

2-8-7.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "COLLECTIVE BARGAINING" DOES NOT INCLUDE A MEETING IN WHICH ONLY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE IN ATTENDANCE OR A MEETING IN WHICH ONLY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE ARE IN ATTENDANCE.

(3) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS A REGULAR, NONEXEMPT, UNIFORMED EMPLOYEE WITHIN THE FREDERICK COUNTY DIVISION OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES OR OTHER EMPLOYEE WITHIN THE DIVISION OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

(4) "EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION" MEANS A LABOR OR OTHER ORGANIZATION IN WHICH EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATE AND THAT HAS REPRESENTING EMPLOYEES AS ONE OF ITS PRIMARY PURPOSES.

(5) "EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS THE EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN CERTIFIED THROUGH AN ELECTION OF ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES TO REPRESENT AND BARGAIN FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES OVER WAGES AND BENEFITS.

(B) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ENACT AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW VOLUNTARY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONCERNING WAGES AND BENEFITS BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZES AS THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS EMPLOYEES.

(C) ONCE AUTHORIZED BY AN ORDINANCE, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE MAY INCLUDE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING WAGES AND BENEFITS.

(D) SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS CONCERNING BUDGETARY AND FISCAL PROCEDURES IN STATE LAW OR COUNTY ORDINANCE, A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND AN EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE SHALL BIND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT IS STATED IN THE AGREEMENT.

(E) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY DESIGNATE INDIVIDUALS TO NEGOTIATE ON ITS BEHALF WITH THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE.

(F) THIS SECTION DOES NOT:

(1) AUTHORIZE OR OTHERWISE PERMIT AN EMPLOYEE TO ENGAGE IN A STRIKE AS DEFINED IN § 3-303 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS ARTICLE;

(2) REQUIRE ANY FORM OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING;