



SYSTEM COUNCIL No. 16

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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Asst. General Chairman

August 11, 2017

SECOND QUARTER REPORT, 2017 SYSTEM COUNCIL NO 16 OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Brothers and Sisters:

Organized labor in the Railroad Industry is about to encounter a tough road. Two recommendations have been made for the National Mediation Board, Kyle Fortson and Gerald Fauth, III, both to fill the republican seats and on the Federal Railroad Administration, Ronald L. Batony, who is a retired Conrail officer and we are only in the second quarter of President Trump's term.

Director Bohne recently sent to the IBEW Railroad locals a copy of the Carrier's proposal to resolve the outstanding Section 6 Notices. It is our understanding that there have been meetings between the carriers and the other coalitions, however news has not been positive. An article relative to the status of bargaining from Railway Age is also included with this report.

Although we have been having trouble negotiating our contract, we have been monitoring industry reports on car loadings and it appears from the most recent report we are moving in a good direction.

Several months ago, our contact at United Healthcare passed away and we have been advised that Ms. Angie Pullekines has been assigned as Manager, Member Relations. She will represent UHC at most labor, management and RRB meetings and benefit fairs to explain current benefits for active and retired railroad members.

We are finalizing reports on the audit this office has been conducting to ascertain that all Carrier employees performing work under the jurisdiction of this office is members of our Organization. I am pleased to advise that we found only a few issues. It appears the majority of our locals have been diligent in their duties.

Our Business – Representation & Service

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Please consider this as a reminder for the Rail Department meeting in Phoenix in October. I hope your local will be represented.

The following is noteworthy of the Carrier's under this jurisdiction of this office:

Belt Railway Company of Chicago:

We are currently working on an agreement to update agreement rules for our members working in the Communication Department.

CN which includes properties CCP/DMIR/DWP/EJE/IC and WC:

In April, a PLB hearing was conducted for one of our members on the DMIR which resulted in discipline being reduced.

Curt Fernandez, the Local 366 Chairman, has accepted an exempt position with the Carrier. We wish him the best for his new assignment.

It is our understanding that the Carrier is in the process of hiring several new employees in Communications, Mechanical and Engineering.

We have been notified of several contracting projects and the locals have been notified accordingly.

A claim conference was conducted on June 19th. The locals with claims involved have been notified of the status.

CP/SOO:

The coalition met with carrier representatives in late June and the Carrier offered an agreement. The agreement was not approved by the Railroad Department, therefore will not be submitted to the membership for ratification.

The Carrier furloughed and recalled one Mechanical Department electrician this quarter.

We have received one decision relative to a discipline case submitted for adjudication. The member and local have been advised of the decision.

There have been issues with dues deducted from employees' paychecks and not being delivered to the local by the Carrier, as well as New Hire-Termination reports not providing necessary information. We are currently working to resolve these issues.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

We are also investigating issues brought forward by our members relative to PTC installations.

In May, Local Chairman Justin Kjellberg and the undersigned met with the Carrier for two days to continue with the process of codifying the Mechanical Department Labor Agreement.

Gary Railroad Company:

No news to report.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Company:

The combining of the seniority rosters on the property remains outstanding with an issue we are currently investigating.

NICTD:

No news to report.

Paducah and Louisville Railway Company:

No news to report.

Evansville and Western Railroad:

No news to report.

Montana Rail Link:

Our coalition is scheduled to meet with the Carrier in the middle of September to continue Section 6 negotiations.

BNSF Railway Company:

We are currently preparing a number of discipline cases for arbitration with 5 cases scheduled for a mid-September arbitration hearing.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

In April, we were notified of forces being reduced at Argentine and Glendive. Agreements were made to transfer members to locations where needed and as of this writing, we are with the understanding that all furloughed members have been recalled to service. We have also seen a couple of Rapid Responder positions bulletined.

We are currently working to amend our Safety Agreement for the Mechanical Department so that all Mechanical Shop Craft organizations have the same Agreement.

Discussions have resumed for establishing monthly rates and conditions for the shop extension electricians on the ATSF property and we are in the process of obtaining approval for a modification of the Mechanical Department Proficiency Agreement (side letter 3).

I hate to keep beating a drum with the issues we have seen but I feel it is extremely necessary to advise our Agreements do not provide for "comp time". If you perform Carrier service, you get paid according to the terms of the controlling Agreement. We have seen this issue at a number of locations.

The Carrier has advised that it will be sending all employees notification of new guidelines on prescription drugs and reporting for duty. I urge all members to thoroughly review this document to avoid issues.

The Carrier has further advised that vehicle drive cams have the technology to record speeding events. The technology is not currently activated, however the Carrier plans to conduct a sixty (60) day pilot on the California Division which will capture speeding events of 10 mph above the posted limit for 10 consecutive seconds. The drive cam has a propriety algorithm system that identifies the most risky/repeat offenders and captures a video clip. If the pilot is successful, the program will be implemented system wide. Please be warned.

I have copied for your information and file numerous articles of interest concerning the industry.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary Treasurer

DED/aj

Attachments

Dale Doyle's Travel Second Quarter 2017:

April 5, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Meeting
April 6, 2017 – Minneapolis, MN – Local 506 Meeting
April 11, 2017 – Brainard, MN – Local 783 Meeting
May 3, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Meeting
May 9, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF/CN Meeting
May 18, 2017 – Proctor, MN – Local 366 Meeting
May 23—24, 2017 – Minneapolis, MN – CP/SOO – Agreement Codification
May 30—31, 2017 – Travel to Lincoln, NE – Meeting at Lincoln Radio Shop
June 1—2, 2017 – Lincoln, NE – Investigation – Return to Hastings
June 7, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Meeting
June 13—15, 2017 – Las Vegas, NV – System Council 2 Meeting
June 28, 2017 – Minneapolis, MN – CP – Section 6 Meeting
June 29, 2017 – Duluth, MN – Local 1559

Mark Klecka's Travel Second Quarter 2017:

May 1—4, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – Telecom and SACP Meetings
May 8—10, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – CRG and TTC-CN Meetings
June 26, 2017 – Milwaukee, WI - Investigation

Darrell Patterson's Travel Second Quarter 2017:

April 13, 2017 – Roeland Park, KS – Local 866 Meeting
April 18, 2017 – Overland Park, KS – Student Meeting at BNSF TTC
April 19—21, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF Safety Assistant Meetings

April 25, 2017 – Overland Park, KS – Student Meeting at BNSF TTC

April 28, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – Argentine Shop Appr. Furlough Meeting

May 9, 2017 – Kansas City, KS / Overland Park, KS – BNSF CRF and TTC Tour with CN Reps

May 11, 2017 – Roeland Park, KS – Local 866 Meeting

May 30—31, 2017 – Portland, OR / Vancouver, WA – Local 1782 Meetings

June 6—9, 2017 – Little Rock, AR – IBEW 10th District Progress Meeting

Jeff Allred's Travel Second Quarter 2017:

April 18—19, 2017 – Tulsa, OK – Local 778 Meeting

May 2—4, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP/LAT Meetings

May 22—25, 2017 – Barstow, San Bernardino, Commerce, CA – BNSF Property Visits

June 13—15, 2017 – Wichita, KS – 7th District Progress Meeting

June 26—29, 2017 – Omaha, NE – 11th District Progress Meeting

Brad Carother's Travel Second Quarter 2017:

April 11, 2017 – Local 418 Meeting

April 19—20, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF Safety Asst. Meeting

May 2, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF Telecom Meeting

May 3—4, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF SACP Meeting

May 9, 2017 – Local 418 Meeting

June 12—15, 2017 – Wichita, KS – IBEW 7th District Progress Meeting