

October 21, 2005

**THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2005
SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On October 1, 2005, the Director of the Railroad Department, N. R. Cobb, retired. We wish Ray the best for a long, happy and healthy retirement. As of this writing, there is no replacement announced.

We have now had the Council web site for several months and one quarterly report has been posted. I would like to know if our officers and members are using the site and if anyone has any ideas for improving the site. I welcome any comment you may have.

The Machinists' Organization settled the National Agreement by membership ratification. We continue to receive calls from our Locals asking how the Machinists received a better contract than we did. A cursory review by this office does not see it that way, however we are awaiting for a statistical review from the Rail Department, which upon receipt will be distributed to all Locals in our jurisdiction.

During the past quarter the Council staff has conducted business or obtained information relative to the following Carriers and Local membership.

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Canadian National/IC-CCP-WC-DWP-DM&I:

During the past quarter and after approximately twenty (20) months of negotiations, we finally obtained an initial Labor Agreement for the Wisconsin Central Electricians. The Agreement was approved by the International Office and submitted to the membership for ratification. The Agreement was approved by a vote of six (6) for and five (5) against.

The Agreement places the former WC employees under the IC Appendix A Labor Agreement, establishes seniority at WC locations and provides the Escanaba Dock Electricians a Classification of Work Rule. The Agreement also provides for retroactive wage increases for 2004 and 2005.

We have met with the Carrier and discussed several outstanding claims on the former CC&P, DM&I and IC properties. We are in the process of notifying the Claimants and Locals of the status of the claims.

There have also been some preliminary Section Six discussions. Initially, the parties had discussed placing all of the CN US properties into one Labor Agreement similar to a recently ratified Agreement with the Machinists' Organization, however there are many issues that cannot be easily resolved. We have discussed finalizing the IC-CCP and WC Agreement and perhaps combining the DM&I and DWP, however there are issues here that must be addressed.

The Carrier has a major demand of placing all employees into the National Health Care Plan and in order for the employees to make an informed decision, we are scheduling a meeting in conjunction with other Organizations for a representative of United Health Care to explain the National Plan and answer questions. The employees in Chicago have been notified of the schedule.

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Canadian Pacific/Soo Line:

As of this writing we have met twice with the Carrier to review the Section Six notice and discuss movement on the combining and updating of the Telecommunication Department Agreement. A follow-up Telecommunication meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2005. The Carrier has advised that they are considering a Stand-by Agreement for national handling and exploring the possibility of re-entering the National Health Care Plan. I want to emphasize this is only being considered by the Carrier and is not being discussed at this time.

A concern presented about the amount of back pay resulting from the recent Agreement has been answered satisfactorily for the member presenting the question.

An Award has been issued by the Second Division for the dismissal of one of our members. All concerned have been provided a copy of the Award.

A claims conference was conducted on October 12, 2005. The I and M protection case and noon lunch claim for Telcom employees have been finalized and will be submitted to the Second Division of the NRAB for final adjudication. Two (2) other outstanding claims were discussed and need further work before we can move to a Board.

Montana Rail Link:

The negotiating coalition has reached a tentative Agreement with the Carrier and will be meeting in the near future to finalize language. Upon completion, the proposed Agreement will be submitted to the International for approval and if approved, submitted to the membership for ratification.

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Lake Superior and Ishpeming:

The coalition met with the Carrier to continue Section Six discussions on August 24th and 25th, 2005, with another meeting scheduled for October 26th and 27th, 2005.

The Carrier has served a notice to contract work, which has been forwarded to the members for investigation and response.

Paducah and Louisville:

The ratified Agreement has been signed and as I understand all members have received monies due. The Carrier is currently revising the Agreement language and when corrected, it will be proofed by this office and provided to the membership.

The Public Law Board Award has been rendered on an outstanding claim and the Claimant and Local notified of the decision.

We are monitoring a STB application for the P&L to acquire a portion of CSX Line to form a new Carrier, Evansville & Western Railway.

Elgin, Joliet and Eastern:

No news to report.

NICTD:

Assistant General Chairman Klecka has been involved in an issue with discipline and a request for training, as well as discussion with the Carrier concerning the 4-10 Agreement and how it will be applied to the members involved.

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BNSF Railway:

The Carrier has presented to the Council staff proposals for Traveling Technician positions, their desire for a class of Technicians at the Conditioned Based Maintenance Facilities and the Work Place Observation Alternative Discipline Program. A meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2005 to further discuss these issues.

Many of the Local 418 members at Houston, Dayton, Galveston and Temple were out of work during the hurricane in Texas. Their managers informed them they were going to be paid for the time off and when they were returned to work, told they would not be paid. I understand claims will be or have been initiated by the Local.

There have been a multiple of issues in the Telecommunication Department. Realignment of forces at Alliance, Nebraska and Corwith, Illinois, discipline issues at various locations and recent notification of the Carrier's intent to hire new employees. Assistant General Chairman Mark Klecka met with the Carrier the week of October 12, 2005 to discuss a number of issues.

Contracting continues to be a major issue in the Mechanical and Engineering Department. Several notices have been forwarded to the Locals for investigation. Some have resulted in claims being initiated.

There have been many new employees hired at various locations. I ask that all Locals monitor this closely for compliance with the Union Shop Agreement.

Four (4) Awards have recently been issued by the Second Division. The Claimants and Locals have been advised of the decisions as well as several Awards resulting from discipline issues progressed to the Expedited Board. There are several discipline, rules and protective issues pending on this property.

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The following is the third quarter travel and vacation schedule of the Council staff:

Dale Doyle's Travel Third Quarter:

July 7, 2005 Chicago, Illinois - CN/WC negotiations.

July 11th and 12th, 2005 - Memphis, Tennessee - Local Unions 778 and 881 meetings and visit.

July 13th, 14th and 15th, 2005 - Little Rock, Arkansas - Tenth District Progress meeting.

July 18th through 22nd, 2005 - Alliance, Nebraska - Local Unions 547 and 1517 meetings and visit.

July 25, 2005 - Barstow, California - Local Union 1023 - meeting.

July 26, 2006 - Los Angeles, California - Local Union 946

July 27th, 28th and 29th, 2005 - San Diego, California - Rail Progress meeting.

August 3, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - P&L Public Law Board.

August 10, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo meeting.

August 24th and 25th, 2005 - Bloomington, Minnesota - LS&I negotiations.

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August 30, 2005 - Marquette, Michigan - Local Union 1070 -
LS&I visit.

August 31, 2005 - Escanaba, Michigan - CN/WC Ore Dock Visit.

September 1st and 2nd, 2005 - Traverse City, Michigan - Sixth
District Progress meeting.

September 7th and 8th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - CN claims
conference - Contract negotiations.

September 12, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo Section
Six negotiations.

September 13th and 14th, 2005 - Washington, DC - National and
BNSF negotiations.

September 21, 2005 - Bloomington, Minnesota - BNSF General
Chairmen's Association meeting.

September 30, 2005 - NARR meeting.

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2005:

None

Rick Heyland's Travel Third Quarter:

July 6th, 7th and 8th, 2005 - Omaha, Nebraska - Eleventh
District Progress meeting.

July 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th, 2005 - San Diego, California -
Rail Progress meeting.

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August 6, 2005 - Albia, Iowa - RELCO Shop.

September 1st and 2nd, 2005 - Springfield, Missouri -
investigation.

September 13, 2005 - Washington, DC - BNSF Section Six Notice
meeting.

September 14, 2005 - Washington, DC - NCCC negotiations
meeting.

September 29th and 30th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - National
Association Railroad Referees meeting.

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2005:

August 15th through 17th, 2005 3 days

August 22nd through 23rd, 2005 2 days

September 28, 2005 1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel Third Quarter:

July 11th, 12th, 13th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - Montana
Link negotiations.

July 20th and 21st, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - 14th Street -
Labor Relations.

August 20, 2005 - Local Union 2355 meeting.

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August 21st 22nd and 23rd, 2005 - Springfield, Missouri -
Labor Relations.

August 31st, 2005 through September 3rd 2005 - Traverse City,
Michigan - Sixth District Progress meeting.

September 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota -
Montana Rail Link negotiations.

September 14th and 15th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - Labor
Relations.

September 26th and 27th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - Telecom
Reorganization meeting.

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2005:

July 18 th and 19 th , 2005	2 days
July 22, 2005	1 day
August 8 th through 12 th , 2005	5 days

Jeff Burk's Travel Third Quarter:

July 5th and 6th, 2005 - Belen, New Mexico - Local Union
1199 meeting.

July 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th, 2005 - San Diego, California -
Rail Progress meeting.

August 18th and 19th, 2005 - Austin, Texas - Seventh District
Progress meeting.

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Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2005:

August 1, 2005	1 day
September 16, 2005	1 day

Please find attached the quarterly financial report and various information you may find of interest. One article that I found very interesting is an article from the Hastings (Minnesota) Star Gazette relating to the Northwest/AMPHA strike. Striking employees set up pickets at the "scabs" home. This may be an idea if we strike in the future.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer

DED/dw (OPEIU)

Attachments



AMFA members move strike lines into Hastings

Thursday, October 06, 2005

By Hank Long, staff writer, hlong@hastingsstargazette.com

The Northwest Airlines air mechanics union strike has hit home, literally.

After being on strike for more than 40 days, members of the Air Mechanics Fraternal Association began picketing outside the homes of union members who have returned to work for the Twin Cities-based airline.

On Saturday afternoon, more than a dozen union members made the trip to Hastings and picketed the home of a Hastings man they say crossed the line recently.

During the picket, union members held bold-lettered signs and shouted taunts of "scab" and "gutless wonder" in the direction of the home on the 3600 block of Village Way, where they say the union member lives.

"This gentleman, he just recently crossed the picket line, and by doing that, we want to let his neighbors know what type of person he is," said striking AMFA union member Ray Hayes, who attended the picket.

No one came out of the house during the two-hour demonstration, but union members said they saw the man look out his window to see what the commotion was about.

Neighbors react

Residents of the relatively new neighborhood who watched the picket from their yards weren't quick to take either side of the issue.

Neighbor Diane Peterson said she doesn't know her new neighbor well but said the picket was probably embarrassing for him to go through.

"We really don't know his situation," Peterson said. "He recently moved into his home, and I'm sure that has something to do with him returning to work. It's gotta be a hard situation to be in."

Tricia Winstead, who watched the picket from her driveway said she wasn't sure how she felt about the issue, but said the picket was a minor nuisance to the neighborhood.

"I'm not against the picketers being out here, but I think this is something that should be kept separated from his home and work place," Winstead said.

Union members have been picketing outside the homes of those who have crossed their line for the last couple of weeks, Hayes said.

"We apologize if we're causing a disturbance to the neighbors, but this is something that needs to be done," Hayes said.

Hastings police were called by one neighbor who said the picketers were blocking traffic by standing in the street,

but no arrests were made, Hastings Police Chief Mike McMenemy said.

"We did send an officer out there to talk with the picketers, but they weren't breaking any laws," McMenemy said. "We're talking with the city attorney to learn how to best handle future situations like this, where there's a protest outside of a home."

Both sides of the fence

Neighbor Will Hilton, who was doing lawn work at his home across the street from the picket, said he wasn't bothered by the picketers.

"I think it's their constitutional right to be out here, as long as they're not on his property," Hilton said.

"I understand the guy has to eat and pay for his new home, but those picketers are probably going through the same issues. It's one of those situations where you're straddling the fence about what to do."

Rural Hastings resident and AMFA union member Kirk Veitzhum said he isn't straddling the fence.

"I know this guy just bought a new house that he's paying off, but a lot of people who are still striking are a lot worse off than he is," said Veitzhum, who picketed the home on Saturday. "He worked with all of us and made the same commitments, but he crossed the picket line. That isn't right."

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