includes reprimands, suspensions with or without pay, probation, reductions in rank, and dismissal or discharge from duty. The time limits set forth in this Article may be changed by mutual consent of both Parties of this Agreement.

#### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE:**

**Step 1:** The Employee concerned may, in the presence of Shop Steward or union representative, submit the appropriate grievance form to the office of the Fire Chief, who shall render a written decision within seven (7) calendar days after the receipt of said grievance. If the Fire Chief is unavailable, the Acting Chief shall handle the grievance. The grievance procedure must be submitted to the Fire Chief's office within seven (7) calendar days of the perceived grievable offense.

**Step 2:** If the grievance is not settled at Step 1, the grievance shall be submitted to the Board of Directors within seven (7) calendar days, which shall hold a hearing and render a decision at the next scheduled board meeting, no less than seven (7) calendar days and no more than ten (10) calendar days. The Board of Directors agrees to forward a written copy of their decision to the Shop Steward within seven (7) calendar days.

**Step 3:** If the grievance is not settled at step 2, the grievance may be submitted to arbitration if the Union meets the following considerations. The Union has fourteen (14) calendar days to request the arbitration. The arbitration request shall be submitted and signed by the Local President or representative.

If arbitration is timely requested, the parties shall then attempt to agree upon an Arbitrator. If they fail to do so within fourteen (14) calendar days, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service shall be requested to submit a panel of seven (7) Arbitrators from which the Parties shall alternately strike three (3) names. The sole remaining Arbitrator shall hear the case. Each Party will be allowed to reject up to one panel.

The Arbitrator shall conduct a hearing, with dispatch, for the purpose of hearing evidence and legal arguments relevant to the subject of the dispute. Both the Employer and the Union shall have the opportunity at the hearing to present evidence, examine and cross-examine witnesses, and argue the issue(s). Briefs shall be allowed. Either party may request a transcript of the hearing. If both parties request transcripts then the cost shall be split between the parties including the stenographer. The

Arbitrator shall issue his/her findings and decision to the Parties as soon as practicable after the hearing, and in no event, later than forty-five (45) days from receipt of any briefs. Both the Employer and the Union shall split the cost of the Arbitrator. The decision(s) of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding.

**Step 4:** After the decision of the Arbitrator, the Union and the Board shall meet at the next regularly scheduled board meeting, not to exceed fourteen (14) days, to implement the decision(s) of the Arbitrator.

## **SHOP MEETINGS & BULLETIN BOARDS**

### Article 9

All equipment of the District will be allowed to move to one engine house, as designated by the Shop Steward for the purpose of conducting Union Shop meetings. The Shop may also have use of the administration building if available. The Employer agrees to furnish and maintain a suitable bulletin board in a convenient place in each station to be used by the Union. The Union shall limit its postings to such bulletin boards, removable only by the Shop Steward or Shift Representatives.

## **COMMITTEE SYSTEM (Proposed)**

### Article 10

The Union and the Employer agree to develop and maintain committees that will be comprised of the Administration and the Shop. These committee members will be voluntary with no compensation and elected democratically by popular majority vote among the Shop members. The purpose of these committees will include, but not be limited to; training, emergency medical services and safety, building and equipment, public relations, grants, health and wellness, operational guideline development, and pension and insurance.

Furthermore, the Union and the Employer agree to develop and maintain a Planning Committee, Labor Management Committee, and Operations Committee, that will be comprised of 3 to 7 members with at least 1 member per shift to act as a shift representative and include at least one member of the administration. The committee will elect a chairperson and recorder. The purpose of these committees is to make recommendations to the administration and Board of Directors on the short- and long-term goals of the District, address labor management issues, approval of large item purchases, equipment and staffing needs, policy development, rules and regulation development, and review operational finances and budgetary needs of the District. All meetings are to have a record of meeting minutes kept in a binder and another copy kept digitally. Each Committee will address the following topics:

#### **Planning**

- Building and Equipment
- Operational Guideline Development
- Grants
- Public Relations



-Employee Appreciation

### **Operations**

-Training

-Emergency Medical Services

-Safety

-Health and Wellness

### **Labor Management**

-Budget

-Rules and Regulation Development

### **Pension Board of Trustees**

-Benefits

-Pension

## **PAYROLL DEDUCTION OF DUES**

### **Article 11**

The Employer agrees to deduct monthly Union dues or monthly service charge(s) certified by the Secretary/Treasurer of the Local 2665. This deducted amount shall be withdrawn from each of the first two payroll checks issued in each calendar month, and applied to the total dues and assessments for the calendar month. The Employer agrees to submit the total monthly Union dues by mail, or electronic transfer, to the Secretary/Treasurer of Local 2665, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. The Employer agrees to supply payroll authorization allowing for current and future dues increases.

## **HOURS**

### **Article 12**

During the period covered by this Agreement, the work week for battalion Employees will consist of fifty-three (53) hours.

$$(212) \text{ hours} / (28) \text{ day cycle} \times (13) \text{ cycles} / \text{year} = (2,756) \text{ hours} / \text{year}$$

$$(2,756) \text{ hours} / \text{year} \div (52) \text{ weeks} / \text{year} = (53) \text{ hours} / \text{week}$$

- (1) shift day = (24) hours
- (1) cycle = (28) calendar days
- (13) cycles per year

Each shift works:

- (9) days per cycle
- (117) days per year

- (216) hours per cycle (212 regular + 4 overtime)
- (2,808) hours per year (2,756 regular + 52 overtime)

**Each shift works:**

- (9) cycles of (9) shift days (212 regular + 4 overtime) = 81 days
- (4) cycles of (10) shift days (212 regular + 28 overtime) = 40 days
- (121) days worked per year
- (2,904) hours per year (2,756 regular + 148 overtime)
- It is recognized by labor and management that the 28 day cycles may carry over into the new calendar year, but will be recognized as a cycle from the year it carried over from.

Support staff Employees consist of forty (40) hour work weeks. Battalion Employees will have the option of working their "extra-day". The established fatigue rule shall be no more than seventy-two (72) hours consecutively. For battalion Employees covered within this Agreement, the rotation follows a three (3) shift system. Employees are assigned to "A", "B", or "C" shift. Each rotation is considered a shift of two (2) consecutive twenty-four (24) hour workdays, unless extended by emergency, followed by four (4) consecutive days off, for a total of six (6) consecutive calendar days per rotation.

## **PAYDAY**

### **Article 13**

Employees will be paid at the latest, every other Tuesday for work performed the previous two weeks. Overtime and working out of classification checks shall be payable the following pay cycle. Employees reserve the right to have direct deposit and or paper checks. It is the Employees responsibility to notify payroll, no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the end of the pay cycle.

## **EMERGENCY LEAVE**

### **Article 14**

When an emergency situation arises that requires an Employee to leave, emergency leave with pay may be taken, up to six (6) hours, with approval of the on duty Battalion Chief, or Acting Battalion Chief. The Employee may be allowed to leave his or her station without waiting for a relief person. This time will not be charged to his or her sick leave. The Employee must phone the on duty Battalion Chief, or Acting Battalion Chief within the first four (4) hours of his or her emergency leave, to update the Employees emergency status; ability to return, or not return to work, or if said Employee has obtained a stand-in. If it becomes necessary for the Employee to remain off duty past the provision for the first six (6) hours, notification must be made to the Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief, or the additional absence from duty will be considered "leave without pay".

The Fire Chief may review all circumstances regarding emergency leave, and the record of the Employees emergency leave use, and may request documentation to provide verification of said emergency. If the Employee has not shown excessive or frequent use of emergency leave, the amount of hours in excess of the first six (6) hours will be deducted from any accrued leave days the Employee has remaining for the current year. If the Employee does not have any remaining personal leave days, accumulated vacation leave, or sick days, the current hourly rate as applied to the most

current working Agreement shall be deducted for the appropriate time the Employee was absent from duty beyond the first six (6) hours of this provision. Once leave is scheduled, an employee cannot be called for or accept overtime of any kind from a Battalion Chief. In case of an emergency, the Assistant Chief or Fire Chief may make an exception.

## **FUNERAL LEAVE**

### **Article 15**

Battalion Employees will be provided with six (6) shift days off with pay for the purpose of funeral leave involving the death of an immediate family member or relative including; spouse, mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, stepparent, stepchild, grandparent, grandchild, or spouses grandparent. Administrative Assistant will be allowed ten (10) working days off for the above mentioned with pay.

Battalion Employees will be provided with two (2) shift days off with pay for the purpose of funeral leave involving the death of a family member or relative including; ex-spouse, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, brother-in-law, and sister-in-law. Administrative Assistant will be allowed three (3) working days off for the above mentioned with pay.

The Employee must notify their Battalion Chief, Fire Chief or his or her designee prior to death days being granted. Special funeral leave requests may be reviewed by the Fire Chiefs office for possible approval. In order to be paid, the Employee must provide upon returning to work, stationary from the funeral home with the dates of service, or some other form of documentation including electronic, subject to approval by the Fire Chiefs office. The Employees is to provide the relationship to the deceased. An Employees spouse, son, daughter and stepchildren are exempt from this documentation. Once leave is scheduled, an employee cannot be called for or accept overtime of any kind from a Battalion Chief. In case of an emergency, the Assistant Chief or Fire Chief may make an exception.

## **JURY DUTY & COURT LEAVE**

### **Article 16**

The Employer agrees that all Employees called for "jury duty" shall receive their regular daily rate of pay for each day absent for this duty. Employees must remit any monies paid by the court system to the District. The Employee will notify the Chiefs office within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notification for jury duty. Employees shall return to work after being released by the court with documentation of the date and times held for jury duty. When an Employee is required to appear before a court, judge, justice, magistrate or deposition hearing to give witness to the facts as they pertain to his or her direct actions or observations while functioning as an Employee of the District, he or she will receive "court leave", hour for hour, at his or her normal hourly rate of pay, reduced by the amount paid to the Employee as per diem for giving testimony. This Article will not apply when an Employee testifies on his or her own behalf in actions against the District. Once leave is scheduled, an employee cannot be called for or accept overtime of any kind from a Battalion Chief.

In case of an emergency, the Assistant Chief or Fire Chief may make an exception.

## VACATION LEAVE

### Article 17

During the period covered by this Agreement, vacation entitlement for all Union bargaining members of the District will be as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Battalion</u>	<u>Support Staff</u>
1 .....	4 shift days	7 calendar days
2 .....	6 shift days	12 calendar days
3 - 9.....	10 shift days	19 calendar days
10 - 14 .....	12 shift days	22 calendar days
15 - 19 .....	14 shift days	27 calendar days
20 - 29 .....	16 shift days	31 calendar days
30 - 39 .....	18 shift days	35 calendar days
40 - 49 .....	20 shift days	39 calendar days
50 + .....	22 shift days	41 calendar days

Vacation selection will be based on seniority per each shift. The selection process shall start with the most senior first, working down to the least senior. Two (2) Employees shall be granted vacation time on any given day. In the first round of selection, an Employee shall choose up to six (6) continuous twenty-four (24) hour days, before passing the selection process to the next Employee.

This process is repeated until all Employees on the shift have posted, all available vacation days. If an Employee has less than six (6) days remaining after a subsequent round, he or she may post, consecutively, the remaining day(s) in the next round. Vacation days may be floated with the full understanding that all unused days will not be carried over to the next calendar year, subject to the Districts current "carry-over" policy.

Battalion personal are allowed to take vacation days in twelve (12) hour increments, from the hours of 0800 to 2000, or from the hours of 2000 to 0800. Scheduled vacation time of an Employee will not constitute disqualification from overtime pay.

After all vacation days are selected, employees will be allowed to change a vacation day(s) to another available day(s) on their normal shift rotation with approval of any Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief. That approval will be based on manpower staffing permitting at the time of requesting the change of days. After a vacation day has been approved, the District cannot change or remove it.

If an Employee is moved by the Employer to a different shift during the course of a year, "for the good of the District", he or she shall be granted approved vacation time during the same rotation in which vacation was selected prior to the shift change. If the move was done voluntarily, vacation time will be honored, manpower permitting. Examples of voluntary moves are: promotion, accepting primary engineer, etc. If an Employee separates employment voluntarily or involuntarily with the District prior to completion of one year of service, any vacation and or personal leave days taken will be reimbursed to the District. If an Employee with at least one year of service separates from the District, the Employee will be paid for any vacation and or personal leave days that the Employee

may be eligible for the current year. The Employee will not be eligible for any time not earned. Once leave is scheduled, an employee cannot be called for or accept overtime of any kind from a Battalion Chief. In case of an emergency, the Assistant Chief or Fire Chief may make an exception.

## **COMPENSATORY TIME**

### **Article 18**

Employees will have the option of accruing compensatory (comp) time at the rate of one and one-half times, or double time for weekends and District recognized holidays, for the amount of actual hours worked. This accrued time may be in lieu of monetary compensation for any scheduled or unscheduled overtime worked during an Employee's twenty-eight (28) day cycle. Once accepted as comp time, it remains as such. Employees may utilize comp time in six (6) hour increments, with a minimum of six (6) hours per leave. Comp time may be selected by the one of the following ways when sufficient manpower exist. Comp time of twenty-four (24) hour day(s) may be posted no earlier than sixty (60) days prior to the date requested. Comp time of six (6) hours may be posted no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the date requested. Compensation for overtime may be divided between monetary and compensatory reimbursement, for the period of unscheduled, or "F.L.S.A." overtime worked. Comp time may be approved by any on duty Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief, and only when sufficient manpower permits. After comp time has been approved, the District cannot change or cancel it.

## **PERSONAL LEAVE DAYS**

### **Article 19**

Each Employee will receive four (4) personal leave days (PLD) per year. Employees may utilize this leave in hourly increments, with a minimum of six (6) hours per occurrence. PLD time may be posted as follows: twenty-four (24) hour day(s) may be posted no earlier than sixty (60) days prior to the date requested, PLD time of six (6) hours, up to twenty-four (24) hours may be posted no earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the date requested. PLD time may be approved by any on duty Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief, and only when sufficient manpower permits. After PLD time has been approved, the District cannot change or cancel it.

Employees may take two (2) guaranteed PLD occurrence per calendar year, regardless of manpower. This occurrence may be up to one (1) full rotation, equal to forty-eight (48) consecutive hours. If two (2) PLD's are used, this will constitute the use, and charge of two (2) separate PLD's. A guaranteed PLD cannot be used on a District recognized holiday unless sufficient manpower exists. If unused, only one (1) guaranteed PLD, of at least forty eight (48) hours may be carried over into the next calendar year, and used no later than March 31<sup>st</sup>. If still unused at that time, the Employee will forfeit the day. Furthermore, when an Employee carries a guaranteed PLD into the next calendar year, it is no longer considered a guaranteed PLD. For the purposes of F.L.S.A overtime calculations, hours taken as PLD will be counted as hours worked. Thus, no loss of overtime will occur when overtime is in the same pay cycle a PLD is taken. PLD will not accumulate from year to year, except as stated above, and are not redeemable for compensation if unused.

## **MATERNITY/PATERNITY LEAVE & MATERNITY DUTY**

### **Article 20**

Employees will be provided with four (4) shift days, paid leave for the birth of a child by the Employee, spouse or significant other. In order for an Employee to qualify for maternity or paternity leave, the Employee must be named as the father or mother on the birth certificate.

Pregnant Employees of the District may be assigned to maternity duty when the Employee and the Employees physician give notification along with written explanation, as to why maternity duty is required. Employees assigned to maternity duty will not suffer any loss of pay or benefits other than the payment in the tenth day cycle that would normally be worked on the Employees regular shift. The Employee will not be charged sick leave hours, for hours missed due to the adjusted schedule for maternity duty. When the Employee is no longer able to participate in maternity duty per physician orders, the Employee will be allowed to use sick, vacation, PLD time, and or comp time for the remainder of the maternity leave. The maternity period shall cease six (6) weeks post normal delivery and eight (8) weeks post cesarean delivery. During this period the Employee may use sick, vacation, PLD time, and or comp time. The maternity leave shall count as one sick leave incident. While on maternity duty, the Fire Chiefs office will assign hours to be worked, and job assignments.

## **SICK LEAVE**

### **Article 21**

The District shall maintain a sick leave policy to be reviewed and agreed upon by the Labor Management Committee. Battalion Employees will receive twelve (12) sick days per year, with a maximum accumulation of sixty-eight (68) days. Administrative Assistant will receive twenty-four (24) sick days per year, with a maximum accumulation of one hundred-forty (140) days.

## **UNION BUSINESS LEAVE**

### **Article 22**

Employees elected to Union office will be granted time off to perform their Union functions. Furthermore, the Employer agrees to furnish elected Union officers, Shop Steward and Crew Representatives, with up to forty-eight (48) hours leave with overtime fill-in to attend District and official Union functions. The Shop Steward, and Shift Representatives, to include Assistant Steward, shall have the opportunity to attend outside Union related leadership training as approved by the Fire Chiefs office. Each shall be granted: up to forty-eight (48) hours of approved Union leave annually, travel, registration, accommodations, and per diem allotment. These expenses will not count against the training allotment in Article 48.

## **PERSONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **Article 23**

Employees shall be allowed to pursue their own interests after their daily required work assignments, after 1400 hours, unless otherwise approved by the on duty officer. When a battalion is scheduled to work a weekend day or any District recognized holiday, the Employees shall be permitted to pursue their own interests after the required check of all emergency equipment, and daily house cleaning duties have been completed. Any assignment, such as public relations or training outside the normal working hours, shall be approved by the respective Shift Representative and or Shop Steward, and

posted on the daily schedule, no later than three (3) days prior to the assignment.

## **PROBATION**

### **Article 24**

All new Employees shall serve a probationary period with the District of one (1) calendar year. Management reserves the right to extend probation, and or terminate probationary Employees. Additionally, probationary Employees may be utilized to cover manpower shortages on any shift. Except as stated within this Article, probationary Employees are entitled to benefits reflected in this working Agreement. Union representation begins the first day a probationary Employee reports for duty. Probationary Employees will not be allowed to attend outside training, other than required and approved by the District. The following items begin to accumulate for a probationary Employee after he or she has worked for the District a total of six (6) months: holiday pay, education benefits, uniform allowance, and food allowance. The following items are earned retroactive to the Employees start date, but may not be used by the Employee until after he or she has been employed with the District a total of six (6) months: vacation, and PLD time (both must be taken by the end of the calendar year the Employee started in, except as noted in Article 19), and sick leave (as noted in Article 21). The following items are available immediately to a new Employee: funeral leave, emergency leave, maternity and paternity leave, maternity duty, employee family health and dental insurance, long term disability, and life insurance.

## **DISABILITY INSURANCE & BENEFIT**

### **Article 25**

The Employer agrees to adopt and maintain a long term disability insurance policy, agreed upon by the Pension and Benefits Committee, and Planning Committee. This policy will provide protection to any Employee in case of permanent disability or illness. An Employee on Long Term Disability leave will be eligible for COBRA medical health insurance, including family coverage, paid by the Employer for the maximum time allowed by law.

## **LIGHT DUTY**

### **Article 26**

The District shall maintain a light duty policy to be reviewed and agreed upon by the Labor Management Committee upon changes. Light duty is available for Employees on "workers compensation leave" due to "on-duty" sustained injuries. The Employee will work under conditions that match his/her physical rehabilitative capacity to specific essential functions of work that are less than those required within the normal established work routine. The Employee will work his or her scheduled duty days on light duty under the direction of the Fire Chiefs office, or on duty Battalion Chief.

## **ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

### **Article 27**

The Employer and Union jointly agree to adopt an annual medical testing program for potential work-related illnesses or disabilities that may arise due to the nature of the work and the exposure of the Employees to dangerous substances. The program will be carried out without cost to the Employee. All medical records will be kept confidential from the Employer, except upon written consent of the Employee.

## **HEALTH BENEFITS**

### **Article 28**

The Employer agrees to provide major medical/dental/vision insurance to all active duty Employees, their spouse, legally dependent children, to include legally adopted children. The District will pay 100% of the coverage premiums. Upon retiring from the District, Employees who meet the age and or service requirements for normal retirement will retain all health and dental insurance benefits afforded to the Employee. The District will provide these benefits until the retired Employee reaches the age he or she is eligible for Medicare benefits. Spousal coverage shall cease thirty (30) days after the spouse is eligible for Medicare benefits. When the spouses' eligibility occurs prior to the Employees eligibility for Medicare, the spouse shall be entitled to extend coverage under Federal COBRA laws when a qualifying event occurs. An active duty Employee who becomes disabled shall be eligible for health/dental/vision insurance along with their spouse, legally dependent children, to include legally adopted children, until the Employee receives Medicare Insurance coverage or is no longer covered by or considered disabled under the Districts Long Term Disability Insurance coverage. A disability for permanent insurance coverage purposed is defined as; being certified as a disability within the meaning of the Social Security Act by the Social Security Administration, have continued for a period for six (6) consecutive months, and must according to a qualified physician be permanent, and continues during the remainder of such participant's eligibility for insurance coverage. All disabled Employees receiving coverage under the disability insurance provisions of this Agreement shall be required to submit medical verification quarterly, as to their disability status. In the event of a change in the disability status of a covered Employee and the disability is no longer verified, and the Employee has not applied for, and received Medicare eligibility, all insurance benefits shall cease. In the case of death of an active or retired covered Employee, the spouse and dependents as listed above, of said Employee or the qualified spouse of said retired Employee, will remain covered for a period of ninety (90) days, and then shall be covered under Federal COBRA law. All insurance is subject to the availability of coverage through the current health insurance carrier. The Parties agree that at any time during the term of this Agreement, this article may be re-opened for negotiations or discussions by either Party. This re-opener clause shall not obligate either Party to agree to any changes herein.

## **HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT**

### **Article 29**

The District will provide a health reimbursement account (HRA) for each active Employee. This HRA plan will cover 100% of the Employees medical related deductibles, and or copays. This plan shall be reviewed annually by the Pension and Benefits Committee, and Planning Committee. The Parties agree that at any time during the term of this Agreement, this article may be re-opened for negotiations or discussions by either Party. This re-opener clause shall not obligate either Party to agree to any changes herein.



## **LIFE INSURANCE**

### **Article 30**

The Employer agrees to maintain life insurance for all active Employees, of twice the Employees base annual salary, not to exceed \$250,000. Furthermore, the Employer agrees to pay 100% of the premium cost of life insurance for active Employees. Life and accidental death and dismemberment reduces as follows: (#1.) 35% at age 65, 70, 75; (#2.) 25% at age 80, 85, 90, and 95; (#3.) coverage terminates at retirement.

## **DEFERRED COMPENSATION**

### **Article 31**

The Employer agrees to administer a deferred compensation or 457 Plan for all Employees who so elect to participate. The Employer will deduct any amounts certified by the Employee from his or her payroll checks. All actions and or changes to the plan will be agreed upon by the Pension and Benefits Committee, and Planning Committee. Furthermore, there must be a majority vote of the Shop on all changes to the current plan.

## **RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY**

### **Article 32**

#### **Normal Retirement Age:**

You will reach normal retirement age under the plan when you turn age 55.

#### **Early Retirement Age:**

You will reach early retirement age under the plan when you attain all of the following:

- Age 50
- Completion of 10 years of service

Employee(s) are vested in the districts pension plan with 10 years of service. Early Retirement does not qualify for the health care benefit except for what is available through COBRA.

## **PENSION**

### **Article 33**

The Employer agrees to maintain a defined contribution, and or defined benefit, and or a combination defined contribution/benefit pension plan for all Employees, following the appropriate Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. The plan participants will have the right to elect two (2) of its members from the Pension and Benefits Committee that will meet with the Board of Directors annually to review said pension plan(s). The pension plan is for full time, active Employees only. In case of decreasing pension revenues, as measured by individual Employee account distributions of 5% or more, both Parties may agree to seek additional tax funding at the next available election.

## **V.E.B.A. ACCOUNT (Article 34 will be negotiated in the next CBA)**

### **Article 34**

The Employer agrees to set up a Voluntary Employee's Beneficiary Association (V.E.B.A.) account for all active Employees at the starting rate of \$300 per year, per Employee. An Employee shall be reimbursed the cash value of unused sick time to their V.E.B.A. account, upon normal retirement. Normal retirement shall be defined as in the Districts pension plan document. The total number of sick days shall not exceed the agreed amount as defined in Article 21. The District may elect to pay the Employee the total sum owed, up to three (3) years of equal, annual installments. All actions and or changes to this plan will be agreed upon by the Pension and Benefits Committee, and Planning Committee.

## **CALL IN PAY**

### **Article 35**

The Employer agrees to compensate off duty personnel, when approved and acting in the capacity of a move-up guide or special assignment. The Employee(s) will be compensated at one and one half times his or her normal rate of pay, or double time on weekends or District recognized holidays, for a minimum of four (4) hours.

## **SALARY**

### **Article 36**

All new Employees will be compensated at a probationary pay grade, progressing one probationary pay grade per year, until reaching the base pay rate on the Employees third anniversary of their start date.

During the period covered by this Agreement, the hourly pay rate of probationary paramedic/firefighter Employees will be as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
➤ <u>Starting to Year (1)</u>	<u>\$18.11/hr.</u>	<u>\$19.19hr.</u>
➤ <u>Year (1) to Year (2)</u>	<u>\$23.40/hr.</u>	<u>\$24.48/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Year (2) to Year (3)</u>	<u>\$27.24/hr.</u>	<u>\$28.32hr.</u>

During the period covered by this Agreement, the base hourly pay rate for shift personnel with over three (3) years of service will be as follows:

<u>Battalion:</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
➤ <u>EMT- Firefighter</u>	<u>\$28.64/hr.</u>	<u>\$29.72/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Engineer</u>	<u>\$29.64/hr.</u>	<u>\$30.72/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Paramedic/Firefighter</u>	<u>\$29.64/hr.</u>	<u>\$30.72/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Lieutenant</u>	<u>\$30.39/hr.</u>	<u>\$31.47/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Captain</u>	<u>\$31.02/hr.</u>	<u>\$32.10/hr.</u>
➤ <u>Battalion Chief</u>	<u>\$32.02/hr.</u>	<u>\$33.10/hr.</u>

<b>Bargaining Unit Administration:</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
➤ <b>Administrative Assistant</b>	<b>\$31.34/hr.</b>	<b>\$32.79/hr.</b>

## **LONGEVITY PAY**

### **Article 37**

Employees hired prior to September 21<sup>st</sup> 1998, after three (3) years of service, a longevity rate of (1%) is earned with an additional (0.5%) for each year thereafter. Employees hired on or after September 21<sup>st</sup> 1998, after six (6) years of service, a longevity rate of (2.5%) is earned. An additional (0.5%) is earned for each year thereafter.

## **OVERTIME**

### **Article 38**

Any hours worked by battalion Employees in excess of two hundred-twelve (212) hours in a twenty-eight (28) day cycle will be paid at time and a half their base hourly rate plus longevity, double time for weekends, District recognized holidays, and mandatory overtime. The time spent by an Employee on an authorized vacation day(s), comp time, or personal leave day(s) during such twenty-eight (28) day cycle will be regarded as actual hours worked for the purpose of this Article.

The following is a list of absences from the individuals regularly scheduled battalion duty assignment that will disqualify overtime pay for the scheduled overtime in that period. The overtime attributed to their battalion schedule within that twenty-eight (28) day cycle will be deducted appropriately for each hour the individual was absent, hour for hour, from that Employees overtime pay. An employee is ineligible to be offered overtime when on benefit time, including bereavement, vacation, comp, PLD, sick, or Workers Comp. In a time of emergency, the Fire Chief or Assistant Fire Chief may call employees on benefit time to fill the needs of the District.

- Absence due to tardiness
- Absence due to not reporting for duty
- Absence due to discipline/suspension
- Absence due to sick leave
- Absence due to workers compensation

When the need for overtime occurs, the Battalion Chief, Acting Battalion Chief, or Fire Chief will determine whether it will be performed by a captain, engineer, paramedic, or fire fighter. The overtime assignment will be offered to the most senior qualified Employee, with the least amount of overtime hours worked in the current calendar year. Declining overtime will not be held against the Employee, the Employee will remain in their current place on the list. When an Employee accepts, they will be placed on the list according to the hours taken in that calendar year. The overtime list resets based on seniority, at the beginning of each calendar year. As voted by Shop majority, there are two (2) overtime list that rotate in this manner: twelve (12) hours or less, and over twelve (12) hours to twenty-four (24) hours. These lists will be maintained by the Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief on duty.

If the Employee eligible for overtime is on duty, he or she will be verbally invited to accept the overtime. If the eligible Employee is not on duty, the Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief will

telephone the Employee using the current overtime phone list. It is the Employees responsibility to make sure their contact information is current. If the eligible Employee does not answer their phone number(s) listed on the overtime call lists, the Employee will be considered unavailable to accept the overtime assignment; the Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief will then assign the overtime work to the next senior qualified Employee on the appropriate list.

In the event no Employee accepts the overtime needed by the District, the Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief will assign the overtime to qualified Employees in the reverse order of seniority. Overtime work assigned on this basis is mandatory. An Employee may not decline or refuse to work mandatory overtime. The Employer agrees to compensate mandatory overtime Employees at two (2) times his or her normal rate of pay for each hour worked. No Employee may be required to accept mandatory overtime more than once in a calendar year, unless all Employees have served mandatory overtime in a calendar year.

Furthermore, mandatory overtime will be assigned by the BC to the lowest seniority member, with the least number of mandatory hours,

1. Members on scheduled time off will not be eligible for mandatory. Scheduled time off is defined as the day following their last scheduled on-duty shift through the members first scheduled shift back to work. Members may not be assigned mandatory after working seventy-two (72) consecutive hours.
2. The overtime person may choose any position, based on their seniority, except those occupied by a permanently assigned employee. Examples of permanently assigned positions are B/C, Captains, Full-time Engineers, and 1 Jumpseat position per truck, LT and, Attendant on 5017.

The District is in the process of switching to ESO from Firehouse for scheduling software. ESO can call/Text employees to offer overtime. The Shop's recommendation is to keep the OT calling/assignment procedures the same until ESO is live and readdress at that time as we may have to adapt based on the software's capabilities.

## **F.L.S.A. COMPLIANCE**

### **Article 39**

All aforementioned pay rate and overtime Articles within this Agreement are intended to strictly comply with all current federal wage laws, and the Fair Labor Standards Act (F.L.S.A.) of 1938, to including all current and future amendments.

## **WORKING OUT OF CLASSIFICATION & LEAD MEDIC**

### **Article 40**

An Employee who accepts responsibilities and carries out duties of a position or rank above that which he or she normally holds, shall be paid at the rate for that position or rank, including longevity or overtime, while so acting. If an Employee of a higher position or rank works at a lower position or rank, he or she will receive his or her regular rate of pay.

Lead Medic or Acting Lieutenant pay will only be available when no Lieutenant is on the primary

ambulance. There is only one lead medic position available per day; this position will be placed on the primary ambulance. Only paramedics, by senior and on duty, may voluntarily fill this role. It is the Employees responsibility to advise the on duty Battalion Chief or Acting Battalion Chief of his or her desire to fill this role. If no paramedic on shift volunteers to be the lead medic, the most senior paramedic on the primary ambulance will be appointed to this role, with compensation. A minimum of four (4) hours must be worked during a twenty-four (24) hour shift to be compensated as such. Refer to Article 35.

## **UNIFORM ALLOWANCE & PROTECTIVE GEAR**

### **Article 41**

All employees will receive up to \$1200 per year to purchase and maintain District uniforms to be purchased through the District or upon submitting purchase receipts when purchased by individual. Items purchased by the individual to be reimbursed will be paid out quarterly, no later than 2 weeks after submission of receipts. The District agrees to reimburse the employee for purchase of the following: Robertson branded: t-shirts, ¼ zip sweatshirts, crewneck sweatshirts, red shirts, polos, ball cap, stocking cap, rain jacket, custom helmet shield.

Work approved: pants and shorts, extrication or fire gloves, steel toe work boots or station boots, and black uniform belt.

Personal firefighter tools upon approval.

The District shall furnish N.F.P.A. approved bunker pants, bunker coat, boots, gloves, helmet, hood, suspenders, and respiratory apparatus at no cost to the employee. Items of uniform equipment damaged during the course of emergency operations or required duties will be replaced at the expense of the district. If the employee is careless or thoughtless in the care of their issued gear, it will be the employee's responsibility to repair or replace said gear. All uniforms, gear and equipment shall be made in the USA whenever possible.

## **SICK LEAVE INCENTIVE & BUY BACK**

### **Article 42**

The time period for this Article shall be December 1<sup>st</sup> until November 30<sup>th</sup> of a calendar year. If eligible, the District will pay the Employee on the first pay day in December, the amount of \$2,000 for no sick leave incidents taken, and \$1,000 for one (1) sick leave incident taken. There is no incentive for more than two (2) occurrences during the time period listed within this Article. In addition, for Employees who have reached their maximum accumulation of sick leave per Article 21 of this MOU, the District will pay the Employee for the days that would be forfeit the next calendar year. Battalion Employees will be paid \$100 for each 24 hour sick day not used, to a maximum of 12 days. Support staff Employees will be paid \$50 for each 8-hour sick day not used, to a maximum of 24 days.

## **ALLOCATION ADJUSTMENT INDEX**

### **Article 43**

The Employer may grant each Employee an allocation adjustment index, at a minimum of \$1,500 annually, made payable the first payday in December. This adjustment shall reflect economic conditions in maintaining parity with the top five (5) fire districts within St. Louis County, MO.

## **FOOD ALLOWANCE**

### **Article 44**

Employee s will receive 250.00 annually in food allowance. Compensation will occur with the submission of receipts to the District quarterly.

## **HOLIDAY PAY**

### **Article 45**

Employees will be entitled to compensation in the amount of \$200 per day for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, M.L. King's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Veteran's Day, Columbus Day, and Washington's Birthday. This will be paid annually, no later than the first payday in December.

## **EDUCATION REIMBURSEMENT & BENEFIT**

### **Article 46**

Employees shall be reimbursed for approved tuition costs, including textbooks, upon successful completion of the class with a grade of "C" or better. To receive reimbursement, the Employee must submit a copy of their grade(s), tuition, book receipt(s), and other course required expenses. Any Employee wishing to utilize educational reimbursement must submit a request containing approximate hours, and cost, prior to enrollment. The request must be submitted to the Fire Chief office. The Fire Chief or his designate shall determine if a class is qualified to receive reimbursement. Employees' educational expenses are limited to the annual compensation dollar amount outline in Article 48. This benefit may only be utilized by Employees pursuing a degree in fire related, EMS related, business management, and or business administration degree programs. An Employee will also be paid \$1 per month for each college credit hour for the above mentioned areas of study, with a maximum benefit of \$150 combined credit hours or \$150 per month.

## **SHIFT EXCHANGE**

### **Article 47**

Employees may utilize shift exchanges with other active Employees, up to a total of two hundred-eighty-eight (288) hours per calendar year. In the event that an Employee has encountered some unforeseen circumstance or is approaching the maximum allowable hours, the Employee may consult with the Fire Chiefs office for additional approval. Employees may be allowed to utilize their own earned leave time while working for another Employee on a shift exchange, without causing overtime. The Employee that agrees to the shift exchange will assume full responsibility for all hours worked for the shift to be exchanged. Shift exchanges must not interfere with the operation of the District, and must not incur cost to the District.

## **PARAMEDIC TRAINING**

### **Article 48**

If the Employee attends an approved PACS, PALS, or PHTLS class while on duty and minimum District manning is met, the Employee will not need a stand-in. If minimum District manning is not met, then it will be the Employees responsibility to supply his or her stand-in for said hours. ACLS is a required class for Missouri paramedics. The District will allow up to one Employee to attend this class on duty, regardless of District manning. If two or more Employees wish to attend this class on the same day, then seniority will prevail. If the same class is offered multiple days, it will be the responsibility of the Employee to provide his or her stand-in. The Employee will not be allowed to attend class on duty if the class was offered by the District within the past twelve (12) months. ACLS will not count against an Employees annual allotted dollar amount for training (see Article 48), if the class was not offered by the District within the past twelve (12) months. All paramedic renewal type classes must be approved by the Medical Officer or Fire Chief.

## **TRAINING HOURS, CONDITIONS & BENEFIT**

### **Article 49**

Training shall to be held no more than three (3) hours per day, Tuesday through Friday, between 0800 and 1200 hours. Lunch will be allowed from 1200 and 1300 hours. Mondays shall be utilized for vehicle checks, and equipment maintenance with no scheduled training. Special training programs may cause a need to deviate from the fore mentioned times. In that event, the Chief Training Officer shall contact the Shop Steward or appropriate Shift Representative to address the conflict. Agreement must be reached for training outside standard training hours.

No outside training shall take place if the National Weather Service reports an official temperature heat index of ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit or greater, or a temperature wind chill of forty-five (45) degrees Fahrenheit or below. Outside training will also be canceled due to adverse weather conditions, such as rain or snow.

The Employer and Union equally recognize that it is in the best interest of the District and its residents to encourage Employees to further their training. The Employer shall provide, within the budgetary constraints of the District, per uniformed Employee covered under this Agreement, adequate opportunity to receive the necessary training for duties he or she may be required to perform. Each Employee shall be granted a training allotment of \$2,500 annually for fire and EMS related training including: seminars, conferences, licensure courses, and federal mandated classes. The Fire Chiefs office may grant additional funding to Employees. Management reserves the right to limit the amount of participants attending any outside training, seminars, or conferences.

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **Article 50**

At this time, all policies will be developed by Lexipol in accordance with Federal and State law. All

policies will be available for personal review through an online system to be implemented by the District through Lexipol.

Two District shop members may attend the Administrative onboarding process.

## **REVIEW OF EMPLOYEE FILE**

### **Article 51**

An Employee has the right at any time to request a review of his or her official employment file. This request must be made to the Fire Chief who will set an appointment that is mutually agreeable. The Chief and or his or her designee will be present during the review.

## **PROMOTIONS**

### **Article 52**

Promotional list(s) and procedure(s) will be kept on file in the Fire Chiefs office to fill vacancies.

## **STAFFING LEVEL**

### **Article 53**

The Employer agrees to adopt and maintain a policy regarding the necessary minimum and maximum staffing to operate emergency vehicles, in regards to serving the residence of the District and the safety of its Employees.

## **PERSONNEL REDUCTION**

### **Article 54**

In case of personnel reduction, the Employees to be laid off first will be selected according to seniority. Seniority will be established by the Employees start date. The least senior Employee will be the first laid off, and so on. All bargaining unit Employees will be included in this seniority list regardless of rank or position. No new Employees will be hired, until all laid off Employees have been given the opportunity to return to work.

## **RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

### **Article 55**

The Employer agrees to purchase recreational and fitness equipment for all engine houses. The Employer agrees to repair or replace equipment, and furnishings, as needed, due to normal wear.

## **SUPPLIES**

### **Article 56**



The Employer agrees to let Employees obtain necessary supplies and or food while on duty, in radio service.

## **ECONOMIC CONDITIONS**

### **Article 57**

Should the economic condition of the District increase or decrease, as represented by five percent or more, both Parties agree to discuss increasing or decreasing monetary items within this Agreement.

## **SAVINGS CLAUSE**

### **Article 58**

If any provision(s) of this Agreement or the application of such provision(s) be rendered or declared invalid by any court action, or by reasons of any existing or subsequent enacted legislature, the remaining parts of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

## **SUCCESSORS**

### **Article 59**

This Agreement shall be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Parties hereto, and no provisions, terms, or obligations herein contained shall be affected, modified, altered, or changed in any respect whatsoever by the consolidation, merger, annexation, transfer, or assignment of either Party hereto, or by any change in the location, or place of business of either Party.

## **Shift Selection**

### **Article 60**

The District shall maintain a shift selection policy to be reviewed and recommended by the Labor Management Committee and to be decided upon by the Administration and Board of Directors.

## **PRESUMPTIVE ILLNESS**

### **Article 61**

The District shall maintain a Presumptive Illness policy to be reviewed and recommended by the Labor Management Committee and to be decided upon by the Administration and Board of Directors.

## **FITNESS TIME OFF**

### **Article 62**

The district shall maintain a fitness time off policy to be reviewed and agreed upon by the labor

management committee.

## **DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

### **Article 63**

This agreement will expire on December 31, 2023. The duration of this may be extended if mutually agreed upon by all parties.

## **MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

### **Article 64**

The Union recognizes that all management functions specifically limited by this agreement are vested exclusively in the District. Such functions include, but are not limited to, the direction of the working force; the utilization of employees on any work assignment whether connected to their customary job or not; the right to hire, transfer, promote, demote, layoff, discipline and/or discharge employees provided just cause is established and due process afforded; to maintain minimum staffing based on District policy, unless in an emergent situation; to set work schedules or change schedules already set; to control overtime and the necessity of an employee working overtime; to make and implement reasonable rules and regulations; and to do all other management for the operation of the District.

Any of the management's rights, powers, functions, or authority which the District had prior to the signing of this agreement with the Union are retained by the District, except as to those rights, powers, functions, or authority which are specifically and expressly abridged or modified by this agreement.

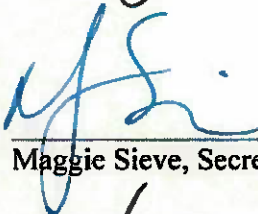
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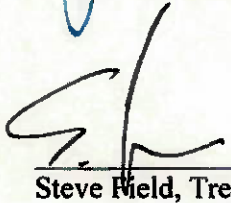
## **DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT**

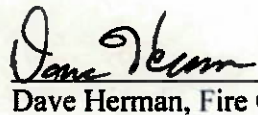
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND COLLECTIVE  
BARGAINING CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ROBERTSON  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT & THE INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF EASTERN MISSOURI FIREFIGHTERS,  
LOCAL 2665

The Robertson Fire Protection District:

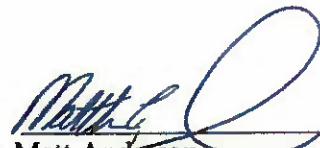
  
Jennifer Guyton, Chairperson      6/22/23  
Date

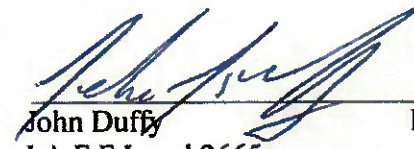
  
Maggie Sieve, Secretary      6/22/23  
Date

  
Steve Field, Treasurer      6-22-23  
Date

  
Dave Herman, Fire Chief      6/22/23  
Date

I.A.F.F. Local 2665 & R.F.P.D. Shop:

  
Matt Anderson      6-22-23  
Date  
I.A.F.F. Local 2665  
Robertson F.P.D. Shop Steward

  
John Duffy      6-22-23  
Date  
I.A.F.F Local 2665  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Vice-President