

NAATS HQ E-Mail Update Vol. 5 #46

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Well, here it is Saturday July 16th and still no decision from the Administrator. It is amazing when she agreed with OIRA on not to suspend activities while the protests were adjudicated she responded the same day (April 12, 2005) it was delivered to her. I'm sure there was more reading material this time, but come on 3 weeks? Even at my reading level with something that is this critical to my employees, I'm sure I could have gotten through it in a day or two. I know I asked you all not to spread rumors, but the only thing I'm hearing on this decision is a rumor out of FAA HQ so take it for what it's worth. The Administrator is waiting to see if we get language introduced into the Senate similar to that which flew through the house. If this is true it's irresponsible and cruel. Is there no integrity left at this agency? Rhetorical.

The "other side" is on the hill lobbying, but the only thing they are telling staffers is the huge lie of a cost totally over \$300 million if this contract is cancelled and the supposed veto threat. Would the President actually veto a bill that has one of his "legacy" bills (highway bill) in it? They seem to have forgotten to mention there are two protests that have been adjudicated, but not blessed yet by the Administrator. Make sure your representatives know that there are two protests out there, not just mine as a representative of the directly affected employees, but one by the MEO or agency. I wonder how many other agencies have sued themselves? Make sure they know the agency has two teams of attorney's hired one to protest the evaluation and the other to defend it. Make sure they know if they go along with the agency and this procurement has been as mishandled as I believe the protests prove, it will appear they agree with bad procurement practices. Ask them if they've seen the protests, and have them ask the Administrator for her decision and the Judges recommendation.

The BOD meeting this week was long and we talked about a myriad of subjects. One being how we need to change as an organization to handle the continuing challenges ahead. We need your help, if you have any ideas on how you would like to see the structure of the organization change, including National Officers, Delegate structures, and anything else you might come up with we want to hear them. The BOD has put a timeline on themselves to come up with a plan by August 30th. Please get your ideas to your Director by August 7, 2005. We understand that the constitution will have to be changed and so forth, but we need to start somewhere. Help to shape your organization to become as effective and efficient as possible. The current climate is going to lead us down a road where we grieve and arbitrate almost everything we do in the future so we need to be lean and mean. Personally I'd rather work through issues, but the Agency just doesn't seem to have that mentality any more.

Kate Breen