

January 23, 2006

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

In early January, former International Representative Bill Bohne was appointed as Director of the Railroad Department in the Washington office. Brother Bohne was a representative of System Council No. 7 and most recently held the position of Director of the Personnel Department before returning to the Rail Department. We look forward to his leadership and ability to move us forward.

The information we received relative to those Agreements with COLA provisions is currently posted on the Council web site. I apologize for the information not being posted in a timely manner.

This year, the District and Rail Progress meetings will be held earlier than usual due to the International Convention scheduled in September.

Again, as discussed in the last report, we have the Council web site which according to the tally board has been looked at approximately nine hundred (900) times. I welcome any comments you may have. Assistant General Chairman Burk does a fine job of monitoring the news section for up to date information.

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

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

This office has reached tentative Agreements with the Carrier on the WC, CCandP and IC properties. Approval has been granted by the Rail Department to submit the Agreements to the membership for ratification.

The initial Wisconsin Central Agreement was signed and there are still a few issues outstanding that we are attempting to resolve.

There is a major issue in negotiations on the DMandI property where the Carrier is demanding termination of a well established pension fund.

This office recently initiated a claim for our members in Local 1475 at Centralia, Illinois relative to turning work once performed by Carrier employees over to a contractor. If any members have further information, please provide to the Local or this office.

Canadian Pacific/Soo Line:

We have met several times to discuss the outstanding Telecommunications Department claims and the combined Telecommunication Department Agreement on October 11th, 12th, 25th, November 15th and December 15th, 2005. I am in the process of scheduling another date or series of dates to continue these discussions.

I have had some very brief discussions with the Carrier to move forward with the Gain Sharing Plan from the last Agreement. The program will be for the calendar year of 2006.

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The Carrier has recently provided to this office with a Stand-by Agreement for the National Section Six notices. In the notice the Carrier advised of their intent to get back into the National Health and Welfare Plan. This document has presented several questions to the undersigned will need discuss with the Carrier before releasing to the membership.

Montana Rail Link:

The tentative Agreement announced in the last report was approved by the International Office, submitted to the membership and ratified. The Agreement is being passed to the Organizations for signatures. After finalized, the Local officers will be provided signed copies of the Agreement.

We are in the process of negotiating an Agreement to address two (2) issues with the Mechanical Department Apprenticeship Agreement. Details will be provided to the membership under separate cover.

Lake Superior and Ishpeming:

As a result of a request by the employees of this Carrier represented by this office, a coalition of TCU/BRC, IAofM and IBEW representatives negotiated a new Agreement for the employees to maintain their health care network on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The Agreement was approved by the Railroad Department, submitted to the membership and counted on Friday, January 20, 2006. The Agreement was ratified by a vote of 5 for 0 against.

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Paducah and Louisville:

In the last report I advised that we were monitoring a STB application for the P&L to acquire a portion of a CSX line to form a new Carrier, the Evansville and Western. The Carrier recognized the Agreements of the Organizations on the P&L property and applied the Agreements on the Evansville and Western, in essence a voluntary recognition.

There will be no IBEW represented employees on the property initially as the work will be performed by current P&L employees.

A Carrier representative recently advised that due to this acquisition, there would be a delay in the Agreement update. We will continue to work toward completion of this task.

Elgin, Joliet and Eastern:

The Carrier and its owner, a US Steel Company, have implemented a mandatory metatarsal boot protection program. This program includes all EJ&E employees.

NICTD:

Assistant General Chairman Klecka conducted a claims conference and met with Local officers on December 12th and 13th, 2005. As a result of the claims conference, a discipline issue will be prepared for arbitration.

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BNSF Railway:

A look back over past reports reveals the saga continues.

We continue to discuss collectively with the IAofM and BRC an Agreement to establish Traveling Technician positions along the Carriers "Trans Con" route. The details of which we are unable to discuss in this venue, however, at this time there will be twenty-four (24) positions created, divided equally among the Organizations.

This office and the IAofM reached an Agreement with the Carrier for six (6) positions in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming. These positions were created to address downed locomotives and are in essence "rapid responders". The Carrier has indicated there may be more of these types of positions created in the future.

The issues with Omni Trax in Texas have rescinded, perhaps due to the fact the operations manager has been replaced.

Over this past quarter, this office has been notified of several serious matters which have led to the investigation and dismissal, of four (4) members and involved Rule G issues, some which were second offense. I cannot over emphasize that the Carrier is serious about rule compliance and it is up to each of you to comply with the rules if you wish to maintain gainful employment.

As most of you may be aware, the National Mediation Board final quarter funding for arbitration was low and there were very few decisions rendered, or for that matter, arbitration cases argued. Last week we received three (3) Awards from the Arbitrator of the Expedited Board that were submitted the last quarter. Those involved have been notified of the decisions.

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Brother Heyland will attend an executive session in late January to discuss the Award rendered in the Burlington Shop protection case.

We are currently attempting to reach an Agreement with the Carrier for a Neutral to arbitrate several protection cases.

A claims conference was conducted with the Carrier on November 16, 2005. Those involved with the claims discussed have been notified of the status under separate cover.

During the investigation into a claim submitted by Local 418, I was advised that the Carrier is leasing its intermodal facilities and associated work to contractors at many locations. If any of you have any information on this, please forward to this office.

As many of you are aware, this Organization has been involved in the litigation relating to the Carrier's application of the FMLA laws in connection with vacations and personal leave days. The judge's decision will be placed on our web site news pages in the near future. Please keep in mind that even though the judge's decision was favorable, there is a strong probability it will be appealed by the Carriers. Many of you have attended the Rail Progress meetings and listened to the Coordinating Council Attorney, Mike Wolly providing updates on our legal issues. Attorney Wolly has assisted this office and is a valuable asset to this Organization which has been proven time and time again. This case was no-exception. A tip of the hat to Mr. Wolly and his staff.

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

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Dale Doyle's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 4, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - CN - Negotiations

October 11, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Sections Six negotiations

October 12, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Claim conference

October 14, 2005 - Bloomington, Minnesota - CN -
Negotiations

October 19, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
General Chairmen's Association meeting

October 20, 2005, Hastings, Minnesota - BNSF -
Negotiations

October 25, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Telcom Agreement discussions

October 26th and 27th, 2005 - Duluth, Minnesota - LS&I -
Negotiations and Local Union 366 meeting

November 2, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - CN - UHC meeting

November 15, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Telcom Agreement

November 17, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Health and Welfare Review Board

November 28th and 29th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - CN -
Negotiations

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December 5, 2005 - St. Paul, Minnesota - Local Union 506
Meeting

December 13, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - LS&I -
Negotiations

December 15, 2005 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -
Negotiations

Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2005:

November 3, 2005	1 day
December 27 th through 30 th , 2005	4 days

Rick Heyland's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 1, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois, NARR meeting

October 6, 2005 - Burlington, Iowa - Local Union 452
meeting

October 13th and 14th, 2005 - Topeka, Kansas - Clint
Groves investigation

October 19th and 20th, 2005 - Hastings, Minnesota -
BNSF meeting - Section Six notice

November 3, 2005 - Burlington, Iowa - Local Union 452
meeting

November 8th through 11th, 2005 - Hastings, Minnesota -
Staff meeting

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Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2005:

October 3, 2005	1 day
October 18, 2005	1 day
October 24, 2005	1 day
October 31, 2005	1 day
November 4, 2005	1 day
November 7 th through 8 th , 2005	2 days
November 23 rd through 25 th , 2005	3 days
December 19 th through 23 rd , 2005	5 days
December 31, 2005	1 day

Mark Klecka's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 4th through 6th, 2005 - Las Vegas, Nevada - Montana
Rail Link negotiations

October 10, 2005 - Spokane, Washington - Labor Relations

October 18th through 21st, 2005 - Santa Fe, New Mexico -
Montana Rail Link negotiations

October 24th through 25th, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois -
Telecom re-org meeting

November 7, 2005 - Chicago, Illinois - 14th Street -
HR reinstatement meeting

November 8 through 11, 2005 - Hastings, Minnesota -
Staff meeting

November 28th through 29th, 2005 - Billings and Livingston,
Montana - Montana Rail Link informational meetings.

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November 30th through December 1st, 2005 - Seattle,
Washington - Investigations

December 12th through 13th, 2005 - Michigan City, Indiana -
NICTD claims conference

Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2005:

November 22 nd through 23 rd , 2005	2 days
December 12 th through 23 rd , 2005	5 days

Jeff Burk's Travel Fourth Quarter:

October 6th through 7th, 2005 - Fort Worth, Texas - Meeting
with George Gross and TMM Larry Abbey

October 24th through 26th, 2005 - Fort Worth, Texas -
BNSF telcom technology seminar

November 8th through 11th, 2005 - Hastings, Minnesota - Staff
meeting

November 29th through 30th, 2005 - Houston, Texas - STAP

December 1, 2005 - Houston, Texas - STAP

Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2005:

October 17 th through 21 st , 2005	5 days
December 22, 2005	1 day
December 23, 2005 (Personal Day)	1 day
December 27 th through 30 th , 2005	4 days

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Please find attached the quarterly financial report and various information you may find of interest. Much of the information provided in this report is available either on the news page of our web site or through a link. Therefore from this point forward, you will only be provided with my report and the financial reports.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

Dale E. Doyle
General Chairman/Secretary-Treasurer

DED/dw (OPEIU)

Attachments