

To: All Local Unions and System Councils in Railroad National Handling.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Your Negotiating Committee and the other unions in our National Negotiations Bargaining Coalition met with the railroads and the mediator on February 22nd. We gave the mediator and the railroads our revised proposal and reviewed it with them. After some back and forth discussion, where they asked us questions and we responded, the meeting ended with them advising us that they'd thoroughly review our proposal and give us a counter proposal in a couple of weeks. Again, little to no progress was made. We will wait for their counter proposal and then meet again.

By now I'm certain many of you have seen the video that the BMWWE posted on their website and the letter that SMART Mechanical (Sheet Metal Workers) put out about the proposal they received from the railroads. While at this time I won't speculate what the proposal will be that the railroads will give to us, and we are not privy at this time to the proposal that the BMWWE and SMART gave to the railroads, I can say that the proposal made by the railroads to these two organizations is not even close to being acceptable to our coalition.

I will update you again once we have another negotiation/mediation session.

Fraternally and in Solidarity,

Bill Bohné, Jr.
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