

BEFORE THE WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

No. 10397

In the Matter of the Petition of

Case XVII
No. 14620 ME-652
Decision No. 10397

Involving Certain Employees of
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The Petitioner requests an election in a bargaining unit consisting of one Electronics Repair Technician and states in its petition that the position involved is a "craft" position. The position is not included in any existing collective bargaining unit. The Municipal Employer concedes that the employee in question is a craft employee, but claims that there are technicians in its employ, namely, Digital Systems Technician, Data Processing Lab Technician, Electronics Repair Technician, Film and Projection Technician I, Film and Projection Technician II, Computer Lab Technician, Television Engineer, Programmer and Systems Analyst, should be included in one bargaining unit of technicians.

We are satisfied that the Electronics Repair Technician is a craft employee. In making this determination we have considered his three years of full-time attendance and resulting certificate from the Municipal Employer's Electronics Training School, and his distinctive work with equipment such as an oscilloscope, vacuum tube voltmeter, and test equipment calibrator and other highly sophisticated equipment relating to solid state circuitry. Substantial knowledge is required of principles of solid state circuitry. The position also involves such skills as soldering and the ability to interpret electronic diagrams. He also recently has assumed responsibility for caring for a radio transmitter and dispatch center and has obtained a radio operator's license from the Federal Communications Commission. The employee works basically independently of direct supervision and works alone, with little if any interchange among other employees.

However, it is not altogether clear from the evidence presented whether some or all of the other technicians employed by the Municipal Employer are craft employes. But in any event it is clear from the record that the duties, functions and education of the Electronics Repair Technician are separate and distinct from the duties, functions and education of the other technicians. The position requires the exercise of unique skills, and we have previously held that employes engaged in a single craft must constitute a unit separate and apart from other crafts or employes of a municipal employer. 1/ Accordingly,

1/ Milwaukee County (8393) 2/68; Milwaukee County (7463) 2/66.

We conclude that the Electronics Repair Technician constitutes a separate craft collective bargaining unit, and we have therefore directed the election.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 30th day of June, 1971.

WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

By Morris Slavney
Morris Slavney, Chairman

Del S. Rice II
Del S. Rice II, Commissioner

Jos. B. Kerkman
Jos. B. Kerkman, Commissioner