

**AN AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT ENGINEER'S OFFICE**  
**AND**  
**THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL**  
**EMPLOYEES (AFSCME), OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFL-CIO**  
**AND**  
**AFSCME LOCAL 1032 CLERICAL & TECHNICAL, AFL-CIO**

**EFFECTIVE:**  
**APRIL 1, 2024 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2027**

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## **PREAMBLE/PURPOSE**

THIS AGREEMENT, entered into at Akron, Ohio, between the County of Summit by its duly authorized County Executive and the Summit County Engineer, (hereinafter referred to as the Employer and/or the Engineer), and Local 1032 and Ohio Council No. 8, both of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, (hereinafter collectively referred to as the Union). Wherever the term Engineer is used in this Agreement, it shall be deemed to mean the Engineer himself or his designated representative(s).

WHEREAS, in order that the Engineer and the Union may work in harmony, and:

1. To achieve and maintain a satisfactory and stabilized employer-employee relationship and improved work performance, as the parties understand and agree that the services performed by the County Engineer employees included in this agreement are essential to the public health, safety, and welfare.
2. To provide for the peaceful and equitable adjustment of differences which may arise.
3. To assure the effectiveness of service by providing an opportunity for employees to meet with the Engineer through their representatives to exchange views and opinions on policies and procedures affecting the conditions of their employment, subject to R.C. Chapter 4117.
4. To protect the right of every employee to fair and impartial treatment regardless of membership or non-membership in an employee organization.
5. To provide an opportunity for the Union and Engineer to negotiate as to wages, hours, benefits, and conditions of employment. This agreement pertains to all employees within the bargaining unit defined hereunder.
6. To provide for orderly, harmonious, and cooperative employee relations in the interest, not only of the parties, but of the citizens of Summit County, and to maintain the efficiency of the various departments of the Engineer.

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the parties to this Agreement to avoid disputes, and to bargain collectively with regard to wages, hours, and working conditions, and in further consideration of the covenants and agreements made by each of the parties as hereinafter set forth, the parties mutually agree to be legally bound hereby and stipulate;

WHEREAS, the existing Agreement between the County, the Engineer and the Union expires on March 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, good faith collective bargaining resulted in certain agreement between the parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Engineer and the Union agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 - MANAGEMENT RIGHTS**

Except as specifically limited herein, the Engineer shall have the right to manage the operation, control the premises, direct the working forces, and maintain efficiency of operations. Specifically, the Engineer's rights include the right to hire, discipline and suspend; terminate or reduce in pay or position only for just cause, provided that a claim by an employee or the Union, that an employee has been disciplined, suspended, terminated or reduced in pay or position without just cause may be made the subject of the grievance procedure herein; to layoff and promote; to determine when a job vacancy exists; to reorganize, discontinue, or enlarge any station; to transfer employees; to introduce new and/or improved equipment, methods or facilities; to determine work methods; to determine the size and number of work force, the number of shifts required, and work schedules; to contract out; to declare an emergency; and to schedule overtime as well as the amount required thereof; to classify and reclassify except as modified herein; to establish, modify, consolidate, or abolish jobs except as modified herein; to determine assignment of employees, numbers employed, qualifications required, except as limited herein; and areas worked, subject to the restrictions and regulations governing the exercise of these rights as are expressly provided herein.

All rights and responsibilities of the Engineer not specifically modified or limited by the Agreement shall remain the function of the Engineer. The above enumerated management rights shall in no event contravene the terms and conditions of this Agreement and shall be subject thereto.

## **ARTICLE 2 - UNION RECOGNITION**

**Section 2.1.** For the purpose of this Agreement, the Engineer recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive representative on all matters relating to wages, hours and all other terms and conditions of employment for all employees and classifications within the bargaining unit. Wherever the term "bargaining unit" is used in this Agreement, it shall be deemed to include those individuals employed in or those classifications included in the bargaining unit as approved and certified by the State Employment Relations Board in its order of April 18, 1985 or as may be added or deleted thereto by mutual agreement of the parties hereto.

**Section 2.2.** The bargaining unit is composed of those employees in classifications listed in Exhibit 1 of this Agreement, subject to the following exclusions from the bargaining unit:

- A.** All supervisory, management and confidential employees as defined in R.C. Chapter 4117 including the secretary to the Engineer.
- B.** Casual, temporary and seasonal as defined by SERB whose cumulative term of employment does not exceed a total of fourteen (14) weeks annually.

C. Part-time employees who work not more than twenty (20) hours per week.

D. All positions and job titles of employees not specifically established herein as being included in the bargaining unit shall be excluded from the bargaining unit, subject to, however, that during the term of this Agreement any new job titles or classifications that are recognized by the parties as bargaining unit jobs, then that classification will become part of and be included in the Union bargaining unit.

**Section 2.3.** Excluded classifications shall not be assigned nor be permitted to perform the work of bargaining unit employees with the exception of supervisory employees who may instruct and train employees and do bargaining unit work when qualified, when sufficient bargaining unit employees are not available, in an emergency, or to meet operational needs wherein the Engineer shall not be arbitrary or capricious.

**Section 2.4.** In the event a new classification which is similar to those in the bargaining unit is established by the Engineer, the Engineer and Union shall meet as soon as possible to determine whether such classification shall be included in the unit. In the event that agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to SERB for resolution.

**Section 2.5.** Services of casual, temporary, seasonal, and part-time employees as defined in Article III, Section 3, shall be limited to those similar to office and clerical type duties.

**Section 2.6.** When the word "Employer" is used in this Agreement, it will generally mean the Summit County Engineer unless indicated otherwise.

When the word "Employee" is used in the Agreement, it will generally mean members of the AFSCME Local 1032 unless otherwise, such as references to non-bargaining employees, part-time non-bargaining employees, seasonal, temporary, Supervisors, etc.

### **ARTICLE 3 - UNION REPRESENTATION**

**Section 3.1.** Employees selected by the Union to act as duly constituted representatives including stewards and the Union President or other designated officer in his absence shall have the right, during working hours and without loss of regular pay, to represent bargaining unit employees when requested by such employees and where specifically provided for in this Agreement in meetings, hearings, or conferences with the Engineer or his designated representative(s).

**Section 3.2.** The Union may designate not more than one (1) chief steward and one (1) steward or alternate per station including South Street to conduct appropriate Union business, however, in addition to the above, the Union President and the bargaining unit's Chief Steward shall be permitted reasonable and sufficient time off with pay to conduct appropriate union representatives business under this section or the aims and provisions

of this Agreement. Designations of Stewards and representatives shall be in advance when possible and in writing to the Engineer. No more than one (1) union representative will investigate and handle grievances with an employee at one (1) time except for preparation for 3rd step grievance meeting with the Engineer, except for the assistance of the Union President or Chief Steward only as reasonably necessary.

**Section 3.3.** Rules governing the activity of the Stewards and Alternates are as follows:

- A.** The Steward (or alternate) must obtain in advance, authorization from his/her immediate supervisor if available, before beginning Union activities. If the immediate supervisor is unavailable, the dispatcher of the Steward's station shall be informed of the Steward's name, time of departure and destination. Authorization by a Steward's immediate supervisor shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- B.** The Steward (or alternate) shall notify the supervisor in charge of the area visited, if available; shall not interfere with work in progress; and shall leave the area upon reasonable request of the supervisor.
- C.** Upon return from authorized Union activities, the Steward (or alternate) shall notify the immediate supervisor or if unavailable, the dispatcher of his/her return.

**Section 3.4.** All Union representatives shall be required to complete the Union Representative Time Form which shall be given to the Steward's immediate supervisor upon return to his/her work area. Said forms shall be furnished by the Engineer and shall be obtained from the Supervisor. A copy of said form is attached hereto as Appendix "A".

**Section 3.5.** The Ohio Council 8 or International representatives of the Union may, after prior approval and arrangement with the Employer, consult with officers or stewards or employees in their work areas during working hours for the purpose of adjusting or investigating grievances. Such consultations shall not interfere with any work in progress and said representatives shall notify the supervisor of the area, prior to such consultation and/or investigation.

**Section 3.6.** Elected officers and stewards may use the Engineer's telephones for local calls and a designated copy machine during working hours to conduct and carry on the provisions and aims of this Agreement, provided such use is not abused. If the Engineer feels that such use is being abused, the Engineer and Union shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of the Engineer's written notice in order to discuss the matter. In addition, the Union may use the internal mail system of the Engineer, excluding the use of electronic mail or any other use of the computer system, for the conduct of Union business. If the Engineer should discontinue the functioning of an internal, non-electronic mail system, the parties shall meet to consider alternatives to providing communications within the Agency for the conduct of Union business.

**Section 3.7.** Nothing contained in this Article will preclude the employee from engaging in conversations/discussions with supervisors/managers, without the presence of a union representative, in the accomplishment of daily activities, or the filing of an official complaint.

**Section 3.8. Unpaid Leave.** One bargaining unit employee each year may use, at the discretionary approval of the Employer, up to one (1) year of leave without pay to work for the Union. Once that employee's leave has reached one (1) year, the employee must return to work or terminate his/her employment with the Engineer. The employee shall submit the request for leave at least thirty (30) days in advance of the leave requested. Leave shall be taken in no less than ninety (90) day continuous increments. The Engineer will provide no benefits for employee during this period of unpaid leave.

**Section 3.9.** The Engineer will provide Council 8 with the names, home addresses and telephone numbers of bargaining unit employees on an annual basis after receiving a request from Council 8 for this information that includes signed consent forms from the affected employees authorizing the Engineer to release this information.

**Section 3.10.** Once each month, Union officers shall be permitted to meet with all employees hired the prior month for one (1) hours' duration, to inform said employee(s) of functions of AFSCME Local 1032. Employer facilities shall be made available for this purpose.

#### **ARTICLE 4 - BULLETIN BOARDS**

**Section 4.1.** The Engineer agrees to provide space for two (2) bulletin board for the Main Office. The size and location of such boards are to be agreed upon by the Union and Engineer and the Engineer shall purchase bulletin boards for the Union's use.

**Section 4.2.** The Union shall designate one (1) Union representative or, in his/her absence, the Union President as the only person responsible for posting Union notices as allowed in Section 3. The Union shall notify the Engineer in writing of the name of such representative.

**Section 4.3.** The Union may only post the following notices on non-work time:

- A. Union recreational and social affairs;
- B. Notice of Union meetings;
- C. Notice of Union appointments, nominations or elections or election results;
- D. Reports of Union committees;
- E. Rulings or policies of the International Union, Ohio Council 8, or Local 1032, AFSCME, AFL-CIO;



**F. Union newsletters and newspapers.**

**Section 4.4.** No notices may be posted under this Article which contains personal attacks upon any employee, attacks upon the administration, attacks upon any employee organization, or anything political and/or reflecting on the Engineer or any of his employees or the County. If the Engineer finds that this Article is being violated, he or his representative may immediately remove such improper notices and will so advise the Union. The Engineer and Union shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours of such removal.

**Section 4.5.** Notwithstanding the above, no matters relating to health and safety may be posted without first being discussed by the Health and Safety Committee as established in this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 5 - NON-DISCRIMINATION**

**Section 5.1.** The provisions of the Agreement shall be applied in accordance with all Federal and State laws and shall be applied equally to all employees in the bargaining unit without discrimination as to age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, political opinions or affiliations, disabilities, place of residence, or any other characteristic to the extent protected by law.

**Section 5.2.** All references to employees in this Agreement designate both sexes, and wherever the male gender is used, it shall be construed to include male and female employees.

**Section 5.3.** The Engineer agrees not to interfere with the rights of eligible employees to become members of the Union, and there shall be no discrimination, interference, restraint, or coercion by the Engineer or his representatives against any legal Union activity granted by statute.

**Section 5.4.** The Union agrees not to interfere with the rights of employees to not become members of the Union, and there shall be no discrimination, interference, restraint, or coercion by the Union or its representatives against any employee exercising the right to abstain from membership in the Union subject to other provisions of this Agreement.

**Section 5.5.** The Union agrees to fulfill its duty to fairly represent all employees in the bargaining unit.

**Section 5.6.** The Union and the Engineer agree to comply with all federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination covered by this Article.

## **ARTICLE 6 - UNION SECURITY**

**Section 6.1.** The plan of voluntary Unit dues deduction, initiation fees, and assessments of members as authorized by Section 4117.09 (B) (2) of the Ohio Revised Code, shall be in effect under this Agreement. The parties acknowledge that any employee who is not part of the recognized bargaining unit will not be subject to any Union dues deductions, initiation fees, or assessments. The form for dues deduction authorization shall be furnished by the Union.

**Section 6.2.** Previously signed and unrevoked authorization cards shall continue to be effective for current and reinstated employees.

**Section 6.3.** All dues and fair share fee deductions shall be deposited via electronic ACH transfer payment into the commercial bank account of Ohio Council 8, AFSCME, AFL-CIO no later than fifteen (15) days following the end of the pay period in which the deduction is made. The Union shall provide the Employer with authorization to make deposits into the financial institution utilized by the Union along with the routing number and account number of the Union's account. It is the Union's responsibility to notify the Employer in writing of any change to the Union's account information.

Additionally, the Employer shall email, with each deduction and transmittal of dues/fees, the following lists of information in Excel or Text format to [oc8dues@afscme8.org](mailto:oc8dues@afscme8.org), subject line: Local 1032, Pay date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_:

1. **DUES LIST:** name (last name, first name, middle initial), last 4 digits of the social security number, the amount of the deduction for each employee, and the total amount of dues deducted for all employees for the pay period of the report.
2. **NON-MEMBER LIST:** Name (last name, first name, middle initial), last 4 digits of the social security number, the amount of the deduction for each employee, and the total amount of dues deducted for all employees for the pay period of the report.
3. **DROPPED LIST:** An alphabetical list of the name, last 4 digits of the social security number, current address and phone number of bargaining unit employees who were dropped from the previous dues list the previous dues lists and the reason each was dropped.
4. **TOTAL REMITTANCE AMOUNT.**

This Section is deemed complied with if one list containing fields with all the above information (including a field showing whether employee is a union member or non-member) is provided by the Employer in Excel format to the Union for all AFSCME bargaining units. The grouping of members and non-members, and the totals required under this Section, shall be calculated and/or organized by the Union using the fields provided in Excel format.

**Section 6.4.** The Employer's obligation to make deductions shall terminate automatically upon timely receipt of a revocation, as provided under Section 6.1, above, (subject to the Fair Share Provisions of this Article), a copy of which shall be submitted in writing, by way of certified mail, by the employee to the Union and Administrator of Personnel. The Employer's obligation to deduct dues, initiation fees, and/or assessments shall also terminate upon termination of employment transfer to a job classification outside the bargaining unit, layoff from work, and any authorized unpaid leave of absence. Such deduction shall automatically commence upon the rehire of such employee affected or transfer of such employee affected to a job classification within the bargaining unit. Such deductions of dues, initiation fees, or assessments shall cease beginning with the month immediately following the month in which the revocation, termination, transfer to a job outside the bargaining unit, layoff or unpaid leave of absence occurs. The Union will be notified, by the Employer's offices, of the names of such employees during the month following the month in which the termination, transfer, layoff or unpaid leave takes place.

**Section 6.5.** The Union shall notify the Employer, in writing, of any increase in the current dues, initiation fees, and/or assessments being deducted. Such increase shall be deducted in the second pay period of the month following notification of any increase.

**Section 6.6.** Changes in the amounts to be deducted shall become effective during the month following their actual receipt by the Employer.

**Section 6.7.** The Union warrants and guarantees to the Employer that no provision of this Article violates the constitution or laws of either the United States of America or the State of Ohio. Therefore, the Union hereby agrees that it will indemnify and save the Employer harmless from any and all claims, demands, suits, or other forms of liability that may arise out of complying with any of the provisions of the Article. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union.

**Section 6.8.** The Employer shall not be obligated to make dues, fees, or assessment deductions from any employee who, during any bi-weekly period involved, shall have failed to receive sufficient wages to equal the dues, fees, and assessment deductions. In the event a deduction is not made for any union member during any particular bi-weekly period, the employer will make the appropriate deductions from the following pay period or periods.

**Section 6.9.** The Employer and the Union agree that if a Service Fee or Fair Share fee becomes permissible, they will enter the appropriate language under this section of the Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 7 - WAIVER IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

**Section 7.1.** In case of non-operational emergencies beyond the control of the Engineer, including but not limited to act of God, riot, flood, civil disorder, or other natural or man-made disaster or severe weather conditions or accident, but excluding strikes or other similar work stoppages on the part of other Engineer employees, the below referenced provisions of this Agreement shall automatically be applied without recourse from the Union. Upon declaration of said emergency by the Summit County Executive, the Summit County Engineer, Governor of the State of Ohio or President of the United States and the following provisions shall apply:

- A.** Time limits for Engineer's replies of grievances under Article 20 shall be waived;
- B.** Limitations on distribution of overtime under Article 12 shall be waived; however, once said emergency is concluded, charged overtime shall be posted and added to appropriate rosters in accordance with the overtime provision of this Agreement.
- C.** Bargaining Unit employees who are directed by the Engineer to work during the time of a declared emergency shall be required to do so. If such employee is eligible for overtime during the time of the declared emergency, such employee shall be paid in accordance with the overtime provision of this Agreement.
- D.** In addition, and notwithstanding other Articles of this Agreement, the Engineer reserves the right during any such declared emergency to assign employees to work as needed.

**Section 7.2.** At the conclusion of such emergency, the conditions referenced in Section 1 of this Article shall be reinstated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

**Section 7.3.** Employees will be paid the double-time rate if any work is performed as a result of the Engineer declaring an emergency for which they would be entitled to overtime.

## **ARTICLE 8 - NO STRIKE/NO LOCKOUT**

Inasmuch as this Agreement provides machinery for the orderly resolution of grievances, the Engineer and the Union recognize their mutual responsibility to provide for the uninterrupted services to the citizens of Summit County.

THEREFORE:

**Section 8.1.** The Union agrees that neither it, its officers, agents, representatives, or members will authorize, instigate, cause, aid, condone, or participate in any strike, work stoppage, sympathy strike, or any other interruption of operations or services of the

Engineer by its members. When the Engineer notifies the Union that any of its members are engaged in any such strike activity, as outlined above, the Union shall immediately and conspicuously post notices over the signature of an authorized representative of the Union to the effect that a violation is in progress and such notice shall instruct all employees to immediately return to work.

Any employee found to be in violation of this provision shall be subject to disciplinary action and the only question before the arbitrator shall be whether he or she did in fact participate in or promote prohibited activity.

**Section 8.2.** Should there be a violation of this Article, there shall be no discussion or negotiations regarding the difference or dispute during such times.

**Section 8.3.** The Engineer agrees that neither he, nor the Engineer's officers, agents, or representatives, individually or collectively, will authorize, instigate, cause, aid or condone any lockout of employees, or other such action insofar as such performance is required in the normal and usual operation of the Engineer's services.

## **ARTICLE 9 - HOURS OF WORK**

**Section 9.1.** The work week shall consist of five (5) consecutive days beginning Monday A.M. and ending Friday P.M. and the work day consists of eight (8) hours beginning at 7:30 A.M. and ending at 4:00 P.M. or as otherwise deemed appropriate for seasonal scheduling by the Engineer and/or his designee with fourteen (14) day advanced notice to the Union. There shall be a one (1) hour lunch period from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. provided this time period does not unduly interfere with the completion of a phase of a project in progress.

This Article is intended only to define the work week and hours of work and provides a basis for the calculation of overtime pay. Nothing herein shall be construed as a guarantee of hours of work per day or pay week, or of days of work per week.

**Section 9.2.** Employees who are unable to report to work, other than for sick leave under Article 10, must notify their immediate supervisor or as designated by the Engineer prior to the start of the normal shift with exceptions for extenuating circumstances or emergency type situations, in which case documentation will be provided by the employee if reasonably available. Personal time as defined in Article 11, Section 11.16 may be used in increments of one (1) hour for emergency situations in which documentation is provided by the employee if reasonably available.

Employees who arrive late to work without proper justification will be subject to docking pursuant to the following:

Bargaining unit employees must clock in and out for timekeeping purposes and payroll processing. Clocking (in and out) shall be rounded to the nearest quarter hour in accordance with the 7/8 Rounding Rule. Employees are required to clock in before starting time, when leaving at the end of the workday, and when leaving the premises for any personal reason during working hours.

Employees will be docked pay for tardiness following the 7/8 Rounding Rule above, rounding to the nearest quarter hour. For example, if an employee clocks in 7 minutes late or less, he will not be docked. If the employee clocks in 8 minutes to 22 minutes late, he will be docked 15 minutes. However, employees are subject to disciplinary action for any tardiness, even if not docked under the rule above. Repeated tardiness or failure to report in accordance with the above may result in disciplinary action.

**Section 9.3.** When a Bargaining Unit employee reports to work without previously being notified by the Engineer not to report to work and finds work not available due to an emergency or conditions beyond the control of the Engineer, the employee may be assigned to any available job or sent home at the discretion of the Engineer and be paid two (2) hours if sent home before commencing work, four (4) hours if before lunch, and eight (8) hours if after lunch. If an employee is notified at least one (1) hour before reporting time, no hours of pay shall be made.

**Section 9.4.** Should it be necessary to work a forty (40) hour work week in other than five (5) consecutive eight (8) hour days because of an energy crisis or operational emergency, only straight time will be paid for those forty (40) hours; also, the work week may be staggered. The Engineer and Union shall meet and negotiate in the event such a change would be necessary.

**Section 9.5.** The regular workday shall begin and end at the station to which the employee is assigned, when possible. Employees may be required to clock in and/or out at alternate locations as deemed necessary by Supervision based on the nature of the work assigned.

## **ARTICLE 10 - SICK LEAVE AND FUNERAL LEAVE**

**Section 10.1. Crediting Sick Leave.** All employees of the Engineer within the Union bargaining unit shall be entitled and credited for each completed eighty (80) hours of service, sick leave of four and six-tenths (4.6) hours with pay, and which shall be permitted to be accumulated in an unlimited amount.

**Section 10.2. Charging Sick Leave.** Sick leave shall be charged in minimum units of one-quarter (1/4) hour. An employee shall be charged for sick leave only for days upon which he/she would otherwise have been scheduled to work. Sick leave payment shall not exceed the normal scheduled work day or work week earnings.

**Section 10.3. Uses of Sick Leave.** Sick leave shall be granted to an employee only upon approval of the Engineer and for the following reasons:

- A. Illness, injury, or pregnancy-related condition of the employee.
- B. Death of a member of his immediate family (sick leave usage limited to five (5) working days).
- C. Exposure of an employee to a contagious disease which could be communicated to and jeopardize the health of other employees.
- D. Examination of the employee, including medical, psychological, dental, or optical examination, by an appropriate practitioner. Verification shall be required from the licensed medical practitioner.
- E. Illness, injury, or pregnancy-related condition of a member of the employee's immediate family where the employee's presence is reasonably necessary for the health and welfare of the employee or affected family member. (In case of a member of the immediate family not living in the same household, the Engineer may credit sick leave when he believes it is justified, but such cases shall be carefully investigated).
- F. Examination, including medical, psychological, dental, or optical examination, of a member of the employee's family by an appropriate practitioner where the employee's presence is reasonably necessary. (In case of a member of the immediate family not living in the same household, the Engineer may credit sick leave when he believes it is justified, but such cases shall be carefully investigated). Verification shall be required from the licensed medical practitioner.

**Section 10.4. Previously Accumulated Sick Leave.** The previously accumulated sick leave of an employee who has been separated from the public service shall be placed to his credit upon his re-employment in the public service, provided that such re-employment takes place within ten (10) years of the date on which the employee was last terminated from public service.

**Section 10.5. Transfer from Public Agencies.** An employee who transfers from one public agency to another shall be credited with the unused balance of his accumulated sick leave up to the maximum of the sick leave accumulation permitted in the public agency to which the employee transfers.

**Section 10.6.** Employees who retire under O.P.E.R.S. while employed at the Summit County Engineer's Office with ten (10) or more years of service shall be paid as follows:



- A. Employees of this bargaining unit shall be entitled to fifty percent (50%) of a maximum actual sick leave balance upon retirement not to exceed ninety (90) days.
- B. In the event a regular full-time employee of the bargaining unit dies, his or her estate shall be paid such unused sick leave accumulation up to either qualifying provision as provided above.

**Section 10.7. Identification and Definition of Immediate Family.** The identification and definition of immediate family for purposes of sick leave shall be:

- 1. Spouse
- 2. Child (Step)
- 3. Father (step)
- 4. Mother (Step)
- 5. Grandparent
- 6. Grandchild
- 7. A legal guardian or another person who stands in place of a parent
- 8. Domestic Partner
- 9. An individual over whom an employee has a power of attorney
- 10. Covered service member as defined under Family and Medical Leave Act  
Military Leave Act
- 11. A legal guardian or an individual over whom an employee has a legal guardianship

**Section 10.8. Evidence Required for Sick Leave Usage.** Before an absence may be charged against accumulated sick leave, the Employer may require proof of illness, injury, or death, or may require the employee to be examined by a physician designated by the Employer. The Employer will pay the cost of the examination when the physician is designated by the Employer. In any event, an employee absent for three (3) or more days must supply an adequate physician's certification to be eligible for paid sick leave.

**Section 10.9. Abuse of Sick Leave.** Employees failing to comply with sick leave rules and regulations shall not be paid for the sick leave claimed. If an employee fails to submit adequate proof of illness, injury, or death upon request, or in the event that upon such proof as is submitted or upon the report of medical examination, the Employer finds there is not satisfactory evidence provided to justify the absence, such leave may, at the Employer's discretion, be considered an unauthorized leave and shall be without pay. Applications for sick leave that are fraudulent will result in discharge and the employee will be required to refund the County for all salary and wages paid as a result of the fraudulent sick leave claimed.

**Section 10.10. Notification by Employee.** When an employee is incapacitated and is unable to report to work, he/she shall, if physically able, notify by telephone the timekeeper, or other designated person/system, at a reasonable hour prior to the regular starting time of a work day and every succeeding day of absence thereafter, unless he/she



has a prolonged illness which the Employer is already aware of and has previously authorized. In the event the employee is not able to contact the Employer, his/her spouse or other person residing with the employee may call in for the employee. Also, if the Engineer or his designee authorizes an absence due to an illness or funeral of an employee's immediate family, the employee is not required to telephone daily to report off.

If such notification is not made, the absence may be charged to leave without pay. Upon receipt of such notice the payroll department will continue the employee on the payroll, providing there is sick leave accumulation, and await the filing of the doctor's certificate or approval of the written, signed statement which is filed within a time specified by these provisions.

The employee shall notify his/her supervisor as soon as possible, but no later than one (1) day, in advance of any pre-scheduled examination.

If the employee fails to file said licensed medical practitioner's certificate or fully completed and signed application for leave form verifying illness, or if the application for leave is denied, and as a result the employee has been overpaid, such overpayment shall be deducted from his/her next pay.

**Section 10.11. Miscellaneous Provisions.** A certificate from a licensed medical practitioner is the generally acceptable form of proof as satisfactory/adequate evidence of illness. A fully completed and signed Application for Leave form shall also be submitted by the employee for any requested leave. Leave requests may be accepted, depending on the employee's work record and the circumstances as follows:

- A. Repeated requests for sick leave evidenced by a pattern of absences may be cause for denial and/or disciplinary action.
- B. The Engineer or his designee may reasonably investigate to determine if a written, signed statement is for a bona-fide illness. Requests may be denied or allowed depending on results of such investigation.
- C. These provisions are to conserve the employee's sick leave accumulation for future time, when it may be badly needed by the employee due to serious injury or prolonged illness, and to facilitate management in having a full work force on hand each day.
- D. In the event that an employee's application for sick leave is denied, notice will be provided to the employee within three (3) working days of the date of denial.
- E. All un-excused occurrences of sick leave used before and after a holiday will be denied.

**Section 10.12. Expiration of Sick Leave.** If illness or disability continues past the time covered by earned sick leave, the employee may be granted a leave without pay at the discretion of the Employer. The employee will not receive or accrue any benefits during this period.

**Section 10.13. Sick Leave While on Workers' Compensation.** An employee absent from work because of a service-connected occupational illness or injury, as determined by the Industrial Commission, may result in the employee receiving Workers' Compensation payments in the following manner:

- A. If an employee wants to have his sick leave reinstated and to be paid Workers' Compensation instead of the sick leave benefits that he has already received, he must follow the steps as outlined by the State of Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.
- B. When it becomes necessary, due to an on-the-job injury, for an employee to seek the services of a physician, he shall be paid the balance of the shift at his appropriate rate of pay, if the employee is unable to complete his shift. A supervisor or other responsible individual is to be notified immediately of such accident and a personal injury Accident Report is to be made and submitted to the Engineer's Office.

**Section 10.14. Sick Leave Incentive.** Good attendance incentive, in an effort to improve attendance the engineer will reward employees covered under this agreement with one (1) perfect attendance bonus day, for employees who do not use any sick leave other than the personal days described in Article XI. The one bonus day shall be used in the same manner as vacation. Employees who use eight (8) hours or less of sick leave in a calendar year (January-December) shall be rewarded with a bonus of eight hours of regular pay which will be added to their pay at the end of the calendar year.

**Section 10.15.** Employees who use sick leave in an un-excused manner will be subject to discipline under the following schedule in a rolling twelve (12) month period (For Example: An occurrence of unexcused sick leave on August 1, 2014 can only be considered until July 31, 2015. After July 31, 2015 the unexcused sick leave occurrence that occurred on August 1, 2014 has no force and effect):

- 7<sup>th</sup> occurrence - Verbal Warning
- 8<sup>th</sup> occurrence - Written Warning
- 9<sup>th</sup> occurrence - One (1) day suspension
- 10<sup>th</sup> occurrence - Three (3) day suspension
- 11<sup>th</sup> occurrence - Five (5) day suspension
- 12<sup>th</sup> occurrence - Termination

An un-excused absence is defined as sick leave used without documentation from the employee's attending physician, school principal (when an employee leaves work to pick up an ill dependent child) or without prior approval. Sick leave will be considered to be unexcused if said documentation is not provided by the end of the pay period in which the sick leave was used or seven (7) calendar days following the sick leave use, whichever is later.

It is understood and agreed that employees will be charged with an occurrence for each unexcused use of sick leave. It is further understood that any unexcused use of sick leave for a consecutive time period is considered one occurrence. For example; an employee would only be charged one (1) occurrence for an unexcused absence of two (2) consecutive days.

Sick leave time for employees who have more than seven (7) occurrences will not be considered time worked for the purpose of the calculation of overtime.

**Section 10.16. Forty (40) Hour Balance.** Supervisors will closely monitor all sick leave balances. If an employee's accrued sick leave balance falls below forty (40) hours the supervisor, in his or her sole discretion, may meet with the employee and discuss the reasons for the low balance and the importance of preserving sick leave. Such meeting shall not constitute discipline.

**Section 10.17.** The Engineer may request that an employee take an examination, conducted by a licensed medical practitioner selected by the Engineer, at no cost to the employee, to determine physical and mental capability to perform the essential duties of the position, and if found not capable by the practitioner, the Union and the Engineer shall meet to determine whether or not the employee shall immediately be placed on sick leave or disability leave. Such meeting shall take place as soon as possible after receipt of such licensed medical practitioner's report.

The Engineer reserves the right to have any employee submitted to a physical examination for the purpose of determining the employee's capability to perform his job with the County Engineer. Upon request by the employee a copy of such report of the employee's physical examination will be provided to the employee. This medical report shall be considered confidential by the Engineer and will not be released to any other party without specific written authorization from the employee releasing this information.

**Section 10.18. Funeral Leave.** The identification and definition of immediate family for funeral leave shall be:

1. Spouse
2. Child (Step)
3. Father (step)
4. Mother (Step)
5. Grandparent
6. Grandchild
7. Sister (Step/Half)
8. Brother (Step/Half)
9. Mother-in-Law
10. Father-in-Law
11. Sister-in-Law
12. Brother-in-Law

13. Daughter-in-Law
14. Son-in-Law
15. Aunt
16. Uncle
17. Niece
18. Nephew
19. Domestic Partner
20. An individual over whom an employee has a power of attorney.
21. Covered service member as defined under Family and Medical Leave Act Military Leave
22. A legal guardian or an individual over whom an employee has a legal guardianship

An employee may utilize up to five (5) consecutive scheduled work days, deducted from the employee's sick leave balance, for the purpose of attending the funeral for immediate family as defined above.

Upon making application for benefits under this article, the employee may be required to furnish proof of death, proof of relationship to the deceased, and proof of attendance at the funeral.

## **ARTICLE 11 - HOLIDAYS AND VACATION**

### **HOLIDAYS**

**Section 11.1.** In addition to any other Holidays declared by the County Council and the County Executive, all full-time Bargaining Unit employees of the County of Summit Engineer shall be granted the following paid holidays:

1st Day of January	-	New Year's Day
3rd Monday in January	-	Martin Luther King Day
3rd Monday in February	-	Washington-Lincoln Day
Last Monday in May	-	Memorial Day
19 <sup>th</sup> of June	-	Juneteenth
4th of July	-	Independence Day
1st Monday in September	-	Labor Day
2nd Monday in October	-	Columbus Day
11th Day in November	-	Veteran's Day
4th Thursday in November	-	Thanksgiving Day
4th Friday in November	-	Day after Thanksgiving
24th of December	-	Christmas Eve Day
25th of December	-	Christmas Day

Employee's Birthday (to be taken at a time that is mutually agreed upon with the Employer, no more than ten (10) calendar days of that year, prior to the employee's birthday and within the remainder of the calendar year, or it will be added to the employee's vacation accumulation)

Any employee within the bargaining unit who works on any holiday stated above (excluding the employee's birthday), shall be compensated in addition to the regular pay for that holiday in the following manner:

1. Excluding Christmas and New Year's, employee whose regularly scheduled work week is not a Monday-Friday work week and who is required to work on any holiday observed by the Engineer, including any employee required to work on an observed holiday which falls during his/her regularly scheduled work week, shall receive holiday pay for the observed holiday and be paid at one and one-half (1½) times his/her regular hourly rate for all hours worked on the observed holiday. Employees who work on December 25 and/or January 1 shall be compensated at double-time (2x) for hours actually worked on December 25 and/or January 1, in addition to holiday pay for the observed Christmas and/or New Year's holiday.

**Section 11.2.** If a holiday falls on Saturday, it shall be observed on Friday. If a holiday falls on Sunday, it shall be observed on Monday. Holiday pay will not be given while the employee is on leave of absence without pay.

**Section 11.3.** In order to receive holiday pay, an employee must work or be credited for the scheduled work day before and after the holiday. The employee's birthday is not a holiday for purposes of the premium pay.

**Section 11.4.** Any employee who is required to work on any holiday observed above, shall be compensated at one and one-half (1½) times his regular hourly rate of all hours worked in addition to the regular pay for the holiday.

**Section 11.5.** An employee called in on emergency work on a holiday, shall be paid a minimum three (3) hours at the time and one-half (1½) rate in addition to their regular pay except for Christmas and New Years. Employees called in on Christmas and New Years shall be paid double-time (2x) in addition to regular pay. All other applications of holiday pay shall be paid as indicated above.

**Section 11.6.** Should a paid holiday occur during an employee's vacation period, said vacation shall be extended by an equal amount of days said holiday is observed.

**Section 11.7.** In order to receive holiday pay, the employee must work the day prior to and the day after said holiday unless on previously scheduled and approved vacation status (not emergency vacation) for those days. However, the employee may use a personal day, if available, for one of those days. Also, a verified doctor's certificate will be admissible for the aforementioned days.

## **VACATIONS**

**Section 11.8.** Full-time bargaining unit employees, after completion of one (1) year of service shall earn vacation credit according to the following schedule:

<b><u>After Years of Completed Service</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Vacation Weeks</u></b>
180 Days	One (1) week (40) hours (plus new accumulation rate of 3.1 hours per bi-weekly pay period.)
5	Three (3) weeks (computed on the basis of 40 additional hours plus new accumulation rate of 4.6 hours per bi-weekly pay period.)
10	Four (4) weeks (computed on the basis of 40 additional hours plus new accumulation rate of 6.2 hours per bi-weekly pay period.)
15	Five (5) weeks (computed on the basis of 40 additional hours plus new accumulation rate of 7.7 hours per bi-weekly pay period.)

**Section 11.9.** Employees shall sign up for vacation annually during the first ninety (90) days of each calendar year separately in the drafting, inspection and survey sections and shall be approved by the Engineer based upon operational need and seniority. Thereafter, vacations will be scheduled and approved by the Engineer on a first come basis in accordance with operational needs.

**Section 11.10.** Time spent on authorized leave of absence counts toward the number of years' service in determining vacation accumulation credit; however, no vacation is actually earned while an employee is on a leave of absence whether authorized or not, with the exception of paid military leave.

**Section 11.11.** Vacation Leave may be taken in increments of one (1) hour or more during a regularly scheduled work day. Employees may accumulate no more than three (3) years of vacation leave carry-over, which shall be paid to the employee upon retirement, resignation, termination, or to the employee's estate in the event of death along with any vacation leave earned for the year immediately preceding at the then current rate of pay. However, an employee who terminates for any reason with less than one (1) year of service (including any prior service) shall not be entitled to payment of vacation accumulation.

**Section 11.12.** Employees may use Vacation during periods of illness or injury with the approval of the Engineer.

**Section 11.13.** Prior service with the County or any political subdivision of the State shall be used in determining service credit for purposes of vacation accumulation, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 9.44. However, such service shall not be determined as seniority preference or credit.

**Section 11.14. Personal Leave.** Full-time bargaining unit employees, after completion of one (1) year of service, shall be entitled to three (3) personal days (24 hours) per calendar year out of existing sick time accrued. The time off must be approved by the Employer and does not carry over for the next year. Unused personal leave remains as accumulated sick leave. The Employer will make every effort to grant personal leave when requested. Personal leave requests are granted or denied by the Employer based on operational need.

Personal leave may be taken in increments of one (1) hour and cannot be carried over into the next calendar year. For the purpose of the paragraph, a calendar year is defined as the period of time from January 1 through December 31 of the same year. Employees desiring to use personal leave must notify their immediate supervisor or other person designated by the Engineer, prior to the start of the normal shift with exception for extenuating circumstances or emergency type situations.

Employees desiring to use personal leave must personally notify their immediate Supervisor of their request. If the immediate Supervisor cannot be contacted, such employee shall make personal notification to the Supervisor's designee of the planned absence of Personal Days. Such notification shall be made prior to the start of the normal work shift with exception for extenuating circumstances.

Employees desiring to use personal leave before or after a holiday are required to notify and receive approval from the Supervisor's designee at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the day for which a personal leave is to be used or the holiday occurs, whichever comes first. In any event, the employee must receive approval prior to taking the personal leave.

**Section 11.15. Short-Term Emergency Vacation.** Short term/short notice vacation must be pre-scheduled with the employee's Supervisor/Department Head no later than the end of the shift on the day before requested absence. The granting of such vacation must be with the mutual agreement of the Supervisor/Department Head and is subject to his/her sole discretion. If short term/short notice vacation requests are denied, subsequent use of sick leave is subject to disapproval. For purpose of the above, short term is generally defined as one (1) day.

Same day emergency vacation notice must be made to the Supervisor/Department Head prior to the start of the shift. The granting of emergency vacation request shall be subject to the approval of the Immediate Supervisor who may require that the employee submit written documentation and/or reasonable substantiation prior to approval. Employee may not request emergency vacation more than three times in a calendar year.



## **ARTICLE 12 - OVERTIME**

**Section 12.1.** Bargaining unit employees as a condition of employment may be required by the Engineer or his designated representatives to work in excess of hours worked in the general work week and general work day as established by the Engineer. All such overtime hours shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half (1½) times the employee's regular base hourly rate. Employees may elect to accrue compensation time in lieu of overtime payment for all overtime hours worked. The election to accrue compensatory time in lieu of receiving overtime pay shall apply for an entire pay period with the default election being payment of overtime in the case of a discrepancy. Such compensatory time shall accrue at the rate of one and one-half times (1 ½) the employee's regular base hourly rate. The amount of compensatory time that an employee may accrue in any contract year is eighty (80) hours. The hours remaining at the end of the contract year will be paid to the employee at their regular rate or at the employees request may be carried and/or used until the last pay period ending in November of the same/current year and any remaining compensatory time will be paid out at the rate it was earned. For any compensatory time taken, the minimum will be in one (1) hour increments. The taking of compensatory time must be pre-scheduled with the employee's supervisor/department head no later than the end of the shift on the day before the requested absence.

**Section 12.2.** For purposes of overtime calculation, hours worked in the normal work week or normal workday shall include all hours in active pay status, except that unexcused sick leave will not be considered hours actually worked for the purpose of calculating overtime. Sick leave that the Employer requires an employee to take will be considered excused sick leave.

**Section 12.3.** The assignment of overtime shall be in accordance with policy established by the Engineer. Said policy will attempt to distribute overtime opportunities as equally as practicable among qualified, available employees consistent with operational needs.

**Section 12.4.** Whenever an employee is called back to work at times other than his regular shift to work hours which are not adjacent to hours he worked in his regular shift, he shall be guaranteed three (3) hours pay for such call back, at the appropriate rate as determined in Section 1 of this Article.

**Section 12.5.** It is understood that nothing in this clause shall require payment for overtime hours not worked.

**Section 12.6.** When a scheduled employee reports for work to a regularly assigned shift and work is not available in the employee's classification without previously being notified by the Engineer due to an emergency or condition not in the control of the Engineer, the employee may be assigned to any available bargaining unit job at the applicable rate of pay or be paid four (4) hours pay at the employee's regular rate of pay and sent home at the discretion of the Engineer or his designated representative.



## **ARTICLE 13 - CLASSIFICATIONS**

**Section 13.1. Classifications.** All bargaining unit employees shall be classified and paid the rate of pay included in this Agreement for their classification. However, the job descriptions set forth herein are not included within the Summit County Employee Classification Plan.

**Section 13.2.** Any employee required to fill temporarily the place of another employee in a higher classification for any workday, shall be paid the higher rate of such classification for that day but with pay to the nearest hour but not less than four (4) hours. However, when an employee of a lower classification only ASSISTS an employee of a higher classification, the lower classified employee shall continue to receive the rate of pay of his/her regular classification.

**Section 13.3. Working in Lower Classifications.** Any employee required to fill temporarily the place of an employee in a lower classification, shall not have his/her rate of pay reduced for such temporary work, but shall continue to receive the rate of pay for his/her regular classification. This section is not intended to apply to an employee who is demoted.

**Section 13.4. New or Changes in Classifications.** The Engineer shall maintain current job descriptions on all bargaining unit employees in the office of the Personnel Director. The Union and employees shall have reasonable access to such descriptions and copies, when requested, at no charge. Prior to any changes in existing classification job descriptions concerning bargaining unit employees, the Union and Engineer shall meet and negotiate such changes.

In the event of the creation of a new classification, the Union and Engineer shall meet and negotiate the job description to the extent it affects the Terms and Conditions of Employment.

**Section 13.5.** This Article shall not be used to circumvent the filling of a permanent vacancy.

**Section 13.6. Work Assignments.** Any employee shall accept the job assignment given him/her except that of a Supervisor's/Foreman's position duties. After completing the assignment, the matter may be referred to the grievance procedure if the employee believes there is a grievance. Seniority shall not allow an employee to choose for whom he/she shall work or what equipment he/she shall operate within his/her proper classification.

## **ARTICLE 14 - SENIORITY**

**Section 14.1.** Seniority shall be defined as an employee's uninterrupted length of continuous full-time employment within the bargaining unit. A probationary employee shall have no seniority until he satisfactorily completes the probationary period, which will be added to his total length of continuous employment. Bargaining unit seniority will be transferable between the Service Maintenance and Clerical Technical units.

**Section 14.2. Posting of Seniority List.** A seniority list shall be posted within thirty (30) days from the signing of this Agreement and to be kept current by the Engineer. In addition, the Employer will post a classification seniority list that will only be used to select shift assignments. The Employer shall provide the Union Local 1032 President and Ohio Council 8 with a list of the name, address, phone number, classification, seniority date, and dues-paying status of each bargaining unit employee quarterly. The list will be provided in an electronic format agreeable between the parties.

**Section 14.3.** Classification seniority will be defined as length of service in a classification. Classification seniority will only be used to select shift assignments.

**Section 14.4.** An employee's seniority shall be terminated when one or more of the following occur:

- A. He resigns;
- B. He is discharged for just cause;
- C. He is laid off for a period of time exceeding 24 months;
- D. He retires;
- E. He refuses a recall or fails to report to work within ten (10) calendar days from the date the Employee receives the recall notice pursuant to the Layoff and Recall provisions of this Agreement.

**Section 14.5.** An employee who is unable to work because of a service-connected disability or injury, or who is on official leave status, shall continue to accumulate seniority during such periods. Medical evidence may be required for injury and service-connected disabilities.

**Section 14.6.** Any employee hired directly into a job outside the bargaining unit and/or an incumbent employee who is in a position outside the bargaining unit as of the effective date of this Agreement, shall not be entitled to seniority preference or provisions of seniority under any section of this Article, but shall instead be placed at the bottom of any seniority list for his or her bargaining unit classification.

## **ARTICLE 15 - LAYOFF/RECALL**

**Section 15.1. Notice.** Whenever the Engineer determines that it is necessary to reduce the number of employees in the department due to a lack of funds or lack of work, all affected Bargaining Unit employees and the President of the local Union shall be notified in writing at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance of the effective date of such layoff. The Engineer shall also provide the President of the local Union supporting documentation of such lack of work or lack of funds.

**Section 15.2. Order of Reduction.** The Engineer shall determine the classifications within any classification series as indicated in attached Exhibit 1 and the number of employees to be affected by the layoff. The following order of reduction will be implemented within the appropriate classification series; casual, seasonal, intermittent, temporary, part-time, full-time probationary, and full-time regular. Employees shall be laid off in accordance with this order and in inverse order of bargaining unit seniority within each affected classification.

**Section 15.3. Displacement Rights.** An employee who is displaced by a reduction in the work force may exercise his seniority to bump an employee with the least seniority within the same classifications or if he has the least seniority, he may bump an employee within the same classification series. In no case may an employee bump to a higher pay rate. Any employee displaced from his classification under the procedures of this Article may elect to take the layoff rather than exercise his bumping rights. Any employee affected by layoff who wishes to exercise bumping rights must so notify the Engineer of such desire in writing within five (5) calendar days of his receipt of notification of layoff pursuant to Section 1 of this Article or will be deemed to have elected to take the layoff.

Employees shall make their notification to the Personnel Director on a Notice of Displacement form attached as Exhibit 2; a copy of which will be forwarded by the Engineer to the President of the local Union. Employees must be qualified for any position being displaced in order to be eligible for displacement rights.

**Section 15.4. Recall Rights.** Employees laid off under this Article shall be entitled to be recalled to a vacancy which may thereafter occur in their former classification by seniority. Affected employees shall retain such rights for a period of twenty-four (24) months after their layoff, provided they report their continued availability to the Engineer every 6 months by certified mail, return receipt, on the attached Recall Availability Form, Exhibit 3. Notice of recall by the Engineer shall be sent to the employee's last known address on file provided by the employee to the Engineer by Certified Mail, return receipt. Except for illness or injury, verified by the employee to the Engineer by a medical statement certifying his inability to return to his position with the Engineer within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the recall notice or from return of the unclaimed, refused, or otherwise undeliverable Certified Mail, shall constitute forfeiture of the employee's right to recall. Failure of an employee to report under this Section due to illness or injury within thirty (30) calendar days of notification shall also constitute forfeiture of his right to recall at that time, but shall remain on the recall list under the terms of this Article.

**Section 15.5.** Employees placed on lay-off may request to receive payment for earned but unused vacation benefits.

**Section 15.6. Voluntary Layoff.** When the Employer elects to reduce the work force by layoff or position abolishment and one (1) or more employees in the affected classification(s), regardless of seniority, desires to take a voluntary layoff, the layoff may be granted under the following conditions:

- A. The volunteer with the most seniority shall be laid off first;
- B. Employees who are placed on voluntary layoff will receive recall rights in accordance with the above Section 15.4.

**Section 15.7.** The Engineer shall not hire, promote, or transfer any employee into a classification or classification series made part of this Agreement, as long as qualified bargaining unit employees remain on recall lists until such recall lists are exhausted or are no longer in effect under this Article and Agreement.

**Section 15.8.** The Engineer may temporarily reassign employees into classifications vacant due to layoff for operational needs as long as such transfer is not intended to permanently replace displaced employees or circumvent their recall rights under this Article.

## **ARTICLE 16 - HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**Section 16.1.** The Engineer and the Union agree the safety of the employee is the mutual concern and duty of both parties. The Union and all bargaining unit employees shall cooperate with the Engineer in abiding by and complying with all applicable federal and state safety statutes, rules or regulations, and practices necessary to maintain a safe and healthful workplace.

**Section 16.2.** The Engineer shall provide at no cost to Bargaining Unit employees equipment, such as hardhats and safety vests, he deems necessary and essential to maintain a safe and healthful workplace. It shall be mandatory for all employees to wear and use the safety equipment provided by the Engineer. Any failure to wear and use such safety equipment by any employee shall be just cause for discipline up to and including discharge in accordance with the provisions of this Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Section 16.3.** Adequate first aid equipment shall be provided.

**Section 16.4.** The Engineer shall recognize the Union Safety Committee to be comprised of members selected by the Union. The Union Safety Committee will meet quarterly with the Engineer or his designated Safety representative to recommend safety policies or practices to the Engineer to provide support for a strong safety program. The Union Safety Committee shall suffer no loss of pay or benefits for attendance at such meetings.

**Section 16.5.** All employees shall promptly report any unsafe condition to their supervisor. If the supervisor fails to reasonably correct such condition, the Union Safety Committee may request to meet with the Engineer in an attempt to resolve the matter.

**Section 16.6.** All employees involved in an accident on the job shall immediately report such accident to their supervisor and shall complete a personal injury report, Accident Report or other incident report as appropriate and provide same to their supervisor as soon as possible. Such report forms shall be available through the employee's supervisor. Affected employees shall be provided a copy of said report(s) once fully completed and upon the employee's request.

## **ARTICLE 17 - HOSPITALIZATION AND LIFE INSURANCE**

**Section 17.1.** The Engineer shall provide all employees covered by this Agreement who qualify for benefits and are on active pay status, hospitalization, surgical, medical, and prescription drug benefits. Optional plans may be offered, however, Employees will be required to pay the cost of the premium contributions of those plans.

**Section 17.2. Life Insurance.** The Engineer will provide each eligible employee a term life insurance policy in the amount of \$20,000 for calendar year 2024. Effective January 1, 2025, the Employer agrees to provide each eligible employee with term life insurance in the amounts offered to non-bargaining employees under Chapter 169 of County Ordinances.

**Section 17.3.** All employees who receive benefits will pay ten percent (10%) of the premium costs through payroll deductions unless they choose an Employer offered optional plan.

**Section 17.4.** Effective January 1, 2025, the Employer agrees to contribute to the Ohio AFSCME Care Plan, for the purpose of providing various benefits to all full-time employees in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Fund and all applicable Federal and State Laws. Effective the first month following signing of this Agreement, contributions shall be made monthly at the rate of fifty-three dollars and seventy-five cents (\$53.75) per month for each bargaining unit employee. For purposes of itemization only, the \$53.75 reflects the cost of Life Insurance I (\$7.50), Vision I (\$6.75), Hearing Aid Benefits (\$.50), Legal (\$5.00), and Dental IIA (\$34.00). This itemization is for informational purposes only and the Employer only agrees to the contribution amount and does not guarantee the allocation of the costs.

**Section 17.5.** Employees who provide proof of other coverage, excluding a spouse's Summit County insurance coverage, and who elects to have no County insurance coverage, will receive a coverage waiver payment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month. An employee who receives Summit County insurance from a spouse also working for the County is not eligible for the incentive set forth in this section.

## **ARTICLE 18 - RATES OF PAY**

### **Section 18.1.**

- A. Base rates for all classifications shall be calculated at 95% of the Post Probation Rate.
- B. All bargaining unit classifications shall receive the following across-the-board wage increases:

Effective 04/01/2024	Effective 04/01/2025	Effective 04/01/2026
3.5%	3.0%	2.5%

- C. Survey Coordinators will receive an additional \$0.46 per hour increase for receiving certification as a registered surveyor.

**Section 18.2.** Effective upon ratification by the Bargaining Unit of this Agreement and notification to the Engineer, Bargaining Unit employees covered under this agreement shall be paid the hourly rate for their classification as shown in the following schedule of Compensation Rates, Appendix "C".

## **ARTICLE 19 - DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

**Section 19.1.** No bargaining unit employee shall be reduced in pay or position, suspended or removed, except for incompetence, inefficiency, dishonesty, drunkenness, immoral conduct, insubordination, discourteous treatment of the public, neglect of duty, habitual absenteeism, habitual tardiness, felony conviction, active drug use or other failure of good behavior, and any discipline must be for just cause.

**Section 19.2.** Disciplinary action shall be applied in a corrective, progressive and uniform manner, including one or more verbal or written warnings, one or more suspensions without pay before termination from employment, except in cases of gross misconduct where immediate action must be taken by the Engineer. Progressive discipline shall take into account the nature of the violation, the employee's record of discipline, and the employee's record of performance and conduct.

**Section 19.3.** The Engineer shall forward to the Union President or his designee and the unit's Chief Steward, a copy of any disciplinary action taken against any bargaining unit employee who is a member of the Union, within twenty-four (24) hours after such action.

**Section 19.4.** All records of disciplinary actions shall cease to have force and effect eighteen (18) months after the effective date of such disciplinary actions provided that the same or similar offense has not reoccurred during the interim period. Those disciplinary actions no longer in force and effect will be removed from the personnel file upon written request of an entitled employee to the Personnel Director.

**Section 19.5.** If a holiday observed by the Engineer occurs during a period of suspension, the holiday shall be considered as one of the suspension days provided for in the disciplinary action and the employee will not be paid for the holiday.

**Section 19.6.** Bargaining unit employees shall not be used in the issuing of any type of disciplinary actions taken against other bargaining unit employees.

**Section 19.7.** Any disciplinary action which involves the suspension or discharge of a bargaining unit employee may be grieved beginning at Step 3 by such employee in accordance with the grievance article of this Agreement. The Union shall not process the grievance on the employee's behalf for such discipline without the employee signing such grievance.

**Section 19.8.** Disciplinary actions affecting bargaining unit employees may only be appealed through the grievance procedure in accordance with the provisions of Article XI of this Agreement and may not be appealed to the State Personnel Board of Review.

**Section 19.9.** When the Engineer determines that an employee may be subject to discipline which could result in a loss of pay, the affected employee and Local Union President or the employee's bargaining unit Chief Steward shall be so notified in writing and may, within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of said notice, file a written request signed by the employee with the Engineer for a pre-disciplinary due process hearing. The signed form, which is to be developed by the Engineer, will be returned to the Engineer, then a pre-disciplinary hearing will be scheduled between the Engineer and Union. The employee shall have a right to be personally present and may waive his/her right to Union representation. In the event that no such request is timely filed, the employee will be deemed to have waived his right to such hearing. However, such waiver does not negate the employee's or the Union's right to due process under the grievance procedure herein.

**Section 19.10.** In the event that an employee may be disciplined, the Engineer or his designee shall call for a Union representative, if requested by the employee, before beginning discussions or before any other action is initiated against said employee.

**Section 19.11.** There shall be no reduction in pay or time lost as a result of a suspension until after the pre-disciplinary hearing and the Engineer upholds the discipline.



## **ARTICLE 20 - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

**Section 20.1.** The "Grievance Procedure" is a formal mechanism and the term "grievance" shall mean an allegation by a bargaining unit employee or the Union as to any dispute or that there has been a breach, misinterpretation or improper application of the expressed provisions of this Agreement. The grievance procedure shall also be intended by the parties herein to secure as promptly and at the lowest possible level, equitable solutions to those problems and misunderstandings which may arise in the day-to-day activities of public employment. It is not intended that the grievance procedure be used to effect changes in the Articles of this Agreement for those matters not covered by this Agreement. The following grievance procedure shall constitute the sole and exclusive procedure and method for resolving grievances between the parties under the terms of this Agreement.

**Section 20.2.** A formal grievance shall be reduced to writing on a grievance form to be mutually agreed upon by the Union and the Engineer and must contain the following information to be considered under the grievance procedure:

- A. Aggrieved employee's name and signature;
- B. Date and approximate time of the event(s) giving rise to the grievance;
- C. Description of the incident(s) giving rise to the grievance;
- D. Date grievance was filed with Engineer;
- E. Specific Article(s) and Section(s) of the Agreement violated;
- F. Remedy requested to resolve the grievance.

**Section 20.3.** All grievances must be processed at the proper step in the progression in order to be considered at the subsequent step. Nothing contained herein is meant to preclude the parties from mutually agreeing to waive one or more steps of the grievance procedure and process the grievance at a higher step.

All time limits on grievances may be extended upon mutual consent of the parties in writing. Grievances withdrawn by the Union in writing or determined by the Union not to be advanced to the next step of the grievance process by permitting the time requirements to lapse shall be considered as formally withdrawn by the Union on a non-precedent basis.

**Section 20.4.** It is the mutual desire of the Engineer and the Union to provide for the prompt adjustments of grievances, with a minimum interruption of work schedules. Every responsible effort shall be made by the Engineer and the Union to effect the resolution of a grievance at the earliest step possible. Toward this objective, the following procedure must be observed:



In order for an alleged grievance to receive consideration, the grievance must be identified as such and presented in writing within five (5) working days after the occurrence of the incident giving rise to the grievance or after it becomes known, but in no event more than thirty (30) days after the occurrence. If the grievance is not filed in a timely manner, it shall be deemed untimely.

**Step 1.** An employee who has a formal grievance, or his/her authorized Union representative if he/she so requests, shall submit the grievance in writing to his/her immediate supervisor in accordance with the terms and conditions as contained in this Article. The immediate supervisor shall investigate the matter, may be assisted by other management personnel, and shall hold a meeting with the employee and the Local Union Steward. The immediate supervisor shall schedule a meeting within five (5) working days following the day on which the supervisor was presented the grievance. The supervisor shall have five (5) days following the meeting in which to answer the grievance by giving a written response to the employee and the Union representative.

**Step 2.** If the employee, the Union representative, and the immediate supervisor are unable to resolve the grievance at Step 1, the grievance may be processed to Step 2 of the procedure. The grievance must be presented to the Chief Deputy Engineer by the Union in writing within five (5) working days following the immediate supervisor's response. Within five (5) working days of receiving notification by the Union, the Chief Deputy Engineer shall contact the Union to set up a meeting between the grievant, his Steward, and the Chief Deputy Engineer. The grievant and Union shall be provided with an appropriate written answer to the grievance within five (5) working days following any meeting held at this Step of the procedure. If the Chief Deputy Engineer fails to contact the union within five (5) working days of receiving the notification by the Union, the Union may advance the grievance to Step 3.

**Step 3.** If the grievance is not satisfactorily resolved at Step 2, the Union may appeal the grievance to the Engineer and/or a designated representative within five (5) working days following the Step 2 answer or meeting. Within five (5) working days of receiving notification by the Union, the Engineer or a designated representative shall contact the Union to set up a meeting with the grievant, the Union representative and Ohio Council 8 representatives. The grievant and Union shall be provided with a written answer to the grievance within five (5) working days of such meeting by giving a copy to the grievant, the Union representative, and representatives of Ohio Council 8. If the Engineer or a designated representative fails to contact the union within five (5) working days of receiving the notification by the Union, the Union may advance the grievance to Step 4.

**Step 4.** Any grievance concerning any unresolved question or dispute regarding the conditions of employment or as to the interpretation, application of, or compliance with any provisions of this Agreement which has not been satisfactorily settled in the foregoing steps of the grievance procedure, may be submitted to arbitration.

**Section 20.5.** Final and binding arbitration may be initiated by the Union by serving upon the Employer a notice in writing of an intent to proceed to arbitration within ten (10) working days upon receipt of the Employer's Step 3 written decision. Said notice shall identify the grievance or grievances, the department, and the employees involved. The Union shall, within fifteen (15) working days following its notification to the Employer that it intends to arbitrate a grievance, meet with the Employer to select an arbitrator from the permanent panel of arbitrators contained herein. In the event the Union has not met and selected an arbitrator within the fifteen (15) working days following its notification of intent to arbitrate a grievance, the grievance and previous arbitration demand/notice shall be deemed withdrawn and the Step 3 response by the Employer shall be the final answer. In the event the arbitrator is unable to schedule a hearing within a thirty (30) day period, the parties may select another arbitrator. The arbitrator shall not have the authority to add to, subtract from, or modify such expressed terms and provisions of the Agreement, and the arbitrator's decision shall be final, conclusive and binding on the Union and the Engineer.

**Section 20.6.** All expenses which may be involved in the arbitration proceedings, including all costs directly related to the services of the Arbitrator shall be borne by the losing party. In the event of a split decision, the costs will be evenly divided between the parties. However, expenses relating to the calling of witnesses outside the employ of the Engineer, or the obtaining of depositions or any other similar expense associated with such proceedings shall be borne by the party at whose request such witnesses or depositions are required. Any bargaining unit employee whose attendance is required for the hearing shall not lose pay or benefits to the extent such hearing hours are during his/her normally scheduled working hours on the day of the hearing.

**Section 20.7.** Where a work day appears in this Article, it shall be interpreted to mean the days of Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays, regardless of the employee's schedule.

**Section 20.8.** The Union official or representatives of the Union shall have the right to file a policy or group grievance which affects all or a substantial group of employees or more than one (1) employee by filing such grievance at the step at which the policy or group grievance originated.

**Section 20.9.** When an employee has initiated a grievance and does not wish to be represented by the Union, the Union shall have the opportunity to be present at the adjustment without intervening, and such adjustment shall not be inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement.

**Section 20.10.** The parties may mutually agree to mediate a grievance prior to the selection of the Arbitrator. The parties also agree to utilize the Federal Mediation Conciliation Service (FMCS) for the purpose of mediation. Should mediation fail to resolve the issue, the parties shall meet within ten (10) working days to select an Arbitrator. The Mediation/Arbitrator will not be eligible for selection to hear the arbitration.

**Section 20.11.** The Union shall request the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to provide the parties duplicate panels of nine (9) arbitrators from within the State of Ohio and a copy of the request shall be simultaneously mailed to the Employer. If the parties are unable to agree upon which of those nine nominees shall serve as arbitrator, then the arbitrator will be chosen by each party alternately striking names, beginning with the moving party, and the name remaining shall be the arbitrator. Either party shall have the option to completely reject one (1) panel of arbitrators provided by the FMCS and request another list.

## **ARTICLE 21 - VACANCIES/PROMOTIONS/PROBATIONARY PERIODS**

**Section 21.1.** The purpose of a probationary period is to make sure the employee can and will perform satisfactorily and to provide a period of training, supervising and counseling by the supervisor to help the employee succeed. It is a time for the employer to review the employee's progress and to make a determination as to whether the employee will be permitted to remain in his position.

**Section 21.2.** Every newly hired employee will be required to serve a probationary period. The New Hire Probationary Period shall begin on the first day for which the employee receives compensation from the Engineer's Department and shall continue for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days excluding time spent on leaves of absence. Any new employee who does not perform satisfactorily during the probationary period will be released from the employ of the Engineer without right of appeal. The probationary period may be extended upon the mutual consent of the Engineer and the Union.

**Section 21.3.** The probationary period for a newly promoted employee shall begin on the first day for which the employee received compensation for the new position and shall continue for a period of ninety (90) days, excluding time spent on leave of absence. A promoted employee who fails to complete the ninety (90) day probationary period shall be returned to his former classification.

**Section 21.4.** Employees will be given an opportunity to fill any vacancy of existing classifications of the Engineer or any newly created jobs, as declared by the Engineer, provided he/she meets the minimum qualifications for such position. Notice of such vacancies will be posted at least seven (7) working days before the closing date for submitting applications and employees who wish to be considered for the posted job must file written application with the Engineer by the end of the posting period. Selection will be made on the basis of skill, ability to perform the work involved, seniority, and each employee's past performance, experience, and attendance. Where the Engineer determines that two (2) or more applicants are equal in qualifications, then seniority as defined in Section 1, shall govern and the most senior qualified applicant will be awarded the vacancy. Postings shall be uniformly and consistently administered for any vacancies for the term of the Agreement.

The Engineer shall notify all applicants within twenty (20) working days after the closing of the bid procedure of his/her selection to fill the vacancy. Said vacancy shall be filled within a reasonable period of time thereafter, in accordance with operational needs.

Should additional vacancies occur in this classification within six (6) months of the closing date, the Engineer may choose to fill the position from this eligibility list or to rebid.

**Section 21.5.** In case of a temporary vacancy due to illness, injury, vacation, leave of absence, etc., the Engineer or his designee may appoint any qualified employee to fill such vacancy temporarily without the posting of a notice of vacancy.

**Section 21.6.** The Union President or his designee shall be given a copy of any and all postings either prior to or on the day of such postings for job vacancies that are placed on the bulletin boards. The Union President or his designee shall also be provided a copy of the bid award.

Although non-bid jobs in Section 4 are filled solely at the discretion of the Engineer, the Engineer will provide the Union with notice of non-bid vacancies.

## **JOB POSTING AND BIDDING PROCEDURES**

**Section 21.7.** Whenever the Engineer determines a job vacancy exists in the bargaining unit which he desires to fill, the Engineer shall post a notice of the opening for seven (7) working days on bulletin boards covered by this Agreement. The notice shall contain the position classification title, rate of pay, department and area of vacancy, and a brief position description. Employees who wish to be considered for the posted position must file written application with the Personnel Director by the end of the posting period. The Engineer shall not consider any applications submitted after the posting period.

**Section 21.8.** All timely filed applications will be reviewed by the Engineer and selection will be made on the basis of skill, ability to perform the work involved, attendance, each employee's past performance, and experience. Where the Engineer determines two (2) or more applicants are equal in qualification then total seniority with the Engineer shall govern, and the qualified applicant with the most seniority will be awarded the vacancy. Filling of vacancies under this section shall be within a reasonable time after selection, in accordance with operational needs. The Engineer shall notify the applicant who is awarded the vacancy within twenty (20) working days from the close of the bid.

**Section 21.9.** In the event that no applications are received or none of the applicants meet the qualifications of requirements for the posted position, the Engineer may fill the vacancy by hiring a new employee.

**Section 21.10.** An employee awarded a position under the provisions of this Article shall receive the starting rate for the new position immediately upon the effective date of his appointment to the new position. Upon promotion to a higher classification, the employee

shall be paid either the base rate or the appropriate after-probationary rate, whichever is the next higher increment of pay. If the base rate applies, the rate shall increase to the after-probationary rate after the employee successfully completes the probationary period.

**Section 21.11.** No employee shall be eligible for promotion under the provisions of this Article who has not successfully completed his new hire probationary period. Under no condition shall an employee receive a rate of pay greater than the classification to which he/she is transferred or has accepted.

**Section 21.12.** Employees who anticipate that a job posting and vacancy may occur during their vacation, sick leave, or other authorized leave of absence may submit an application for such position prior to commencing the leave in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

**Section 21.13.** The Union Steward or his designee shall be given a copy of all postings under this Article on or prior to the date of posting and shall also be provided a copy of the bid awards.

## **TRANSFERS**

**Section 21.14.** The Engineer may transfer any bargaining unit employee to any other classification within the unit, provided that such transfers do not constitute a promotion and are not made arbitrarily or capriciously.

## **ARTICLE 22 - CONVENTIONS/CONFERENCES**

**Section 22.1.** The Union President shall be permitted by the Engineer time off, up to a maximum of ten (10) working days cumulatively, without loss of pay, to attend Union conventions or Union conferences. The selection of such other Union members for attendances at defined Union functions is at the discretion of the Union. Other than for the Union President, any combination of other Union employees selected to attend such Union functions shall not exceed ten (10) days altogether in any year of the Agreement. Such time off is for each year of the agreement and is non-cumulative; time off not taken shall not be carried forward to another year. In order for such a request to be considered, the Union must provide acceptable documentation to the Engineer twenty (20) days in advance of the days requested.

## **ARTICLE 23 - EXTRA CONTRACT AGREEMENTS**

**Section 23.1. Extra Contract Agreements.** It is agreed that any or all verbal and written agreements which add to or amend or delete the provisions of this Statement of Agreement shall be negotiated by the Engineer or his designee and the President of Local 1032 or his designee and at least two (2) other members of the Executive Board of Local

1032, and a representative from Ohio Council 8. Any verbal or written agreements that do not meet the above criteria are null and void. This provision shall not be interpreted to encompass or alter the recognition clause or Management Rights clause of this Statement of Agreement.

**Section 23.2. Quarterly Clerical and Technical Unit Meeting.** Employees in the Clerical and Technical Unit shall be permitted to meet every three months at 3:30 pm in one of the conference rooms in the Summit County Engineer's administrative facility.

## **ARTICLE 24 - CONTRACTING OUT**

The Engineer reserves the right to contract out or subcontract out projects provided Bargaining Unit classifications are not eroded or the work week or working hours of current employees are not curtailed or shortened.

Notwithstanding the above, the Engineer may also contract out in accordance with historical and/or past practice.

## **ARTICLE 25 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE WITHOUT PAY**

**Section 25.1.** Employees are subject to the Summit County Family Medical Leave policy.

**Section 25.2.** The authorization of all other leaves of absence without pay is a matter of administrative discretion and may be granted by the Engineer for a maximum duration of six (6) months for any personal reason of the employee including health or illness and may be renewed or extended by the Engineer for an additional six (6) months. Such requests for leave shall be in writing, and shall be accompanied by a licensed medical practitioner recommendation if for health or illness, and shall state the specific purpose and prognosis for such leave.

An employee may be granted, at the discretion of the Engineer, leave of absence for a maximum period of two (2) years for purposes of education, training or specialized experience which would be of benefit to the Engineer by improved performance of any level, or voluntary service in any governmental sponsored program of public betterment. Upon completion of such leave of absence, the employee shall be returned to the position which he formerly occupied, or to a similar position if his former position no longer exists. He may be returned to active pay status prior to the originally scheduled expiration of the leave, if such earlier return is agreed to by the Engineer. Failure to return to duty within three (3) working days of the completion of an agreed leave of absence shall be considered as just cause for discharge or automatic resignation.

If it is found that such leave is not actually being used for the stated purpose, the Engineer may cancel the leave and discipline the employee up to and including discharge in accordance with the provisions of this Collective Bargaining Agreement.



**Section 25.3.** A short-term leave of absence without pay shall be one (1) day or less. Such short-term leave must be applied for in writing, stating the reason for the leave being requested, and submitted at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance, except in case of documented emergency or documented union business. Approval of such leave shall be at the discretion of the department head or his designee.

All long-term leaves of absence without pay must be applied for in writing to the Engineer or his designee at least five (5) working days in advance of the date on which the leave is requested to begin, except in emergency leaves, which shall be handled on an individual basis.

**Section 25.4.** An employee on leave of absence without pay does not earn sick leave or vacation credit. However, the time spent on authorized leave of absence is to be counted in determining length of service for purposes of extended vacation eligibility or other purposes where seniority is a factor.

**Section 25.5.** Leaves in excess of the above provisions of this Article may be granted on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Engineer.

## **ARTICLE 26 - MILITARY LEAVE**

**Section 26.1.** Employees are subject to the Summit County policy regarding Military Leave. Military leave will be extended in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 124.29, 5903, and 5923.05, and all current relevant Summit County Ordinances.

## **ARTICLE 27 - LABOR-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Section 27.1.** In order to further promote the purposes of this Agreement, a joint committee of the Union and the Engineer or his designee, shall meet in order to discuss matters concerning the administration of the Agreement, along with discussing how to obtain better working procedures and performance of employees, attendance, etc. Such a committee meeting shall be held within ten (10) calendar days upon written notification by either party; however, only one (1) such meeting will be held in any month unless mutually agreed to otherwise.

**Section 27.2.** Such committee shall meet at the offices of the Engineer unless mutually agreed to otherwise and shall consist of not more than four (4) representatives on behalf of each party.

**Section 27.3.** An agenda shall be exchanged between the parties at least three (3) working days in advance of the scheduled committee meeting unless mutually waived and shall contain a list of those matters to be discussed. Unless mutually agreed to, the Labor-Management Committee agrees not to discuss grievances that are currently in the

process. Minutes shall be prepared by the Engineer after the close of each meeting and submitted to the Union for distribution on or prior to the exchange of agendas for the next scheduled meeting.

**Section 27.4.** The Engineer and the Union agree to convene a labor-management meeting as needed. Any agreements made as a result of this labor-management forum must be contained in a Memorandum of Understanding executed in accordance with the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement then in effect in order to be valid and binding upon the parties.

## **ARTICLE 28 - COURT LEAVE**

**Section 28.1.** The Engineer shall grant full pay for regularly scheduled working hours on any day when an employee is subpoenaed for any court or jury duty by the United States, the State of Ohio, or a political subdivision. Employees shall be entitled to keep any compensation for court or jury duty.

**Section 28.2.** Employees shall not be entitled to paid court leave when appearing in court for criminal or civil cases, when the case is being heard in connection with the employees' personal matters, such as traffic court, divorce proceedings, custody, appearing as directed with juvenile, etc. Such absences must be taken as leave without pay or vacation and only if scheduled and approved in advance with the Engineer.

**Section 28.3.** It is understood that an employee released from jury duty or who concludes his/her court obligation prior to the end of the first half of his/her scheduled shift for that day, shall report to work for the remaining hours.

**Section 28.4.** In order to be eligible for payment under this Article, an employee must notify his/her Supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of notice of court appearance or selection for jury duty and must furnish a written statement from an appropriate court official showing the date the employee served or appeared and the amount of pay received if applicable.

**Section 28.5.** An employee who is on authorized vacation and who is required to serve on jury duty during his vacation may have his vacation extended by the number of days he is required to serve provided such employee complies with the applicable provisions of this Article including proper notice to the Supervisor.

**Section 28.6.** The Engineer may request on behalf of the employee from the proper authorities, that the employee be excused from serving on jury duty.

**Section 28.7.** Employees selected for jury duty who are on other than first shift shall be assigned to the first shift for those days they are required to serve as jurors.



## **ARTICLE 29 - UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND DRESS**

The Engineer's employees who are required to perform field work or wear safety footwear, will annually have an allowance not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for the purchase of work shoes, boots, insoles, and/or laces that are appropriate for the tasks performed by the employee, subject to the following conditions:

- A.** Footwear must be appropriate for an employee's primary assigned task.
- B.** Replacement footwear, not to exceed one pair of boots per year, will only be provided when an employee's existing boots are worn beyond normal wear and tear, cut, torn, are non-repairable or contaminated.
- C.** The Footwear Authorization form must be signed, dated, issued and logged by the Safety Manager prior to an employee's purchase of initial or replacement footwear.
- D.** After an employee has received his/her new pair of shoes, the old pair must be turned into the Safety Manager.
- E.** Footwear may be purchased through any vendor on the list of vendors approved by the Director of Public Service.

The Engineer will use the voucher system whereby employees are given a purchase order number with which to purchase boots from a supplier of the Summit County Engineer, subject to the limits of this Section.

Employees shall be responsible for repairing and replacing all footwear. Employees will be responsible for maintaining reasonable care and cleanliness of said footwear. All footwear is expected to be used for duties and tasks only when employees are on compensated duty for the Engineer.

## **ARTICLE 30 - SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY**

All employees of the Summit County Engineer's Office are subject to the Summit County Substance Abuse Prevention Policy as recited by Summit County Codified Ordinance 169.28, as amended from time to time.

## **ARTICLE 31 - OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE POLICY**

Employees are subject to the Summit County policy regarding Operation of Motor Vehicles currently in effect. However, employees are subject to any changes in federal, state or local laws, insurance regulations as it affects the County policy, and county policy changes. Notice as to the changes will be provided to the Union.

## **ARTICLE 32 - P.E.O.P.L.E. DEDUCTIONS**

The Employer agrees to deduct voluntary contributions to the Public Employees Organized for Political Legislative Equality (P.E.O.P.L.E.). Deductions shall be submitted to the Union pursuant to the authorization card, no later than the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) day following deductions. The Union shall be furnished an alphabetical listing of employees having political deductions made at the time the contributions are submitted to the Union.

## **ARTICLE 33 - SEVERABILITY/SUCCESSOR**

**Section 33.1. Invalidity.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall, for any reason, be found or made invalid by the ruling of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such ruling shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Agreement, and the application of such provision to another provision, person or circumstances, but shall be confined in its application to the clause, sentence, paragraph, or part thereof, directly involved in the controversy in which such ruling shall have been rendered. The remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for the term of this Agreement.

**Section 33.2. Legal Alternative.** In the event that any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this Agreement is found or made invalid pursuant to Section 1, the Engineer and the Union shall meet within thirty (30) working days, to negotiate a legal alternative, from the date of such ruling or after it has become known to the parties.

**Section 33.3.** The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto and its successors or assigns, and all of the terms and conditions and obligations herein contained.

## **ARTICLE 34 - PAID PARENTAL LEAVE**

**Section 34.1. Purpose.** Under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), employees are entitled to twelve (12) weeks of parental leave for the birth or adoption of a child. However, often times the leave under FMLA is unpaid, which can result in a new parent taking an inadequate amount of leave to care for the newborn or newly adopted child. Paid Parental Leave is intended to provide an opportunity for employees to take up to a maximum of six (6) calendar weeks of continuous paid leave to provide necessary parental care immediately following the birth or adoption of a minor child.

**Section 34.2. Eligibility.** To be eligible for benefits under Paid Parental Leave, an employee shall:

- A. Have been employed by the County of Summit for at least twelve (12) months;

- B. Have worked at least 1,250 hours over the previous twelve (12) months period immediately preceding the date when the requested leave would begin;
- C. Be the biological parent of a newly born child or legal guardian of a newly adopted child;
- D. Reside in the same residence as the newly born biological child or adopted child;
- E. Be required to provide documentation of the date of birth or adoption, as well as documentation of the parentage or adoption of the child;
- F. Submit the request to the appointing authority on the appropriate form at least thirty (30) days prior to the requested time off for foreseeable leave or as much notice as is practicable under the circumstances for unforeseeable leave;
- G. Any employee who provides false or misleading information on the appropriate form under subsection, F, above, or who fails to submit the appropriate form under subsection F, above, or the documentation under subsection D, above, or who is otherwise provides false or misleading information as to subsections, C, or D, above, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

**Section 34.3. Duration of Leave.** An employee who is eligible for Paid Parental Leave pursuant to Section 34.2, above, may take Paid Parental Leave for all hours of work during the six (6) calendar weeks commencing with, and immediately following, the effective date and triggering event, as set forth in subsection 34.4, below. Under no circumstances shall Paid Parental Leave be taken beyond six (6) calendar weeks from the exact date of birth or placement of a child for adoption. The employee may elect to utilize intermittent Paid Parental Leave, provided however, that the minimum amount of any portion of intermittent leave shall be one (1) full work day, and, in the event an employee elects to take intermittent paid parental leave, the leave shall not extend beyond six (6) calendar weeks from the exact date of birth or placement of a child for adoption. Additionally, any employee utilizing intermittent Paid Parental Leave must submit the request for leave to the employee's supervisor prior to any work day where the leave will be utilized.

**Section 34.4. Effective Date and Triggering Event.** Eligibility for taking Parental Leave shall begin on the exact date of the birth of an employee's child or on the exact day on which custody is taken by the employee for an adoption placement. If an employee adopts multiple children, the Paid Parental Leave triggering event shall be considered a single qualifying event, and will not serve to increase the length of leave for the employee, so long as the children are adopted within six weeks of each other. If an employee is the parent of more than one child born at the same time, the Paid Parental Leave triggering event shall be considered a single qualifying event and will not serve to increase the length of leave for the employee.

**Section 34.5. Other Employee Benefits.** Employees will remain eligible to receive all employee provided paid benefits and continue to accrue all other forms of paid leave. The employee will receive all forms of paid leave, regardless of the pay status during the period of Parental Leave.

**Section 34.6. Overtime/Holiday Pay/Outside Employment.** Employees are ineligible for overtime pay during the period of time they are receiving Paid Parental Leave, and, in the event of intermittent use of Paid Parental Leave, during any week where Paid Parental Leave is utilized by the employee. An employee shall continue to receive their holiday pay, if they are receiving their full pay during the Paid Parental Leave period, and if they comply with all other policy or contractual provisions to receive holiday pay. Employees are ineligible to hold outside employment during the period of Parental Leave. Any employee found to be holding outside employment during paid parental leave shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination in accordance with Article 19 of this Agreement. Any holiday pay received by an employee for any work day during the six (6) week calendar week period of Paid Parental Leave shall constitute the sole pay for the employee for those hours worked and shall not be in addition to the employee's Paid Parental Leave. Additionally, the occurrence of any holiday during the six (6) calendar weeks of Paid Parental Leave shall not extend the time period for Paid Parental Leave.

**Section 34.7. FMLA/Paid Time Off.** Paid Parental Leave shall run concurrently with Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave, and employees using Paid Parental Leave who meet the eligibility requirements of the FMLA shall have the entire non-working period of Parental Leave counted towards the employee's FMLA entitlement. Upon the exhaustion of the Paid Parental Leave Benefit, Section 25.1 and consequently Section 169.22(j)(7) of the County of Summit Codified Ordinances will take effect requiring accrued leave time be used. Paid Parental Leave does not supersede or replace an employee's rights under FMLA.

**Section 34.8. Death of an Unborn or Newborn Child.** An employee who would otherwise be eligible for Paid Parental Leave pursuant to Section 34.2, above, whose child is stillborn or dies during the third trimester of pregnancy is eligible for three (3) calendar weeks of Paid Parental Leave following the date of death of the unborn or stillborn child. In the event that a newly born or adopted child dies during the period of time that the employee is on Paid Parental Leave, the employee shall be entitled to the full extent of the Paid Parental Leave permitted under Section 34.3, above, and the Paid Parental Leave shall not terminate due to the death of the child. All other provisions of Article 34 shall apply to Paid Parental Leave granted pursuant to this Section.

## **ARTICLE 35 - DURATION OF AGREEMENT**

**Section 35.1.** The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Agreement, each had the unlimited right to make demands and proposals on any subject matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the

understandings and agreement arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. Therefore, the Engineer and the Union, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unequivocally waives the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated, to bargain collectively or individually with respect to any subject or matter referred to or covered in this Agreement, or with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subjects or matters may not have been within the knowledge of either or both parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.

**Section 35.2.** This Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be effective April 1, 2024 and shall continue through March 31, 2027 unless either party gives written notice to the other party not less than ninety (90) days prior to the termination date of the desire to terminate, modify, or negotiate a successor collective bargaining agreement.

**Section 35.3.** The parties agree that except to the extent specifically referenced and authorized in the foregoing Articles and Sections mandated by R.C. Chapter 4117, the Ohio Revised Code including R.C. Chapter 124 shall not be applicable to this Agreement.

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**ARTICLE 36 - EXECUTION**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto affix their signatures this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

**LOCAL 1032, AFSCME, AFL-CIO  
(CLERICAL AND TECHNICAL UNIT)**

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT ENGINEER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon Briggs, Local 1032 President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Brubaker, Engineer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Lee, Local 1032 Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Swindell, Director of Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Fanell, Local 1032 C&T Chapter Chair

**OHIO COUNCIL 8, AFSCME, AFL-CIO**

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT EXECUTIVE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jarrid J. McIntosh, Staff Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ilene Shapiro, Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian K. Harnak, Director  
Department of Law & Risk Management

## **EXHIBIT 1 - CLASSIFICATION SERIES**

### **Series A**

Survey Coordinator	Inspector III
Survey Records Technician	Inspector II
Survey Technician II	Inspector I
Survey Technician I	

### **Series B**

Engineering Technician IV GIS Operations  
Engineering Technician III  
Survey, CAD, GIS Technician  
Engineering Technician II  
Engineering Technician I

### **Series C**

Computer Programmer/Analyst I  
Computer Operator/Programmer  
Computer Operator 2/ Advanced Fiscal Operations  
Administrative Clerk

### **Series D**

Receptionist  
Clerk/Typist  
Account Clerk 1



**EXHIBIT 1 - CLASSIFICATION SERIES (continued)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE/ENGINEERING HOURLY CLASSES**

**CLASSIFICATION**

CLERK

Office Clerk

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN I

Draftsperson I

SURVEY TECHNICIAN I

Rodman/Chainman

INSPECTOR I

Inspector Trainee

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN II

Draftsperson II

SURVEY TECHNICIAN II

Instrument person

INSPECTOR II

Construction Inspector

RECEPTIONIST 2

ACCOUNT CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

COMPUTER OPERATOR/PROGRAMMER

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER/ANALYST 1

COMPUTER OPERATOR II/ADVANCED FISCAL OPERATIONS

SURVEY RECORD TECHNICIAN

SURVEY, CAD, GIS TECHNICIAN

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN III

Designer Draftsperson

SURVEYING COORDINATOR

Party Chief

INSPECTOR III

Construction Inspection Coordinator

Bridge Inspection Coordinator

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN IV GIS OPERATIONS

**EXHIBIT 2 - NOTICE OF DISPLACEMENT**

TO: PERSONNEL DIRECTOR  
SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

**EMPLOYEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby give notice of displacement and wish to exercise my "bumping" rights in accordance with Article XVIII of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. I understand that this notice must be given within five (5) calendar days of my receipt of my layoff notice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Submitted

\_\_\_\_\_  
Received By

### **EXHIBIT 3 - RECALL AVAILABILITY**

TO: ALAN BRUBAKER, P.E., P.S.  
SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER  
538 East South Street  
Akron, Ohio 44311-1843

EMPLOYEE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYEE CLASSIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby advise the Summit County Engineer of my continued availability for recall from layoff. I understand that I must report my availability on this form to the Engineer by certified mail, return receipt, every six (6) months I am on layoff up to a maximum of twenty-four (24) months from my original date of layoff.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPENDIX "A" - UNION REPRESENTATIVE TIME FORM**

**SUMMIT COUNTY ENGINEER**

UNION REPRESENTATIVE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DESTINATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

REASON: (Check mark one)

\_\_\_\_\_ PROCESS GRIEVANCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ATTEND DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

\_\_\_\_\_ ATTEND MEETING WITH ENGINEER

\_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (Explain) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

LEFT WORK LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
(or began representation activities) ENGINEER/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

ARRIVED AT DESTINATION: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGINEER/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

LEFT DESTINATION: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGINEER/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

ARRIVED AT WORK

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGINEER/REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

INDICATE ENGINEER FACILITIES AND/OR EQUIPMENT TO BE USED FOR THIS UNION  
REPRESENTATIVE ACTIVITY (i.e. telephone, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNION REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Triplicate:

cc: UNION  
SUPERVISOR/DEPARTMENT HEAD  
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

## **APPENDIX "B" - AGREEMENT BOOKLETS**

The Engineer agrees to supply six (6) copies of the Agreement to the Ohio Council 8 Regional Office.

## **APPENDIX “C” - SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION RATES**

Title	<u>April 1, 2024</u>		<u>April 1, 2025</u>		<u>April 1, 2026</u>	
	Base	Post- Probation	Base	Post- Probation	Base	Post- Probation
Account Clerk	\$21.65	\$22.79	\$22.30	\$23.47	\$22.86	\$24.06
Administrative Clerk	\$21.65	\$22.79	\$22.30	\$23.47	\$22.86	\$24.06
Clerk/Typist I	\$18.08	\$19.03	\$18.62	\$19.60	\$19.09	\$20.09
Computer Operator II – Advanced Fiscal Operations	\$25.50	\$26.84	\$26.27	\$27.65	\$26.92	\$28.34
Computer Programmer – Analyst I	\$25.57	\$26.92	\$26.34	\$27.73	\$27.00	\$28.42
Engineering Tech I	\$19.46	\$20.48	\$20.04	\$21.09	\$20.54	\$21.62
Engineering Tech II	\$23.77	\$25.02	\$24.48	\$25.77	\$25.09	\$26.41
Engineering Tech III	\$27.76	\$29.22	\$28.60	\$30.10	\$29.31	\$30.85
Engineering Tech IV – GIS Operations	\$28.39	\$29.88	\$29.24	\$30.78	\$29.97	\$31.55
Inspector I	\$19.38	\$20.40	\$19.96	\$21.01	\$20.46	\$21.54
Inspector II	\$23.99	\$25.25	\$24.71	\$26.01	\$25.33	\$26.66
Inspector III	\$27.76	\$29.22	\$28.83	\$30.35	\$29.55	\$31.11
Operator - Programmer	\$23.14	\$24.36	\$23.84	\$25.09	\$24.43	\$25.72
Receptionist II	\$22.75	\$23.95	\$23.44	\$24.67	\$24.03	\$25.29
Survey Record Tech	\$25.88	\$27.24	\$26.66	\$28.06	\$27.32	\$28.76
Survey Tech I	\$19.38	\$20.40	\$19.96	\$21.01	\$20.46	\$21.54
Survey Tech II	\$23.99	\$25.25	\$24.71	\$26.01	\$25.33	\$26.66
Survey, CAD, GIS Tech	\$26.04	\$27.41	\$26.82	\$28.23	\$27.49	\$28.94
Surveying Coordinator	\$27.13	\$28.56	\$28.19	\$29.67	\$28.89	\$30.41

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by the County of Summit, for the Summit County Engineer (hereinafter referred to as the “Employer”) and Local 1032 (Clerical and Technical Chapter), and Ohio Council 8, both of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO (hereinafter referred to as the “Union”).

Acknowledging the continued service of the employees in the current economic environment, and in an effort to retain those employees, the Employer and the Union hereby agree to the following:

- 1) Effective April 1, 2025, the following classifications shall receive the corresponding market adjustment wage increases prior to any across-the-board wage increases:

Inspector III \$0.25

Surveying Coordinator \$0.25