

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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MARK S. KLECKA
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JEFF BURK
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May 15, 2008

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2008
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

As discussed in my last report, there was an audit conducted by AETNA of dependents of railroad employees covered by the National Health and Welfare Plans. The audit is now concluded and this office has received at least two (2) requests for assistance from members whose dependents were suspended coverage.

The first conference call with the Director of the Rail Department mandated by the 2007 Rail Risk Force was conducted the first quarter. Due to the fact there was less than five per cent (5%) of the Locals under the jurisdiction of this office who participated, an informational letter was sent to each Local under a date of March 27, 2008. We are looking to get updated Local officer information in order for improved participation in the second call.

I have enclosed three (3) pieces of very important information. This information has an impact on all railroad employees, as such, I urge you to share the following with all members:

1. Information provided by the Rail Department which was issued by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) dated April 3, 2008 providing an explanation of compliance with Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) Regulation (49 CFR, Part 214, Subpart C) is required in a locomotive servicing track area and a car shop repair track area.

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2. A letter and attached documents dated April 11, 2008 from BNSF Railway Director of Mechanical Safety Ron Hennessey concerning changes in BNSF Mechanical Safety Rules and Polices due to FRA issued Amendments in CFR Parts 217 and 218.
3. A letter dated April 15, 2008 from BMWED General Chairman Bruce Glover and attached letter dated April 15th to BNSF Vice Presidents D. L. Freeman (Engineering) and M. A. Schulze (Safety) relative to the Organizations issues with on track protection for BMWED employees.

All of the above enclosed information is very important to each of us, as well as all railroad employees.

This Quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carrier's effecting Local members:

Canadian National/IC-CCP-WC-DMI-DWP

I am pleased to advise that an Agreement was submitted to our members employed on the IC property and ratified by a vote of 48 for and 23 against. The Agreement was signed and as I understand the retroactive wages were paid to each employee on April 25, 2008 and the transition to the National Health and Welfare Plans was effective on May 1, 2008. If there are any issues relative to this implementation, please contact this office.

As part of this Agreement, we have scheduled a meeting to begin discussions to update the Telecommunication Department Labor Agreement. The initial meeting is scheduled for July 30, 2008 in the Carrier's Chicago offices.

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Three (3) discipline cases were submitted to a Neutral Arbitrator this quarter with the Awards rendered. The Claimants and Locals were notified of the final disposition in each case.

We are currently in negotiations for an Agreement for our members employed on the DM&I property. I am pleased to advise that we are working out final details on a tentative Agreement. Details will be forthcoming to our members on this property.

There have been a number of employees at the Stevens Point Facility on the WC property that have retired or are off duty on an injury. This has caused some issues for the remaining work force which has resulted in employees being transferred from Fond du Lac to the Point Facility.

We have been formally advised of a serious safety issue at the Escanaba Ore Dock Facility and a grievance has been initiated accordingly.

On April 30, 2008, we met in the Carrier's Chicago offices to begin discussions on an Implementing Agreement for the acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern property. We have been posting various news releases concerning this acquisition on the Council web site.

Canadian Pacific/Soo Line

I am again pleased to advise that we have reached an Agreement that was presented to our members on this property and ratified by a vote of 32 for and 12 against.

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In connection with the Agreement, a combined and updated Telecommunication Department Labor Agreement was completed and adopted, wherein there has been several significant issues addressed including a single rate of pay for Telecommunication Department employees that has been an issue for more years than I have been on the Council Staff.

We are now working on the Gain Sharing Goals for this year and upon completion, those goals will be forwarded to the Local officers.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish Local 886 Chairman Jim Kallberg safe travels and the best as he and his wife have has been assigned to another tour of duty in Iraq.

There have also been various news releases posted on the Council web site concerning the CP's acquisition of the DM&E property.

The Carrier is currently looking for an Electrician at its Milwaukee Work Equipment Facility. If anyone knows of an experienced Journeyman Electrician looking for such a position, please contact this office.

Elgin Joliet and Easter

There has been no additional meetings scheduled nor has any information been provided concerning the establishment of the Gary Railway as a result of the CN's acquisition of the EJ&E.

We conferenced a subcontracting claim on March 7, 2008 which we were not able to settle. This office is currently preparing this case for arbitration which is scheduled for late August.

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Belt Railway of Chicago

We are currently working on an updated Labor Agreement. This is going to be a long drawn out task as this Agreement was last printed approximately 1950.

Montana Rail Link

There have been some issues with protective conditions and our members relative to the purchase of the BNSF Telecommunication Infrastructure. As of this writing, the issues apparently are resolved.

There are issues remaining with the employees Health Care Plan and the General Chairmen are trying to schedule another meeting with the Carrier in the near future.

This office assisted Local 152 with a disciplinary issue.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company

We are currently investigating a new Michigan law that could have an impact on our members on this property. Details will be provided when obtained.

Evansville and Western Railroad Company

No news to report.

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Paducah and Louisville Railroad Company

No news to report.

Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District

The initial Section Six meeting was held on April 8th and 9th, 2008 with another conducted on April 29th and 30th, 2008. I am pleased to advise that the Local committee and Assistant General Chairman Klecka have reached a tentative Agreement. The final documents and language are being prepared for review.

BNSF Railway

I have been advised that negotiations are ongoing with Council and Carrier representatives to present the FMLA questions to a panel of three (3) Arbitrators. As I understand, the parties are moving forward steadily.

Local 547 Member Gordon Shaw was awarded the IBEW Founders Scholarship. Sixth District Representative Mary Harrigan, Local officers and wives and the undersigned honored Brother Shaw with a dinner on February 21, 2008. Brother Shaw is the first railroad member of the IBEW who received the scholarship.

The last week of March Council representatives were in Fort Worth to discuss issues with the Telecommunication and Mechanical Departments.

The Carrier has again approached this office about a Profit Sharing Agreement and has provided a document which this office is currently reviewing. The Carrier has advised that it would implement the profit sharing on July 1, 2008 subject to approval.

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The profit sharing issues for those on the Rapid Responder positions has been addressed and presumably the compensation rendered.

There is also one (1) very serious issue I wish to bring to your attention. This office has arbitrated two (2) discipline issues over the past several months where our members have been cited for a violation of Blue Flag rules for being on a locomotive without blue flags. The issue is that the members were not "working" on the locomotives at the time of the alleged rule violation, but merely on board that locomotive. The Carrier has taken the position that anytime an employee is on a locomotive it must be properly blue flagged, whether it be a mere walkthrough or even being found in a cab taking an authorized break. This policy, while it seems ludicrous, must be complied with for your own protection. Strict compliance with this policy is a must or you will be found in violation of the Blue Flag Rule and subject to investigation and subsequent assessment of discipline.

Attached please find the first quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. There is a large amount of news regularly posted on our web site that is of an interest to our members.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman

DED/dgw OPEIU)

Attachments

SYSTEM COUNCIL No.16

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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MARK S. KLECKA
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JEFF BURK
Asst. General Chairman

August 8, 2008

**SECOND QUARTER REPORT, 2008
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

In connection with the audit conducted by Aetna of dependents of railroad employees covered by the National Health and Welfare Plans, the dependents of non-responding employees were terminated from coverage on July 1, 2008. I have been advised that there was one (1) employee on the EJ&E; two (2) employees on NICTD and twenty-five (25) BNSF employees who are members of this Organization and impacted as a result of failing to provide the necessary information.

The Railroad Department meeting was held in Miami, Florida in June. This meeting provided members in attendance with very important information for railroad Locals. I urge each Local to participate in these meetings for the benefit of the Local membership.

I have enclosed an informational brochure from the firm of Hoey and Farina relative to the Federal Rail Safety Act. Please review this document for informational purposes and retain for future reference.

This quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carrier's affecting Local members:

Our Business - Representation & Service

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Canadian National/IC-CCP-WC-DMIR-DWP

There have not been any issues reported to this office concerning the implementation of wages or health and welfare plans on the IC property. We assume the transition was smooth, however if there are any issues, please do not hesitate to contact this office and provide specific details for further investigation.

We had scheduled a meeting on July 30, 2008 to begin discussions on the amending and updating of the Telecommunication Department Labor Agreement, however due to scheduling conflicts, the initial meeting will be held in late August in the Carrier's Chicago offices.

A tentative Agreement was presented to our members on the DM&IR property and soundly rejected. The Carrier was so notified and we are scheduled to discuss this issue the first week of August.

We have several outstanding issues, including discipline investigations scheduled at various locations on the IC and WC properties which the Council staff and Local representatives are currently handling.

A second meeting will also be held in Chicago in late August to discuss an Implementing Agreement for the CN/EJ&E acquisition. I have been advised that the Machinists, Carmen and Sheet Metal Workers have an Agreement in place.

Canadian Pacific/Soo Line

There were a few issues with the implementation of wages with Telecommunication Department employees as a result of the recently ratified Agreement. I believe all issues have been addressed and rectified.

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The Carrier has recently hired several Electricians which will become members of this Organization at Milwaukee and St. Paul.

We have not received any news for several weeks concerning CP's acquisition of the DM&E.

Elgin Joliet and Eastern

We have a claim scheduled for arbitration in late August.

As I reported in the CN news, we are scheduled to discuss the Implementing Agreement in late August for the CN/EJE acquisition. We have posted a great number of news articles concerning this acquisition on the Council web site and as I observe from those articles, there is a lot of opposition to this proposal.

Belt Railway of Chicago

On July 29th, the undersigned and Local 794 representatives met with the Carrier to discuss issues with vacant positions and pending retirements on the property. A follow up session will be held following an investigation of the issues presented by the Carrier.

If anyone knows of a Telecommunication Department employee seeking a position, the Belt is currently seeking a qualified applicant. Details of the position are posted on our web site.

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Montana Rail Link

A meeting is scheduled with the Carrier and other General Chairmen in early September to discuss the outstanding issues with the Carrier's application of the health care plan.

There was also an issue presented to this office with the Carrier failing to provide employees copies of personal injury reports at the time the report was filed. I believe this issue has been corrected and our members notified accordingly.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company

No news to report.

Evansville and Western Railroad Company

No news to report.

Paducah and Louisville Railroad Company

No news to report.

Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District

We have reached an Agreement with the Carrier for our members on this property. The Agreement was approved by the International office to submit to the membership for ratification. The Agreement was approved by a vote of 37 for 2 against. The final documents have been signed and copies will be provided to the Local officers.

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BNSF Railway

Over the past several months, I have received several calls from supervisors at various locations on this property seeking information on representation by a Labor Organization. The American Railway and Airway Supervisors Association represents these employees and I have obtained a contact which I will immediately forward to anyone requesting. I have spoke to the representative assigned and the Organization will meet with one or all as requested.

It is my understanding that the panel of Arbitrators has been selected for the resolution of the FMLA dispute.

The profit sharing proposal presented to the membership was soundly defeated. The Carrier was so notified.

Again, and as a result of several issues, I cannot emphasize the importance of the use of blue flags. The number of issues and resulting disciplinary hearings we have seen cause grave concern to this office. There was recently a member dismissed from Carrier service for violation of the blue flag rules. The blue flags are for your protection. There is absolutely no excuse for not using them. If you do not, there are serious consequences.

Another issue I wish to discuss is the Workplace Observation/Alternative Discipline Agreement. This matter has been discussed numerous times with the Locals and it has been conveyed to this office that the membership in the Mechanical Department is opposed to such Agreement, however recent developments as well as comments from some Locals are causing this office to take a second look at this issue.

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It appears that the Carrier is retaliating against our members for not participating in the program by the number of discipline issues presented to this office. I have also been advised that some of our Locals are now seeing this and asking why we are not participating in the program. We have been advised that at least three (3) of our members are actively supporting the benefits of the WPO's, irregardless of the position taken by the membership.

As a result of these issues and numerous Carrier requests, we have agreed to meet with the CMO's, and Labor Relations the first week of October in Kansas City to attend a safety meeting and discuss the proposal and issues we have. We will continue to keep you advised of developments.

Attached please find the first quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. There is a large amount of news regularly posted on our web site that is of an interest to our members.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman

DED/dgw (OPEIU)

Attachments

Dale Doyle's Travel Second Quarter:

April 1, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - DM&I Negotiations

April 16th and 17th, 2008 - Washington, DC - Organizing Meeting
MISCOR Corporation

April 18, 2008 - Eagan, Minnesota - Railroad Retirement Board
Meeting

April 22nd through 25th, 2008 - Alliance, Nebraska - Local 547
Meeting - Telecom Meetings

April 30, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/EJE Merger Discussions

May 5th and 6th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas - Local 959 - Topeka Shop
Issues

May 8, 2008 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo 401(K) Meeting

May 15th and 16th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Local 794 Meeting

May 21, 2008 - Bloomington, Minnesota - Meeting With Metro Sales -
Copier

May 28, 2008 - Duluth, Minnesota - Local 366 - DM&I/CN Contract
Ratification Vote

June 2, 2008 - Minneapolis, MN - CP/Soo Payroll Issues - Contract

June 10, 2008 - Minneapolis, MN - CP/Soo 401(K) Meeting

June 15th through 18th, 2008 - Miami, Florida - Rail Progress
Meeting

June 21st through 29th, 2008 - Charleston, SC - Pawley's Island,
South Carolina - 10th District Progress Meeting Training
Session - System Council 9 Meeting

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2008:

April 4, 2008	1 day
May 23, 2008	1 day

Rick Heyland's Travel Second Quarter:

April 16th and 17th, 2008 - Washington, DC - Meeting - MISCOR Corporation

April 21st through 23rd, 2008 - Kansas City, Kansas - BNSF ECP Committee Meeting

May 5th and 6th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas - Meeting - Seven (7) Day Operation

May 14, 2008 - Galesburg, Illinois - Local Union 547 Meeting

May 15, 2008 - Galesburg, Illinois - WPO Meeting

May 22nd and 23rd, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - RELCO Meeting

June 9th and 10th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas - Meeting - Seven (7) Day Operations

June 24th through 27th, 2008 - Charleston, South Carolina - Officer Training - Progress Meeting and System Council 9 Meeting

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2008:

June 23, 2008 1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel Second Quarter:

April 1st and 2nd, 2008 - Michigan City, Indiana - NICTD Contract Negotiations

April 3rd and 4th, 2008 - Spokane, Washington - Telecom Meeting - System Electrician Meeting

April 28th through 30th, 2008 - Michigan City, Indiana - NICTD Contract Negotiations

May 1, 2008 - Chicago (Corwith), Illinois - Investigation

May 12th and 13th, 2008 - Chicago (Corwith), Illinois - Investigation

May 29th and 30th, 2008 - Vancouver, Washington - Investigation

June 4th through 6th, 2008 - Springfield, Missouri - Investigation

June 12th and 13th, 2008 - Chicago (Corwith), Illinois - Three
(3) Investigations

June 15th through 19th, 2008 - Miami, Florida - Rail Progress
Meeting

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2008:

April 18, 2008	1 day
May 2, 2008	1 day
May 16, 2008	1 day
May 19 th through 24 th , 2008	6 days
June 3, 2008	1 day

Jeff Burk's Travel Second Quarter:

May 1, 2008 - Houston, Texas - SIAP

May 22, 2008 - Glendive, Montana - Investigation

May 29, 2008 - Tulsa, Oklahoma - Local Union 778 Meeting

June 11th and 12th, 2008 - Cheyenne, Wyoming - IBEW Eighth District
Progress Meeting

June 16th through 18th, 2008 - Miami Beach, Florida - IBEW Railroad
Progress Meeting

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2008:

May 16, 2008	1 day
May 19, 2008	1 day
June 25 th through 27 th , 2008	3 days

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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MARK S. KLECKA
Asst. General Chairman

JEFF BURK
Asst. General Chairman

November 6, 2008

**THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2008
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

Many of you who were members of former System Council 8 or were involved with an injury knew or heard of Milton C. Bennett. Brother Bennett died on October 16, 2008 of a massive heart attack. Brother Bennett served as a General Chairman of System Council 8 and also as a representative of an FELA firm for many years. Flowers were sent to the funeral by the Council. Brother Bennett assisted the undersigned with many issues on his former properties and had a deep devotion to the members of this Organization.

As a result of the assignment of the Rail Task Force, the staff of this office has been assisting various International Representatives with Local officer training. This past quarter we have conducted training for officers of 152, 506, 794, 886, 946, 1022, 1023 and 1856.

While the election results are not complete as of this writing, specifically here in Minnesota's Senate race I am happy to report we will have a new President and hopefully a new direction for this country in January. My thanks to those of you who devoted your time to help this Organization with the campaign.

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I have also been advised that the National Cost Sharing Contribution for the Health and Welfare will increase slightly next year from \$166.25 to 170.96 beginning on January 1, 2009.

As many of you have read in recent press releases, several Carriers and Labor Organizations joined resources to fight the Department of Transportation's direct observation requirement for all employees involved in return-to-duty and follow-up testing. The agency had decided to go ahead with the direct observation requirement effective November 1, 2008, however on October 31, 2008, the U.S. Court of Appeals issued an order which stays the mandatory rule temporarily while the court considers whether to stay the rule for the duration of the litigation. Please notify the membership. I have enclosed detailed information on this issue.

Also noteworthy in this report is that Congress recently passed the Rail Safety Bill and AMTRAK Reauthorization Bill. The Rail Safety Bill includes the addition of several hundred Federal Railroad Administration Inspectors. The AMTRAK Reauthorization Bill is important, not only for AMTRAK members, but to the Railroad Retirement system.

I would again like to ask for any suggestions you may have for addition to the Council web site. I have received many favorable and positive comments on our site and commend and thank Assistant General Chairman Jeff Burk for his many hours spent keeping the site up to date and Retired Executive Board Member Greg Schulz for supplying this office with many news items that are placed on the site.

This quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carrier's affecting Local members:

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Canadian National/IC-CCP-WC-DMIR-DWP

I am pleased to report that an Agreement has been obtained for and ratified by our members on the DM&I Railroad. The terms and conditions should be fully implemented by January 1, 2009.

A Public Law Board hearing was conducted in Chicago on October 21st, where two (2) IC issues were presented and argued. As soon as the Awards are rendered, the Locals and the Claimants will be so notified.

We continue to move forward with discussions on implementing Agreements for the CN/EJE acquisition with another meeting scheduled in mid November.

There have been two (2) meetings to discuss the updating of the Telecommunication Department Agreement on the IC property. We have many Agreement sections in place at this time.

Another compensation issue has been recently discovered with the application of pay on the DWP property that is being investigated by the Carrier and will be discussed with this office. We have also been approached by the Carrier about moving the DWP employees into the DMI Agreements.

Canadian Pacific/Soo Line

The acquisition of the Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern Railway by the Canadian Pacific was recently approved by the Surface Transportation Board.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Local 886 Member Rick Miller, who is also the Local Committeeman at the Carrier's Milwaukee Work Equipment Shop and has been as long as I have worked for the Council is due to retire this quarter. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for his many years of Carrier service and service to the Organization, as well as to this office. I wish Brother Miller the best for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

There were two (2) outstanding discipline claims argued at the Second Division in July. The Locals and Claimants were notified and when the Awards are rendered, those involved will be advised.

I have a meeting scheduled with the Shop Manager at St. Paul on November 6th to discuss several issues that were presented at a recent Local meeting recently I attended.

Elgin Joliet and Eastern

A Public Law Board hearing was conducted in late August to discuss one (1) subcontracting claim. The Award has been rendered and upon receipt of the signed signature pages from the Carrier, the Award will be forwarded to the Local.

We are working with representatives of the IAM and SMWIA on an Implementing Agreement for the Gary Railroad. This railroad will be formed as a result of the CN/EJE acquisition.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Belt Railway of Chicago

We have had a follow up meeting with a representative of the Engineering Department in connection with the addition of a Maintenance Electrician on this property. We have been advised that a Telecommunication Department employee has been recently hired on the property.

Montana Rail Link

The Carrier and the Organizations have agreed to "status quo" concerning the issues with the health care plan and will discuss it the next round of bargaining.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company

With the nations' economy in the tank, the steel industry is losing momentum. Cleveland Cliffs, the parent company of LS&I, has recently announced reductions at mines in northern Minnesota and Michigan, however, as of this writing there has been no impact on our members working for this Carrier.

Evansville and Western Railroad Company

No news to report.

Paducah and Louisville Railroad Company

No news to report.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District

The only outstanding issue from the last round of bargaining is the updating of the labor Agreement. The Carrier has advised that they do not desire to move forward with this project until all Organizations have obtained an Agreement during this round of bargaining.

BNSF Railway

The FMLA arbitration hearing is scheduled for November 12, 2008 in Washington.

This discussion is not new and is becoming rather redundant; but again, use the blue flags are required by Company policy. Vice General Chairman Heyland recently attended a discipline hearing for a member with over thirty (30) years of service and two (2) separate previous Blue Flag violations. The blue flags are for your protection. There is absolutely no excuse for not using them. If you do not, there are serious consequences. We have also seen a rising number of discipline issues in the Telecommunication Department.

The Topeka Shops are scheduled to begin 24/7 operations shortly. Vice General Chairman Heyland has been on at least two (2) recent conference calls with the other Shop Craft Organizations to discuss this issue.

There were several outstanding claims argued at the Second Division in July. The Locals and Claimants were notified of the hearing being conducted and when the Awards are rendered, those involved will be advised.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Vice General Chairman Heyland and Executive Board Member Darrell Patterson have been involved with the Carrier, New York Air Brake Corporation and the FRA in the testing of the Electronic/Pneumatic air brakes in an attempt to secure the electric portion of that work for our members and it is imperative that we need to be involved in this work. We are aware that there is a definite need for training in this area and therefore each Local needs to compile a list of those members who need this type on training and submit that list to your Shop Superintendent or senior manager. Please provide a copy of that list to this office so that we can monitor the situation.

Attached please find the third quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. There is a large amount of news regularly posted on our web site that is of an interest to our members.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman

DED/dgw (OPEIU)

Attachments

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Dale Doyle's Travel Third Quarter:

July 22nd through 24th, 2008 - Washington, DC - NRAB Second Division hearings

July 28th through 30th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Belt Railroad (29th) - BNSF (30th)

August 1, 2008 - Superior, Wisconsin - BNSF Discipline investigation

August 6, 2008 - Waterloo, Iowa - CN Discipline investigation

August 28th and 29th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN Telecommunication Agreement Negotiations (28th) - EJE Public Law Board Hearing (29th)

September 2, 2008 - St. Paul, Minnesota - Local Union 886 Meeting

September 4, 2008 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - Local Union 506 Meeting

September 16, 2008 - St. Paul, Minnesota - Soo General Chairmen's Meeting

September 17, 2008 - Bloomington, Minnesota - BNSF General Chairmen's Meeting

September 18th and 19th, 2008 - Rochester, Minnesota - Sixth District Progress Meeting

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2008:

July 11, 2008	1 day
July 18, 2008	1 day

Rick Heyland's Travel Third Quarter:

July 22nd through 24th, 2008 - Washington, DC - Second Division NRAB Hearing

July 28th and 29th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas, Investigation

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

August 12th and 13th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas, Investigations

August 21st and 22nd, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas, Investigation

September 7th through 12th, 2008 - Phoenix, Arizona - Seventh District Progress Meeting

September 17 through 19th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - National Association of Railroad Arbitrators

September 23rd and 24th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas, Investigations

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2008:

September 2nd through 5th, 2008 4 days

September 30, 2008 1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel Third Quarter:

July 2, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - 14th Street - Attendance Policy Meeting

July 23rd through 25th, 2008 - Des Moines, Iowa - Eleventh District Progress Meeting

July 29th and 30th, 2008 - Michigan City, Indiana - Local Union 2355 - Final contract meeting/ratification

August 12th and 13th, 2008 - LaCrosse, Wisconsin - SIAP

August 19th through 22nd, 2008 - Seattle, Washington - Ninth District Progress Meeting - Local Union 1769 local meeting

August 27th through 29th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/IC EJE Implementing Agreement - Telecommunication Department Agreement

September 2nd through 4th, 2008 Missoula, Montana - MRL negotiations

September 16th through 18th, 2008 - BNSF-GCA meeting

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2008:

July 11, 2008	1 day
July 18, 2008	1 day
September 10, 2008	1 day
September 19, 2008	1 day
September 22, 2008	1 day

Jeff Burk's Travel Third Quarter:

July 29th and 20th, 2008 - Denver, Colorado - Local 547 meeting and Telecom Meeting

August 28th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/IC Telcom meeting

September 9th through 11th, 2008 - Phoenix, Arizona - Seventh District Progress Meeting

September 16th through 19th, 2008 - Hastings, Minnesota - BNSF GCA meeting and office work

September 24th and 25th, 2008 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF Telecom Meetings

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2008:

September 8, 2008	1 day
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January 30, 2009

**FOURTH QUARTER REPORT, 2008
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

Over the past several quarterly reports, I have been reporting on the status of the FMLA lawsuit. The subsequent arbitration hearing was conducted on November 12, 2008. The Referees selected by the parties sustained the position of the employees. We won and won significantly. The Carriers asked for an interpretation on the Award and again, the Referees sustained the position of the employees. A copy of the Award and interpretation can be read on the Council website news. If you encounter any problems outside the confines of the Award, please provide complete written details to this office. Counsel is also preparing for the hearing on the settlement of the outstanding claims. Hopefully in my next report I will be able to report more positive results.

Most all Agreements provide that the Carrier post seniority rosters in January of each year with a period for correction. I urge each of you as Local officers and representatives to review the list for accuracy and to encourage the membership to check the roster for accuracy and if errors are found, the member must notify the Local representative, who in turn must notify this office for investigation. There have been at least two (2) issues this past year where there have been errors with the seniority rosters that have not been challenged. Once the dates for protesting have expired, the error cannot be contractually corrected for that year.

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This office continues with the assisting of the representatives of various districts in conducting the Local officer training. This past quarter, this office has assisted in training with Locals 152, 946, 1022, 1023, 1517 and 1856.

We continue to receive reports of the slowing rail traffic, locomotives being placed in storage and force reductions in various departments on various Carrier's. If your Local is advised of force reductions that will effect this Organization, first and foremost, provide the member with any information necessary and comply with the requirements of the controlling Agreement. Most all Agreements require that the furloughed employee keep the Carrier and Local apprised of a correct mailing address. The Local Financial Secretary should be notified of the furlough for completion of all required paperwork. Please also notify this office.

The Department of Transportation direct observation requirement for return to duty and follow-up drug testing remains in litigation as of this writing.

This quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carriers affecting Local members as follows:

Canadian National/IC-CCP-WC-DMIR-DWP

The DM&I Agreement is in place and we are working out the outstanding issues at this time.

This office assisted Local 366 with a discipline issue in Two Harbors, Minnesota.

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The Awards resulting from the October 21, 2008 Public Law Board hearing have been issued and distributed to the Claimants on the IC property. Two (2) other cases have been submitted and we have submitted an Agreement to the National Mediation Board for approval to submit a CC&P discipline case for adjudication.

The Surface Transportation Board approved the CN's acquisition of the EJ&E on December 24, 2008 with implementation the last half of January. The Implementing Agreement for the employees has been executed and forwarded to Locals 757 and 794. There will be a number of EJ&E employees that will be moved into the CN's Chicago operation. We have a seniority issue we are currently investigating in Chicago and hope to have a resolution shortly.

The DWP compensation issue is still unresolved and is being discussed internally by the Carrier.

We are currently waiting for information from the IC Telecom employees in response to two (2) questionnaires presented by this office. As of this writing, only one (1) Telecom employee has provided any information.

Canadian Pacific/Soo

Two (2) discipline Awards were rendered in late November by the National Railroad Adjustment Board. The Claimants and Locals have been notified accordingly.

In November, Local 886 Chairman Abraham and the undersigned met with the Shop Manager in St. Paul to discuss some outstanding issues of the Local members.

We are currently working on the 2009 Gainsharing goals and upon completion, the Agreements will be forwarded to the Locals.

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Elgin, Joliet and Eastern

As I discussed in the CN news, the Surface Transportation Board approved the CN acquisition of the EJ&E on December 24, 2008. As a result of this acquisition, the Gary Railway will be formed with the remaining EJ&E property. The Implementing Agreement for this transaction was executed in late December and the positions have been bulletined and assigned.

Belt Railway of Chicago

We were working on an Agreement for a Maintenance Electrician on the property when the Labor Relations officer resigned from Carrier service. Carrier counsel last week provided a draft of an amended Agreement to this office.

Montana Rail Link

We are working on two (2) issues at this time, an issue with a member's insurance coverage and an issue with service coverage in the Telecommunications Department.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company

We have been advised that the Carrier has reduced employees in all departments resulting in one of our members being furloughed.

Evansville and Western Railroad Company

No news to report.

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Paducah and Louisville Railroad Company

Members are discussing their desires for preparation and serving of Section Six notices.

Northern Indiana commuter Transportation District

The Second Division of the National Railroad Adjustment Board has issued a sustaining Award returning one of our members to service from dismissed status. The Claimant and Local have been notified of the Award.

BNSF Railway Company

Approximately fifteen (15) Awards have recently been rendered by the Second Division and a Public Law Board. The Claimants and Locals have been notified of the decisions rendered.

There are a number of issues in the Telecommunication and Mechanical Departments we are working to resolve. There are also a number of cases to be submitted to a Referee for final adjudication.

We are also scheduled to meet with the managers at the Kansas City Training Center to discuss issues with the Apprentice Program in the Mechanical Department, as well as attempting to schedule a meeting to discuss Telecommunication Department issues.

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We are also beginning to hear that managers are discussing contemplating reduction of forces. I ask each of you to closely monitor these reductions, particularly work going off the property to be performed by contractors, locomotive work or components, or other Departments, Engineering or Telecommunications, who may be bringing contractors on the property to perform the work. Please provide detailed documentation to this office for review and determination.

Attached please find the fourth quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. There is a large amount of news regularly posted on our web site that is of an interest to our members.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman

DED/dgw (OPEIU)

Attachments

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Dale Doyle's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 8th and 9th, 2008 - Proctor and Duluth, Minnesota - DM&I contract vote

October 14, 2008 - Omaha, Nebraska - Meeting with Eleventh District International Vice President Henke and International Representative John Bourne - Planning for DME/ICE organizing

October 15th and 16th, 2008 - Lincoln, Nebraska - Local 1022 Local officer training

October 20, 2008 - Local 533 meeting - Chicago, Illinois

October 21, 2008 - Meeting with Director Bohne and Chicago Local officers - CN Labor Relations meeting

October 22, 2008 - CN/EJE merger negotiations

October 29, 2008 - Superior, Wisconsin - Local Union 1559 Investigation

October 30, 2008 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo 401(k) meeting

November 3rd and 4th, 2008 - Investigation - Two Harbors, Minnesota - Local Union 366

November 6, 2008 - St. Paul, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Shop Superintendent meeting

November 11th and 12th, 2008 - CN/EJE - Merger negotiations - Telecom negotiations merger negotiations

November 30th through December 7th, 2008 - Alliance, Nebraska - Local Union 1517 officer training - Shop meeting with Shop Superintendent - Alliance issues

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2008:

November 24th through 26th, 2008 3 days

December 29th and 30th, 2008 (Personal Leave Days) 2 days

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Rick Heyland's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 2, 2008 - Davenport, Iowa - ICE Railroad Organizing

October 5th and 6th, 2008 - Hastings, Minnesota - System Council office

October 7th and 8th, 2008 - Glendive, Montana - Local Union 152 - officer training - Havre, Montana - Local Union 1856 - officer training

October 9th and 10th, 2008 - Lincoln, Nebraska - Investigation

October 13th and 14th, 2008 - Omaha, Nebraska - Eleventh District meeting - organizing

October 20th through 23rd, 2008 - Kansas City, Kansas - New York Air Brake committee meeting

November 11th through 13th, 2008 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF SACP meeting

December 1st and 2nd, 2008 - Lincoln, Nebraska, Investigation

December 14th and 15th, 2008 - Topeka, Kansas - Investigation

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2008:

October 3, 2008	1 day
October 27 th through 31 st , 2008	5 days
November 3 rd and 4 th , 2008	2 days
December 18 th and 19 th , 2008	2 days
December 22 nd and 23 rd , 2008	2 days
December 26, 2008	1 day
December 29 th and 30 th , 2008	2 days

Mark Klecka's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 13th through 15th, 2008 - Houston, Texas - Investigation

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October 16th and 17th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

November 10th through 13th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Implementing Agreement - IC Telecommunication Agreement

December 4th and 5th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Management Meetings

December 17th and 18th, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - Management meetings

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2008:

October 30 th and 31 st , 2008	2 days
November 26, 2008	1 day
December 18 th and 19 th , 2008	2 days
December 26, 2008	1 day
December 29 th and 30 th , 2008	2 days

Jeff Burk's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 16, 2008 - Barstow, California - Officer Training - Local Union 1023

October 17, 2008 - Commerce, California - BNSF - Telecom and Mechanical Department meetings

October 18, 2008 - Commerce, California - Officer Training - Local Union 946

November 11, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/IC Telecom meeting

November 12, 2008 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/IC Acquisition of EJ&E meeting

December 16, 2008 - Lafayette, Louisiana - BNSF Telecom SIAP

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Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2008:

October 27 th through 31 st , 2008	5 days
November 24 th through 26 th , 2008	3 days
December 26, 2008	