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STATE EMPLOYMENT
RELATIONS BOARD

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AN AGREEMENT between

THE BOARD OF ASHTABULACOUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THE ASHTABULA COUNTYDEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY
SERVICES

and

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND
MUNICIPALEMPLOYEES, OHIO COUNCIL 8, LOCAL #14, AFL-CIO

Effective Date

January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017

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PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made by and between the Board of Ashtabula County Commissioners on behalf of the Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services, hereinafter referred to as the "Employer," and Ohio Council 8, AFSCME, AFL-CIO and Local #14, hereinafter referred to as the "Union."

This Agreement has as its purpose the following:

- A. To comply with the requirements of Chapter 4117 of the Ohio Revised Code;
- B. To set forth the full and complete understandings and agreements between the parties governing the wages, hours, terms and other conditions of employment for those employees included in the bargaining unit as defined herein;
- C. To provide for the adjustment of grievances which may arise;
- D. To achieve and maintain a stabilized employer-employee relationship and to promote improved work performance; and
- E. To assure the continuation and effectiveness of public services.

ARTICLE I

UNION RECOGNITION

ARTICLE I

1.01 The Employer recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive representative for those employees included in the bargaining unit. Wherever used in this Agreement, the term "bargaining unit" shall be deemed to include all full-time and permanent part-time employees of the Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services including:

Account Clerk 2 and 3; Clerical Specialist 1 and 2; Computer Operator; Custodial Worker; Case Aide; Employment Service Representative; Investigator; Labor Crew Leader; Office Worker; Service Representative; Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) Service Representative; Social Program Specialist; Social Service Licensing Specialist; Social Service Worker 2 and 3; Trainer.

1.02 Excluded from the bargaining unit shall be all management-level, professional, and confidential employees, students, casual and seasonal employees and supervisors as defined in 4117 ORC including:

Administrative Assistant; Administrative Assistant Supervisor; Assistant County JFS Administrator; Attorney; Maintenance Repair Supervisor; Business Administrator; Clerical Specialist 3; Clerical Specialist 4; Clerical Supervisor; Human Resource Officer; Fiscal Officer; Fiscal Supervisor; Hearing Officer; Case Manager/Investigator Supervisor 1; Case Manager/Investigator Supervisor 2; Management Information Systems Specialist I, Management Information Systems Supervisor; County JFS Administrator; Assistant Program

Administrator; Program Administrator; Social Service Supervisor 1; Eligibility/Referral Supervisor 1; Program Evaluator; Public Information Specialist.

1.03 For purposes of this Agreement, permanent part-time employees shall be deemed to be those employees regularly scheduled to work twenty (20) hours or more per week, but less than forty (40) hours per week. However, should the Employer determine it necessary to hire part-time employees to regularly work less than twenty (20) hours per week, the Employer will first meet and discuss such action with the Union.

ARTICLE II

UNION REPRESENTATION

2.01 The Employer agrees to admit not more than two (2) Union Staff Representatives to the Employer's facilities during the Employer's normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

The Staff Representatives(s) shall be admitted to the Employer's facilities and sites for the purpose of processing grievances or attending meetings as permitted herein. Upon arrival, the Staff Representative shall identify himself/herself to the Employer or the Employer's designated representative.

2.02 The Employer will recognize as Union Stewards all employees certified by the Union with the authority to process grievances and act on behalf of the Union. A list of certified Union Stewards will be submitted to the Director and will remain in effect until a replacement list of certified Union Stewards is submitted. The Union will be responsible for maintaining a current list on file with the Employer.

2.03 The Union shall provide to the Employer an official roster of its officers and Local Union Stewards which is to be kept current at all time and shall include the following:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Home telephone number
4. Immediate supervisor
5. Union office held

No employee shall be recognized by the Employer as a Union Representative until the Union has presented the Employer with written certification of that person's selection.

2.04 The investigation and writing of grievances shall be on non-duty time. Reasonable time shall be granted to one (1) Steward, with notice to and approval of the Steward's supervisor, to write grievances on duty time regarding discharge or suspension without pay. Supervisory approval shall not be unreasonably denied. If grievance hearings are scheduled during a Grievant's regular duty hours, the Grievant shall not suffer any loss of pay while attending the hearing.

2.05 The Union agrees that no official of the Union, employee or non-employee, shall interfere, interrupt or disrupt the normal work duties of other employees. The Union further agrees not to conduct Union business during working hours except to the extent specifically authorized herein. The Employer agrees to allow the Union reasonable use of office equipment including the phone system, fax and copiers. The Union shall pay reasonable expenses upon request of the Employer.

The Union Stewards and/or President, upon notification and approval of his/her supervisor, may be granted reasonable time to attend meetings scheduled with management at appropriate steps of the grievance procedure, or any other mutually scheduled meetings without loss of earnings.

2.06 Local Union officers who are in the bargaining unit may be granted time off with pay for the purpose of participating in conferences or conventions. The employee must request such time five (5) calendar days prior to any such meeting. Such leave shall not exceed a total of five (5) working days per calendar year for the unit.

2.07 During a new employee's first week of employment, the Union will be afforded a fifteen (15) minute period to convey information regarding the collective bargaining agreement and Union representation. This time period shall not be utilized for purposes of solicitation.

ARTICLE III

DUES DEDUCTION

3.01 The Employer agrees to deduct Union membership dues in accordance with this Article for all employees in the bargaining unit upon the successful completion of sixty (60) days of employment.

3.02 The Employer agrees to deduct one-half (1/2) of the regular Union membership

dues twice each month from the pay of any employee in the bargaining unit eligible for membership. Upon receipt of the proper authorization, the Employer will deduct Union dues from the payroll check for the next pay period in which dues are normally deducted. This agreement is contingent upon the feasibility of the Auditor's "New World software's.

3.03 The parties agree that the Employer assumes no obligation, financial or otherwise, arising out of the provisions of this Article regarding the deduction of Union dues.

The Union hereby agrees that it will indemnify and hold the Employer harmless from any claims, actions or proceedings by any employee arising from deductions made by the Employer pursuant to this Article. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union.

3.04 The Employer shall be relieved from making such individual "check-off" deductions upon an employee's: (1) termination of employment; (2) transfer to a job other than one covered by the bargaining unit; (3) layoff from work; (4) unpaid leave of absence; (5) revocation of the check-off authorization in accordance with the terms of this Agreement; or (6) resignation by the employee from the Union.

3.05 The Employer shall not be obligated to make dues deductions from any employee who, during any dues months involved, shall have failed to receive sufficient wages to make all legally required deductions, in addition to the deduction of Union dues.

3.06 The parties agree that neither the employees nor the Union shall have a claim against the Employer for errors in the processing of deductions, unless a claim of error is made to the Employer in writing within sixty (60) days after the date such an error is claimed to have occurred. If it is found an error was made, it will be corrected at the next pay period that the Union dues deduction would normally be made by deducting the proper amount.

3.07 The rate at which dues are to be deducted shall be certified to the Department of Job and Family Services Director by the Treasurer of the Union. One (1) month advance notice must be given to the Employer prior to making any changes in an individual's dues deduction.

3.08 Employees may authorize the Employer to deduct voluntary contributions to the Public Employees Organized to Promote Legislative Equality (PEOPLE) by payroll deductions (check off). Upon receipt of the employee's PEOPLE deduction authorization, the Employer shall make the deduction and remit monthly to PEOPLE all such deducted contributions. PEOPLE contributions shall be deducted separately from dues or fair share fee deductions.

The Employer assumes no obligation, financial or otherwise, arising out of this provision of this Article. The Union hereby agrees to hold the Employer harmless from any claims, actions or proceedings by any employee arising from deductions made by the Employer pursuant to this provision. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union.

ARTICLE IV

FAIR SHARE FEE

4.01 Each bargaining unit employee who is not a member of the Union shall, as a condition of employment, pay a fair share fee to the Union. The fair share fee obligation shall commence on the sixty-first (61ST) calendar day of employment.

4.02 Fair share fees shall be paid by automatic payroll deduction. Fair share fee deductions do not require prior authorization from the affected employees. Fair share fees shall be deducted in amounts determined by the Union in accordance with law. The Union will certify compliance for the duration of this agreement in writing.

The Employer shall provide each newly hired bargaining unit employee with a copy of AFSCME's fair share fee notice. Such notice shall be presented to each newly hired bargaining unit employee within the first thirty (30) days of employment. A sufficient supply of fair share fee notices shall be provided by AFSCME to the Employer to allow the Employer to meet this obligation. The Employer shall require that the newly hired bargaining unit employee sign a receipt acknowledging that the notice was presented. The Employer shall mail each original receipt to the Ohio Council 8 Regional Office.

4.03 Fair share fee payroll deductions and transmittals shall be made in the same manner provided herein for dues deductions. The Employer shall provide the Union an alphabetical list of the names and addresses of each employee on whose account a fair share fee was deducted during the previous month, including the amount of the deduction.

4.04 Changes in the amounts to be deducted shall become effective on the thirtieth (30th) calendar day after their actual receipt by the Employer.

4.05 Both the Employer and the Union intend that this Article be lawful in every respect. If any court of last resort determines any provision of this Article is illegal, that provision alone shall be void. Invalidation of any provision of this Article does not invalidate the remaining provisions. If a provision is judicially invalidated, the Employer and the Union shall meet within fourteen (14) calendar days after the entry of judgment to negotiate lawful alternative provisions.

4.06 This Article does not waive any of the Employer's rights to seek judicial review of any of its provisions at any time.

4.07 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 hold the employer

harmless from any claims, actions or proceedings by any employee arising from deductions made by the employer pursuant to this Article. Once the funds are remitted to the Union, their disposition thereafter shall be the sole and exclusive obligation and responsibility of the Union.

4.08 This Article constitutes the entire agreement between the Union and the Employer with regard to fair share fees. All other agreements are hereby rendered void.

ARTICLE V NO STRIKE/LOCKOUT

5.01 The Employer and the Union realize that a strike would create a clear and present danger to the health and safety of the public and that the Agreement provides machinery for the orderly resolution of grievances. The parties, therefore, agree to the following:

- A. The Union agrees that during the term of this Agreement, neither it, its officers, agents, representatives or members will authorize, instigate, cause, aid, condone or participate in any strike, work stoppage or any other interruption of operations or services of the Employer by its members. When the Employer notifies the Union that any of its members are engaged in any such strike activity as outlined above, the Union shall immediately 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.
- B. It is specifically understood and agreed that the Employer may impose any discipline or may discharge employees engaged in an unauthorized work stoppage or other interruption of operations or services. Such discipline shall be for just cause.

5.02 The Employer agrees that neither it, its officers, agents or Representatives, individually or collectively, will authorize, instigate, cause, aid or condone any lockout of bargaining unit members.

ARTICLE VI NON DISCRIMINATION

6.01 Neither the Employer nor the Union shall discriminate in the workplace Against any bargaining unit employee on the basis of age, sex, color, creed, national origin, or disability.

6.02 Neither the Employer nor the Union, nor those who choose not to participate in Union membership shall discriminate against, interfere, restrain or coerce and employee because of membership or non-membership in the Union; nor interfere in any way with the right of an employee to participate in or to abstain from membership or involvement in lawful Union activities.

ARTICLE VII

MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

7.01 Except as specifically limited herein, the Employer shall have the exclusive right to administer the business of the office of the Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services, in addition to all other functions and responsibilities which are required by law. Specifically, the Employer's exclusive management rights include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. To manage and direct its employees, including the right to select, hire, promote, transfer, assign, evaluate, layoff and recall, or to reprimand, suspend, discharge or discipline for just cause in order to maintain order among employees;
- B. To promulgate and enforce reasonable employment rules and regulations and to otherwise exercise the prerogatives of management;
- C. To manage and determine the location, type and number of physical facilities, equipment, programs and the work to be performed;
- D. To determine the Department's goals, objectives, programs and services, and to utilize both internal and external personnel in a manner designed to effectively meet these purposes; the Employer expressly reserves the right to require employees to conform to updated state classifications/specifications, and to set minimum qualifications, job descriptions and titles.
- E. To determine the size, composition and duties of the workforce; the number of shifts required; to establish work schedules; to establish hours of work; to establish, modify, consolidate or abolish jobs; and to determine staffing patterns, including but not limited to the assignment of employees, duties to be performed, qualifications required and areas worked; newly hired employees shall pass the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) with a minimum passing score.
- F. To relieve employees from duty due to the lack of work, lack of funds or for other legitimate reasons which improve the economy or efficiency of the Department;
- G. To determine when a job vacancy exists, the standards of quality and performance to be maintained;
- H. To determine the necessity to schedule overtime and the amount required thereof;
- I. To maintain the security of records and other pertinent information;
- J. To determine the overall budget and to maintain the security of records and other
- K. To maintain and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Employer's operation; and

L. To determine and implement necessary actions in emergency situations.

7.02 The Union recognizes and accepts that all rights and responsibilities of The Employer not expressly restricted or modified herein and as permitted by law shall remain the function of the Employer.

7.03 The Employer recognizes and agrees that no work rules, regulations, Policies or procedures shall be maintained, established or implemented which are in violation of any terms or provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE VIII

RULES AND REGULATIONS

8.01 The Union recognizes that the Employer has the right to promulgate Reasonable work rules, regulations, policies and procedures to regulate the personal conduct of employees, and the conduct of the Employer's services and programs.

8.02 All employees shall be subject to the same rules and regulations,
8.02 All employees shall be subject to the same rules and regulations,
regardless of work location.

All vacant position postings, memos and correspondence shall be sent to satellite offices within twenty-four (24) hours of distribution and shall be posted on bulletin boards provided by the Employer.

8.03 The Employer recognizes that no work rules, regulations, policies or Procedures shall be established that are in violation of any expressed terms of this Agreement.

8.04 Supervisors shall not perform the job duties of bargaining unit Employees on a regular basis, however, they may be assigned bargaining unit duties whenever the Employer determines it is necessary:

- A. In emergency or extreme conditions,
- B. To cover for absent bargaining unit employees,
- C. To cover a drastic overload of casework, or
- D. For training purposes.

ARTICLE IX

GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

9.01 The grievance procedure is a formal mechanism intended to assure that

Employee grievances arising from those misunderstandings that will inevitably develop in the day-to-day activities of public services are promptly heard, answered and appropriate action is taken to correct a particular situation. The Employer and Union both encourage the informal settlement of disputes.

9.02 The term "grievance" shall mean an allegation by a bargaining unit

Employee that there has been a breach, misinterpretation or improper application of this Agreement. It is not intended that the grievance procedure be used to affect changes in the articles of this Agreement.

9.03 A grievance under this procedure may be brought by any member of the Bargaining unit. Where a group of the bargaining unit members desires to file a grievance involving a situation affecting each member in the same manner, one (1) member selected by such group or a Union Representative will process the grievance.

9.04 All grievances must be processed at the proper step in the progression in Order to be considered at the subsequent step. Any grievance that is not timely appealed to the next step of the procedure will be deemed to have been settled on the basis of Management's answer at the last completed step.

Any grievance not answered by Management within the stipulated time limits shall be considered to have been answered in the negative and may be appealed to the next step of the grievance procedure. The Union may withdraw or amend a grievance at any time during Steps 1, 2 or 3 of the grievance procedure by notifying Management in writing, without prejudice to that particular or future grievances.

9.05 The written grievance shall be submitted on the appropriate grievance form and shall contain the following information pertinent to the grievance:

1. aggrieved employee's name;
2. aggrieved employee's classification;
3. name of employee's immediate supervisor;
4. date of incident giving rise to the grievance;
5. date grievance was first discussed (Informal Step);
6. date grievance was filed in writing at Step 1 ;
7. a statement as to the specific articles and sections of the Agreement violated;
8. a brief statement of the facts involved in the grievance, and;
9. the remember requested to resolve the grievance.

9.06 The time limitations provided for in this article may be extended by mutual written agreement between the Employer and the Union; working days, as used in this article, shall not include Saturdays, Sundays or holidays.

9.07 Each grievance shall be processed by the Union in the following manner. When the grievance relates to loss of time, loss of pay or termination, it will be started at Step 3. When a grievance is submitted to supervisor who does not have the authority to render a decision on the issue being grieved, the supervisor, without responding to the grievance, may advance the grievance to the level of management that does have the authority to act. The advancement by the supervisor must be made within the time frame for his/her

response to the grievant. The Union will be notified by the supervisor whenever such an advancement is made; and the time frame for management's response at the higher level will begin at the time the Union is notified.

Informal Step

An employee having a grievance may, at any time prior to filing the grievance in writing at Step 1, bring that complaint verbally, to the attention of the employee's supervisor. The supervisor shall discuss the grievance with the employee and within twenty-four (24) hours of their discussion respond to the employee. If the employee is not satisfied with the response given by the supervisor, the employee or Union official shall, within ten (10) working days of the knowledge of the incident, reduce the grievance to writing on the agreed form and submit at Step 1.

Step 1 - Supervisor

A written grievance shall be filed with the employee's supervisor within ten (10) working days of the knowledge of the incident. The supervisor shall make a complete and thorough investigation of all the allegations contained in the grievance and may schedule a meeting with the grievant, if necessary. The supervisor shall provide the employee and the Union with his/her written response to the grievance within five (5) working days of receipt of the written grievance. If the employee is not satisfied with the written response from the supervisor, the employee or Union official may within five (5) working days of receipt of the written answer at Step 1 pursue the grievance to Step 2 of the procedure

Step 2 - Division Chief

The Division Chief, within three (3) working days of receipt of a written grievance, shall schedule and notify the Union President of a formal meeting between himself/herself and the employee filing the grievance to be held not later than ten (10) working days from the receipt of the grievance. Prior to this meeting, the Division Chief shall make a complete and thorough investigation of all the allegations contained in the grievance. Within three (3) working days after the meeting, the Division Chief shall provide the employee and the Union with his/her written response to the grievance. If the employee is not satisfied with the written response received from the Division Chief, the employee or the Union official may, within five (5) working days of receipt of the written answer at Step 2, pursue the grievance to Step 3 of the procedure.

Step 3 - Director

The Director or his/her designated representative shall schedule a meeting within 10 working days of receipt of the grievance. This meeting will be scheduled within 45 working days of the filing date to discuss all grievances properly at Step 3. Within five (5) working days after the meeting, the Director or his/her representative shall provide the employee and the Union with his/her written response to the grievance.

Where an employee does not elect to be represented by the Union at any of the previous steps of the grievance procedure, the Union shall have the right to be present at any grievance meeting or adjustment without intervening. All grievances presented under such circumstances shall be resolved consistent with the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

9.08

Upon mutual agreement of the Employer and Union, a grievance may be mediated prior to being submitted to arbitration. If the Union wishes to

mediate a grievance they shall notify the Employer no later than 10 working days of receipt of the Step 3 written response from the Director. If the parties agree to submit a grievance to mediation, the time limits shall be suspended until (1) the mediation process is complete or (2) the parties cannot mutually agree to mediation. If the parties do agree to mediation, the mediator shall be from the State Employment Relations Board of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services. No agreement, notes, or discussion from the Mediation process may be introduced as evidence in an arbitration hearing. The Mediator assigned to the case will reduce a settlement to writing should the parties reach an agreement. If the parties use mediation and fail to reach an agreement, the Mediator must destroy his/her notes on the case. Mediation settlements will not set precedent for future grievances unless mutually agreed to by both parties.

9.09 Arbitration

A. If the grievance is not satisfactorily settled in Step 3, the Union may submit the grievance to final and binding arbitration by submitting notice to the Employer within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the written answer at Step 3 of its intent to arbitrate and select an arbitrator for such grievance. In the event the grievance is not referred to arbitration within the time limits prescribed, the grievance shall be considered resolved based upon the third step reply.

The parties will obtain the arbitration list from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services.

The parties shall use the alternate strike method from the list of seven (7) arbitrators from the panel of arbitrators provided in this Article. The party requesting the arbitration shall be the first to strike a name and alternate in this manner until one (1) name remains on the list. The remaining name shall be designated as the arbitrator to hear the dispute in question. All procedures relative to the hearing shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

B. The arbitrator shall hold the arbitration promptly and issue his/her decision within a reasonable time thereafter. The arbitrator shall limit his/her decision strictly to the interpretation, application or enforcement of those specific articles and/or sections of this Agreement in question. The arbitrator's decision shall be consistent with applicable law.

C. The arbitrator shall not have the authority to add to, subtract from, modify, change or alter any provisions of this Agreement; nor add to, subtract from or modify the language therein in arriving at his/her determination on any issue presented that is proper within the limitations expressed herein. The arbitrator shall expressly confine himself/herself to the precise issues submitted for arbitration and shall have no authority to determine any other issues not submitted to him/her or to submit observations or declarations of opinion which are not directly essential in

reaching a decision on the issue in question. The arbitrator shall be without authority to recommend any right or relief on an alleged grievance occurring at any time other than the contract period in which such right originated or to make any award based on rights arising under any previous agreement, grievance or practices. The arbitrator shall not establish any new or different wage rates not negotiated as part of this Agreement. In the event of a monetary award, the arbitrator shall limit any retroactive settlement to the date of the incident giving rise to the grievance, but in no event more than sixty (60) days prior to the date the grievance was filed. The decision of the arbitrator and any pre-arbitration settlement shall be final and binding upon the Union, the employee and the Employer. All cost directly related to the services of the arbitrator shall be borne by the losing party. Should the decision not affirm the position of either party, the arbitrator shall determine which party shall pay the cost of the arbitrator, or in what proportion the parties shall share the costs.

D. Expenses of any non-employee witnesses shall be borne by the party calling the witness. The fees of court reporters shall be paid by the party asking for one: such fees shall be split equally if both parties desire a court reporter's recording, or request a copy of any transcript.

E. Any employee may have one (1) employee Union representative accompany him/her in Step 1 and Step 2 of the procedure, and one (1) Union representative and one (1) non-employee Union official at Step 3. The employee may have two (2) employee Union officials accompany him/her in arbitration in addition to any non-employee Union officials. Employee representatives and grievants will lose no straight- time pay as a result of meetings with the Employer or Arbitrator at any step of the grievance procedure. Presentation or appeal of a grievance to the Employer may be made by the appropriate Union official or employee on duty time. The Employer representative, Union representative or employee shall sign the grievance indicating date of the receipt, and a copy shall be provided to the other party(ies).

ARTICLE X

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

10.01 The probationary period for all full-time new hires or employees

transferring into the Ashtabula Department of Job and Family Services from other public employment in classifications covered by this Agreement shall not exceed one hundred eighty (180) calendar days and shall begin on the first day for which the employee receives compensation from the Employer. The Employer reserves the right in its sole discretion, to lower the probationary period to a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days to the maximum one hundred eighty (180) calendar days based upon employee performance during the probationary period.

10.02 Newly hired probationary employees shall have no right of appeal through the grievance procedure or to the State Personnel Board of Review on probationary removal.

10.03 Promoted or transferred full-time employees shall be required to complete a one hundred and eighty (180) calendar day non-initial probationary period. The Employer reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to lower the probationary period to a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) calendar days to the maximum of one hundred eighty (180) calendar days probationary period under this provision. If the employee's job performance is not satisfactory during or at the conclusion of the probationary period, he/she shall be returned to his/her previous position at the same step and pay range he/she was in prior to promotion or transfer. This provision shall not apply to any lateral transfers within the same classification.

10.04 The initial and non-initial probationary periods for permanent part-time employees shall be computed on the basis of hours of completed service as follows:

Initial probationary period	1040 hours of work
Non-initial probationary period	1040 hours of work

ARTICLE XI SENIORITY

11.01 Seniority shall be computed on the basis of continuous service with the

Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services, counting from the employee's most recent date of hire. A termination of employment lasting less than thirty-one (31) days shall not constitute a break in service. Once service is broken, the employee loses all previously accumulated seniority with the agency. The most recent date of hire will be the employee's anniversary date.

11.02 New hires shall have no seniority during their probationary period of employment. However, upon completion of the probationary period, seniority shall be computed from last date of hire.

11.03 An approved leave of absence does not constitute a break in continuous service provided the employee follows the proper procedure for such leave and returns to active service immediately following the expiration of the approved leave or complies with alternate procedures in the leave of absence provisions of this Agreement.

11.04 Employees laid off shall retain their seniority for a period of twenty-four (24) months from the date of layoff.

11.05 Seniority shall be lost when an employee:

meet the minimum qualifications for the job.

An employee may bid on vacant position in the same classification which they currently hold, in a different work unit, for a lateral transfer. An employee may not bid on a vacant position in the same classification which they currently hold, in the same unit in which they currently work. Employees may request to assume the caseload or work assignments that are assigned to a vacant position, in the same classification, in the same unit, in which they currently work. Such requests will be reduced to writing and submitted within the same five day posting period in which the vacant position is posted. Written requests will then be reviewed by the Employer, and will be granted, subject to Director approval, when such reassignment does not interfere with the work needs of the unit, or require more than minimal job training. If more than one qualified employee requests the caseload or work assignment of a vacant position. within their same classification, within their same work unit, the caseload or work assignment will be awarded, dependent on the work needs of the unit, to the most senior employee.

The "Notice of Vacancy" shall contain the following information: classification, division (work unit) and immediate supervisor; pay range and base wage; qualifications for the job, as established; the most recent ACDJFS job description; effective date and expiration date of the posting.

Employees who may be leaving on vacation, sick leave or other authorized leave of absence may submit a bid or application for a vacancy that may exist or for any job the employee wishes to bid on for future consideration prior to commencing such leave. Additionally, a Union Steward may submit a bid on behalf of an employee during such absence, provided the absent employee's signature is included on the bid.

12.02 If the vacancy is an original appointment, the Employer shall use any established eligibility list for the classification of the vacancy. Said eligibility list shall include the names of all persons who have successfully passed the examination. Any examining agency shall provide a copy of the complete list of persons passing the examination to the Employer. Selection shall be made from the persons appearing on the eligibility list unless all such persons decline the position. If the vacancy is not an original appointment, the Employer shall fill the position in accordance with the provisions established herein.

12.03 All timely-filed applications shall be reviewed considering the following criteria: qualifications, experience, education, work record, previous job performance, disciplinary record, ability to perform the essential functions of the job and seniority.

Any current employee bidding on a promotion shall be required to take and pass the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) with a minimum passing score one (1) time during the term of this Agreement. Once such TABE is passed, the employee will not be required to take any other TABES during the term of the Agreement. If employees fail a TABE, they may retake the TABE one time each calendar quarter, i.e., four (4) times maximum per calendar year.

12.04 The Employer shall give first selection to those timely-filed applicants

who are in the same classification as the vacant position only when the applicant is the best qualified applicant as determined by the criteria listed in 12.03. Where a vacancy is filled from the same classification, the Employer may use the original bid to fill the resulting vacancy.

12.05 The position shall be awarded to the individual who best meets the criteria in 12.03 herein. If two (2) or more applicants are considered by the Employer to be substantially equal in meeting the established criteria, then seniority shall govern in the awarding of the position.

12.06 Once the selection has been made, the Employer will notify all applicants and the Union President/designee of the selection, or fo the fact that no selection was made. Any selected employee shall be placed in the new position within sixty (60) days of the date of notification of selection.

12.07 An employee who is inially hired, transferred , voluntarily demoted or promoted may not bid on another position for a period of one (1) year from the time the employee is notified of his/her selection by the Employer and he/she accepts the position, unless the time period is specifically waived by the Employer.

12.08 Nothing herein shall be construed to limit or prevent the Employer from temporarily filling a position for a six (6) month period, pending the Employer's determination to fill the psotions as a permanent vacancy. However, temporary vacancies know to exceed six (6) months due to extended leaves of absence will be filled by the Employer utilizing preference lists submitted by employees wishing to express and interest in temporarily filling positions. Employees must submit preferences by January 15th of each calendar year. Employees must meet the minimum qualifications for the positions they are submitting a preference for, and shall be limited to listing three (3) preferences per year. Temporary assignments for extended temporary vacancies will then be filled in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 12.03 and 12.05 herein. Such temporary assignments may be extended beyond six (6) months upon the mutual written agreement of the parties.

12.09 A promoted or transferred employee will be required to complete a one hundred eighty (180) day non-initial promotional probationary period commencing with the date the employee permanently assumes the duties of the position. The Employer reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to lower the probationary period to one hundred twenty (120) calendar days to the maximum of one hundred eighty (180) calendar days probationary period under this provision. If the employee's job performance is not satisfactory during or at the conclusion of the probationary period, he/she shall be returned to his/her previous classification. Time spent as a provisional appointee will count towards the completion of the probationary period. The employee shall have no right to appeal such a demotion through the grievance procedure herein contained or to the State Personnel Board of Review.

The term "promotion" for purposes of this Agreement shall mean the act of placing an individual in a position within the bargaining unit which carries a higher salary range than that previously held. The term "transfer" for purposes of these provisions shall mean the change from one classification to another with distinctly different job duties, responsibilities or qualifications even though such classifications are assigned the same pay range.

B. An employee who is voluntarily demoted will be required to complete a one hundred eighty (180) day non-initial probationary period commencing with the date the employee permanently assumes the duties of the position. The employer reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to lower the probationary period to one hundred twenty (120) calendar days to the maximum of one hundred eighty (180) calendar days probationary period under this provision. If the employee's job performance is not satisfactory during or at the conclusion of the probation period, he/she shall be returned to his/her previous classification. Time spent as a provisional appointee will count towards the completion of the probationary period.

12.10 Selected employees shall be compensated at the applicable rate of pay in accordance with the provisions of Article XXXIV, Wages, herein.

ARTICLE XIII TEMPORARY TRANSFERS

13.01 Employees who are temporarily assigned to work in a lower classification shall continue to receive the rate of pay for their permanent classification.

13.02 Employees who are temporarily assigned to classifications with pay rates above their permanent classification for a period in excess of ten (10) consecutive workdays shall receive the greater of the step one rate for the higher position, or three (3%) percent above their current rate, for all hours worked in such higher classification.

ARTICLE XIV JOB DESCRIPTION AND CLASSIFICATIONS

14.01 Each job description shall list the major or central duties of the particular job and shall include automatically all functionally related duties, whether listed or unlisted.

The Employer reserves the right to make changes in any job classification specifications and minimum qualifications established by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). However, the Employer agrees to meet with the Union to discuss any substantial specification revisions prior to permanently implementing such changes.

14.02 The Employer agrees to provide a job description to every employee when hired, transferred or promoted into a classification.

The Employer shall make available to the Union the current job description for all jobs in all job classifications in the bargaining unit. Whenever a substantial change occurs (a change of forty percent [40%] or more) in the description of any such job, the Employer agrees to provide the Union with a copy of the new job description before the job description is put into effect. The employee whose job description has been changed shall also be provided a copy of the new job description before it is put into effect. Should such substantial change occur, either party may submit a written request to negotiate the wage rate for the applicable classification.

14.03 All affected employees and the Union shall receive a copy of any position description which substantially alters the duties of employees in the bargaining unit, or establishes new positions within the bargaining unit not recognized under Article I herein. A copy of any Table of Organization shall be provided to the Union on an annual basis.

14.04 In general, employees will remain in their current classifications for the duration of this Agreement except for promotions or mutually agreed classification changes.

If an employee alleges that his/her job duties have changed by fifty (50%) percent or more, and he/she is performing the duties of another bargaining unit classification, he/she may request that a job audit be conducted by the Director or his/her designee. The job audit will be completed within thirty (30) calendar days of the request. The thirty (30) day time period will begin on the day the employee submits the audit form to the appropriate administrator with all sections requesting information from the employee completed. If the employee and Union do not agree with the decision of the Director, they may within ten (10) days of receipt of the Director's decision, request final and binding arbitration of the issue under the provisions of Article IX, Paragraph 9.09 of this Agreement. The issue will proceed directly to arbitration, without going through the grievance procedure. Such issues are not appealable to the State Personnel Board of Review.

No employee may request more than one (1) job audit in a one (1) year period beginning from the date of request.

14.05 Employees reclassified to a higher rated position shall receive the starting wage rate assigned to the higher classification, or three (3%) percent, whichever grants them an increase. Any reclassification shall be effective commencing with the first full pay period following the date of submission by the employee of all necessary information.

14.06 If it is determined that the employee shall be reclassified to a lower rated position, the position shall be reclassified. Current employees serving in the reduced classification shall not be reduced in pay and shall continue to receive their existing rate of pay at the time of the audit determination for the remainder of time that they serve in the reduced classification until such time as the applicable rate(s) of pay for the reduced classification exceeds such existing rate of pay. (Affected employees will be placed on the applicable salary schedule for the reduced classification and will advance on the step schedule as applicable, maintaining their existing rate of pay until such time as the applicable rate of pay exceeds the rate of pay in effect at the time of the audit determination.) When the reduced position is vacated and subsequently filled, the employee selected shall be placed in the lower classification and appropriate rate of pay.

14.07 The Union shall be informed of any reclassification that results from a job audit. Audit determinations shall be based upon DAS classification specifications unless those specifications have been modified by the Employer. Job descriptions shall be consistent with the specifications being utilized.

14.08 The Employer shall establish a wage rate and position description for any new classification in the bargaining unit based upon an appropriate differential from existing positions.

Should the Union disagree with the wage rate established, the Union may submit a written request to negotiate.

14.09 The Employer and the Union will form a committee and together will review and make proposals for changes to the current job descriptions for all jobs in all classifications in the bargaining unit. The Employer and the Union agree that the job descriptions shall, to the extent practical, be appropriate to the job duties of the existing positions.

ARTICLE XV

PERSONNEL RECORD

15.01 An employee shall have the right to inspect his/her personnel record and/or medical report at a mutually agreed upon date and time with record keeper or appointee of Employer. Further, the employee shall have access to review and receive his/her medical statements and test results not generated by or on behalf of the Employer. The employee may compile, date and insert in said record a list of the documents he/she finds therein. The employee may also authorize a Union representative to review and copy the same materials, only as allowed by law, by submitting a written statement to Personnel. Copies of requested documents shall be at the normal cost as prescribed by the Employer and shall be provided to employee within ten (10) working days.

15.02 An employee, upon request, will receive copies of all materials placed in his/her personnel record. The employee may also review and receive medical statements and test results generated by or on behalf of the Employer when used in any employment action against the employee. Any material in the employee's personnel record, which has not been seen or signed by him/her or a copy sent to him/her, will not be used against him/her. The signing of any materials to be placed into an employee's personnel record will not indicate an agreement by the employee as to the contents of the material, but does acknowledge he/she has seen it. An employee shall have the right to attached an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of explanation to any document in the personnel file.

ARTICLE XVI

LAYOFF AND RECALL

16.01 Where, because of economy, consolidation or abolishment of functions, curtailment of activities or otherwise, the Employer determines it necessary to reduce the size of its workforce, the Employer shall notify the Union of the impending layoff prior to service of notice to employees.

16.02 Affected employees shall receive written notice of layoff and reasons thereto at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance or, if possible, earlier, prior to the effective date of layoff. The President of the Union or his/her designee shall be forwarded

acopy of all layoff notices served on any employees on the day of mailing or personal service.

16.03 The Employer shall determine in which classification layoffs will occur. Layoffs shall occur in the following order in the classification(s):

- Seasonal, temporary employees;
- Casual employees;
- Student employees;
- Part-time employees;
- Full-time employees.

Layoff in each of the employment categories listed above will be done in inverse order of seniority as defined by this Agreement. Probationary employees will be placed on layoff before regular employees; provisional before permanent; and, part-time before full-time in each category.

In order to retain current employees during the layoff process, management may offer to a fully qualified, current employee a vacant job in a different classification that is in the same pay range as the employee's current classification. This transfer may be done without posting the opening. The newly transferred employee will remain in his/her current salary. The employee will be required to satisfactorily complete one hundred eighty (180) day probationary period in the new position. The Employer may, in its sole discretion, lower the probationary period to one hundred twenty (120) calendar days to the maximum of one hundred eighty (180) days probationary period under this provision.

16.04 Any employee receiving notice of layoff shall have five (5) workdays following receipt in which to exercise his/her right to bump any employee with less Employer seniority in the same classification and then to a lower rated classification for which the employee is presently qualified and can perform the job duties of the position with little to no training. An employee who bumps into a lower rated position will be compensated at the lower rate of pay and benefits.

Any employee who is bumped from his/her position shall have five workdays in which to exercise his/her bumping rights in a similar manner. An employee who does not have sufficient seniority to bump another employee shall be laid off and placed on the appropriate recall list. The form for "Notice of Bumping" is attached hereto as Form 954.

16.05 When employees are laid off, the Employer shall create and maintain a recall list for each classification. The Employer shall recall employees from layoff as needed within each classification prior to posting any notice of vacancy for bid. The Employer shall recall such employees according to employee seniority up to the number of employees to be recalled. The President of the Union or his/her designee shall be forwarded a copy of all recall lists and a copy of all changes and amendments thereto at the time of posting and as changes, amendments are made by the Employer. The Employer will attempt to recall laid off and/or bumped employees to lower level positions prior to posting any notice of vacancy for bid, provided said employees are presently qualified to perform the duties of the lower level position.

In the event an employee refuses recall to a classification other than that from which he/she was laid off, such employee shall not lose recall rights for the original classification. An employee accepting recall to another position shall not lose recall rights to the original classification.

However, if said refusal is for a recall to the employee's original classification, such employee shall be removed from the recall list.

16.06 Notice of recall shall be sent to the employee by registered mail with a copy to the Union. The Employer shall be deemed to have fulfilled its obligations by mailing the recall notice by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the last mailing address provided by the employee.

16.07 The recalled employee shall have up to seven (7) calendar days following mailing of the recall notice to notify the Employer of his/her intentions to return to work, and shall have ten (10) calendar days following mailing of the recall notice in which to report for duty, unless a different date for return to work beyond the ten (10) calendar days is otherwise specified in the notice beyond the ten (10) calendar days.

In the event of extenuating circumstances such as illness, injury or other good cause preventing the employee from returning or giving notice within the time limits above, the Employer may grant a reasonable extension not to exceed thirty (30) days. In the event such illness or injury precludes an employee from returning to work within the time limit above (including extension), such employee shall be by-passed for recall, but shall remain on the recall list.

ARTICLE XVII

DISCIPLINE

17.01 In imposing discipline on a current charge, the Employer shall not take into account any prior infraction, which occurred more than two (2) years previously. All disciplinary action shall be for just cause. All disciplinary actions shall be removed from the Employee's personnel file after two (2) years and placed in a central disciplinary file.

The Employer will notify the employee of the charges that have been made against him/her within forty-five (45) working days of the incident giving rise to discipline or within forty-five (45) working days of the Employer's first knowledge of the incident, whichever is later at the discretion of the Employer, the forty-five (45) day requirement will not apply in cases where a criminal investigation may occur.

An employee shall be given a copy of any warning, reprimand or other disciplinary action entered on his/her personnel record within five (5) working days of the action taken. Further, the employee and the Local President will receive a copy of any suspension and/or discharge notice within five (5) working days of the action taken.

17.02 Whenever the Employer or his/her designee determines that an employee may be subject to discipline, where such discipline could cause an employee to lose pay or position, a pre-disciplinary conference will be scheduled to afford the employee an opportunity to offer an explanation of the alleged conduct. The Employer shall notify the

affected employee in writing of the date and time of the hearing along with a description of the alleged misconduct or charges a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before the hearing. The Union representative and the Local President will be notified at the same time as the Employee.

The employee shall have the right to have a Union representative present at the conference, if he/she so desires. Any employee electing not to have a Union representative present shall reduce such election to writing. An employee may also elect, in writing, to waive the opportunity for a pre-disciplinary conference.

17.03 Any suspension or loss of pay shall be for a specific number of workdays on which the employee would be regularly scheduled to work. Holidays occurring during a period of suspension shall be counted as workdays for the purpose of suspension. Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit the Employer and the employee or Union to mutually agreeing upon a fine as a disciplinary penalty in lieu of an unpaid suspension. Such agreement must be in writing and signed.

All disciplinary actions may be reviewed through the Grievance Procedure beginning at Step 2.

ARTICLE XVIII

LABOR-MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

~~18.01~~ ~~In the interest of effective communication, either party may at any time~~ request a Labor-Management Conference. Such request shall be made in writing and be presented to the other party five (5) calendar days in advance of the requested meeting date. The written request shall include an agenda of items the party wishes to discuss and the names of those representatives who will be attending. A Labor-Management Conference shall be scheduled within ten (10) days of the date requested, but no more frequently than quarterly unless both parties agree to meet more frequently.

18.02

The purpose of such meeting shall be limited to:

Discuss the administration of this Agreement;

Notify the Union of changes made by the Employer which affect bargaining unit employees;

Discuss grievances which have not been processed beyond the final step of the Grievance Procedure when such discussions are mutually agreed to by the parties;

Disseminate general information of interest to the parties;

Give the Union Representatives the opportunity to share the

views of their members and/or make suggestions on subjects of interest of their members;

Discuss ways to increase productivity and improve efficiency, including workloads and work flow;

Consider and discuss health and safety matters relating to employees.

18.03 There shall be no more than four (4) Union Representatives, selected by the Local President, in attendance at the Labor-Management Conference. There shall be no more than four (4) Management representatives at the Conference.

ARTICLE XIX

HOURS OF WORK/OVERTIME

19.01 This Article shall not be considered as a guarantee of work per day or per week. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as preventing the Employer from restructuring the normal workday or workweek or from establishing work schedules.

19.02 The normal workweek for regular full-time employees shall consist of forty (40) hours of work per week exclusive of the time allotted for meal periods. The normal workweek for permanent part-time employees may consist of twenty (20) hours of work or more per week but less than forty (40) hours, exclusive of any time allotted for meal periods. Workweeks shall commence at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and conclude at midnight on Saturday. In the event it is necessary to change the hours of work, starting and/or quitting time, or schedule of hours for any work unit or department, the Employer shall first meet with the Union to discuss said changes. This section shall not be construed as a guarantee or limitation of work hours, nor shall it be construed to reduce the workweek below forty (40) hours per week for regular full-time employees. Employees may request approval of their supervisor to take breaks at other times provided they have worked prior to the break or after the break for a period not to exceed 90 minutes. Employees shall be relieved of all duties, including on-call duties, during the lunch and rest periods. An employee who is a regular, full time employee shall receive a meal period which consists of a total of sixty (60) minutes, thirty (30) of which shall be paid and thirty (30) minutes that will be unpaid, provided the employee has worked at least four (4) hours on the workday. Employees working less than four (4) hours on a workday as a result of using accrued time may take the thirty (30) minute unpaid lunch, if they so choose, provided they have worked at least ninety (90) minutes on that workday. Additionally, in the event of a delayed opening due to inclement weather or other emergency, or the absence of the employee for the purpose of using accrued time, the employee may be assigned to work up to ninety (90) minutes prior to being permitted a lunch break, based on operational needs.

19.03 There shall be two (2) fifteen (15) minute rest periods on each regular full-time shift each workday. For purposes of this section, full-time shift shall mean eight (8) hours or more per day. Permanent part-time employees who work four (4) hours per day, but less than eight (8) hours, shall be entitled to one (1) fifteen (15) minute rest period. The rest period will be scheduled during the middle two (2) hours of each half shift to the extent practicable, but they may not be scheduled immediately before or after the meal period or at the start or end of a shift. When employees working a full eight (8) hour shift work at least

two (2) hours beyond their regular quitting time, the Employer shall provide each employee with an additional rest period.

19.04 All bargaining unit employees shall receive time and one-half (1 1/2) their

regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) in one (1) workweek. Hours worked shall be deemed to include vacation time, bereavement leave, and designated holidays as specified in Article XXIX, Article XXX, and Article XXXIX, herein. When overtime is worked and sick time is used, straight time is paid only for the number of sick time hours taken. The remainder of overtime worked will be paid at one and one-half (1 1/2) their regular rate of pay.

19.05 The Employer shall be the sole judge of the necessity for overtime. Only pre-approved overtime shall be paid to employees. All overtime will be offered first to employees within the same classification, within the work unit (i.e., Income Maintenance, Child Support, Shared Services, Social Services) within the same shift, in order of seniority. If additional overtime is required, it will be offered in order of seniority to employees in the same classification, in different work units, who have demonstrated the ability to perform the required duties. Overtime may initially be refused, but if sufficient employees do not voluntarily accept, the Employer shall assign the overtime work to employees within the classification, within the work unit, and thereafter to employees in the same classification, in different work units, who have demonstrated the ability to perform the required duties within the same shift involved, in the inverse order of seniority and the employee must work such overtime when assigned.

The Employer shall endeavor to make an equitable distribution of overtime over a period of three (3) months among employees within a classification, within the work unit, within the same shift. Employees who are offered overtime and for any reason refuse, fail to respond or fail to work the overtime shall be credited as if they had worked the overtime for the purpose of overtime distribution. A record of all overtime hours worked by each employee shall be recorded and a list kept by the supervisor and all employees, including the steward, shall have the list made available upon request. All overtime hours shall be recorded on a daily basis.

19.06 An employee who reports to work on a regularly scheduled workday without previous notice not to report shall receive a minimum of six (6) hours work or six (6) hours pay in lieu thereof at the applicable hourly rate.

19.07 Any flex time procedure shall not violate the terms of the agreement. The flextime procedure, once established, shall not be construed to prevent the employer from restructuring the normal workday or workweek or from establishing work schedules.

Paragraphs 19.05 and 19.06 shall be revised pursuant to an agreement between the parties through the use of the labor/management committee. If there is no agreement within ninety (90) calendar days after the execution of this Agreement, the fact finder will determine the provisions of paragraphs 19.05 and 19.06.

ARTICLE XX

INCLEMENT WEATHER

20.01 When the agency Director, or his/her designee, in consultation with the Board of County Commissioners announces that the ACDJFS offices are to be closed due to inclement weather, employees shall not normally be required to work, and shall lose no pay as a result of such closure. Any employee required to work on such day shall receive his/her regular pay plus straight time pay for all hours actually worked.

20.02 On inclement weather days, the Department Director may designate and approve a later arrival time. The Director shall designate the late arrival time prior to noon on the day declared as inclement. Employees reporting for work up to the designated late arrival time shall not receive a reduction in pay for the late arrival. An employee who does not report by the late arrival time will not be paid for those hours after the designated late arrival time, unless the time is covered by available paid leave.

20.03 An employee who is on previously scheduled leave, will be required to use the leave, as scheduled. An employee who does not report for work due to inclement weather, on a day when the office is open, will not be paid for the day, unless he/she requests the use of available paid leave.

20.04 If conditions are so hazardous that it is not possible for an employee to report for the regular start time or the designated late arrival start time, the employee must contact his/her immediate supervisor within thirty (30) minutes of the start time. An Employee who fails to notify his/her supervisor or department head of an expected absence due to inclement weather shall be charged with an unexcused absence and shall receive no pay for the time lost, unless circumstances beyond his/her control, approved by the supervisor, prevented him/her from contacting the supervisor or department head.

ARTICLE XXI

SICK LEAVE

21.01 Crediting of Sick Leave. Sick leave credit shall accrue to full-time and part-time employees at the rate of 4.6 hours for each eighty (80) hours of service in active pay status, including paid vacation and sick leave, not to exceed fifteen (15) days per year, but not during a leave of absence or layoff. Unused sick leave shall accumulate without limit.

On an annual basis, the Employer will grant an additional 4 hours of personal time not to be deducted out of sick time, provided the employee has sick time accumulated of 40 hours. If the employee accrues 80 hours of sick leave the employee will be granted 8 hours personal time not to be deducted out of sick time. Annually the employee will choose to either utilize a four (4) hour personal day or an eight (8) hour personal day in this manner but, they may not utilize both. This is for the duration of this contract January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014.

The Employer will grant the use of two (2) eight (8) hour sick days per contract year, to be used as employee's personal days. To be eligible for such use, an employee shall have an accrued bank to cover the requested time off when such time is scheduled to be taken. These can be taken in 4 hour increments.

The employee must secure authorization three (3) working days prior to the use of such personal day, with an approved form supplied by the Employer.

21.02 Retention of Sick Leave. An employee who transfers from another public agency of the County to the Ashtabula Department of Job and Family Services, shall retain credit for any sick leave earned so long as he/she is employed by the Ashtabula Department of Job and Family Services, except that deduction shall be made for any payment of credit given by the previous agency in lieu of taking sick leave. The previously accumulated sick leave of an employee who has been separated from the public service shall be placed on his/her credit upon his/her reemployment with the Ashtabula Department of Job and Family Services provided that such reemployment takes place within ten (10) years of the date on which the employee was last terminated from public service.

21.03 Expiration of Sick Leave. If illness or disability continues beyond the time covered by earned sick leave, the employee may be granted a disability leave or a personal leave or may take unused vacation in accordance with the appropriate section of this Agreement.

21.04 Charging of Sick Leave. Sick leave shall be charged in minimum units of one-half (1/2) hour. On June 2, 2002, sick leave shall be charged in minimum increments of one-tenth (1/10) of an 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 workday or workweek earnings.

21.05 Uses of Sick Leave.

A. Sick leave shall be granted to an employee upon approval of the Employer and for the following reasons:

1. illness, injury or pregnancy related condition of the employee;
2. exposure of an employee to a contagious diseases which could be communicated to and jeopardize the health of other employees as medically documented;
3. examination of the employee, including medical, psychological, dental or optical examination, by an appropriate practitioner, which

cannot be reasonably scheduled during non-working time;

4. illness, injury or pregnancy related condition of a member of the employee's spouse, children, mother, father, brother, sister, grandparents, father-in-law, mother-in-law, step child, foster child, grandchild, step mother, step father, loco-parentis, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, aunt, uncle, niece & nephew. Employees will be allowed to take one (1) day of sick leave to attend the birth of a grandchild and any consecutive days needed must have a physician statement clarifying the medical reason for the continued attendance with said child/grandchild; where the employee's presence is reasonably necessary for the health and welfare of the qualifying family member;

5. examination, including medical, psychological, dental or optical of a member of the employee's family as listed in 21.05. (A) (4), by an appropriate practitioner, where the employee's presence is reasonably necessary for the health and welfare of the qualifying family member;

- B. Reasonably necessary time up to five (5) days sick days may be granted to the employee who provides verification of the funeral, death, or memorial service of spouse, child, brother, sister, mother, father, loco parentis, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, Grandparents, grandchildren, foster child, step child, step mother, step father, aunt, uncle, niece & nephew. Up to three (3) sick leave days may be used as bereavement leave under this provision with only one (1) call to the supervisor. If additional sick leave days for bereavement days are needed, up to the maximum of five (5) days, then the employee must call in to the supervisor each day thereafter.
- C. Employees who are off duty due to an injury sustained on company time, for which compensation has been requested through the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation (BWC) may at the employee's option elect to use sick time in lieu of temporary total Disability, if available, through BWC. Employees who choose to utilize or are required to utilize Family Medical Leave Act time to cover an injury sustained on company time may, at the employee's option, use accrued sick and

vacation time. In circumstances where an employee is eligible for transitional work, the employee is required to apply for transitional work due to a work related injury. In circumstances where the physician of record does not approve transitional work, the Agency can require that the employee attend an appointment with the Agency's designated provider to substantiate the employee's physician's opinion, at the Employer's cost. In the event the opinions of the two physician's conflict, a third physician will be chosen and paid for by the Agency and that decision will be binding. In any event, the employee must notify the Agency within forty-eight (48) hours of the injury and of the physician/medical status. Within the next forty-eight (48) hours the employee must submit the transitional duty form, completed by a physician, to the Employer. Should an employee refuse approved transitional work, a motion will be filed with the BWC to deny compensation based on refusal of suitable employment with the employee's physical restrictions. The Agency can take disciplinary action against an employee who refuses approved transitional work.

21.06 Evidence Required for Sick Leave Usage. The Employer may require

an employee to furnish a standard written signed statement explaining the nature of the absence to justify the use of sick leave. Falsification of either a written, signed statement or a physician's certificate shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

21.07 Notification by Employee. When an employee is unable to work, the employee or identifiable family member shall notify the supervisor or other designated persons, not later than one-half (1/2) hour after the time he/she is scheduled to report for work on each day of absence, unless emergency conditions make it impossible or unless the employee has made other reporting arrangements with the supervisor. If the employee is unable to reach their supervisor or other designated persons within the one-half hour time requirement, the employee will leave a detailed message on the supervisor's voice mail, including name and telephone number where they can be reached. The employee will then telephone the Employer's report-off telephone line and leave their report-off information, including their name, telephone number where they can be reached, immediate supervisor with whom they left their first report-off message, and the time the message was left. The business office will confirm the receipt of the report off with the supervisor, and the employee will be deemed to have satisfied the thirty minute report-off notification requirement.

21.08 Abuse of Sick Leave. Employees intentionally failing to comply with sick leave rules and regulations shall not be paid. Application for sick leave with intent to defraud will result in dismissal and refund of salary or wage paid. Abuse or patterned use of sick leave shall be sufficient cause for discipline.

21.09 Physician Statement. If medical attention is required, the employee shall be required to furnish a statement from a licensed physician or psychologist notifying the Employer that the employee was unable to perform his/her duties. Such physician statement shall also be required for absence of three (3) or more consecutive workdays due to illness. Employees will be allowed to take one (1) day of sick leave to attend the birth of a grandchild and any consecutive days needed must have a physician statement clarifying the medical reason for the continued attendance with said grandchild. Whenever the Employer suspects abuse of the use of sick leave, he/she may require proof of illness in the form of a physician statement of disability or other proof satisfactory to the Employer to approve the use of such leave.

21.10 Physician Examination. The Employer may require an employee to take an examination, conducted by a licensed physician or psychologist, selected by the Employer to determine the employee's physical or mental capability to perform the duties of the employee's position. The cost of the examination shall be paid by the Employer. The employee may submit documentation from his/her physician or psychologist prior to being placed on leave. Disputes as to the employee's physical or mental health shall be determined by a licensed physician or psychologist mutually selected by the employee and Employer. The fee of the mutually selected physician or psychologist shall be shared equally by the Employer and the employee.

An employee who is found to be unable to perform the essential duties of his/her position, but is still able to perform the duties of a vacant position in the same or a lower pay grade, may request a voluntary transfer or a reduction to the lower level position. Such request shall be in writing to the Director or designee, stating the reason for the request, and granting of the request shall be at the sole discretion of the Employer. If there is no vacancy or the employee cannot perform the duties of a vacant position, the employee will be given an unpaid leave of absence according to the provisions of Article 25.

21.11 Those employees covered under this Agreement who are eligible or who become eligible to retire shall be entitled to convert accrued but unused sick leave to a cash payment on the following basis:

Employees may receive, after completion of ten (10) years of continuous service with the Employer, a cash payment in the amount of one (1) hour's pay for each four (4) hours of accrued but unused sick leave at the time of retirement. The maximum payment under this provision shall not exceed two hundred forty (240) hours of pay calculated at one-fourth (1/4) of nine hundred sixty (960) hours of sick leave. If the eligible employee (i.e., employee must be pensionable under an Ohio state pension plan which the employee was a contributing member) dies before leaving the Employer's service, the cash payment shall be made to the employee's estate or to the trustee of the employee's trust.

ARTICLE XXII

MILITARY LEAVE

~~22.01~~ All employees of the Employer who are members of the Ohio National Guard, the Ohio Defense Corp, the Naval Militia or members of other reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States are entitled to leave of absence from their respective duties without loss of pay for such time as they are in the military service on field training, on emergency call out or active duty for periods not to exceed a total of thirty-one (31) calendar days in any one (1) calendar year consistent with state and federal law.

22.02 The employee is required to submit to the Employer an order or statement from the appropriate military commander as evidence of such duty. There is no requirement that the service be in one (1) continuous period of time. The maximum number of hours for which payment may be made in any one (1) calendar year under this provision is one hundred seventy-six (176) hours.

22.03 Employees who have worked for the Employer a minimum of ninety (90) days will be granted a leave of absence without pay to be inducted or to otherwise enter military service.

22.04 An appointment may be made to fill a vacancy created when an employee enters military service. However, if the person filling such a vacancy also enters military service, he/she may be reinstated to the position after completion of service only if the first employee (the original incumbent) fails to apply for reinstatement within ninety (90) days of discharge, or makes a written waiver of all rights to the position.

22.05 An employee who re-enlists while on active duty, or a commissioned officer who voluntarily enters on extended active duty beyond that required upon accepting a commission is not eligible for reinstatement.

22.06 Employees who are members of the Ohio National Guard will be granted emergency leave for mob, riot, flood, civil defense or similar duties when so ordered by the Governor to assist civil authorities. Such leave will be without pay if it exceeds authorized paid military leave for the year. The leave will cover the official period of the emergency.

22.07 A veteran separated or discharged under honorable conditions must make application for reemployment to the former position within ninety (90) days of receipt of an honorable discharge, certificate of service, or receipt of other evidence showing satisfactory completion of service. If an employee is unable to perform the duties of his/her position as of the date of application for reinstatement due to a temporary physical disability, he/she is entitled to the position when the disability is removed provided this occurs within one (1) year of the application for reinstatement.

22.08

The following procedures apply to reinstatement.

- A. Reinstatement must be accomplished within ninety (90) days after application is received by the Employer;
- B. A photostatic copy of the discharge or certificate of service must accompany all requests for reinstatement or reappointment;
- C. The veteran must be physically qualified to perform the duties of the position. Where a disability sustained in the military service precludes a restoration to the original position, the veteran will be placed in a position of like status and pay, compatible with his/her physical condition; and
- D. The veteran is entitled to all salary benefits or other advancement accruing to the position during military absence as follows:
 - 1. sick leave - that amount which had been accrued at the time of entering service;
 - 2. vacation leave - time spent on military leave will be counted in determining the employee's length of service, but no vacation credit will be accrued during the time spent on military leave;
 - 3. automatic salary adjustments;
 - 4. any changes in classification or pay range which would have accrued to the position if the employee had been on the job.

ARTICLE XXIII

UNPAID LEAVES OF ABSENCE

~~23.01~~ Eligible employees may qualify for family and medical leave, according to the Family and Medical Leave Policy adopted by the Employer. All qualifying paid and unpaid leave will be counted as part of an employee's family and medical leave entitlement. Family and medical qualifying leave will be administered according the Family and Medical Leave Policy of the Department.

23.02

Leave of Absence Without Pay

A. Disability Leave.

1. The Employer may grant a leave of absence without pay for a period of up to six (6) months to an employee who has exhausted his/her sick leave and cannot return to work due to a disabling illness, injury or condition or a disability due to pregnancy, provided the employee timely requests such leave and presents evidence as to the medical need and probable date for return to active work status.

2. The employee must demonstrate that the probable length of disability will not exceed six (6) months. Any changes in status must be immediately supplied to the Employer. The granting of a leave of absence without pay will be subject to the rules regarding other leaves of absence without pay, and the total time on paid sick leave and unpaid leave shall not exceed a cumulative total of six (6) months. After six (6) months, in those cases where an employee has not been released to return to work, the employee will be placed on a disability separation.

B. Leave of Absence.

1. The Employer may grant a leave of absence without pay to an employee upon written application of the employee indicating the reason for such application.

2. Such leave may be granted for good cause shown for a maximum duration of six (6) months for personal reasons of the employee, and may not be renewed or extended beyond six (6) months. Leave may be granted for a maximum period of two (2) years for purposes of education, training or specialized experience which would be of benefit to the Employer by improved performance of any level, or voluntary service in any government sponsored program of public betterment.

3. Upon completion of such a leave of absence, the employee shall be returned to the position which he/she formerly occupied, or to a position of similar status and pay. He/she 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 Employer. If it is found that leave is not actually being used for the purpose for which it was granted, the Employer may impose discipline.

4. An employee who fails to return to duty at the completion

of a leave of absence, without reporting to the Employer. may be terminated from employment.

- C. Any employee utilizing Disability Leave or Leave of Absence as outlined in Sections A and B of this article, must provide a statement indicating his/her anticipated return to work date, upon application for the leave. If an employee is unable to provide a statement indicating an anticipated return to work date with their leave application, he/she must provide a verbal or written report to their supervisor, a minimum of once every ten (10) working days, indicating their status and anticipated return to work date.

ARTICLE XXIV

JURY DUTY/COURT LEAVE

24.01 The Employer shall grant jury duty leave with full pay to any employee who is summoned for jury duty by a court of competent jurisdiction. The employee shall provide the Employer with a copy of the jury duty summons when requesting such leave. All leaves granted by the Employer under the provisions of this Article will commence on the date of appearance noted on the summons. All employees granted such leave will notify the Employer immediately upon completion of the jury duty obligation.

Any compensation or reimbursement for jury duty shall be remitted by the employee to the Employer.

24.02 On days when an employee is released early from his/her jury duty obligation, he/she shall report to work in order to complete his/her regularly assigned shift provided sufficient time remains for such employee to properly report for duty and two (2) hours of work remain.

24.03 Any employee who is appearing before a court or other legally constituted body in a matter in which he/she is a party may use vacation time or leave of absence without pay, at the employee's discretion, provided employee completes required leave paperwork at least five (5) work days prior to the court date. If five (5) work days are not given, the Director may deny unpaid leave and require vacation time be used. Such instances would include, but not be limited to, criminal or civil cases, traffic court, divorce proceedings, custody or appearing as directed as parent or guardian of a juvenile.

ARTICLE XXV

BULLETIN BOARDS

25.01 The Employer agrees to provide a bulletin board in agreed upon areas of the facility for use by the Union.

25.02 All Union notices which appear on the bulletin boards shall be signed, posted and removed by the Local Union President or his/her designee or stewards during non-work time. Union notices relating to the following matters may be posted without the necessity of receiving the Employer's prior approval:

Union recreational and social affairs;
Notice of Union meetings;

Union appointments;

Notice of Union elections, nominations;

Results of Union elections;

Reports of standing committees, temporary committees and independent arms of the Union; and

Rulings or policies of the Union.

All other notices of any kind not covered in (A) through (G) above must receive prior approval of the Employer or his/her designated representative. It is also understood that no material may be posted on the Union bulletin boards at any time which contain the following:

1. Reporting, commentary, endorsement, criticism or any other statement which is politically motivated or considered to be of a political nature, except as provided in (B) through (E) above;
2. Personal attacks upon any supervisory or managerial employee, or any other employee, or elected office holder;
3. Attacks on any employee organization, regardless of whether the organization has local membership.

25.03 No Union related materials of any kind may be posted anywhere in the Employer's facilities except on the bulletin boards designed for use by the Union.

25.04 If the Employer believes there has been an alleged violation of the provisions of this Article, the Employer shall direct the responsible Union official to remove the material in question.

ARTICLE XXVI

MISCELLANEOUS

26.01 Restrooms. The Employer agrees to provide, insofar as possible, adequate, clean, sanitary, safe, well ventilated and adequately supplied restrooms. Employees

who have to leave their worksite to use a restroom when the facilities are not working shall not lose any of their pay and will not be required to punch out on the time clock.

26.02 Lunch Room. An area which is usable as a lounge for employees shall be made available. The lounge will be equipped and furnished.

26.03 Union Meetings. The Employer agrees to allow the Union the use of the lunch room on the last Wednesday of each month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., as operational needs dictate. In the event the County is not able to allow the use of the lunch room for any given month, the Union will be notified as soon as possible. The lunch room facility shall be available under conditions established by the Director.

ARTICLE XXVII

HOLIDAYS

27.01 All full-time employees covered under this Agreement shall be entitled to the following paid holidays:

New Year's Day	1 st of January
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	3 rd Monday in January
Presidents' Day	3 rd Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	4 th of July
Labor Day	1 st Monday in September
Columbus Day	2 nd Monday in October
Veterans' Day	11 th of November
Thanksgiving Day	4 th Thursday in November
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday after Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve	December 24th*
Christmas Day	25 th of December*

* If Christmas Day falls on a Monday, the Christmas Eve holiday will be taken on the following Tuesday. If Christmas Day falls on a Saturday, the Christmas Eve holiday will be taken on the previous Thursday. If Christmas Day falls on a Sunday, the Christmas Eve holiday will be taken on the following Tuesday.

27.02 In the event the aforementioned holidays fall on a Saturday, the Friday immediately preceding shall be observed as the holiday. In the event any of the aforementioned holidays fall on Sunday, the Monday immediately succeeding shall be observed as the holiday.

27.03 Full-time employees shall be paid for eight (8) hours at their straight time hourly rate for each of the holidays listed in Section 1 above when no work is performed on such holiday. To be entitled to holiday pay, an employee must work the last scheduled work day preceding the holiday and the first regular scheduled work day following the holiday, unless their absence is excused because of a medical event covered by available sick or vacation time. In the event an employee is on authorized sick leave, the day prior to or following the holiday, proof of illness shall be required.

27.04 Any work performed by an employee on any one of the days listed in Section 1 shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) the straight time rate, in addition to the holiday pay.

~~Permanent part-time employees covered under this Agreement, and~~
27.05 Permanent full-time employees who are on a reduced hours of work schedule for medical reasons, shall be entitled to holiday pay only for those holidays on which they would have otherwise been scheduled to work. Permanent part-time employees, and permanent full-time employees who are on a reduced hours of work schedule for medical reasons, must work the scheduled day before and scheduled day after the holiday and shall be paid only for those hours they would have been scheduled to work.

27.06 Any employee required to work on the Day after Thanksgiving shall not be entitled to overtime or premium pay, but shall be entitled to a "floating" holiday of the employee's choice contingent upon the advance approval of the Employer. Affected employees must submit request for any "floating" holidays to the Employer at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the date being requested.

27.07 Employee Birthday Each full time employee will be granted his/her birthday off, with pay, annually. Employees must notify their immediate supervisor in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to their birthday, that the employee will be absent on their birthday. If seven (7) days notice is not provided to the supervisor, the birthday may be denied and rescheduled for a date most convenient to the Employer, within thirty days of the employee's actual birth date. Additionally, the Employer or Employee may exchange the actual birthday with a different day, in the employee's birth month, to accommodate needs of the work unit, and/or when extenuating circumstances arise (i.e., mandatory employee training, unexpected staff reduction, et al.). An employee who elects not to take off work for their birthday will not be compensated above and beyond their normal forty (40) hour work week. If the birthday falls during approved time off for bereavement or sick leave the employee shall be paid for the birthday.

The birth date may not be exchanged for any other day during the year. Birthdays that fall on Saturday will be observed the preceding Friday. Birthdays that fall on Sunday will be observed the following Monday. Birthdays that happen to fall on other holidays will be observed by the employee on the first scheduled work day immediately succeeding the agency-wide holiday (i.e. a birthday that falls on Veteran's Day will be granted on the first scheduled work day after the holiday; birthdays that fall on the Friday after Thanksgiving will be granted on the Monday after Thanksgiving).

ARTICLE XXVII

VACATION LEAVE

28.01 Full-time employees and full-time employees working a temporary reduced schedule during Family and Medical Leave or for a reason that would qualify for Family and Medical Leave are entitled to vacation with pay after one (1) year of continuous service. All bargaining unit employees hired prior to January 1, 2006 shall have their prior

service with the State of Ohio or any political subdivision of the State of Ohio counted for purposes of vacation accrual. Employees hired on or after January 1, 2006 shall not receive or be entitled to prior service credit. In the event an employee separates with the Agency and is rehired, prior service credit shall not count for vacation accrual. The amount of vacation leave to which a full-time or part-time employee is entitled is based upon length of service, as follows:

<u>LENGTH OF SERVICE</u>	<u>VACATION ACCRUAL/80 HOURS OF SERVICE</u> <u>(UP TO)</u>	
Less than 1 year	none	3.1
1 year but less than 8 years	80 hours	3.1
8 years but less than 15 years	120 hours	4.6
15 years but less than 25 years	160 hours	6.2
25 years or more	200 hours	7.7

28.02 No employee will be entitled to vacation leave nor payment for accrued vacation under any circumstances until he/she has completed one (1) year of employment with the Employer. The rate of vacation pay shall be the employee's regular straight time hourly rate of pay in effect for the employee's regular job at the time the vacation is taken.

28.03 Employees may take their vacation during the calendar year. Requests for vacation leave to be taken will be made within the first three (3) months of the calendar year and are to be submitted to the supervisor on a form provided by the Employer with priority given to employees according to seniority. Vacation requests for January, February and March, as well as for requests submitted after the unit vacation schedules are posted, are to be submitted at least three work (3) days prior to the time being requested. Requests will be delivered directly to the employee's supervisor, or supervisor designee, and will be date stamped in the presence of the employee. The requests will be honored on a first come, first serve basis. Duplicate requests that cannot be honored will be resolved in order of seniority. Once the vacation schedule is determined, it shall not be changed without the consent of the involved employee except for bona fide emergency situations.

28.04 Employees shall forfeit their right to take or to be paid for any vacation leave to their credit which is in excess of the accrual for four (4) years. Such excess leave shall be eliminated from the employee's leave balance.

28.05 Holidays shall not be charged to an employee's vacation leave.

28.06 An employee is entitled to compensation, at his/her current rate of pay, for the prorated portion of any earned but unused vacation leave to his/her credit at time of separation.

28.07 In the case of death of an employee, the unused vacation leave to the credit of any such employee shall be paid to the deceased employee's spouse and then to the estate if no spouse survives.

ARTICLE XXIX

BARGAINING UNIT WORK

29.01 Non-bargaining unit employees will not be assigned to perform tasks, which are normally exclusively performed by employees in the bargaining unit, for the sole purpose of displacing employees.

29.02 Notwithstanding any provisions of this Agreement, the Employer retains the right to utilize "senior aides" under the Senior Aides Program (Title V), providing such utilization does not result in the displacement of any employee. The Union shall sign and approve any documents that may be needed for the utilization of this program and any other programs requiring union approval and signature.

ARTICLE XXX

PERS CONTRIBUTION

30.01 During the length and duration of this Agreement, the Employer will continue to make the required Employer contributions to PERS, as established by PERS. In addition, the Employer will also contribute the required amount of the employee's gross wages to PERS through the salary reduction method.

30.02 Bargaining unit employees who qualify shall be retired in accordance with the voluntary and compulsory retirement provisions of the State of Ohio Public Employees Retirement System.

All other provisions, benefits and coverage that apply to retirees are in accordance with PERS and this Agreement.

~~ARTICLE XXXI~~

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

31.01 Employees are to receive reimbursement for expenses incurred while traveling on required official agency business. Reimbursement for all travel expenses is subject to Director discretion for approval or denial. Employees are eligible for expense reimbursement for meals, lodging or travel that is not a routine part of the job only when travel has been authorized in writing by the Director/designee before expenses are incurred. Expenses shall be reimbursed in the following manner.

A. Mileage, Parking and Tolls:

1. Employees shall be reimbursed for actual miles traveled while on official County business at the rate equivalent to the current federal IRS rate, on the actual date of travel, when using

personal rather than County vehicles. This rate is subject to fluctuation, based on current federal IRS standards. Such payment is considered to be total reimbursement for all vehicle-related expenses (e.g., gas, oil, tires, insurance, depreciation and all other expenses of operation). Mileage reimbursement is payable to only one of two (2) or more employees traveling on the same trip in the same vehicle.

2. Charges incurred for parking at the destination, and any highway tolls, are reimbursable at the actual amount. Receipts for parking costs and highway tolls are required.

3. No expense reimbursements are paid for travel between home and office.

B. Meals:

1. When an employee is required to travel on County business and travel extends over a meal period, expenses incurred (excluding alcoholic beverages and gratuities) shall be reimbursed up to the limits listed below. When an employee is allowed to travel for optional educational opportunities, approval or non-approval of meal expenses will be determined by the Director. Reimbursement for meals shall not exceed thirty-five (\$35.00) dollars per day for a full day of travel preceded and followed by an overnight stay. Partial days of travel shall be reimbursed as follows:

Breakfast (when travel begins before 7:00 a.m.)

Lunch (when travel extends through the period 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)

Dinner (when travel extends beyond 6:00 p.m.)

2. An employee shall be reimbursed for the actual cost of meals which are an integral part of a business workshop, training seminar or other working conference.

C. Overnight Expenses:

Expenses covering the actual cost of a motel room will be reimbursed in full when an employee travels out of the County on official County business, and such travel requires an overnight stay. The estimated cost must be determined before approval is requested and may be denied, if it is determined by the Director to be unreasonable. The government rate should be requested.

ARTICLE XXXII

EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES

32.01 The Employer will make every effort to seek and obtain State and Federal funds to establish a tuition reimbursement program for employees (paraprofessionals and clerical) to further their education.

32.02 The Employer agrees to discuss with the Union any tuition reimbursement program and further to discuss methods of developing training and educational programs, which affect the employees in the bargaining unit, as part of the labor-management conferences.

ARTICLE XXXIII

MEDICAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS

33.01 For the term of this Agreement, the Employer agrees to continue to provide hospitalization coverage at the same level and at the same cost as established by the County Commissioners for non-bargaining unit employees of the County.

33.02 The Employer will pay ninety percent (90%) of the premium for the primary plan (basic health insurance) for full-time employees. The employee shall pay the remainder of premium.

At any time during the term of this Agreement, should the County wish to change health benefits for employees as a result of a change of coverage, carrier or cost to the employee being implemented by the Board of County Commissioners, the Employer will notify the Union of the pending change, and the Union may initiate discussion on the effects of the change by directing a letter to the Employer indicating its desire to do so. The parties shall meet within two (2) weeks of such notice. It is agreed that no change shall be initiated during the two (2) week period.

33.03 Effective January 1, 2012, the Employer will contribute Forty-Four Dollars and Seventy-Five (\$44.75) per month per bargaining unit employee on active pay status to the AFSCME Care Fund. Such contribution shall be for the purpose of providing Dental I at \$17.75 per month per employee; Vision II at \$12.00 per month per employee; and Prescription Drug at \$15.00 per month per employee. Employees not participating in the benefit as of the date of this Agreement must submit an enrollment card to the Personnel Office in order to initiate such Employer contribution. The only obligation of the Employer under such plan and this section shall be to pay the required premium.

ARTICLE XXXIV

WAGES

34.01 The starting hourly wage schedule listed below in article 34.03 will be effective January 1, 2015 and remain in effect until December 31, 2017.

All bargaining unit employees who are on the payroll effective January 1, 2015 will receive a pay increase of 3% (three percent) of their current wage during the pay period in which January 1st falls.

All bargaining unit employees on the payroll effective January 1, 2016 will receive a pay increase of 2% (two percent) of their hourly wage during the pay period in which January 1st falls.

Please refer to the detail in Article 34.03 below.

34.02 It is understood that the parties agree to re-open the terms of Article XXXIV- Wages on or about ninety (90) days prior to January 1, 2017, for the last year of the agreement January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017, solely to determine if there will be an increase in wage rates only, and if so, the amount of the increases.

34.03 The job classification assignments are as follows:

Classification	Pay Range	Starting Rate	Ending Rate
Custodial Worker	02	11.59	14.40
Office Worker	04	12.34	15.43
Case Aide	05	12.79	16.05
Clerical Specialist 1	05	12.79	16.05
Clerical Specialist 2	27	13.41	17.70
Account Clerk 2	27	13.41	17.70
Computer Operator	28	13.99	18.52
Labor Crew Leader	28	13.99	18.52
Social Service Worker 2	27	13.41	17.70
Account Clerk 3	28	13.99	18.52
CSEA Service Representative	28S	14.45	18.98
Service Representative	28S	14.45	18.98
Employment Service Representative	28S	14.45	18.98
Investigator	28	13.99	18.52
Social Service Licensing Specialist	28	13.99	18.52
Social Service Worker 3	28	13.99	18.52
Social Program Specialist	29	15.11	20.40
Trainer	29	15.11	20.40

34.04 When an employee who is promoted (being placed in a higher pay range) he/she will advance to the higher of a three percent (3%) increase or placement at the starting rate of the pay range for that classification. Employees are required to serve the contractual promotional probationary period.

34.05 An employee who is demoted (being placed in a lower pay range) imposed by the Employer or by bidding on a position that results in a demotion, shall receive the lower of a 3 percent (3%) wage decrease or the maximum rate for that classification.

34.06 Commencing after the fifth (5th) year of employment, employees shall receive a longevity payment of two percent (2%) of the classification start rate and a one-half percent (.05%) increase each year thereafter of the classification start rate to a maximum of 9.5% of the classification start rate after twenty (20) or more years of service as set forth below:

After 5 years of service: 2.0% of the classification start rate.
After 6 years of service: 2.5% of the classification start rate.
After 7 years of service: 3.0% of the classification start rate.
After 8 years of service: 3.5% of the classification start rate.
After 9 years of service: 4.0% of the classification start rate.
After 10 years of service: 4.5% of the classification start rate.
After 11 years of service: 5.0% of the classification start rate.
After 12 years of service: 5.5% of the classification start rate.
After 13 years of service: 6.0% of the classification start rate.
After 14 years of service: 6.5% of the classification start rate.
After 15 years of service: 7.0% of the classification start rate.
After 16 years of service: 7.5% of the classification start rate.
After 17 years of service: 8.0% of the classification start rate.
After 18 years of service: 8.5% of the classification start rate.
After 19 years of service: 9.0% of the classification start rate.
After 20 years of service: 9.5% of the classification start rate.

34.07 Employees hired after January 1, 2012 will not be eligible for longevity payments.

34.08 Effective January 1, 2012 the starting rate of new hires to the Agency only, will be 95% of the starting rate of the classification the employee is hired. Upon completion of the probationary period, the employee will then receive the full starting rate afforded the classification in which the employee is hired.

ARTICLE XXXV

DEVELOPMENTAL LEAVE

35.01 Employees who have completed one year of service with the agency may be entitled to a maximum of three (3) paid working days (24 hours) per year for developmental

leave purposes to take job related course work or training. Part-time employees who have completed one year of service with the agency may be entitled to a maximum of one and one-half (1 ½) paid working days (12 hours) per year for developmental purposes to take job related course work training.

35.02 An employee must request developmental leave at least five (5) working days in advance of the date(s) being requested. Approval of the developmental leave shall be at the sole discretion of the Employer based upon 'job relatedness' and operational needs.

35.03 Employees approved for developmental leave shall be paid their regular day's wages and shall not be entitled to overtime pay for any additional hours inclusive of any travel time. Additionally, an employee shall not be entitled to mileage for any travel involved in attending such course work or training. The Employer will make every attempt to notify the employee of approval or denial, prior to the date of training.

35.04 Employees who are permitted to serve on behalf of the agency as a Notary Public, shall be compensated for the expenses of said certification in the same manner as non-bargaining unit employees, as set forth by management. Current non-bargaining unit employees are reimbursed for attendance at the Notary Public training class and travel. The employee pays for their own stamp.

ARTICLE XXXVI

ON-CALL PAY

36.01 When an employee is required to carry a pager and be available to respond to a call-in to work during non-duty hours, the employee will be paid one (1) hour of at at his/her overtime rate of pay (1 ½ times his/her hourly rate) for each day he/she is required to carry a pager.

36.02 If an employee who is on-call is required to report to work, he/she will be paid his/her regular or overtime rate, as defined in Article XIX, for all hours actually worked.

36.03 An employee who is called in to work during non-duty hours will be paid mileage from his/her home to the agency and back.

ARTICLE XXXVII

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

37.01 An employee will be granted up to three (3) days paid leave who provide verification of the funeral, death, or memorial service of his/her brother, sister, spouse, child, mother, father, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, grandparents, grandchildren, foster child, step child, step mother, step father, loco parentis, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew, step-brother and step-sister.

37.02 Additional paid leave charged against sick time for the above family members or

any other member of the family will be allowed as stated in Article XXI, paragraph 21.05 (B).

ARTICLE XXXVIII

SEVERABILITY

38.01 This Agreement is subject to all applicable federal and state laws, and shall be interpreted wherever possible so as to comply fully with such laws, provisions or any official decision interpreting them.

38.02 If, during the life of this Agreement, any of the provisions contained herein are held to be invalid by operation of law or by any tribunal of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Agreement shall not be affected thereby. In the event any provision herein is so rendered invalid, upon written request either party hereto, the Employer and the Union will meet promptly for the purpose of negotiating a mutually satisfactory replacement for such provision.

ARTICLE XXXIX

TOTAL AGREEMENT

39.01 This Agreement represents the entire agreement between the Employer and the Union and unless specifically and expressly set forth in the express written provisions of this Agreement, all rules, regulations, benefits and practices previously and presently in effect may be modified or discontinued at the sole discretion of the Employer.

ARTICLE XL

DURATION OF AGREEMENT

40.01 A. This Agreement shall be effective January 1, 2015 and shall remain in full force and effect until midnight December 31, 2017, unless otherwise terminated as provided herein.

B. If either party desires to modify, amend or terminate this Agreement, it shall give written notice of such intent no earlier than one hundred twenty (120) calendar days prior nor later than ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration date of this Agreement. Such notice shall be by certified mail with return receipt. The parties shall commence negotiations within two (2) calendar weeks upon receiving notice of intent.

C. The parties acknowledge that during 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 agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in the Agreement. The provisions of this Agreement constitute the entire Agreement between the Employer and the Union and all prior

Agreements, either oral or written, are hereby canceled. Except as provided herein, the Employer and the Union, for the life of this Agreement, each voluntarily and unequivocally waive the right, and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively or individually with respect to any subject matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subjects or matter may not have been within the knowledge of either or both parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement.

ARTICLE XLI DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

41.01 All employees are subject to the Ashtabula County Drug Free Workplace policy and all drug testing requirements contained in that policy. All costs for drug testing which are conducted after the employee completes a prescribed program shall be split evenly between the Employee and the Employer.

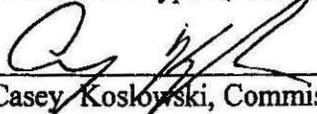
ARTICLE XLII EXECUTION

42.01 This Agreement is hereby entered into this 12th day of Feb. 2015. *AP*

For the Employer:


Peggy Carlo, Commissioner

Daniel R. Claypool, Commissioner


Casey Koslowski, Commissioner


Patrick J. Arcaro, Executive Director

For the Union:


Jack Filak, Regional Director


Carrie Coony, President AFSCME


Barbara Donathan, Vice-President

ADDENDUM A
BILINGUAL PAY

The bilingual interpreter's positions supplement shall be twenty-five (.25) cents per hour, effective January 1, 2009. The Employer shall designate certain positions as bilingual. Bilingual assigned employees shall attend trainings at the expense of the Employer. No bilingual employee may refuse to provide interpreter services to a customer upon the request of a supervisor. Such a refusal will be disciplined as insubordination and loss of supplement in new wage if they refuse.