Bargaining Update – April 25 – 26, 2018

The eighth set of bargaining sessions between Munson Medical Center (MMC) and the MNA occurred on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from approximately noon – 4:55 pm and on Thursday, April 26, 2018 from approximately 12:20 pm– 5:30 pm.

We spent a significant part of both days discussing the planned annual open enrollment for benefits and the premium and other changes for the upcoming year. There were positive discussions on these issues, and we hope to have an agreement in place on how we will move forward shortly.

We continued to discuss proposals from both sides for nurses to work from home and work alternate hours if they do not work with patients. Both sides want to allow these practices to continue, and we got closer on language to address that.

We discussed other issues as well, including the use of remote monitoring technology for patients to help avoid pulling nursing assistants off of nursing units or holding them over as sitters. Both sides agreed on the general principle that patient monitoring must always ensure patient safety and be used with appropriate patient populations. While there was no agreement on the particulars of what that might look like, the parties did fully share their views and positions.

MMC will continue to bargain in good faith for a contract covering nurses that is fair and balanced and focused on what is best for both patients and our entire Health Care Team.

The next bargaining sessions will be held on May 10 and 11.