

March 7, 2024

Fellow Members-

Well, here we go. The report of the findings from management's supposed review came out yesterday. Appropriately, the packet came out six (6) days after it's expected release. I say appropriately because that will be the approximate delivery time on all of the mail that people from the Lehigh Valley send to other Lehigh Valley residents once Harrisburg starts doing your mail. Nobody should be surprised that their review concurred with their desire to move the outgoing mail; was there any thought that the outcome would be different than the PMG's wishes? It was a sham from the start, and we knew it, just an inconvenient formality mandated by their own manuals.

The documentation provided by management can be viewed by going to:

<https://about.usps.com/what/strategic-plans/mpfr/documents/lehigh-valley-pa-workbook.pdf>

The big thing that you would all be concerned with is the impact to the employees here. According to their numbers, 6 career Mail Handlers would be impacted. I have spoken with local management and there is no set date for this nonsense to even occur, but they have stated that nobody will be excessed as a result of the outgoing mail being moved. In my years of doing this I have learned that you must also read what isn't being said, as well as what is being said. The bulletin that upper management put out states that no career Mail Handlers would be laid off as a result of the move. That does not state that MHA's will not be laid off, nor does it state that career Mail Handler would not be excessed. After speaking with local management though, they have told me nobody will be excessed or laid off as a result, but MHA hours will get cut in all likelihood. The second point not being said is they state that the impacts are as a result of this move; the thing to keep in mind is that the PMG wants to designate us as an LPC, which by definition would contain letters and flats only, no parcels. The statement speaks of us keeping our destinating parcels but fails to use the two words "for now". If an RP&DC goes online, then our chances of keeping the parcels decreases dramatically, and that is when the impacts would cut deep and the heartache would begin.

For now, this move will not affect the Mail Handlers here other than a decrease in work hours. There would also be about 9 Mail Handlers on Tour 3 that could have their jobs

abolished or changed, depending on machinery being taken out and the work being performed. We will confront those issues when they arise and make sure that any moves are performed within the CBA rules. There should be no excessing or laying off, BUT this is a fluid situation and I honestly don't believe local management gets fed any information until the PMG comes up with some sort of impulsive whim to decree.

I do hope as part of the 11-million-dollar renovations, that they can at least clean the black filth off of the ducts and overhangs, but I digress.

The flyer is filled with other lies like service will not suffer or be delayed. You're sending it farther away from its destination, by truck on Route 22 to a facility that has historically underperformed and that continues to fail, instead of processing it here to be delivered here. Duh.

Unfortunately, and this is my opinion, this is what happens when a trucking mogul is put in charge of a shipping service. This large-scale conflict of interest is akin to Dick Cheney handing out defense contracts in the Persian Gulf to Haliburton. The PMG has decided to cut down flying mail and has decided to have the huge majority of mail shipped via ground transport. Why wouldn't XPO be getting some of those contracts? Logically, ground transport is slower than flying, so the mail service does indeed suffer. Unfortunately, nobody can remove the PMG except the Board of Governors and the current President of the United States is a doddering mess that has to try and concern himself with an election instead of naming people to the board like he should have done a while ago. The alternative is a guy who put this problem in the position that he is in to start with, so don't expect relief if he is elected because he started this train rolling by turning over a Constitutionally granted service that he wants to privatize to his top campaign contributor, who has done nothing but slam it into the ground and slow it down since he has taken over.

Know this, your Union will hold management's feet to the flames to make sure that any moves that are made will be done within the boundaries of our CBA and we will lessen any impact to our craft. For now, don't get caught up with things that you hear on the floor or that you see online.

Stay United, Stay Strong-

*Sean*