## ITS Labor/Management Meeting Tuesday, December 14, 2021

## Attending:

## PEF

- Prakash Lal, Co-Chair
- Ron O'Bryan, Council Leader
- Jim Desso, Assistant Council Leader
- Caitlyn Janiszewski, Field Staff
- Jeff Smith
- George Howard
- Mithilesh Kumar

## ITS Management:

- Richard Mohrmann, Associate Director Labor-Relations,
   Co-Chair
- Amanda Hoffman, Chief Human Resources Officer
- Jennifer Lorenze, Deputy CIO
- Marcy Stevens, Chief General Counsel
- Stuart Poole, Chief Financial Officer

Topic (issue,	Presented/Owner	Outcome
Opportunity,		(Action, resolved, parking lot)
Problem, etc.)		
Introduction of	Co-Chairs	
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Members		
Review Of	(a)Telecommuting-PEF	Action Item-PEF will resend the message about how other agencies do leave
Agenda items	presented a survey of	donations.
from the Last	ITS staff and	
meeting.	provisions of MOA in	

	Contract in contrast	ITS-Regarding workload concerns – ITS is working through the process regarding
	with ITS interim	workload concerns of staffing up- but it takes time.
	policy, as a starting	workload concerns of starring up- out it takes time.
	point to discuss to give	PEF- whether all special accommodations requests have been granted?
	final shape to the	ITS-All special accommodations are being addressed, not necessarily approved, but
	policy We still need to	addressed.
	meet.	addressed.
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	(b)Leave Donation-	PEF-Do we have a process for reviewing RA denials?
	PEF has gathered	ITS RAs have an appeal process. If it's just telecommute request, there is an
	information from its	appeals board. To date, no requests to appeal.
	Executive Board	
	Members about how	
	the request for leave	
	donations is done in	
	other Agencies and	
	This has been passed	
	out to ITS.PEF is also	
	waiting from ITS	
	regarding creating a	
	document regarding	
	Leave Donation	
	Process.	
	(c)Workload Concerns	
	and Special	
	Accommodation	
Hiring Practices	Mr. Prakash Lal	PEF – Finding that ITS has generally lost FTEs – gone from 4k to 3.3k.
affecting Career		
Mobility		Many people have retired and there has not been backfilling. People are stuck in the
		same positions for decades.
		Temporary project items are supposed to be used for short-term special projects. But
		it is being used for routine work perpetually. If we need someone do certain work for

many years, then the position should be a permanent item offered as a promotion to staff.

Consultants are supposed to document and transfer knowledge to State staff. This process is not followed and should be enforced.

We want to do cost benefit analysis. Want to get a numbers in each of the following categories:

- 1- The number of consultants in each category and the cost incurred in each category of consultants.
- 2- How many people have stagnated in each grade for how many years will be helpful.

ITS2 is the entry point, and many people are languishing in that title for a long time. ITS should suggest to DCS to create a new title in between them SG-20, as they have in the Engineering series. so that promotional avenues could be enhanced by availing two grade promotion.

ITS – Reduction of State staff is generally true for all agencies. Now that the hiring freeze is lifted, you should start to see lots of promotions. ITS surveyed its managers about training needs and we can share that at LM. If we created a Grade 20, then 18s could not transfer to 23s because Civil Service law does not provide consecutive transfers without an exam. We are looking into updating skill inventory and holding exams more often. ITS is advocating to Civil Service to refresh lists, hold exams more often, and do so because ITS needs better lists and more updated inventories to make sure they can fill their positions from within.

Project Titles are typically individuals with a unique skill set and the competitive exam process will take too long. ITS's general hope is to fill additional positions and ease the workload of existing staff now that budget restrictions are lifted. But it takes time. Most of this will be promotions for existing State staff, of the 400 recruitments that are in process. Managers have to decide how to use their fills.

PEF – We find that people in project titles are doing routine work, not special work. They continue doing that work for years.

ITS – We have to promote first then backfill entry level. That takes more time than just filling entry levels, because of the way promotional lists work.

All of the symptoms you are talking about are symptoms of the years of budget constraints. Now that we don't need waivers its just getting started. The larger problem is attrition and flat budget. We are having this conversation at higher levels. What are the numbers and what can we do to get there (staffing levels). We are in the same stage in that we just in a position to start solving the problem. In that sense we are all on the same page.

If we can use our collective voice with Civil Service to make the right changes, this is a good time to pursue that. (Action item?) We are open to suggestions on how do we improve recruitment.

PEF – We need to look into where contractors /project titles are being used for staff augmentation not special skills. And convert those items to permanent items.

ITS- we have been in such a state of lack of resources, ITS management has always focused on operational need and you may be seeing exceptions. We really prefer skilled individuals staying with the state. But those skill sets and these hurdles have been complicated. If you see egregious exceptions let us know.

PEF – Want to see documentation from these contractors /project titles, so that when they leave they provide us with a walk through of what they did, the results and processes that can be used as guides to train the staff. That is a piece we need to include when we hire consultants. There should be a penalty if they don't provide us that information and detailed documentation.

		ITS – Agree entirely. Supervisor training is including that knowledge transfer is occurring because that is part of our succession planning. We have gone too light on that from the training side of things.
Vaccination and Testing	Mr. Ron O'Bryan.	PEF – Issues with testing vendor – concern about what the testing materials say "not for diagnostic testing" – "only for research purposes"  ITS – Not following the process because that's not our vendor.  PEF – the other question is what happens if the test comes in late and can't get it out on time. People are concerned, want to know if they are in compliance.  ITS – If someone creates an ID with Quest, they will get something that says they did order, and they did sign up, so our "best effort" perspective is that they need to be able to show that the delay is not their delay. If they get the test and don't take it for 3 days that is a person problem not a portal or vendor problem. We have sent out information about when the portal doesn't work, how to send the results to HR.
		PEF – People are panicked about little mistakes resulting in suspension and termination.  ITS – Right now we are focused on the absolute non-compliance.  PEF- Heard anything about boosters being required.  ITS – Not yet.  PEF – Question about availability of vendors out west. Are they adding more in person options?  ITS – Don't know not our contract.

Local Labor	Mr. Iim Desso	
Local Labor Management Committee	Mr. Jim Desso	PEF – New contract requires that we develop a plan to establish new committees. Deadline extended to January 23 <sup>rd</sup> . We intend to make it a joint effort. Want to start the planning now. We would like some information about numbers of employees at sites. Number of employees, locations, hosting status, unit breakdown? Our initial thoughts are we should identify areas where concentration of staff is high enough to justify a local committee. Look back at the agenda item proposal for the ask.  ITS – what do you mean by portfolio, that is aged language? Also more context for why talking about things at a local level.  PEF – sometimes issues are specific to the site. Trying to address things at the lowest level possible.  ITS – Don't understand the ask if you can have these conversations already.  We asked staff to run a list of where PEF employees are at different sites. That is a good place to start in terms of concentration. You will see that there are lots of locations. Our question will be what constitutes enough employees to warrant a labor management committee. Site access I'm not sure of what that is about? What other agencies may be co-located, the members may be able to tell you who is there.  PEF – WPS – individually we are in small groups. But maybe we should be having meetings about Workplace Services issues.  We can cross reference the org chart and employee concentration and focus where the most issues are arising from.
Other Topics	CL/Co-Chairs/others	Any last items – ITS - get a short term extension of the existing telecommuting program until we can sit down for the telecommuting meeting in January.

**Next meeting date:**