

**BROTHERHOOD OF MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES
DIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
TEAMSTERS**

March 10, 2008

BMWED RATIFIES AMTRAK AGREEMENT

MEMBERS OVERWELMINGLY APPROVE NEW CONTRACT

After the ballots had been counted, BMWED members employed on Amtrak approved a new contract by an 85% to 15% margin. After a tentative agreement was signed on January 18, 2008, ballots were mailed out to the affected members. The terms of the new contract mirror the recommendations of Presidential Emergency Board 242 which was created to recommend a solution to the eight-year contract dispute.

The final vote count is as follows;

- 1647 number of ballots mailed
- 1139 number of ballots returned
- 971 number of yes ballots (85%)
- 156 number of no ballots (15%)
- 9 ballots voided

The new agreement is a 10 year deal that will cover the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2009. This contract will place Amtrak maintenance of way workers on the same pay and benefit footing as their brothers and sisters employed on the Class I railroads in the United States. Although Amtrak pushed for a number of onerous work rules changes, the new contract contains no work rule changes. Members will also receive full back pay as a result of this contract.

“It has been a hard fought battle but our members employed at Amtrak have finally seen the light of day. This once again illustrates the advantage of a coalition bargaining strategy,” said National BMWED President Freddie Simpson.

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