

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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October 24, 2007

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

Brothers and Sisters:

As the majority of our membership are covered under the National Agreement in one form or another, whether wages and rules or health and welfare, I have attached for your information and file one (1) fully executed copy of the October 1, 2007 National Agreement. The Agreement was ratified by nearly a two to one Margin. Those members under the jurisdiction of this office approved the Agreement.

Negotiations to obtain this Agreement were not as long as the last round. I have been informed by more than one Local that our members have stated that the Organizations, or maybe just this Organization give the Carriers anything they want to obtain an Agreement. To those that have this opinion, I ask that you review the Carrier's Section Six notice and see what the Carrier wanted and compare it to the Agreement.

It is my understanding that the rates have been adjusted as of this writing and the back pay will be calculated and paid by approximately December 1, 2007.

At a recent meeting of the BNSF General Chairmen's Association, members reported that their constituents were advising rates of pay were not accurate and were being corrected. Please advise this office if any issues are noted for further investigation.

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There are issues I have editorialized on before and probably will again many times in the next few years. These are issues with have a direct impact on the members, Locals and this office. They need to be discussed again and are as follows:

1. When we send a letter to a Local officer looking for information on an issue this office is handling, more than seventy-five per cent (75%) of the time, these letters go unanswered.

When we send these letters, we are looking for information and need your help. This is not an issue with all Locals, as some are very diligent.

2. This Organization is built on a democratic foundation and we all have a Constitution and Bylaws that we must adhere to. Officers take an oath of office to uphold the terms and conditions of the Constitution and Bylaws.

My point here is that each officer in this Organization have duties assigned and when one officer does not perform his/her duties, it causes problems for all officers.

There are Locals that are not meeting these requirements, i.e. Federal deadlines for reports, paying per capita, etc. Be advised these issues are being monitored. This office is willing to lend any assistance requested, however we cannot do the officers' jobs.

3. I would also request that each Local maintain all job bids and awards and seniority rosters. These documents are often times useful to this office in the handling of claims and grievances.

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The 2007 Rail Task Force has completed its work and made recommendations. These recommendations will be forwarded to the International President for consideration and approval.

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:

The tentative Agreement presented to the IC membership last quarter was rejected. A conference was conducted with the Carrier on October 16th to discuss this issue as well as several outstanding claims and other matters of importance. A report will be provided to all members involved, and those individuals or Locals involved with the claims.

The CN recently announced their intent to acquire the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway. This is all the information we have on this matter at this time. The EJ&E members belong to Local 757 and are under the jurisdiction of this office.

Vice General Chairman Heyland has assisted with two (2) investigations in Memphis in the last several weeks.

Canadian Pacific/Soo:

We have obtained a tentative Agreement with the Carrier which has been submitted to the Railroad Department for review and approval prior to submitting to the membership for ratification. The main issue in this Agreement is the return of our members to the National Health and Welfare Plan.

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The Canadian Pacific recently announced its intent to acquire/or reacquire the Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern Railway and Iowa, Chicago and Eastern property. The ICE property was previously I and M Rail Link and prior to that CP/Soo property known as the Kansas City and Corn Lines. Vice General Chairman Heyland and the undersigned have been on the property at three (3) locations distributing information to prospective members.

Montana Rail Link:

Assistant General Chairman Klecka and representatives of several of the Organizations on the property have been meeting with representatives of the Carrier to address a very important issue of an employee's continuation of health insurance after an injury.

The sale of the BNSF Telecommunication segment to Montana Rail Link is scheduled to be completed before the end of the month barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company:

No news to report.

Evansville and Western Railroad:

No news to report.

Paducah & Louisville Railway:

No news to report.

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Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District:

Jeff Lowe has resigned from the Company and accepted a position with Tri-Met in Portland, Oregon.

BNSF:

There are recent developments in the use of personal leave and vacation time FMLA litigation. The Carriers have appealed the most recent decision to a higher court while discussions continue on a resolution.

As reported in the Montana Rail Link section, the sale of the BNSF Telecommunication infrastructure to Montana Rail Link is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.

A conference was scheduled in August in this office with BNSF Labor Relations to discuss outstanding Section Six issues and other issues, however it was cancelled due to illness of one of the Carrier's representatives. We are attempting to reschedule at this time.

There have been several investigations this office has assisted in at various locations.

Attached, please find the third 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.

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Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer

DED/dw (OPEIU)

Attachments

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Dale Doyle's Travel Third Quarter:

July 10, 2007 - Superior, Wisconsin - Investigation - Local Union 1559

July 16th and 17th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Local Union 533

August 1st and 2nd, 2007 - Washington, DC - Rail Task Force

August 9, 2007 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - Investigation - Local Union 506

August 15th through 19th, 2007 - Alliance, Nebraska - Local Union 1517; Gering, Nebraska - Progress Rail; North Platte, Nebraska - General Chairmen's meeting/General Chairman's retirement

August 21, 2007 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Claims Conference.

September 5th and 6th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Rail Task Force

September 12th, 13th and 14th, 2007 - Lake Geneva, Wisconsin - Sixth District Progress Meeting

September 19th, 2007 - Bloomington, Minnesota - BNSF GCA meeting

September 20th, 2007 - St. Paul, Minnesota - Soo GCA meeting

September 27th, 2007 - Waseca, Minnesota - DM&E visit; Mason City, Iowa - ICE visit

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2007:

July 25th and 26th, 2007 2 days

September 4, 2007 1 day

September 7, 2007 1 day

Rick Heyland's Travel Third Quarter:

July 19th and 20th, 2007 - Lincoln, Nebraska - Investigation

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August 5th through 7th, 2007 - Hastings, Minnesota - Section Six negotiations - BNSF

August 17th through 19th, 2007 - North Platte, Nebraska - General Chairmen's meeting and retirement

August 30th and 31st, 2007 - Memphis, Tennessee - Investigation

September 4th and 5th, 2007 - Topeka, Kansas - Local Union 959 - Officer training

September 6th through 8th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - National Arbitrators Association Meeting

September 17th through 21, 2007 - Bloomington, Minnesota - BNSF GCA meeting; Hastings, Minnesota - staff meeting

September 26, 2007 - Davenport, Iowa - ICE Railroad Organizing

Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2007:

August 12th through 14th, 2007 3 days

Mark Klecka's Travel Third Quarter:

July 2nd and 3rd, 2007 - Havre, Montana - Investigation

July 10th through 12th, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - Labor Relations negotiations

July 24, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

August 5th and 6th, 2007 - Hastings, Minnesota - Labor Relations negotiations

August 7th and 8th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

August 13th and 14th, 2007 - Michigan City, Indiana - NICTD Labor Relations negotiations

August 15th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

August 20th and 21st, 2007 - Seattle, Washington - Investigations

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August 22nd through 24th, 2007 - Missoula, Montana - Montana Rail Link Labor Relations negotiations

September 5th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Investigation

September 6th through 8th, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - National Arbitrators Association meeting

September 12th through 14th, 2007 - Lake Geneva, Wisconsin - Sixth District Progress meeting

September 25th through 27th, 2007 - Whitefish, Montana - Montana Rail Link Labor Relations negotiations

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2007:

July 5 th and 6 th , 2007	2 days
September 17 th through 19 th , 2007	3 days
September 24, 2007	1 day

Jeff Burk's Travel Third Quarter:

July 10th through 12th, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF Telecom meeting

August 13, 2007 - Tulsa, Oklahoma - Investigation

September 7, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - National Arbitrators Association meeting

September 17th through 21st, 2007 - Hastings, Minnesota - Office

September 19, 2007 - Bloomington, Minnesota - BNSF GCA meeting

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Third Quarter of 2007:

August 6 th through 10 th , 2007	5 days
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