



# SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 6

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

**Tom Owens**  
**General Chairman**

**Shannon Spotswood**  
**Vice Chairman**

**Mike Stacks**  
**Secretary-Treasurer**

General Chairman's Report – May, 2019

Brothers and Sisters:

Furloughs: On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 the Carrier furloughed an additional 32 electricians across the system. Including the April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 furlough of 34 electricians, the greed driven Precision Railroading management style has done away with 66 NS electrician's jobs so far. But the real tragedy is that 66 families have lost good jobs. However, due to these jobs being union jobs, these brothers and sisters were subject to a seniority-based process that provided them insurance for the remainder of the month plus 4 more months (approximately a \$6000 value); 5 days of wages (\$1284); and the right of recall. While everyone recognizes that these benefits do not replace a regular paycheck, without union membership these furloughs would have been based on a management popularity choice of individuals, no insurance coverage provided; no 5 day pay right; and management could hire anyone off the street in the future to refill the positions.

Shaffer's/Roanoke Roster Issue: Among several Organizations, the Carrier has been actively pursuing an agreement to merge these two separate shop rosters. I have worked with the other Organizations General Chairman to review these proposals and had several in-depth conversations with Labor Relations. At this point, the Carrier has offered nothing but an agreement that would not be in the benefit of these locations. The Carrier has adamantly rejected any furlough protection requests, rejected any wage/differential proposals, included clauses undermining member's rights to regular bulletin positions, and removal of furloughed member's rights to recall. These offers would weaken the working Agreement in several areas while not providing any benefit to our members. Management has stated that a merged roster "could save jobs in the Roanoke Valley" yet the merger offers would allow the furloughs to continue with the "merged" members having given up their right to recall when they themselves are furloughed. The best course apparent at this time appears to be negotiating under Appendix M (1964 Agreement) of our agreement if the Carrier files for a consolidation of facilities.

Filling Vacancies – A flow chart guide is now available at [ibewsc6.org/Documents/Resources](http://ibewsc6.org/Documents/Resources).

Days 1 – 7: Worked on PLB 5332 submission for LU 311 Brown case; LU 784 inquiry regarding distributed power; Vacancy filling flow chart; Point identification project (locating all members work points); Communication subcontracting notices; LU 2273 job bid denial issue; Conference requests letters to Labor Relations; LU 1047 Communications issue; LU 813 Financial Secretary call regarding A members furlough; LU 2172 President call regarding discipline records request; LU 311 call over insurance; LU 311 member call over START options; LU 513 member arrears issue; LU 1047 member call over subcontracting; LU 513 member settlement over arrears; LU 312 benefit questions; Labor Relations call – management consolidation & roster merger discussion; LU 1142 member transfer issue; LU 2271 member investigation scheduling

Days 8-14: LU 311 member call over marking off; LU 312 officer change coordination; Labor Relations call over Roanoke roster merge issues; LU 2273 Vice President claim filing; Case reviews & research for LU 2273 & 1142; LU 513 member transfer issue; Labor Relations conference call – Roanoke; Case review call with VC Spotswood; Labor Relations call – Communication issues; Travel to Chattanooga; LU 311 meeting; Communication subcontracting issue; LU 513 member arrears issue; Travel to Birmingham; LU 656 meeting

Days 15 – 21: Travel to McDonough, GA; Student Electrician class; LU 513 member arrears issue; Travel to Knoxville; Finalized LU 513 member arrears; LU 1142 member dismissal issue; NS GC Association meeting planning; Conference Communication claims – tentatively settled training claims, tentatively settled assignment of work claim; settled improper subcontracting for three members (10 hours, 10 hours, and 2 hours); LU 312 President call; LU 1142 member call; LU 2271 LC investigation coordination; VC Spotswood call

Days 22 – 30: Conference call with Labor Relations regarding Communication seniority rosters; Labor Relations notification of furloughs; Calls to affect LU Presidents regarding furloughs; LU 311 student call concerning bump rights; Calls to IAM, IBBB, SMART General Chairmen: LU 311 Communication LC call; LU 1142 LC call; Sunday LC call regarding informational picket; Memorial Day; Attachment A paperwork of PLB-5332; LU 513 member information to International Representative; LU 1142 member resignation letter; Labor Relations call regarding Roanoke; LU 632 member Aetna Insurance conflict; LU 736 LC call regarding claims; LU 312 call to coordinate Labor Relations meeting; Appendix M (New York Dock) research

In Your Service,

Tom Owens  
General Chairman