

# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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January 29, 2008

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

Brothers and Sisters:

While the purpose of this report is to provide the membership with a report of the Council business of the last quarter, there are a few items that are of immediate concern that we must convey to the membership:

1. To all members who are covered under the National Health and Welfare Plan. As you are all aware, there is currently an audit being conducted by AETNA of dependents of railroad employees covered by the plans. There have been two (2) letters sent to each employee covered by the plan, the second if you did not respond to the first one.

It is absolutely imperative that you respond. If you have not responded and provided the information required, your dependents will lose all benefits on March 15, 2008.

2. Seniority rosters either have been or will be posted before the end of January. I am advising each of you to review the rosters for errors and/or omissions, and to make all necessary corrections.

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3. I will be forwarding to each Local, specifically the President and Financial Secretary, an audit report similar to the one used last year to make sure that all all members, both new and tenured are paying per capita.
4. International President Hill has approved the recommendations of the Railroad Task Force. There will be several changes coming in the next several months.
5. In early January, Executive Board Member Greg Arras from Local 366 resigned from the Board as he has accepted a management position with the CN Railway.

As a result of his resignation, the undersigned recommended to the Board the appointment of Local 152 Member/Convention Delegate Jason Jimison to the Board. That recommendation was approved by a vote of the Board.

Brother Arras was also in his second term as a member of the Council Audit Committee. The Executive Board has selected Member Darrell Patterson to fill the seat on the Audit Committee.

6. We have just received information that the 2008 Railroad Department meeting will be held the week of June 15, 2008 in Miami, Florida. Details will be coming to the Locals from the International office.

This office received very few calls relative to the implementation and back pay resulting from the October 1, 2007 National Agreement. All of the issues presented were investigated and resolved.

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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**

I have scheduled a meeting on January 29, 2008 to discuss the outstanding Section Six issues on the IC and DM&I properties.

On November 8, 2007 Vice General Chairman Heyland and the undersigned met in Chicago with Carrier representatives of Telecommunication, Human Resources and Labor Relations to discuss issues presented by our members in the Telecommunication Department. All concerned have been advised of the findings and results.

We are currently preparing to arbitrate three (3) cases on a Discipline Board.

## **Canadian Pacific/Soo**

The tentative Agreement submitted to the membership failed ratification. We have had some further discussion with the Carrier and I am pleased to advise that we have reached a Tentative Telecommunication Department Labor Agreement and Wage and Rule Agreement. The parties are finishing the reviews after which the documents will be submitted to the International Office for review and approval.

We have retained the services of a law firm to represent this office and our members in the STB proceedings of the DM&E acquisition. We are posting various news releases on our web site as they are issued.

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## **Elgin, Joliet and Eastern**

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, we met with Carrier Labor Relations to discuss the new railroad that is going to be formed (Gary Railway) as a result of the CN acquisition of the EJ&E. The purpose of this meeting was for the Carrier to inform the Organization of their plans and discuss an implementing Agreement.

We have also retained legal counsel to represent this office and our members in this matter.

## **Belt Railway Company of Chicago**

On December 13, 2007, we attended a meeting with senior management in Chicago to discuss the "state" of the Carrier. The Carrier's management displayed optimistic overtones in the future of the property as the CN/EJ&E acquisition is going to have an impact, yet it will open opportunities with other Carriers.

## **Montana Rail Link**

The sale of the BNSF telecommunication segment that serves MRL is now completed. There have been three (3) new Telecommunication employees added on the MRL Telecommunication roster.

The issue with the Carrier continuing employees' health care after an injury is still not resolved and as of this writing, we have one (1) member who is directly affected as a result of the Carrier's actions.

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## **Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad Company**

The Carrier has served this office with a Notice to Contract work of Mechanical Department Electricians, which will be investigated by this office.

## **Evansville and Western Railroad Company**

No news to report.

## **Paducah and Louisville Railroad Company**

We are in the initial stages of preparing Section Six notices which are due on July 1, 2008. A letter has been sent to the members requesting their input.

## **Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District**

We are in the initial stages of preparing Section Six notices which are due on May 1, 2008. A letter has been sent to the members requesting their input.

## **BNSF Railway**

We have been notified by our counsel that on Monday, January 14, 2008, the Supreme Court announced that it had denied the Carrier's petition for a Writ of Certiorari, which means the Federal Court part of the FMLA dispute is now over. Unless the Carriers reconsider their position regarding settlement, we are now going to have to arbitrate the outstanding claims. We have discussed this matter with our attorney and will continue to keep you advised of developments in this matter.

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As reported in the Montana Rail Link section, the sale of the BNSF telecommunication infrastructure to MRL is now completed. There are issues with the members impacted on the BNSF property that we are attempting to resolve.

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Vice General Chairman Heyland and the undersigned met with the Carrier in its Fort Worth, Texas offices. Topics of discussion were various claims and Local Section Six issues. Those with claims settled have been notified. We have notified all Locals of resolved Section Six issues. There are a number of claims which we are going to be contacting the Claimants or Locals for further information.

We are currently working on a Letter of Understanding to implement the profit sharing provided in the Trans Con Rapid Responder Agreement.

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

On November 14, 2007, Assistant General Chairmen Klecka and Burk met with telecommunication management in Fort Worth to discuss issues with the Telecommunication Department Agreement, provisioning assignments and matters of importance to the Telecommunication Department.

Attached, please find the fourth quarter travel, vacation and financial reports. News articles are being posted on our website ([systemcouncil16.org](http://systemcouncil16.org)) new 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/dgw (OPEIU)

Attachments

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## **Dale Doyle's Travel Fourth Quarter:**

October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 - Las Vegas, Nevada - Meeting with BMW  
General Chairman Glover - Montana Rail Link Insurance issue -  
Upcoming Section Six notices

October 16, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - CN - Claims conference

October 30, 2007 - Duluth, Minnesota - U.H.C. insurance meeting -  
Local 366

November 6, 2007 - Cottage Grove, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Local 886  
contract meeting

November 8, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - CN - Telecom issues  
meeting

November 9, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Belt Railway - Initial  
meeting to update Labor Agreement

November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo -  
Contract meeting

November 30, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - EJ&E - Meeting on merger  
issues

December 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF - Claims  
conference and Section Six notices

December 13, 2007 - Belt Railway - Senior management - State of  
Belt Railway

December 18, 2007 - Superior, Wisconsin - Investigation - Local  
Union 1559

December 19, 2007 - St. Paul, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Safety Advisory  
Board meeting

December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo  
Section Six negotiations

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## **Dale Doyle's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2007:**

October 10 <sup>th</sup> through 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	3 days
October 15, 2007	1 day
December 26 <sup>th</sup> through 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	3 days

## **Rick Heyland's Travel Fourth Quarter:**

October 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 - Memphis, Tennessee - Two (2) investigations

October 8, 2007 - Local Union 452 - Meeting

October 23<sup>rd</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Kansas City, Kansas - Two (2) investigations

November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - CN/IC Telecom meeting

December 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF Section Six negotiations and claims conference

December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Kansas City, Kansas - BNSF Safety meeting

## **Rick Heyland's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2007:**

October 17 <sup>th</sup> through 19, 2007	3 days
November 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2007	2 days
November 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	2 days
November 14, 2007	1 day
November 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	2 days
December 18 <sup>th</sup> through 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2007	4 days
December 26 <sup>th</sup> through 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	3 days

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## **Mark Klecka's Travel Fourth Quarter:**

October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - BNSF (Corwith) -  
Labor Relations meeting - DSF Building

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Belt Railway - Investigation

November 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Hastings and Minneapolis, Minnesota  
CP/Soo - Agreement information meeting

November 13<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF -  
Labor Relations - Telecom negotiations

November 26, 2007 - Hobart, Indiana - EJE and Local 757 meeting

December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - BNSF (Corwith)  
Investigations

December 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 - Missoula, Montana - Montana Rail  
Link - Labor Relations negotiations

## **Mark Klecka's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2007:**

November 2, 2007 1 day

November 9, 2007 1 day

November 19, 2007 1 day

December 3, 2007 1 day

## **Jeff Burk's Travel Fourth Quarter:**

November 9, 2007 - Chicago, Illinois - Belt Railway - Meeting

November 14, 2007 - Fort Worth, Texas - BNSF - Telecom meeting

November 15, 2007 - Tulsa, Oklahoma - Investigation

November 28, 2007 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - CP/Soo - Telecom  
meeting

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## **Jeff Burk's Vacation Used Fourth Quarter of 2007:**

October 2 <sup>nd</sup> through 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	4 days
December 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	2 days
December 28, 2007	Personal Day