

System Council 16



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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Asst. General Chairman

July 28, 2006

**SECOND QUARTER REPORT, 2006
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Brothers and Sisters:

I have enclosed documents explaining the IBEW Code of Excellence Program for your review and comment. The program is designed to implement professionalism and best practice in the workplace where the IBEW represents. I would appreciate your input on this program. Also attached is information from Roberts Custom Software, Inc. The software can provide assistance to the Local financial officers in completing the required Federal reports.

There were National negotiations conducted in Washington with the coalition of this Organization, IAofM, TWU and TCU/Carmen in May and July, with another session scheduled for September 19th through 21st, 2006. The major issue at this juncture is the health care costs. We will continue to keep you advised of developments.

The 2006 Rail Progress meeting was held in May, May 22nd and 23rd, 2006, in Jacksonville, Florida. There was a vast amount of important information and training provided to the delegates. I urge all Locals to make every effort to attend in the future.

For you advanced information, the 2007 convention of System Council No. 16 will be held the week of June 17, 2007 at the Benson Hotel, Portland, Oregon. The Benson Hotel is one of the few remaining union hotels in the continental U.S.

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

Belt Railroad of Chicago:

A meeting was held with Shop Craft General Chairmen on May 11, 2006. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the status and explain some changes in the Mechanical Department being considered by the Carrier later this year.

The Carrier also provided an opportunity to present and discuss issues which we were aware of. I have been advised that at least one of the issues have been addressed.

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

A new Labor Relations officer has been assigned to this Organization and a meeting was held on Wednesday, July 19, 2006 to review outstanding issues, including the following:

1. Outstanding Section Six notices on the ICC and DM&I property. The Carrier advised that there are two (2) major issues that must be addressed.
 - A. Moving all CN/US employees into the National Health Care Plan.
 - B. Eliminating the Carnegie Pension Plan on the DM&I.
2. The outstanding two (2) issues with the Escanaba Ore Dock Electricians were thoroughly discussed and the

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position of the undersigned was unquestionably set forth. The Carrier advised that they would look into this matter and follow-up within two (2) weeks.

3. A claim and a subcontracting notice was discussed concerning the DM&I and DWP property. The Local has been advised under separate cover.
4. Status of the updating of the ICC Telecommunication Department Agreement.
5. A claim for the use of contractors in the jurisdiction of Local 1475, Centralia, Illinois. A resolution to this issue was presented by the undersigned.

The Carrier will review these issues and contact the undersigned at which time another meeting will be conducted.

There is turmoil on the south end of the ICC territory with Telecommunication Department employees about rules of the controlling Agreement. Rule 62 of the controlling Section Agreement A requires the Carrier to provide copies of the Agreement. If the Carrier does not provide copies of the Agreements, please advise.

We also have a few claims in various stages of handling on the various properties.

Canadian Pacific/Soo Line:

We are continuing to meet with Local and Carrier representatives to discuss the updating and combining of the Telecommunication Department Agreement. Meetings were held on May 5th and in early July.

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We are also close on an understanding with the Mechanical Department Gain Sharing Plan and have discussed the Engineering and Telecommunications plan.

There continues to be several outstanding claims in various stages of handling on the property.

Montana Rail Link:

We have completed our review of the draft Revised Labor Agreement Book and forwarded to the Carrier representative errors found. I have not yet been advised when the book will be completed and submitted to the membership and this office.

We reached an agreement to modify the Mechanical Department Apprenticeship Agreement and that Agreement was submitted to the membership for ratification. The results were tied at four (4) for and four (4) against. This matter will be discussed with the Local representative.

We have also been advised that Montana Rail Link has acquired the Talgo/Livingston Rebuild Center which is scheduled to shut down at the end of July. No further information is available at this time.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad:

Following a two (2) day session in mid-June with a representative of the Carrier, we have advanced considerably in the recodification of the Labor Agreement. Assistant General Chairman Burk's computer expertise has certainly aided in the expediting of this matter.

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In the process of updating the Labor Agreement, we reached an understanding for electronic direct deposit of payroll. This Agreement was submitted to the membership ratification and approved. When adopted, the Agreement will be provided to the membership.

Evansville and Western Railway:

No news to report.

Paducah and Louisville Railway:

We have completed our review of the Revised Labor Agreement and notified the Carrier of the errors found, which will be corrected as necessary. Upon completion of this matter, Agreements will be provided to the membership.

We have been advised that the parent company of the Paducah and Louisville has acquired the Appalachian and Ohio Railway. We are scheduled to meet with representatives of the Carrier in Mid-August.

Elgin Joliet and Eastern Railway:

No news to report.

NICTD:

No news to report.

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BNSF Railway:

The issue with the Rapid Responder positions on the "Trans Con" Line is again being discussed. We will continue to keep you advised of developments.

As a result of the last quarterly report dated May 2, 2006, in connection with the report on the Workplace Observation/Alternative discipline Agreement, those that responded do not favor entering into this Agreement. My appreciation is extended to those who did respond.

As a result of issues with the Mechanical Department Apprenticeship Agreement, a meeting was held at the Carrier's Minneapolis Facility. Vice-General Chairman Heyland and the undersigned presented our issues which the Carrier said they would investigate after which a follow-up meeting will be held. There have been at least two (2) issues which were submitted after the meeting which were forwarded to the Carrier.

The West Burlington, Iowa protection claim has resulted in a denial Award. That Award has been forwarded to the Local for distribution to the Claimants.

On July 20, 2006, five (5) protection cases were presented to Arbitrator Lamont Stallworth. These cases involved both Burlington Northern and Santa Fe properties. When the Awards are rendered, the Claimants and the Locals will be advised.

We received a report that BNSF was going to terminate its relationship with Omni Trax in Texas, however as of this writing Omni Trax and its problems remain on the property.

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Assistant General Chairman Klecka and the undersigned met with representatives of the BNSF Telecommunications Department in Chicago in early May to listen to the Carrier's intent for realignment of Telecommunication forces at Alliance, Chicago, Denver and Minneapolis. Some changes had previously been implemented and others contemplated. We also discussed the status of the Kansas City Centralized Repair Shop and other issues which are on the horizon.

While there were several significant changes in the Telecommunications Department as a result of the Restructuring Agreement that caused a great amount of controversy, much of which we are still addressing, it appears the outlook for the Telecommunication Department is positive as the Carrier is adding forces due to the amount of work. The Carrier advised that there are several projects on the horizon that will cause other changes, such as the ETMS project.

I have submitted a proposal for profit sharing to the International office for review and approval. If approved, it will be submitted to our membership for ratification.

We continue to hear of issues arising where the Carrier either totally ignores the Agreement or tells the Local member or representative to do what you have to do, as the Carrier will do the same. Unfortunately, there is no follow-up by the Local. We have a Grievance Rule, the facts must be presented in writing to address the issue.

As of this writing a meeting has not been scheduled with representatives of the Carrier and specifically the Engineering Department to discuss several outstanding issues.

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Attached, please find the second quarter travel, vacation and financial reports as well as other information previously mentioned herein.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer

DED/dw (OPEIU)

Attachments

Dale Doyle's Travel Second Quarter:

April 21st, 2006 - Railroad Retirement Board Seminar - Eagan,
Minnesota

April 24th, 25th and 26th, 2006 - Stevens Point - Fond du Lac,
Wisconsin; Escanaba, Michigan - Wisconsin Central Meetings

May 1st, 2006 = Soo Line Health and Welfare Review Board meeting -
Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 5th, 2006 - CP/Soo Telecommunications Agreement negotiations

May 9th, 2006 - Chicago, Illinois - Sixth District office meeting

May 11th, 2006 - Chicago, Illinois - Belt Railroad Meeting - BNSF
Telecommunication meeting

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- May 18th, 2006 - CP/Soo General Chairmen's meeting - St. Paul, Minnesota
- May 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 2006 - Railroad Department Progress Meeting - Jacksonville, Florida
- June 11th and 12th, 2006 - Alliance, Nebraska - Investigation and Local 1517 meeting
- June 13th and 14th, 2006 - Denver, Colorado - LS&I Agreement Discussions
- June 15th and 16th, 2006 - Alliance, Nebraska - Locals 547 and 1517
- June 20th, 2006 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - Apprentice Meeting - BNSF
- June 22nd, 2006 - St. Paul Minnesota - Gainsharing meeting - Minneapolis, MN - BNSF Telecom restructuring

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2006:

May 16 th , 2006	1 day
May 26 th , 2006	1 day
May 31 st , 2006	1 day
June 1 st and 2 nd , 2006	2 days

Rick Heyland's Travel Second Quarter:

- April 6th, 2006 - Local Union 452 meeting - Burlington, Iowa
- April 10th, 2006 - Federal Court - BNSF vs Burlington, Iowa - Davenport, Iowa
- May 21st through 25th, 2006 - Rail Progress Meeting - Jacksonville, Florida
- June 5th, 2006 - Local Union 452 meeting - Burlington, Iowa
- June 20th, 2006 - Meeting on Apprentice Training - Minneapolis, Minnesota

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June 21st, 2006 - Staff meeting - Hastings, Minnesota

June 28th and 27th, 2006 - Eleventh District Progress Meeting -
Kansas City, Missouri

June 30th, 2006 - Meeting - Argentine Facility - Kansas City,
Kansas

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2006:

June 26th, 2006 1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel Second Quarter:

May 8th and 9th, 2006 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

May 11th and 12th, 2006 - Chicago, Illinois - Belt Railway - BNSF
Labor Relations

May 21st through 25th, 2006 - Jacksonville, Florida - Rail Progress
Meeting

June 1st and 2nd, 2006 - Spokane, Washington - Labor Relations

June 5th and 6th, 2006 - Local 1769 Local Meeting - Investigation

June 7th and 8th, 2006 - Local 1782 Local Meeting - Portland
Negotiations

June 21st and 22nd, 2006 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP Labor
Relations - BNSF Telecom Meeting

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2006:

April 7th, 2006 1 day

April 19th, 2006 1 day

May 10th, 2006 1 day

May 19th, 2006 1 day

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Jeff Burk's Travel Second Quarter:

May 22nd through May 25th, 2006 - Rail Progress Meeting -
Jacksonville, Florida

June 13th and 14th, 2006 - Meet with LS&I consultant - Denver,
Colorado

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Second Quarter of 2006:

April 17 th , 2006	1 day
May 19 th , 2006	1 day
June 30 th , 2006	1 day