ARTICLE 23 SAVINGS CLAUSE AND FUNDING

Should any Article, section, or portion thereof of this Agreement be held unlawful and unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, or any administrative agency having jurisdiction over the subject matter, such decision shall apply only to the specific Article, section, or portion thereof directly specified in the decision. Upon the issuance of any such decision, the parties agree immediately to attempt to negotiate a substitute, if possible, for the invalidated Article, section, or portion thereof. All other portions of this Agreement, and the Agreement as a whole, shall continue without interruption for the term hereof.

2. Funding

The parties recognize that revenue needed to fund the wages, benefits, and budget-related existing conditions provided by the Agreement must be approved annually by established budget procedures. All such wages, benefits, and budget-related existing conditions are, therefore, contingent upon sources of revenue and annual budget approval. The County has no intention of cutting the wages and benefits specified in this Agreement because of budgetary limitations, but cannot and does not guarantee any level of employment in the bargaining unit covered by this Agreement. The County agrees to include in its annual budget request amounts sufficient to fund the wages and benefits provided by this Agreement but makes no guarantee as to the passage of such budget request pursuant to established budget procedures. This Section 2 and County action hereunder shall not be subject to the Resolution of Disputes Procedures hereinbefore set out.

a. The County will gather information to review the employee churn rate. The parties will work together to review the employee churn rate and the costs associated with the churn on a semi-annual basis. The parties will meet in March and September each year to review the information.