ITEM NO.  SUBJECT: Collective Bargaining Agreement between DRPA and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 351

COMMITTEE: New Business

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: N/A

BOARD ACTION DATE: March 18, 2009

PROPOSAL: That the Board authorizes finalize a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with IBEW Local 351 on substantially the terms set forth herein.

BACKGROUND: DRPA and IBEW entered into an initial CBA in 2003 for a term to expire on July 1, 2007. That CBA was extended for one year by agreement of the parties, and expired pursuant to its terms on July 1, 2008. The IBEW represents fifteen (15) DRPA employees who work in the Information Services Department. Negotiations between the parties commenced prior to the contract expiration date and have continued to the present. In February of 2009 the DRPA received a letter from the New Jersey Authorities Unit expressing the desire of the Governor of New Jersey that Authorities, including multi-state authorities such as DRPA, limit wage increases. The two pending Union negotiations being conducted by DRPA are that with the IBEW and another one with the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 542. In order to comply with the spirit of the request from the Governor of New Jersey while reaching a fair resolution of pending contract negotiations, staff proposes to finalize the two pending negotiations by granting each Union an increase that equates to three percent (3%) per annum. In the case of IBEW that would result in a partially retroactive increase for the period July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 at the rate of 3% and a forward looking increase of one and one half percent (1.5%) for the period July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. When the parties commence negotiations on a successor contract we hope to have a better understanding of the overall financial situation and of the financial situation for the DRPA in particular. IBEW Local 351 has agreed to the proposed terms.

SUMMARY: Amount: Increase of 3% annualized
Source of Funds: Operating Budget
Capital Project #: Not Applicable
Operating Budget: 2008 - 2009
Master Plan Status: Not Applicable
Other Fund Sources: None
Duration of Contract: to December 31, 2009
Other Parties Involved: IBEW Local 351
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority authorizes and directs to finalize a Collective Bargaining Agreement between DRPA and IBEW Local 351 substantially on the terms set forth in the attached Summary Statement; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Executive Officer will review and must approve the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement before it is submitted to IBEW Local 351 for execution.

SUMMARY: Amount: Wage increase of 3% annualized
Source of Funds: Operating Budget
Capital Project #: Not Applicable
Operating Budget: 2008 - 2009
Master Plan Status: Not Applicable
Other Fund Sources: None
Duration of Contract: to December 31, 2009
Other Parties Involved: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 351