

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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April 25, 2007

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2007
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

We are continuing with plans for the June 20th and 21st, 2007 System Council convention. Call letters and other important information was mailed to all Local Presidents from this office on January 31, 2007. Attached hereto is a letter from International President Hill which sets forth an interpretation of Article IX, Section 5 of the System Council No. 16 Bylaws. In summary, any Local who is three (3) or more months in arrears in per capita to the Council shall not participate in the System Council convention.

The Railroad Department conference is scheduled to be held from April 30th to May 2nd in Miami, Florida. Notification was sent to all Locals by President Hill's office in a letter dated February 16, 2007. The conferences have changed and there is definitely more timely, pertinent and useful information being conveyed to the Local representatives in attendance.

As I advised in the fourth quarter 2006 report, we sent letters to all Locals with instructions to review the Local's per capita sheets against seniority rosters. A follow up letter was sent under the date of April 2, 2007. While the majority of Locals have responded, a number have not. To date, we have found at least five (5) employees of various Carriers working in our jurisdiction who are not paying the required fee to this Organization.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

First Quarter Report
April 25, 2007
Page Two

Many of you have heard that the Rail Labor Bargaining Coalition consisting of the BLE, BMWWE, SMWIA and others had reached a tentative Agreement. As I understand as of this writing, there are some issues that either are or will need to be further discussed and the status is questionable at this time.

I have enclosed with this report a letter from our Brothers at the Carmen's Union advising of a problem with Western Cullen Hayes Model TS portable derail. I am sure this safety equipment may be in place on more Carriers than the BNSF. Please notify all of our members of this important information.

This quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carriers effecting Local members.

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

A claims conference was conducted on March 27, 2007, in connection with Section Six negotiations. The Claimants and Locals have been advised under separate cover of the status of claims, settled and discussed.

During the claims conference, I also met and discussed Telecommunication Department issues with the Director of the Telecom and Signal Department Tim Luhm.

There was considerable discussion relative to the outstanding Section Six notices. The Carrier has prepared an IC proposal which I will submit to the International Office for approval. The proposal will be comparable to the recent TCU-BRC and BMWWE proposals that were submitted for ratification. I understand the SMWIA and the Carrier remain involved with a federal mediator.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

First Quarter Report
April 25, 2007
Page Three

I was informed on Thursday, April 12, 2007 that the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen reached a tentative Agreement on the DM&I property.

The undersigned assisted with an investigation in March on the DM&I property.

Canadian Pacific/Soo:

Assistant General Chairman Burk's telecommunication knowledge and computer skills have helped considerably in moving the Telecommunication Department Agreement forward. We now have the Agreement revisions as of our most recent meeting held on February 28th. We have provided a copy to the negotiating committee and the Carrier and are in the process of scheduling another meeting.

This is the first year of the Gainsharing provisions for this Organization. All groups have met their goals, and either have or will be receiving their checks.

There has been some interest expressed by our members and others at the Cudahy Work Equipment Shop to move to a ten (10) hour day/four (4) days a week. Information and an offer for a meeting have been provided to the Carrier by this office and we are waiting for a response.

Montana Rail Link:

The acquisition of the BNSF Telecommunication Department infrastructure that services the Montana Rail Link property by Montana Rail Link is moving forward. There have been some legal issues which have delayed the process.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

First Quarter Report
April 25, 2007
Page Four

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad:

A question was presented by the member relative to the legality of searching an employee vehicle on Company property. The question was presented to the RRCC attorney as well as certain departments in the State of Michigan. The Carrier is not prohibited in these matters.

Evansville & Western Railway:

No news to report.

Paducah & Louisville:

No news to report.

NICTD:

Assistant General Chairman Klecka has worked with our members and the Carrier to enter into a Letter of Understanding with the Carrier for the Caternary Rehabilitation Project. The Letter of Understanding will govern our members during the project. The Agreement was executed on April 12, 2007 by this office and was forwarded to the Local officers.

BNSF Railway:

As I reported in the Montana Rail Link (MRL) news, the BNSF sale of its telecommunication infrastructure that serves MRL to MRL is moving forward. There have been some delays for legal reasons. The Agreement for the protection of those who will be impacted as a result of the sale has been executed, forwarded to and explained to those members in a special meeting with Assistant General Chairman Klecka.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

First Quarter Report
April 25, 2007
Page Five

There have been several investigations held on this property in connection with Blue Flag violations. I cannot stress enough to our members the importance of Blue Flag compliance.

There have been several discipline cases submitted to various Boards which have been delayed due to NMB funding, although as of the past two (2) weeks, a few of those Awards have been released and the Claimants notified accordingly.

There have been some issues with the transfer of employees from the Santa Fe Coast Lines Hospital Association to the United Health Care Plan. We have been investigating each individual case as it arises and the Local representatives have been notified of the findings.

We have also reached a resolution to the pay schedule to be applied to the Rapid Responder relief positions. A copy of the Carrier's April 13, e-mail is attached hereto for your information and distribution to the membership.

Attached, please find the first quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. News articles are being posted on our website (systemcouncil16.org) news section upon receipt to provide the membership the most up to date news, however there are a few items attached hereto.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer

DED/dw (OPEIU)

Attachments

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Dale Doyle's Travel First Quarter:

February 7th, 8th and 9th, 2007 - General Chairmen's Meeting
Miami, Florida

March 14, 2007 - Investigation - Iron, Minnesota - Local 366
meeting, Duluth, Minnesota

March 20th, 21st and 22nd, 2007 - Local 866 meeting, Kansas City,
Missouri -BNSF General Chairmen's Association meeting

March 27, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - CN - Claim conference and
negotiations

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2007:

March 17, 2007 1 day

Rick Heyland's Travel First Quarter:

February 7th and 8th, 2007 - Argentine Shop, Kansas City, Kansas

February 28, 2007 - IBEW Sixth District office, Chicago, Illinois

March 1st and 2nd, 2007 - Officer Training, Local Union 533,
Chicago, Illinois

March 8th and 9th, 2007 -Wabtec Meeting- Hastings, Minnesota

March 20, 2007 - Local Meeting, Local Union 959, Topeka, Kansas

March 21, 2007 - BNSF General Chairmen's meeting, Kansas City,
Kansas

March 22, 2007 - Argentine Shop, Kansas City, Kansas

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2007:

January 18, 2007 1 day

March 7, 2007 1 day

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Mark Klecka's Travel First Quarter:

January 9th through 12th, 2007 - MRL line sale negotiations,
Hastings, Minnesota

February 5th and 6th, 2007 - Telecom Meeting - Lannan, Chicago,
Illinois

February 14, 2007 - Investigation, postponed, Chicago,
Illinois

February 20th and 21st, 2007 - Facility visit and other business,
Galesburg, Illinois

February 27th through March 2nd, 2007 - Jim Stewart SIAP, Local 533
officer training, Investigation - 14th Street, Chicago,
Illinois

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2007:

February 13, 2007 1 day

March 8th and 9th, 2007 2 personal days

Jeff Burk's Travel First Quarter:

February 22nd and 23rd, 2007 - Investigation, Houston, Texas

February 26th through March 2nd, 2007 - Soo Line Agreement and
various office work, Hastings, Minnesota

March 20, 2007 - Local 959 meeting, Topeka, Kansas

March 21, 2007 - General Chairmen's Association meeting, Kansas
City, Missouri

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2007:

None