




Local Motion

September 2009

Union certifications and decertifications in Oregon and Southwest Washington, as reported by the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board

Recognition elections

Date	Name of employer	Name of union	Location	Results:		Results:
				Union Yes	Union No	
9/3	CRT Processing	United Steelworkers	Clackamas	16	8	
9/10	Stimson Lumber (decertification)	IAM Woodworkers 536	Clatskanie	23	23	
9/22	City of Milton-Freewater (decertification)	Teamsters Local 670	Milton-Freewater	0	12	

Requests for recognition election

Name of employer	Name of union	Location	Number of employees
Best Buy (Geek Squad home theater installers)	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 48	Gresham	24
George's Shop & Rock, Inc.	Teamsters Local 670	Vale	23
Airgas	Teamsters Local 162	Portland	29

IBEW #48 health trust may drop Fred Meyer as prescription drug manager

The Harrison Electrical Workers Trust Fund, which administers health coverage for members of IBEW Local 48, may drop Kroger Prescription Plan as its pharmacy benefits manager.

A primary reason for this is a months-long dispute the union has had with Fred Meyer over its use of nonunion electrical contractors on major remodeling projects in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Fred Meyer merged with Cincinnati-headquartered Kroger in 1999.

"This is not the Fred Meyer it used to be," said Tim Foster, assistant business manager of IBEW Local 48 in Portland. "At one time, Fred Meyer hired almost exclusively union labor. There has been a noticeable shift."

Foster said over the past year-and-a-half, IBEW-signatory contractors bid on 10 large Fred Meyer remodeling projects, even using union market recovery funds to lower the cost of the bids. Nine of the 10 contracts went to nonunion competitors at roughly half the wages and benefits of a union electrician.

Other union-signatory contractors have been shut out from even bidding the work, which has resulted in informational picketing at Fred Meyer stores under remodel.

"I would guess our union contractors get no more than 10 percent of Fred Meyer's work," said John

Mohlis, executive secretary-treasurer of the Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council. "Fred Meyer has union health trust money going in their door, and they turn around and hire nonunion contractors that don't even provide health benefits to their workers."

On Oct. 6, Foster met with an executive from Kroger's Northwest construction division to explain the partnership labor once had with Fred Meyer and to talk about the advantages of employing union contractors.

Foster told the Labor Press — and the executive — that last year the

Harrison Trust spent nearly \$800,000 at Fred Meyer pharmacies through the Kroger Prescription Plan. "And our members spent a lot more than that on groceries," he said.

Foster said the Kroger officials couldn't explain how the nonunion contractors were able to bid the jobs so low. "He suggested that our contractors were using outdated bid specs, but I don't buy that," Foster said, pointing out that one nonunion electrical contractor used Craigslist to hire electricians.

"Accepting the lowest bid is not always getting the best deal," Foster said.

Washington PAC #48

General Election Endorsements

City of Battle Ground

Michael J. Ciraulo, *Pos. 1*
 Michael Dalesandro, *Pos. 4*
 Adrian Cortes, *Pos. 5*
 Bill Ganley, *Pos. 6*

City of La Center

Al Luiz, *Pos. 2*
 Barbara M. Vinning, *Pos. 3*

City of Ridgefield

Ron Onslow, *Pos. 1*

City of Vancouver

Royce E. Pollard, *Mayor*
 Jack Burkman, *Pos. 1*
 David Michael Heywood, *Pos. 2*
 Jeanne Harris, *Pos. 3*

Battle Ground School District

John G. Idsinga, *Dist. 3*

Vancouver School District

Nelson Holmberg, *Pos. 3*

Port of Vancouver

Nancy Baker, *Commissioner*

IBEW #48 encourages everyone to

VOTE!

Paid for by Washington PAC #48, P.O. Box 2883, Battle Ground, WA 98604

We Support Mayor Royce Pollard

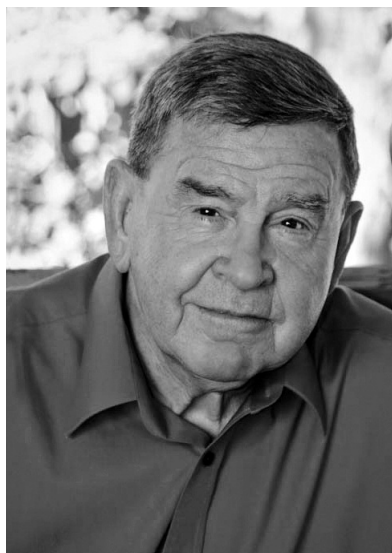
Vancouver Fire Fighters
Local 452

District 6 Fire Fighters
Local 1805

IBEW Local 48

International Longshore
and Warehouse Union
Local 4

Teamsters Joint Council
No. 37



Painters and Allied
Trades District Council
No. 5

Cement Masons
Local 555

Iron Workers
Shopmen's Local 516

Iron Workers Local 29

Washington Machinists
Council

Whether it's revitalizing downtown, job creation, building a new I-5 Bridge, improving transportation, schools, parks and public safety, Mayor Pollard has helped put "America's Vancouver" on the map with his record of accomplishments.

Vote Pollard for Mayor of Vancouver

Paid for by Washington PAC #48, P.O. Box 2883, Battle Ground, WA 98604