

## **Indiana Parks Workers Ratify First Contract**

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### **Local 135 Members Will Save Toward Health-Care Costs**

**August 8, 2008**

On August 5, workers at the Terre Haute, Indiana Parks and Recreation Department voted unanimously to ratify their first contract, which will save workers about \$3,000 per year for health-care benefits.

“Members went from paying about \$250 per month to 100-percent employer-paid health insurance in the first two years of the contract, saving them about \$3,000 a year,” said Brian Buhle, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 135 in Indianapolis.

“Workers also will get a wage increase of about 3 percent in the first year of the three-year contract,” said Mike Henderson, business representative for Local 135’s Terre Haute office.

Any wage increases for the remainder of the contract would be subject to further negotiations, as will the health-care costs.

Workers voted 18-0 to ratify the contract, the same margin when workers voted to join Local 135 in July of 2007.

“Local 135 organizers Jeff Combs and Mike Gillespie did a great job on the organizing campaign, and this victory has generated interest in the Teamsters from other city workers in Terre Haute,” Henderson said.