

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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May 1, 2009

**FIRST QUARTER REPORT, 2009
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

I wish to open this months report with a request to all members to submit to their Local officers "the wish list" for the upcoming round of bargaining. The Section Six notices will be prepared and served on or after November 1, 2009 on the following properties under the jurisdiction of this office:

- A. BNSF
- B. CN properties including CC&P, IC, WC, DM&IR, DW&P and EJ&E
- C. LS&I
- D. Belt Railway Company of Chicago
- E. CP

The resolution hearing for the FMLA dispute was recently conducted and as soon as the decision is rendered, it will be posted on the Council web site. Another issue, the Department of Transportation Direct Observation requirement for return to duty and follow-up drug testing remains in the courts. When the decision is rendered, that decision will also be posted on the Council web site.

Our Business - Representation & Service

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We have seen reduction of forces on the BNSF, CN and CP properties the past quarter with rumors circulating of more to come. Again, I would like to request that if your Local is advised of force reduction 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 do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions.

This past quarter, in connection with representatives of various District officers, officer training has been conducted for the following Locals 533, 757, 794.

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

Force reductions were announced on the DM&I property at the Duluth and Two Harbors Docks. There may be an opportunity for those who were notified of the furlough to perform other work on the property that would have been performed by contractors. There is no final decision at this time to report.

At least three (3) Public Law Board decisions rendered; two (2) rules issues and one (1) discipline issue. The Claimants and Locals have been notified of the decisions rendered.

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The CN's acquisition of the EJ&E is outstanding with a trigger date of implementation of the Agreements on May 1, 2009. We have many issues outstanding which will be addressed over the next several weeks.

We are making considerable progress in the updating of the IC Telecommunication Department Agreement.

The compensation issue on the DWP has not been raised again by the Carrier.

Canadian Pacific/Soo

The Carrier has reduced Mechanical Department forces at the St. Paul Shop effecting several of our members.

We have been advised by the Carrier that the Gainsharing payouts for 2008 have been calculated and presumably as of this writing have been paid. Most of the departmental goals for 2009 have been determined and forwarded by this office to the Local members, with Mechanical and St. Paul B&B Electricians outstanding.

We had hoped to begin on the updating of the Mechanical Department Agreement this quarter; however, due to the unexpected death of Chicago Service Manager Jim Johnson, this project is on hold.

Gary Railroad

The Gary Railroad was formed with the remaining EJE property that was not a part of the CN's Acquisition of the EJ&E. The employees represented by this office were assigned to the property as outlined in the Implementing Agreement negotiated by this office. As of this writing, there have been several questions presented and answered; however, we are not aware of any issues outstanding.

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Belt Railway of Chicago

This office reached agreement for the establishment of a Maintenance Electrician position on the property. As of this writing, there have not been any issues with this position.

We are awaiting the appointment of a new Labor Relations officer on the property to start with the updating of the Labor Agreement.

Evansville and Western Railway Company

No news to report.

Paducah and Louisville Railway Company

No news to report.

Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District

Assistant General Chairman Mark Klecka, in conjunction with the Sixth District office, is working with an area Local to establish a training program for our members on this property.

BNSF Railway Company

BNSF Mechanical Department is going through what may be termed a "metamorphosis" from the retirement of Vice Presidents, CMO's and change in Shop Managers, to reduction of forces, each day is a new issue.

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In late February, BNSF announced a reduction of approximately one hundred forty (140) Mechanical Department employees, fifteen (15) of the one hundred forty (140) represented by this Organization. We continually hear rumors that more reductions are to come as locomotives go into storage. We have also been notified of a few Engineering Department Electrician positions being cut at certain locations; however, with vacancies at other locations, we are not aware of anyone being furloughed.

There have been some concerns expressed about the Carrier's change in administrators of the Corporate Lodging Policy and hotels under that policy. If anyone encounters a hotel with issues, please report those issues to this office.

With the recent fatalities, we are hearing that there are a large number of FRA inspectors on the property and Carrier Managers performing work place observations which are resulting in discipline issues. I urge your compliance with the Carrier's Safety Rules, particularly Blue Flag Rules.

There have also been a number of issues in the Telecommunication Department with vehicle incidents resulting in discipline issues for our members.

Two (2) cases were argued at the NRAB offices in March with the decisions rendered and the Claimants notified.

Attached, please find the first quarter travel, vacation and financial reports, as well as one (1) article of interest. There is a large amount of news regularly posted on our web site that is of an interest to our members.

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Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman

DED/dgw (OPEIU)

Attachments

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Dale Doyle's Travel First Quarter, 2009:

January 19, 2009 - Local Union 366 - Proctor, Minnesota -
Shop meeting

January 21st and 22nd, 2009 - Officer Training - Chicago, Illinois -
Local Unions 533, 757 and 794

January 26th through 28th, 2009 - Kansas City, Missouri - Meeting at
BNSF Training Center - VA and Apprentice issues

February 3, 2009 - Local Union 886 meeting - St. Paul, Minnesota

February 9th through 11th, 2009 - Miami, Florida - General
Chairmen's Meeting

February 13, 2009 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Meeting - CP/Soo Work
Equipment Shop

February 25, 2009 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF Senior Management
Meeting

March 5, 2009 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Labor Relations
Conference

March 13, 2009 - St. Paul, Minnesota - CP/Soo General Chairmen's
Meeting

March 16th through 18th, 2009 - Kansas City, Missouri - Local Union
866 meeting - BNSF General Chairmen's meeting

March 19th and 20th, 2009 - Alliance, Nebraska - Local Union 1517 -
Local meeting

March 24th and 25th, 2009 - Washington, DC - Meeting - International
Office - Second Division hearings - NRAB

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2009:

February 4th through 6th, 2009 3 days

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Rick Heyland's Travel First Quarter, 2009:

February 10th through 12th, 2009 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF SACP Meeting

March 17, 2009 - Topeka, Kansas - Local Union 959 meeting

March 18, 2009 - Kansas City, Missouri - BNSF General Chairmen's Association meeting

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2009:

February 9, 2009 1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel First Quarter, 2009:

January 26th through 28th, 2009 - Michigan City, Indiana - Labor Relations meeting and Local Union 2355 meeting

January 29th and 30th, 2009 - Chicago (Corwith), Illinois - Member/Management meeting

February 9th through 12th, 2009 - Fort Worth, Texas - SACP and Labor Relations meetings

March 16th through 18th, 2009 - Kansas City, Missouri - BNSF General Chairmen's meeting - Local Unions 886 and 959 meetings

March 23rd and 24th, 2009 - Hobart, Indiana - Local 757 meeting

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2009:

January 2, 2009 1 Personal Day

January 6, 2009 1 Personal Day

March 3, 2009 1 day

March 9th and 10th, 2009 2 days

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Jeff Burk's Travel First Quarter, 2009:

February 10, 2009 - Fort Worth, Texas - Telecom meeting

February 11th and 12th, 2009 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF SACP Meeting

March 1st through 6th, 2009 - Hastings, Minnesota - Work at office

March 18, 2009 - Las Vegas, Nevada - Meeting with BRS

March 30th and 31st, 2009 - Stockton, California - Meetings with BNSF Telecom employees and managers

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used First Quarter of 2009:

None