

March 22, 2023

Yesterday we finished our second negotiation session with Worthington MNA. We had a productive day at the table, reaching tentative agreements on proposals related to increasing shift differential and charge nurse pay, and making progress with respect to several other economic and non-economic items. Sanford also made a proposal with respect to continuing education needs that the bargaining team has raised.

Although we just began negotiations on March 16, we made progress in our base wage discussions yesterday as well. While MNA ended the day at a demand of 23% over the three years of the contract, Sanford responded with a counter proposal of 10% over 3 years that adds additional steps for senior nurses – a significant, good-faith offer that already far exceeds the base rate increases in the current CBA.

Unfortunately, MNA has a conflict that has resulted in its cancellation of the April 4 negotiation date both parties had been holding. As such, we look forward to getting back to the table and working productively towards mutually agreeable settlement terms when we negotiate again with the union on MNA's next available date of April 11.

While we are disappointed that MNA has threatened Sanford's receipt of a 10-day notice to picket prior to our next scheduled negotiation session, we know that negotiations typically take multiple sessions, and Sanford remains committed to reaching an agreement that reflects the valuable contributions of its nurses. In the interim Sanford wants to assure the Worthington community that it has plans in place to avoid disruptions to patient care.

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