

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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In the Matter of the Petition for Final and Binding Arbitration By

AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION, LOCAL 519  
Petitioner

Involving Transit Employees of the:

CITY OF LA CROSSE  
Respondent

Case ID: 300.0006  
Case Type: INT\_ARB

DECISION NO. 39800

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**Appearances:**

Jill M. Hartley, Attorney, The Previant Law Firm, S.C., 310 W. Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 100 MW Milwaukee, Wisconsin, appearing on behalf of Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 519.

Kyle Gulya, Attorney, von Briesen & Roper, S.C., 10 E. Doty Street, Madison, Wisconsin, appearing on behalf of the City of La Crosse.

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS  
OF INVESTIGATION, AND ORDER REQUIRING ARBITRATION**

Petitioner having on February 15, 2023, filed a petition with the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission wherein they alleged that an impasse existed between City of La Crosse and the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local No. 519 in their collective bargaining, and wherein they further requested the Commission to initiate arbitration pursuant to § 111.70 (4)(cm)6. of the Municipal Employment Relations Act; and a member of the Commission's staff having conducted an investigation in the matter and having submitted the report of the results thereof to the Commission; and the Commission being fully advised in the premises makes and files the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Certification of Results of Investigation, and Order Requiring Arbitration.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The City of La Crosse, hereinafter referred to as the Employer, is a municipal employer maintaining its offices at 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

2. Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 519, hereinafter referred to as the Union, is a labor organization maintaining its offices at 2109 Winnebago Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

3. At all times material herein the Union has been, and is, the exclusive collective bargaining representative of certain employees of the Employer.

4. The parties exchanged their initial proposals and bargained on matters to be included in a collective bargaining agreement; on February 15, 2023, the instant petition was filed requesting that the Commission initiate arbitration pursuant to § 111.70(4)(cm)6. of the Municipal Employment Relations Act; on February 16, 2023, a member of the Commission's staff conducted an investigation which reflected that the parties were deadlocked in their negotiations, and, by February 16, 2023, the parties submitted to said Investigator their final offers and written positions regarding authorization of inclusion of nonresidents of Wisconsin on the arbitration panel to be submitted by the Commission, and thereupon the Investigator notified the parties that the investigation was closed; and said Investigator has advised the Commission that the parties remain at impasse.

5. The parties have not established mutually agreed upon procedures for the final resolution of disputes arising in collective bargaining.

Upon the basis of the above and foregoing Findings of Fact, the Commission makes the following:

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The parties have substantially complied with the procedures set forth in § 111.70(4)(cm) of the Municipal Employment Relations Act required prior to the initiation of arbitration.

2. An impasse within the meaning of § 111.70(4)(cm)6. of the Municipal Employment Relations Act exists between the parties with respect to negotiations leading toward a new collective bargaining agreement.

Upon the basis of the above and foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Commission makes the following:

### **CERTIFICATION**

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the conditions precedent to the initiation of arbitration as required by § 111.70(4)(cm)6. of the Municipal Employment Relations Act have been met with respect to negotiations between the parties over wages, hours, and conditions of employment for

a collective bargaining agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is:

**ORDERED**

1. That arbitration be, and the same hereby is, initiated for the purpose of issuing a final and binding award to resolve the impasse existing between the parties.

2. That the parties select an arbitrator within ten (10) days after the issuance of this order from the panel of arbitrators submitted to the parties in the accompanying letter of transmittal, by alternately striking six (6) of the members from said panel for the selection of the neutral arbitrator; and thereupon the parties, or either of them, shall notify the Commission in writing of the name of the neutral arbitrator, and the Commission shall then issue an order appointing said neutral arbitrator.

Issued at the City of Madison, Wisconsin, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2023.

**WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION**

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James J. Daley, Chairman