



# **SYSTEM COUNCIL No. 16**

## **INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

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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:

*Our Business – Representation & Service*

# *International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*

## **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.

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## **Gary Railroad Company:**

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.

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 will be distributed to all locals.

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

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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