

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
WYANDOTTE COUNTY,
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
AND
PLUMBERS LOCAL UNION NO. 8
JANUARY 1, 2022 – December 31, 2024

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ARTICLE I – INTENT AND PURPOSE.

This **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**, by and between the Unified Government, Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, and the Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local No. 8, Kansas City and Vicinity, is entered into for the purpose of establishing rates of wages and specified working conditions. The Local Union Working Agreement or "Agreement" (Joint Agreement between Mechanical Contractors Association and Plumbers Local Union No. 8, marked exhibit A and attached hereto) shall be recognized except as amended, deleted, modified or supplemented by the provisions of this Memorandum.

ARTICLE II – RECOGNITION.

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, (hereunto the U.G.) recognizes and acknowledges the above stated Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local No. 8, Kansas City and Vicinity, (hereunto the "Union") as the exclusive bargaining representative pursuant to the Public Employee Relations Act for all Plumbers employed by the Building and Logistics Department of said U.G.

ARTICLE III – EMPLOYER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Section 1. Except as specifically set out herein, nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as divesting the U.G. of any of its management rights vested by the Kansas Public Employee Relations Act or as delegating to others the authority conferred by law on the U. G. or in any way abridging or reducing such authority.

Section 2. The right to hire, promote, layoff, assign, transfer, discharge or discipline for cause and to maintain discipline and efficiency of employees is the sole responsibility of the U.G., except the Union member shall not be discriminated against due to their Union membership. Persons subject to this agreement shall be considered as employees of the U.G. and subject to all policies, orders, and directives, written or oral, of the Unified Government, Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, the Commissioners, the County Administrator and such other persons designated as supervisors of said employees except as modified or provided elsewhere herein. In the case of promotion, the U.G. agrees to recognize qualifications (including training, education, experience, ability and past performance) of the affected employee and then recognize standard seniority rules and practices. In the case of layoff the U.G. shall use seniority as the determining factor in selecting the employees to be laid off.

Section 3. The U.G. may adopt additional reasonable rules and regulations and amend the Human Resources Guide and other policies, orders and directives from

time to time, and the U.G. and the Union will agree that any such changes, additions or amendments not in conflict with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be in full force and effect. Disputes concerning the application or interpretation of any changes, additions or amendments as provided in this section may be submitted by the Union to arbitration as provided hereunder. To the extent practical, the U.G. will give prior notification of such rules and regulations to the Union.

Section 4. This memorandum shall be construed as requiring the employees to follow the provisions herein in the exercise of the authority conferred upon the U.G. by law.

ARTICLE IV – FILLING OF VACANT POSITIONS.

When a permanent job vacancy exists in a bargaining unit position, the U.G. may determine within forty-five (45) days from the declaration of the vacancy by the U.G., whether such position shall be filled. If it is determined that the position is to be filled, it shall be posted within sixty (60) working days from the determination to fill it or within a reasonable time thereafter. However, even if the U.G. initially determines not to fill a position, the U.G. expressly reserves the right, at any time, to determine that such a position should be permanently filled and then post the same for bid.

If the U.G. determines that a position is to be filled, the following procedure shall govern:

- (a) Such job vacancies shall be posted for ten (10) working days along with the information related to the qualifications required for the position is assigned. The affected bargaining unit local will be sent a copy of the job vacancy posting.
- (b) Applicants desiring to apply for a job vacancy may do so by being qualified and/or certified. In order for an applicant to be considered, a U.G. employment application and related application materials must be submitted to Human Resources within the specified guidelines.
- (c) Such vacancies shall be awarded to the best qualified applicant considering the applicants training, education, experience, ability and past performance as long as such selection does not contravene any affirmative legal responsibility place upon the U.G. and the applicants successful completion of a drug screen and physical examination.

ARTICLE V – WAGES.

Section 1. The basic rate of pay for the Plumbers as enumerated in the Agreement shall be:

Effective Date	Wage Rate/Hour
1/1/22	\$36.13
1/1/23	\$37.21
1/1/24	\$38.33

Section 2. Employer shall be responsible to pay the full cost of fringe benefits and supplementary dues in accordance with the current Master Agreement entered into by the Local Union and Mechanical Contractors Association of Greater Kansas City. The parties agree that in the event the two current bargaining unit members of the union are no longer employed by the Employer as bargaining unit members, the contract will be reopened. In the event that a current bargaining unit member is no longer employed as a bargaining unit member for disciplinary reasons, the contract will not be reopened until any grievance is resolved. If the grievance results in the current bargaining unit member being reinstated, then the contract remains in effect. If not, then the contract will be reopened.

Section 3. As fringe benefits change under the Agreement, the craft shall obtain from the Plumbers Union Local #8 a written statement of the changes and the effective date thereof, and upon written notice sent by registered mail, to the County Administrator and the Human Resources Department, the U.G. will adjust the fringe benefits to conform to the changes in the Agreement provided the notice of the change is received within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of the pay and fringe benefit change.

Section 4. Bargaining unit members shall be permitted to contribute up to \$10.00 per hour to the defined contribution plan of the Union.

Section 5. No person subject to this Memorandum shall be eligible to purchase, receive or participate in any health insurance contract, program or benefit provided to other U.G. employees, including all preferred provider organizations, health maintenance organizations or indemnity policies and coverage unless said person bears the cost of said insurance or coverage without any U.G. contribution. All such persons shall be eligible to participate, receive or purchase any dental insurance provided by the U.G.

ARTICLE VI – WORKING CONDITIONS.

All working conditions including vacations, paid holidays, sick leave, jury duty, maternity leave, injury leave, discharge, discipline and all other matters constituting working conditions shall be subject to and regulated by the policies of the U.G. as

expressed in the Human Resources Guide, and amendments thereof except as may be inconsistent with the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE VII – STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS.

Section 1. There shall be no stoppage of work either by strike or lock out because of any dispute over matters relating to this Memorandum.

Section 2. There shall be no work stoppage in the event of any construction industry strike or problems or lockouts.

ARTICLE VIII – UNION SECURITY.

Notwithstanding any provisions of the attached Agreement and specifically Article IV of said Agreement, to the contrary, the Union recognizes and acknowledges that the Kansas Constitution at Article 15, Section 12 and K.S.A. 75-4324 provide and guarantee an employee the right to work regardless of union membership or affiliation and the parties hereto are bound thereby. Under the provisions of said law, the Union recognizes that the U.G. cannot require as a condition of employment that all employees of the U.G. covered by the attached Agreement will be members of the Union in good standing while so employed by the U.G.

Article IX – FRINGE BENEFIT PROGRAM.

If it is held by a Court of competent jurisdiction that the U.G. is prohibited from entering into or becoming a party to the provided trust agreements or funds set out in the Agreement at Article V, then the U.G.'s obligation to continue its commitment hereunder shall cease.

Article X – HOURS OF WORK, OVERTIME, AND SHIFTWORK.

Sections 1-10 of Article IX of the Agreement were previously deleted and the subjects expressed therein shall be governed by the provisions of the U.G.'s Human Resources Guide.

Eight hours constitute a day's work. Any time worked in excess of eight (8) hours per day or any work performed on a Saturday or Sunday shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) times the actual hourly rate.

An employee called in to perform services related to the job shall be paid in accordance with the Agreement. In no event shall an employee receive less than two (2) hours compensation at the overtime rate of pay for every call-in on days off, furlough days, holidays or other scheduled leave time. Management retains the right to schedule the employees in accordance with the best interest of the Unified Government. Employees designated to be "on-call" on a weekend day (Saturday or Sunday) or on a

holiday shall receive two hours "on-call" pay at the overtime rate in addition to any hours actually worked.

No foreman shall be required on any project unless three (3) or more fulltime plumbers are employed by the Unified Government. If three (3) fulltime plumbers are so employed, the Unified Government shall designate one (1) person as a fulltime foreman.

Article XI – PAYDAY AND PAYROLL CHECKS.

The U.G. has adopted a bi-weekly payroll system. Represented employees are paid each two weeks, as opposed to weekly. This practice shall in no way modify the amount of compensation to be received by the represented employees as provided herein.

Article XII – GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE.

In the event of any dispute or grievance arising under the terms and provisions of the Memorandum or of any difference between the parties as to the interpretation or application of this Memorandum, it shall be processed through the grievance procedure. The parties shall make sincere and determined efforts to settle meritorious grievances at the voluntary steps of the grievance procedure and to keep the procedure free from any unmeritorious grievances. A union representative may be present during any step of the grievance procedure.

Step 1: Within ten (10) days of the occurrence or events giving rise to the grievance or dispute, or within ten (10) days of when the affected employee or employees became aware of such occurrences or event, whichever is longer, the matter must be taken up between the involved employee or employees and their supervisor. First, the employee shall verbally explain to his supervisor the nature of the grievance. The supervisor must communicate his decision to the grievant verbally within five (5) days of the Step 1 meeting.

Step 2: If the grievance is not satisfactorily adjusted under step 1, a written grievance shall be submitted to employee's supervisor within five (5) days after the supervisor has provided his verbal decision pursuant to Step 1. Within five (5) days thereafter, the supervisor must submit a written answer to the grievance.

Step 3: If the supervisor's written answer does not resolve the matter, a written appeal shall be made to the division head within five (5) days after the U.G. receives the supervisor's written report pursuant to step 2. The division head shall attempt to resolve the matter and shall give a written answer within five (5) days after receiving the written appeal.

Step 4: If the division head's written answer does not resolve the grievance, a written appeal shall be taken to the department head within five (5) days after the receipt of the division head's written response. The department head shall attempt to resolve the

matter in a meeting of the concerned parties and shall give a written answer within five (5) days after the receipt of the written appeal of the division head's decision.

Step 5: If the matter has not been resolved in Steps 1-4, it may be submitted to the County Administrator within five (5) working days after receipt of the department head's written decision. The County Administrator shall render a decision in writing within ten (10) days thereafter.

Step 6: If the County Administrator's decision is not satisfactory to the Union, or if the parties are otherwise unable to satisfactorily resolve the dispute, arbitration may be requested by the U.G. or the Union, in the following manner:

- (a) Notice in writing of intent to arbitrate shall be delivered by the party seeking arbitration to the opposing party within fifteen (15) calendar days following the decision of Step 5.
- (b) Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the notice is delivered, the parties will mutually agree upon an arbitrator or jointly obtain a list of seven (7) arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), and the parties will alternately and independently strike unacceptable arbitrators from such a list with the last remaining arbitrator being selected. If the party upon whom a properly executed FMCS panel request is served fails to execute and send such request within fifteen (15) calendar days of service thereof, then the grievance shall be found in favor of the non-defaulting party.
- (c) The arbitrator shall have the authority to determine the procedural rules of arbitration and shall have the ability to make such binding orders as necessary to enable him to act effectively. He shall observe the rules of evidence, and his decision shall be final and binding on all parties.
- (d) Once an arbitrator has been selected by the parties, the parties shall act with all deliberate speed to schedule a hearing for the arbitration.
- (e) The arbitrator shall have no power to add to, subtract from or modify any of the terms of this Memorandum.
- (f) The cost of the arbitrator shall be shared equally by the U.G. and the Union.

Article XIII -- SUBCONTRACTING.

Article XVI of the Agreement related to subcontracting was previously deleted.

Article XIV -- DURATION.

Article XV of the Agreement was previously deleted. This Memorandum shall be in full force and effect from January 1, 2022, (effective date), to and including December 31, 2024, (expiration date), and shall continue from year to year thereafter unless written notice of desire to cancel or terminate the Memorandum is served by either party upon the other not less than thirty (30) and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date. The attached agreement shall be deemed a part of this Agreement.

When no such cancellation or termination notice is served and the parties desire to continue said Memorandum, but also desire to negotiate changes or revisions in this Memorandum, either party may serve the other a written notice not less than thirty (30) and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration date advising that such party desires to revise or change terms or conditions of such Memorandum.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands and seals below.


EMPLOYER

UNION

THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
WYANDOTTE COUNTY, KANSAS
CITY, KANSAS

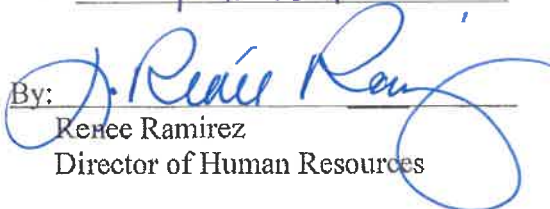
PLUMBER'S LOCAL UNION NO. 8

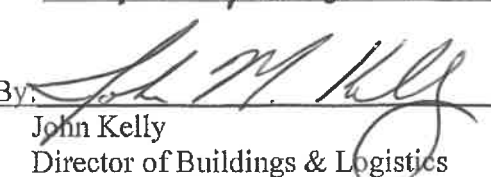
By: 
Douglas G. Bach
County Administrator

By: 
Matthew Harris
Business Representative

Date: 12/2/2021

Date: 11/24/2021

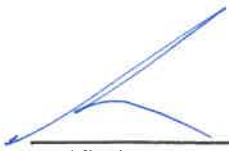
By: 
Renee Ramirez
Director of Human Resources

By: 
John Kelly
Director of Buildings & Logistics

Approved as to form


Misty S. Brown Chief Counsel

ATTEST:


Unified Government Clerk