

# SYSTEM COUNCIL No. 16

## INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

999 Westview Drive, Suite 5 • Hastings, MN 55033 • Phone (651) 438-2927 • Fax (651) 480-1731 • ibewsc16@outlook.com

MARK S. KLECKA Vice Chairman

**JEFF ALLRED** Asst. General Chairman **DALE E. DOYLE**General Chairman

DARRELL PATTERSON

Asst. General Chairman

**BRAD CAROTHERS** 

Asst. General Chairman

May 5, 2017

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

#### Brothers and Sisters:

There has been a lot of news articles since the first of the calendar year concerning various items of interest to our membership's employment. Copies of some of the articles are enclosed for your information.

We have received several calls concerning a petition being circulated addressing Congressman Paul Ryan's budget proposal to tamper with the Railroad Retirement System and benefits. A copy of a letter from Director Bohne is attached providing an explanation of this issue.

Section Six negotiations are stalled on all properties with active Section Six notices under the jurisdiction of this office. Attached, please find a copy of Director Bohne's most recent report to the membership concerning national handling.

Many of our locals have inquired about a BMWED flyer circulating on various properties concerning a rally relative to the status of our negotiations and in particular health care. We have investigated and found that this is a national effort by the BMWED. If our members wish to participate, that is fine, however there are some very important things to keep in mind: There may be eyes upon you. Act professionally and most importantly do not stop anyone from going to work. Further, our members should not report late for work as a result of the rally.

There are a number of locals in the year of their election cycles. When the local election is complete, please forward the current officer list to this office for updating our records.

A number of locals have contacted this office concerning direct deposit of per capita payments. If your local is interested in moving in that direction, please send an e-mail to this office so that we can determine interest and the best way to proceed.

We are working on an audit relative to accuracy of seniority rosters vs journal sheets. We have found a few issues which we are helping to correct. I wish to commend the local officers for their diligence, and while it is not often said, I wish to commend the officers for the work you do with this office, it is sincerely appreciated.

The following is note-worthy of Carrier's under the jurisdiction of this office:

## **Belt Railway Company of Chicago:**

Representatives of the Carrier have contacted this office about updating some Agreement provisions in the Communication/Engineering Department. We are awaiting a Carrier proposal for further discussion.

We have also received a notice to contract some of our members work. A conference was conducted this week and the Local notified accordingly.

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

The Carrier continues to have openings for Mechanical Department electricians at Proctor, Minnesota.

We have implemented an incursion agreement to allow for the IC/GTW employees in the Communication Department to work together for the PTC equipment installation on the IC property. We are also awaiting review and approval of 10 work day, 14 consecutive rest day agreement for PTC work on the IC property.

The Escanaba Ore Docks shut down on April 30, 2017. We reached a settlement for the two remaining members of Local 757 at the facility. I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to our Committeeman at the facility, Ed Bylon, for his assistance over the past several years and wish him the very best for his path to the future.

We have met with the Carrier twice this past quarter to discuss the Carrier's needs for locomotive electricians.

#### CP/Soo:

In January, representatives of the IBFO, IAM and this office met with Vice President Tom Lambrect to discuss issues at the St. Paul Shop.

The number of investigations on the property has decreased the first quarter, however there are other issues we have found needing to be addressed such as seniority rosters and new hire/termination reports.

We are scheduled to meet in late May to discuss the codification of the Mechanical Department Agreement.

## **Gary Railroad Company:**

No news to report.

## Lake Superior and Ishpeming Company:

Recently, the Carrier approached this office to discuss the pros and cons of combining the two seniority rosters on the property. A proposal was drafted by this office and is being reviewed by the Carrier.

#### 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:

Certain representatives of our bargaining coalition met with the MRL employees represented by the various organizations and it was determined that the Carrier's offer to settle the outstanding Section Six notices was not acceptable to the employees. The coalition is currently scheduling a meeting to discuss our strategy to proceed.

### **BNSF Railway Company:**

We continue to see a large number of investigations on this property.

In April, the Carrier announced a major force reduction at its Glendive Montana Diesel Facility and the closure of the Murray Yard Shops. We are also hearing that there is a hiring freeze in effect on the property.

We continue to move forward with the establishment of the Mechanical Department Level Agreement. Side letter 2 was completed in March and we are working to complete side letter 3 which addresses Level 2 testing and pay.

There has been a large number of contracting notices in the Telecommunication and Engineering Departments. All notices have been provided to the locals concerned.

The Carrier provided information to representatives of this office this week concerning the FRA's newly initiated regulations requiring post-accident and random alcohol and drug testing for employees defined as Roadway Workers under the FRA regulations. A copy of the documents provided are also attached.

Discussions for a revised Safety Agreement continue, however we have no agreement as of this writing.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle

General Chairman/Secretary Treasurer

DED/aj

Attachments

# **Dale Doyle's Travel First Quarter 2017:**

January 3, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Meeting

January 8-13, 2017 – Guernsey, WY – Local 1517 – Investigation

January 31, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – CP – Meet with CMO

February 1, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Meeting

February 3-5, 2017 – Miami, FL – General Chairmen's Meeting

February 16, 2017 - Chicago, IL - CN Meeting

February 27, 2017 – Chicago, IL – CN Meeting

March 6-8, 2017 – Glendive, MT – Local 152 Investigation

March 20-23, 2017 – Kansas City, MO – Training Center, BNSF – BNSF General Chairmen's Meeting – Local 866 Meeting

March 28, 2017 - Chicago, IL - CN Meeting

#### Mark Klecka's Travel First Quarter 2017:

January 10-11, 2017 – Chicago, IL – Homewood Investigation

January 18-19, 2017 – Galesburg, IL – LAT Meeting

January 23-25, 2017 – Phoenix, AZ – MRL Negotiations

January 31, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP Meeting

February 1, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX - SACP Meeting

February 15-16, 2017 - Chicago, IL - Homewood LR Meetings - CN-IC

February 20-23, 2017 – Hastings, MN – Annual Audit

February 26-27, 2017 - Chicago, IL - Homewood LR Meetings - CN-IC

March 20-22, 2017 – Kansas City – BNSF GCA Meeting – Local 866 Meeting

March 27-28, 2017 – Chicago, IL – Homewood CN LR and TTC Meetings

### **Darrell Patterson's Travel First Quarter 2017:**

January 12, 2017 - Roeland Park, KS - Local 866 Meeting

January 18, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF Kansas Div. Zone 4 LAT Meeting

January 18-19, 2017 – Galesburg, IL – BNSF Galesburg LAT Meeting

January 31—February 3, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF SACP & LAT Meetings

February 8-9, 2017 – Roeland Park, KS – Local 866 Meeting

February 21, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF Argentine LAT Meeting

February 23, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF AFM Waiver Committee

February 28, 2017 – Overland Park, KS – BNSF TTC Apprentice Credentials

March 3, 2017 – Topeka, KS – BNSF Topeka Shop Meeting

March 5—9, 2017 – Glendive, MT – Meetings and Interviews, Local 152

March 13, 2017 – Newton, KS – Local 866 Member Visit

March 21, 2017 – Overland Park, KS and North Kansas City, MO – BNSF TTC Meeting and Local 866 Meeting

March 22, 2017 – North Kansas City, MO – BNSF General Chairmen's Association Meeting

March 28, 2017 – Chicago, IL – CN Negotiations

### Jeff Allred's Travel First Quarter 2017:

February 9—10, 2017 – Tulsa, OK – Investigation

February 14—17, 2017 – Albuquerque, NM – Group 2 LAT Meeting

February 20—22, 2017 – Memphis, TN – Local 881 Meeting, BNSF Local Chairman Meeting, BNSF LAT Meeting

March 21—23, 2017 – Kansas City, MO – BNSF General Chairman Meeting – Local 866 Meeting

# **Brad Carother's Travel First Quarter 2017:**

January 10, 2017 - Local 418 Meeting

January 31, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX - SACP/LAT

February 1-2, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP/LAT

February 14, 2017 – Local 418 Meeting

February 28, 2017 – Seattle, WA – Regional Mechanical (Group 2) LAT Meeting

March 1-2, 2017 - Seattle, WA - Regional Mechanical (Group 2) LAT Meeting

March 7, 2017 – Temple, TX – Town Hall – Locomotive Shop

March 8, 2017 – Temple, TX – Side Letter 3 negotiations with Brandon Mabry

March 14, 2017 – Local 418 Meeting

March 21-23, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – General Chairmen's Association Meeting

Good evening Brothers and Sisters,

I am sending this email to you at the request of International President Lonnie Stephenson.

A MoveOn.org petition has been circulating recently addressing Congressman Paul Ryan's budget proposal to tamper with the Railroad Retirement System and our benefits. Many of you have been sharing the petition on Facebook. This petition came as a bit of a surprise to us, as it's been a few years since we've heard anything about Ryan wanting to tamper with the system, and we thought the petition was addressing a proposal from the past, not something new. We investigated the matter and found out that our thoughts were correct.

The petition is rooted in old information stemming from the time when Paul Ryan was still House Budget Committee Chairman. Railroad Retirement has not been addressed in budget resolutions for several fiscal years now. From our sources on Capitol Hill, as far as we can tell the current budget resolution (FY 17) does not address Railroad Retirement.

Most likely, the reason for the petition was to bring the matter to the attention of President Trump, as that is who it is addressed to. But it may not be as good an idea as people think, for why put something on Trump's radar screen that isn't already there and that could harm us. That being said, we would recommend that, at this time, you not sign the petition. We are very vigilant, with the help of the IBEW Political/Legislative Department and the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department, in staying on top of all matters that affect our members. If in the future an issue again arises with an attack on the Railroad Retirement system, or with anything else that may adversely affect you, you can rest assured that we will immediately notify you and advise you as to what you can do to help stave off the attack.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me at 202-728-6016.

Fraternally and in Solidarity,

Bill Bohné, Jr.
Director – IBEW Railroad Department
202-728-6016





MICHAEL JARRARD, MD, MPH AVP and Chief Medical Officer Medical & Environmental Health BNSF Railway Company 2301 Lou Menk Drive Fort Worth, TX 76161 (817) 352-1604 michael.jarrard@bnsf.com

May 8, 2017

Dear -

Effective June 12, 2017, BNSF will begin Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)-authority post-accident and random drug and alcohol testing of employees defined as Roadway Workers under FRA regulations. The new FRA Roadway Worker testing requirements are in addition to the pre-employment, reasonable suspicion and post-accident drug and alcohol test that maintenance-of-way and Telecommunications employees have always been subject to under BNSF authority. FRA defines a Roadway Worker as:

Roadway Worker: "Any employee of a railroad, or of a contractor to a railroad, whose duties include inspection, construction, maintenance or repair of railroad track, bridges, roadway, signal and communication systems, electronic traction systems, roadway facilities or roadway maintenance machinery on or near track or with the potential of fouling a track, and flagmen and watchmen/lookouts as defined...." (This rule, referred to as CFR Title 49, Part 219, has been enacted as part of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008.)

You have been identified as a Roadway Worker under the FRA's definition.

The new FRA regulation covers approximately 2,500 BNSF employees who were not previously subject to random drug and alcohol testing or FRA-authority post-accident testing, and includes positions such as trackmen, laborers, machine operators, bridge inspectors, welders and field Telecommunications employees. Additionally, about 5,200 BNSF employees who were in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) random drug and alcohol testing pool for active commercial driver's license holders—and who perform 51 percent or more of their work as a Roadway Worker—are being moved to the FRA Roadway Worker random drug and alcohol test pool.

BNSF will administer the required number of random drug and alcohol tests using computer-generated random selections of eligible employees in the Roadway Worker pool. BNSF must randomly select a minimum of 50 percent of the employees in this pool throughout the year. This means you may be selected for a random drug and alcohol test several times per year. If you are selected, your supervisor will notify you to report immediately for testing.

Accidents that meet the FRA criteria for post-accident testing must be conducted at a medical facility. The FRA requires the facility's medical personnel obtain blood and urine samples and ship them to the FRA lab for processing. The FRA releases test results to BNSF's medical review officer.

The FRA requires that employees who test positive for drugs and/or alcohol on an FRA-authority random or post-accident test will be subject to observed follow-up testing upon return to work. The FRA also requires BNSF to report positive FRA drug and alcohol test results from the last two years, and any refusals to test, to prospective DOT-regulated employers.

BNSF also must require all Roadway Workers to **complete and return the enclosed Release of Information Form** for Department of Transportation (DOT) compliance purposes. The form is used to verify any DOT-positive alcohol and/or drug tests or any DOT test refusals for the past two years with any DOT employers, including BNSF. Complete Section I. and I-B (make sure to list all of your DOT employers in the last two years in Section I-B, including BNSF) and return it in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope by June 2, 2017.

Please review BNSF's Corporate Policy on the Use of Alcohol and Drugs on the BNSF employee portal. If you have questions about this information or the process, call a BNSF Medical department representative at (817) 352-1648.

BNSF is committed to a safe and healthy work environment, and we appreciate your continued focus on safe operations.

Sincerely,

Michael Jarrard, MD, MPH AVP and Chief Medical Officer



# Release of Information Form -- 49 CFR Part 40 Drug and Alcohol Testing

COMPLETE SECTION I AND I-B (MAKE SURE TO LIST ALL OF YOUR DOT EMPLOYERS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS IN SECTION I-B OTHER THAN BNSF) AND RETURN IT TO BNSF IN THE PROVIDED SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE BY JUNE 2, 2017.

Section I. To be completed	and signed by the employe	ee:				
Employee Printed or Typed	Name:					
Last 4 Digits of Employee SS	N:	and BNSF ID Number	;			-
Have you worked for a DOT or "no"]?	T-regulated employer, othe	er than BNSF Railway Co	ompany, ir	the las	t two years [Answe	r "yes"
If your answer to the above of the form.	question is "No," then sign a	and date the form below	. You do n	ot need	to complete the ren	nainder
I hereby authorize release of by my previous employer, li Regulation 49 CFR Part 40, employer, is limited to the i	isted in Section I-B, to the e Section 40.25. I understa	employer listed in Section and that information to	n I-A. This	release	is in accordance wi	ith DOT
1. Alcohol tests with a res	sult of 0.04 or higher;					
2. Verified positive drug t	tests;					
3. Refusals to be tested;						
	T agency drug and alcohol t					
	from previous employers of				_	
	, of completion of the return					
Have you ever tested positi	ive, or refused to test, on a	ny pre-employment dri	ug/alcoho	l test?_		-
Employee Signature:			Date			-
Address: 2301 Lou Menk DR Phone #: 817-352-1648 F Designated Employer Repre I-B. Previous DOT Employer Nan Address:	ax #: 817-352-7505 sentative: Chris Kowalkows	ki				****
Phone #: Designated Employer Repre	sentative (if known):					
Section II. To be completed II-A. In the two years prior						
1. Did the employe	e have alcohol tests with a	result of 0.04 or higher?	?		NO	
	ee have verified positive dru	g tests?		YES	NO	
	e refuse to be tested?			YES	NO	
	e have other violations of D	OOT agency drug and		VEC	NO	
alcohol testing r		alachel rulo		153	_ NO	
violation to you	mployer report a drug and a	alconortule		YES	NO	
6. If you answered	"yes" to any of the above it lete the return-to-duty prod		N/A	YES	NO	
NOTE: If you answered "yes						
II-B.						
Name of person providing in						
Titles	Phonett.		n:	te.		



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MARK S. KLECKA Vice Chairman

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**DARRELL PATTERSON** 

Asst. General Chairman

**BRAD CAROTHERS** 

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.

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 19<sup>th</sup>. 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.

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.

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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 – 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> District Progress Meeting



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**JEFF ALLRED**Asst. General Chairman

**DALE E. DOYLE**General Chairman

DARRELL PATTERSON

Asst. General Chairman

**BRAD CAROTHERS** 

Asst. General Chairman

November 3, 2017

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

#### Brothers and Sisters:

I am sure you have all heard by now that the Coordinated Bargaining Group has reached a tentative National Agreement with the Nations Freight Carriers. The group is comprised of six unions and represents more than 85,000 rail workers. The IBEW Coalition will meet in Washington in early November.

Rail traffic appears to be stagnant, if not decreasing. A copy of the most recent loading report from October 2017 Railway Age is attached.

In late September, the National Mediation Board released funding for cases to be handled. Perhaps by the first quarter of next year, a number of our members should have their cases decided.

We have had a number of calls recently concerning injuries and harassment. I have attached the most recent FELA IBEW designated council list for your files.

The annual Rail Department meeting was held earlier this month and a number of locals under the jurisdiction of this office sent delegates.

We continue to hear stories about the use of social media in the Rail Industry with some of the things that employees do and end up in an issue with one of the Nations carriers. I cannot over emphasize to our members that social media is not confidential and if you say something offensive or derogatory, you could become a statistic.

The following is noteworthy of the carriers under the jurisdiction of this office:

# **Belt Railway Company of Chicago:**

We have reached an Agreement with the Carrier for an update to the Telecommunication Department Rules of the Controlling Agreement. We have submitted the Agreement for approval and if approved, will be handled as required by the Council Bylaws.

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

In September, this office attended a presentation on the Carrier's new discipline policy. Please advise our members this policy is a dramatic change in the handling of discipline. An important example, an employee who may test positive for alcohol or drugs will be immediately terminated from service.

The Carrier has hired a number of employees which will be represented by this Organization and is currently looking for locomotive electricians at various locations.

Attached is a copy of a news release issued by the Christie Law Firm of North Little Rock, Arkansas relative to an FRSA claim wherein the firm represented one of our CN members.

We continue to see a number of contracting notices on all of the properties.

We are scheduled for an arbitration hearing in November for two cases handled on the property.

#### CP/SOO:

We are scheduled to meet with the Coalition and Carrier in mid-December to continue Section 6 discussions. We have been advised that the TCU has ratified an agreement on the property.

There have been a number of issues presented in the Communication Department this past quarter, one of which dealt with the Carrier compensating the newly hired employees at an entry rate. We are working toward resolution of this issue.

We have two cases on this property that were recently funded by the NMB and expect decisions before year end. The number of discipline issues on this property have slowed dramatically over the last several months.

We have also resolved the issue with the New Hire Termination Reports and the most recent report received was distributed to the locals.

**Gary Railroad Company:** 

will be distributed to all locals.

No news to report.
Lake Superior and Ishpeming Company:
No news to report.
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 met with the Carrier in the middle of September to continue Section 6 negotiations. I regret to inform you we still do not have a tentative agreement.
BNSF Railway Company:
Awards for two of the five discipline cases argued in September have been adopted and the Claimants notified of the decisions accordingly. Based on the NMB funding, we are currently preparing for two December hearings and a January hearing.
The Carrier is currently looking for a number of electricians at various shops on the property. Traffic on this property appears to be holding positive at this time.

We have an agreement awaiting approval to combine the Oklahoma City seniority point into BNSF District 16 under the former BN Agreement. We have also exchanged

A multi-craft Safety Agreement has been reached on the property, approved as required and is currently being circulated for signatures. Once I receive the signed Agreement, it

proposals on an Agreement for a monthly rate for shop extension electricians on the former ATSF property.

The Carrier has now distributed to all employees the new guidelines on prescription drugs and reporting for duty. Please take the time to read this very important document.

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 Third Quarter 2017:**

July 5, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 meeting

July 25—28, 2017 – Seattle, WA – 9<sup>th</sup> District Progress Meeting – Local 1155 and Local 1769 visit

August 1, 2017 – Lincoln, NE – Local 1022 Meeting, Lincoln Radio Shop

August 2—3, 2017 - Kansas City, KS - BNSF SACP - LAT meeting

August 8, 2017 – Minneapolis, MN – Local 506 meeting

August 21—23, 2017 – Alliance, NE – Local 547, visit with members – Local 1517 meeting

September 13—15, 2017 – Philadelphia, PA – BNSF Public Law Board, Second Division Hearings

September 25—26, 2017 – Chicago, IL – NARR annual meeting

September 28, 2017 – St. Paul, MN – Local 886 Telecom issue

September 29, 2017 – Minneapolis, MN – CN Discipline Policy meeting

### Mark Klecka's Travel Third Quarter 2017:

July 17—20, 2017 – Hastings, MN – Office duties

July 31, 2017—August 4, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – SACP and Ayers INV

August 8—9, 2017 – Chicago, IL – Mechanical Manager meeting, Corwith

August 10—11, 2017 – Galesburg, IL – Engineering Management meeting

September 11—14, 2017 – Spokane, WA – MRL Negotiations

September 24—25, 2017 - Chicago, IL - CN Discipline-Attendance Management meeting

#### Darrell Patterson's Travel Third Quarter 2017:

July 13, 2017 – Roeland Park, KS – Local 866 meeting

August 2, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF SACP meeting

August 3, 2017 – Kansas City, KS – BNSF Regional LAT meeting

August 10, 2017 - Roeland Park, KS - Local 866 meeting

August 18, 2017 – Overland Park, KS – BNSF TTC meeting

August 28, 2017 - Overland Park, KS - BNSF TTC meeting

August 29—31, 2017 – Hastings, MN – IBEW SC16 office, arbitration prep

September 13—15, 2017 – Philadelphia, PA – Arbitration hearings

September 19—21, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF GCA and BNSF LAT meetings

### Jeff Allred's Travel Third Quarter 2017:

August 1—3, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP/LAT

August 22, 2017 – Springfield, MO – Meeting with Matt Olson

September 12—15, 2017 – Denver, CO – Safety Assistant's meeting

September 15—21, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF General Chairman's meeting – Group 1 LAT

#### **Brad Carother's Travel Third Quarter 2017:**

July 6—7, 2017 – Spokane, WA – Mechanical meeting

August 1—3, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP meeting

September 12, 2017 – Temple, TX - Local 418 meeting

September 19—21, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – GCA meeting

September 26—27, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – Investigation



# SYSTEM COUNCIL No. 16 INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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MARK S. KLECKA Vice Chairman

**JEFF ALLRED** Asst. General Chairman **DALE E. DOYLE**General Chairman

DARRELL PATTERSON

Asst. General Chairman

**BRAD CAROTHERS** 

Asst. General Chairman

February 5, 2018

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

#### Brothers and Sisters:

We wish each of you the very best for the new year.

I would like to remind each local that most if not all agreements provide for the posting of seniority rosters in the month of January each year. Please check the rosters for accuracy and cross reference with the local journals to assure everything is correct according to the requirements of the Union Shop Agreement.

The annual IBEW Railroad Department meeting was held in the Phoenix area in October and our Council was well represented. This was a very informative meeting for all attending and we would encourage all of our locals to participate.

The format on this report is going to be different from the past reports as our report to the members this quarter is based on the fact that the National Mediation Board in September released funding for pending cases to be heard by an arbitrator.

This quarter we have had a number of BNSF, CN and CP discipline cases heard, as well as additional cases in January. Council staff has been extremely busy preparing the cases. Some decisions have been rendered and the locals and claimants notified of the decisions upon execution of the award.

Our coalition in Section 6 bargaining consisting of the IAM, TCU, BRC and ATU reached an Agreement with the NCCC in November. We have been advised that the TCU and BRC have reported agreement ratification. This Agreement contains the same provision of the Coordinated Bargaining Coalition and is currently out for ratification. The ballots will be counted on February 7<sup>th</sup> in Washington.

Representatives of the Council are currently scheduled to meet collectively with our coalition members on the MRL and CP property in February to continue Section 6 negotiations.

There has also been the usual contracting notices and some claim settlements with the locals advised accordingly.

Attached is the most recent Rail Traffic Report from the Railway Age and the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Financial Report.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle General Chairman/Secretary Treasurer

DED/aj

Attachments

# **Dale Doyle's Travel Fourth Quarter 2017:**

October 11, 2017 – Kansas City, MO – BNSF Trainer Coordinators

October 15-19, 2017 – Phoenix, AZ – Rail Department Meeting

November 7-8, 2017 – Washington, DC – Section 6 – National

December 6, 2017 - St. Paul, MN - Local 886 Meeting

December 12, 2017 – Washington, DC – International Office, Section 6 Meeting

December 13-15, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – PLB, BNSF/IBEW

### Mark Klecka's Travel Fourth Quarter 2017:

October 29-31, 2017 – Oklahoma City, OK – SC Convention planning

November 1-2, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF, SACP

November 6, 2017 – Peoria, IL – BNSF Telecom Meeting

November 7-8, 2017 – Galesburg, IL – BNSF Telecom Meeting

November 9-10, 2017 - Chicago, IL - BNSF Discipline Hearings, Local 533

November 13-16, 2017 – Hastings, MN – Office duties

December 13-14, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – PLB Hearings

#### **Darrell Patterson's Travel Fourth Quarter 2017:**

October 11-12, 2017 – Overland Park, KS - BNSF TTC Trainer Meetings

October 15-19, 2017 – Phoenix, AZ - IBEW Railroad Progress Meetings

November 1-2, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF SACP and LAT Meetings

November 9, 2017 – Rowland Park, KS – Local 866 Meeting

December 13-15, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – Arbitration Hearings

#### Jeff Allred's Travel Fourth Quarter 2017:

October 12-13, 2017 - Chicago, IL - Regional LAT Meeting

October 15-19, 2017 – Phoenix, AZ – Rail Progress Meeting and General Chairman's Meeting

October 29-31, 2017 – Oklahoma City, OK – Inspect conference centers for 2019 Convention

November 1-3, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – SACP/LAT

November 6-8, 2017 – Galesburg, IL – Local 547 Meeting – Mechanical Investigation

December 13-15, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – BNSF Arbitration

December 19-20, 2017 – Tulsa, OK – Local 778 Meeting

### **Brad Carother's Travel Fourth Quarter 2017:**

October 15-19, 2017 – Phoenix, AZ – IBEW Railroad Dept. Conference

October 31, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX - BNSF SACP Meeting

November 1-2, 2017 – Fort Worth, TX – BNSF SACP Meeting

November 14, 2017 – Temple, TX – Local 418 Meeting

November 29-30, 2017 – Pearland, TX - Starr Investigation

December 12-15, 2017 – Virginia Beach, VA – PLB Hearing