

February 2011

AFSCME Local 3336

<http://www.afscme3336.org>

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Next Members Meeting

Main Agenda: Ken Allen, Council #75
Executive Director, Central
Table Bargaining.
Date: Feb. 17, 2011
Time: Noon to 1 PM
Place: NWR office in Gresham, Mt
Hood Conference Room
Call In Number: 1-800-610-4500;
Participant Access Code:
214451

In this Issue

- ✚ AFSCME State Central Table Bargaining Actions
- ✚ DEQ's Budget and Legislative Proposals
- ✚ State Central Table Bargaining Survey
- ✚ President William Brown Announcements

IMPORTANT NOTICE

AFSCME Local 3336 Union New Website

DEQ's new website is live and ready for use @ [Hhttp://www.afscme3336.org/H](http://www.afscme3336.org/H). Note that members will need to "sign-up" which will grant permissions. It might take **24 hours** to get the permission to enter the member area. This will ensure website privacy.

UPCOMING AFSCME STATE CENTRAL TABLE BARGAINING ACTIONS

The AFSCME State Central Table Bargaining begins February 10, 2011. To signify the importance of the beginning of our contact bargaining, the following initial steps for a bargaining campaign are planned. We all know what is at stake in this contract bargaining and therefore **EVERYONE IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.**

- Message/theme for Central Table bargaining campaign: **"TOGETHER WE CAN"** ...with a logo image of two hands clasped, one **GREEN**, one **PURPLE**, to signal SEIU and AFSCME solidarity.
- **February 10: STICKER DAY.** Member action Team (MAT) folks to distribute stickers and encourage represented staff to wear the stickers on the first day of Central Table.
- **February 22: STICKER DAY.** Second meeting of Central Table.
- **Further actions TBD**

Please contact your *Member Action Team (MAT) contact person:*

AFSCME LOCAL 3336 MEMBER ACTION TEAM (MAT)	
DEQ Office	MAT Contact(s)
LAB	Angela Delfin
HQ	Don Yon
4th Floor	Gail Harradine and Bill Brown
5th Floor	Mary Clair, Colleen Foster
6th Floor	Koto Kishida or Agnes Lut
7th Floor	Julie Schlafle or Daniel Herмосillo
8th Floor	Edna Mayes or Colleen Sandoval
9th Floor	Regina Cutler
10th Floor	William Knight
11th Floor	Wendy Anderson or Wes Risher
NWR	Karen Williams – MAT Co-chair for Portland area
1st Floor	Jennifer Weaver, Karen Williams or Paula Carson
4th Floor	Amanda Romero, Bob Williams, Jim Orr, Susan Drake, or Dana Bayuk
Gresham	Edie McMorrine or Tim Brown
Tillamook, Warrenton and Garibaldi	Contact Jennifer Weaver or Karen Williams
WR and ER	Susan Shewczyk – MAT Co-Chair for ER and WR
Eugene	Dana Huddleston
Salem	Jack Arendt or Mary Pfauth
Coos Bay	Eric Clough
Grants Pass	Sherry Brierty
Medford	John Gasik
Baker City	Contact Carl Nadler
Bend	Marcy Kirk or Steve Kirk, Joe Klemz
Hermiston	Shilo Ray
Pendleton	John Dadoly or Tom Hack
The Dalles	Carl Nadler
VIP	Barb Shaver

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

DEQ BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

At our last AFSCME Local 3336 Union Membership meeting, held on January 20, 2011, Greg Aldrich of the Director's Office provided an update on DEQ's budget and legislative proposals.

Budget

Greg began by outlining DEQ's current 2009-2011 budget. The legislatively approved biennium budget began with \$402 million. Of this amount, \$155 million went directly to communities in Oregon and \$175 million for DEQ's operations, funding 790 positions, as follows:

2009-2011 DEQ BUDGET	
SOURCES OF FUNDS	PERCENTAGE
General Fund	14%
Lottery	3%
Federal (EPA)	17%
Fees or Cost Recovery	66%
Total	100%

In 2010, the Governor directed all state agencies to reduce their budget proposals for the 2011-2013 biennium. For DEQ, this resulted in a **2.2 million dollar reduction** from the 2009-2011 budget. In addition, with the bad economy, DEQ's fees receipts dropped significantly by \$8.8 million. This led to a reduced DEQ staffing **from 790 to 690 positions**.

DEQ's proposed 2011-2013 budget was sent on September 1, 2010 to the Governor, who requested all state agencies to present a budget that includes 25% less than the beginning 2009-2011 budget for General and Lottery funds only. This translates into a **reduction of \$9.9 million General Funds and \$1.5 million in Lottery funds for DEQ**. The Lottery Funds only support the Water Quality Program. If adopted, this will mean a **reduction of 41 general funded and 6 lottery funded full time equivalent (FTE) positions**. No reduction in federal funding was proposed.

The state's budget deficit stands now at **\$3.5 billion dollars, which is equivalent to approximately 20% of previous years' General Fund dollars**. Governor Kitzhaber proposed state budget was released on Tuesday, February 1, 2011.

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

The following table identifies the Governor's budget for DEQ. There is a **16.9% reduction in funding, 5.28% reduction positions, and a 5.31% reduction in FTEs.**

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET FOR DEQ				
	2009-11 Legislatively Approved	DEQ's Governor's 2011-13 Budget	Reduced Amount	Percent Reduction
Funds	\$401,260,577	\$333,536,695	\$67,723,882	16.9%
Positions	814	771	43	5.28%
FTE	790.13	748.20	41.93	5.31%

Please remember that what comes out of the Legislature Ways and Means and finally the Legislature may look completely different from what the Governor is proposing. We will be working to stay on top of things and will be calling on you to help us throughout the session.

Interesting to note that the Governor's Budget for all other Natural Resources Agencies have an increase or are flat in funding and positions except for DEQ and the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD).

DEQ's Budget will most likely have hearings by the Legislature in late March and April, which is usually the schedule.

There are two state revenue forecasts that will help decide how much money the Legislature will have to create a balanced budget. These will be released on February 15, 2011 and in May 2011. The May forecast will determine the final state budget.

DEQ Legislative Proposals

The 76th Legislative Assembly convened Monday, January 10, 2011 with the 76th Regular Session convening on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. **Eight (8) pre-legislative session bills were introduced by DEQ.** Governor Kulongoski approved these bills and the legislature in last few weeks "read-in" all bills for consideration.

The eight bills address the following issues:

1. Greenhouse Gases
2. Truck Idling
3. Reporting Fees for Out-of-State Facilities Permits
4. Ballast Water
5. Brown Field Use (Increased)

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

6. E-Waste
7. Onsite – Diverting Enforcement Fees to Local Governments
8. Enforcement Language - housekeeping

Given that the State House of Representatives is split equally with 30 Republican and 30 Democratic members, the House leadership and committees are also split 50/50 in representation. The State Senate has 16 Democrats and 14 Republicans. This means that if any bills pass this session, they will have to have bi-partisan House support to move to the Senate; and eventually to the Governor for signature or veto.

AFSCME STATE CENTRAL TABLE BARGAINING SURVEY

So far, 211 DEQ staff have responded to the AFSCME State Central Table Bargaining Survey. The survey is still open and available to take at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LNHSZWD>. Thanks to all of you who have responded so far. Please encourage your colleagues to complete the survey, if they have not done so already.

The following is a quick summary of the key findings for DEQ:

How long have you worked for the State of Oregon?

Worked at DEQ?	
Ranking	Number of Years
#1	15-19 years
#2	20+ years
#3	0-4 years
#4	10-14 years
#5	5-9 years

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

✚ Class Category?

Job Classification?	
Ranking	Class
#1	<i>Technical Staff: Natural Resource Specialist-Engineer-Chemist</i>
#2	Administrative Support
#3	Finance-Accounting
#4	Operations and Policy Analysts
#5	Vehicle Emissions Techs

✚ The State economist is projecting a \$3.5 billion shortfall for the 2011-2013 budget. Which of the following statements most closely matches your opinion (choose only 1): (Note: Only the top two (2) are listed, which received number 1 ranking by 66% of DEQ staff.)

Benefits and Salary Importance?	
Ranking	Opinion
#1	<i>We must not make concessions in our current retirement & health care benefits unless the cuts are offset by proportionate increases in take-home pay</i>
#2	We must protect our current retirement and health care benefits at all costs, including prioritizing these benefits over ending furloughs, cost of living raises, and step increases.

✚ In the current economic situation and political climate, I think a realistic cost of living adjustment would be:

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)?	
Ranking	Class
#1	1%-2%
#2	0%
#3	3%-4%
#4	5%-More than 5%

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

✚ Please rank the following economic issues”1” through “6” with 1 being most valuable and 6 being least valuable to you:

Summary of Economic Issues: 1 Being Most Valuable and 6 Being Least Valuable	
Ranking	Economic Issue
#1	<i>Continue employee “pickup” of 6% employee retirement contribution</i>
#2	Fully paid medical premiums
#3	Job security/minimizing layoffs
#4	Step Increases
#5	General across the board salary increases
#6	No furloughs

✚ Rank your top ten priorities from the following list of non-economic issues. Rank 1 through 10 with 10 being most important. (Note: Only top 3 listed)

Ranking	Issue
#1	<i>Increased protection for employees taking voluntary workforce adjustments allowing State workers to take leaves of absence, reduced hours, or demotions from their positions with guarantees that should funding for their positions return then they will be able to return to their former positions, hours, and seniority. This would provide an incentive for alternatives to more general layoffs.</i>
#2	Inclusion of incentives for voluntary workforce reductions in the form of severance packages for members who voluntarily leave the State workforce as an alternative to more general layoffs.
#3	Ensure that workers are recognized for their work and classified appropriately.

AFSCME Local 3336

P. O. Box 40446
Portland, OR 97240-0446

PRESIDENT WILLIAM BROWN MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✚ **February and March: Bargaining discussions office meetings** with members beginning with HQ, NWR, Medford, and VIP.

- ✚ **February and March: Local Table - Union Contract Negotiations** (between DAS/DEQ and AFSCME Local 3336)
Location: TBD unless otherwise specified below
Times: **February 25, 2011 (10am -5pm)** - Portland AFSCME office
March 4, 2011 (1pm – 5pm)
March 17, 2011 (11am-3pm)
April 7, 2011 (10am-4pm) – Salem AFSCME office
April 25, 2011 (10am to 5pm)
May 6, 2011 (10am-5pm)
May 12, 2011 (10am-5pm)
May 25, 2011 (10am-5pm)

- ✚ **February 7:** Union meeting with Director Dick Pederson to discuss impact of Governor's budget on DEQ.

- ✚ **February 10:** Central Table Bargaining, Salem AFSCME office.

- ✚ **February 17:** Next Members Meeting, Main Agenda: Ken Allen, Council #75 Executive Director, Central Table Bargaining.
Time: Noon to 1 PM
Place: NWR office in Gresham, Mt Hood Conference Room, Call In Number: 1-800-610-4500; Participant Access Code: 214451

- ✚ **February 22:** Central Table Bargaining, Salem AFSCME office.

- ✚ **March 11 – 13:** Oregon AFSCME Biennial Convention to be held in Eugene. Local #3336 delegates are Dana Huddleston; Angela Delfin; Barbara Shaver; Karen Williams; and Don Yon.