

## Oregon AFSCME executive director Seville resigns

Executive Committee taps Stacy Chamberlain as interim director

Michael Seville resigned March 14 as executive director of Oregon AFSCME Council 75 after less than a year on the job. He is returning to his hometown of San Francisco, where he has been hired as executive director of AFSCME Council 57 in Oakland.

AFSCME Council 75's Executive Committee appointed Associate Director Stacy Chamberlain as interim director until the full Executive Board can appoint a permanent one in July.

Council 75 hired Seville in April 2016 to replace longtime executive director Ken Allen, who retired at the end of July 2016. Chamberlain was a finalist for the job.

In an email statement to the NW Labor Press, Council 75 said its Executive Committee will recommend to the full Executive Board in July that Chamberlain be hired as the new executive director.



Michael Seville



Stacy Chamberlain

"Michael made a decision based on the needs of his family. With that said, we are extremely excited and thankful to have someone as qualified and skilled as Stacy Chamberlain stepping in as interim Executive Director," the statement read. "Our focus moving forward is to continue working hard on behalf of our members and working people across Oregon."

Chamberlain has worked for Council 75 since 2005, first as a representative and later as collective bargaining director and associate director. She is the daughter of Oregon AFL-CIO president Tom Chamberlain.

Seville was the research director for the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) Local 21 — a 10,000-member public-sector union representing employees at the City and County of San Francisco and other local governments in the Bay Area.

## Frontier Communications to close dispatch center in Beaverton, laying off 57 workers

Dispatch center will close April 11, impacting members of IBEW Local 89

Frontier Communications Corp is closing its dispatch center in Beaverton, Oregon on April 11 and laying off 57 workers — all members of IBEW Local 89.

The company, which provides internet, TV, and phone service in the Portland metro area will move those operations to facilities in Ontario and Monrovia, California. A Frontier spokesperson told KGW-TV there will be no service changes for customers.

Frontier issued a WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) letter Feb. 10 that stated the company was undergoing "a significant restructuring and reorganization of its business across the U.S."

As part of the restructuring, Frontier is consolidating its dispatch centers. Since January the company has laid off nearly 1,000 workers in 29 states and closed call centers in Ohio and New York.

In February, Frontier announced the permanent closure of the Beaverton dispatch center. "It was a total surprise," said



Vick Leving, business rep for IBEW Local 89, which represents about 1,000 Frontier employees in Oregon, Washington, and Northern California.

Labor's Community Service Agency's Rapid Response team was called in to assist the impacted workforce. Forty-four union members attended a meeting in early March to talk about their options, and get help with resumé building. Workers at the Beaverton dispatch center earn between \$22 to \$30 an hour, with benefits, Leving said.

Frontier has not offered to relocate any of its employees to other facilities. Seven soon-to-be-laid-off workers have put in to transfer to California, and the international union is assisting to find jobs at other locations.

Fortunately, all of the union workers have a decent severance package under their collective bargaining agreements. Four employees work under a Buried Surface Wire national contract. The remainder are under the IBEW core contract.

The Beaverton closure announcement came just as IBEW Local 89 was preparing to bargain a new contract at Frontier.

"We are in negotiations as we speak," Leving said.

The current three-year contract expires May 26. That agreement took 14 months of bargaining and was settled through binding interest arbitration.

The first round of bargaining on a new contract was held March 30-31. Additional talks will be held later this month.

## NW Oregon Labor Council to host recognition dinner May 20

The Northwest Oregon Labor Council's 20th annual Labor Appreciation and Recognition Night will be held Saturday, May 20, at the IBEW Local 48, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

The dinner and awards ceremony serve as a fundraiser for Labor's Community Service Agency. This year is a Hawaii theme — "Lei'd Back Luau." Dinner tickets are \$25 per person. Raffle tickets also will be sold. The labor council is currently accepting cash and prize donations for the raffle.

The labor council also is accepting nominations for persons to be recognized for their service to and with the labor community. The top award is the The Del Ricks Community Service Award, recognizing one individual for their exemplary service.

Nominations should be sent to: Northwest Oregon Labor Council, 9955 SE Washington St., Suite 305, Portland, OR 97216. The deadline is April 28.

For more information or to order tickets, call 503-235-9444.



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