

# **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 2023

#### **Brothers and Sisters:**

<u>Lamberts Point furlough</u> – The furlough occurred on May 01, 2023. All four operators were given comparable employment (machinists and laborers) at Norfolk. Due to the protection benefits of the 1964 Agreement, all four were to receive a displacement allowance that will guarantee their pay in the new positions (and during apprenticeship). The allowance will cover the difference between their new current rate and what they averaged over the last twelve months as operators. This coverage lasts up to five years. WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF FURLOUGH, the carrier approached two of the affected employees with a request to return to operator status due to medical vacancies. Simply put – as the local officers and my office told the carrier, they did not have staffing correct.

<u>Pan Am Negotiations</u> – Negotiations have been completed. Approximately 25 electricians headquartered at Waterville, ME have been successfully represented in this matter. These individuals will be migrated from their Class 2 railroad into employment on Class 1 CSX. Approximately 6 electricians located in East Deerfield, MA have been successfully represented in this transaction. These individuals will be migrated from their Class 2 railroad into employment on Class 3 Berkshire & Eastern.

<u>The Alabama State Docks</u> – Negotiations are ongoing. Good progress has been made, but no agreement has been reached.

<u>CSX Rule Changes:</u> Discussions seem to have been abandoned by the Carrier. I was approached with a blatant renege on a negotiated differential increase late in the process. Instead, I was offered promises that would be supposedly fulfilled after signing away work rules. Needless to say, I refused the offer.

NS Meeting: Joint meeting with other crafts and CEO Shaw. He introduced his vision based on leadership style set forth in "Team of Teams" by General McChrystal. NS will be engaging a new outside consultant to review the safety culture and process. Shaw stated that the next economic downturn the carrier will not be furloughing as in times past. Shaw requested that the labor organizations affirm labor's commitment to the new safety process. IBEW System Council 6 confirmed that our organization is committed to improving safety for our members. The following day, concerns were raised that NS may try to influence legislation at the Capital with the commitment letter. I had a subsequent meeting with the Carrier in which it was verified that the Carrier would not use such a commitment from labor to lobby.

<u>Active Claims:</u> Nine new NS cases were opened this month. Seventeen new CSXT cases were opened this month. In addition to normal calls and information requests, the Council is now currently handling 40 active cases. Any issue that involves disciplines/claims advanced to the Council, letter responses, medical delay documentation, RRB benefit issues, health insurance issues, etc., generate a case file with the Council.

<u>Travel:</u> Jacksonville, FL – met with head of mechanical, LR, and other crafts for discussions; Cincinnati, OH – travel for investigation

In Your Service,

Tom Owens General Chairman Vice Chairman Report May 2023

# **Travel:**

- 1) Attended Investigation for Local 813 member. (Roanoke, VA)
- 2) Attended meeting with Senior General Supervisor Lythgoe to discuss recalls at SCX. (Roanoke, VA)
- 3) Attended meeting and shop walk with Local 784 in Indianapolis.
- 4) Attended meeting and shop walk at the Toledo Docks Local 1047 in Toledo.

### **Meetings:**

- 1) Attended initial contract negoiation meeting with the Alabama State Docks. (Teams)
- 2) Met with Shop Manager Bailey to discuss issues at JLS. (phone)
- 3) Attended weekly SC #6 meetings. (Teams)
- 4) Met with LR to discuss call back at LMPT Coal Pier.

### Claims, Appeals and Submissions:

- 1) Submitted appeals for Local(s) 311, 656 and 2273. (7 Cases)
- 2) Assisted with claims for Local(s) 513 and 2273. (2 cases)

# **Member Issues:**

Assisted members of Local 312 with sick day questions.

Assisted Local 1142 members with Implementing Agreement/ Recall questions.

Assisted Local Chairman 1142 with START handling questions.

Contacted arrears members for Local(s) 513 and 632.

Assisted Local 311 member with Student Agreement questions.

Assisted Local 813 members with recall, transfer and rehire issues.

Assisted Local(s) 311 and 813 with benefit questions.

Assisted Local(s) 312 and 2273 with FMLA/LOA questions.

**Vacation:** May 15 - May 19

# **Assistant General Chairman Report May 2023**

#### **Meetings:**

- 1) Traveled to CSX Avon for shop walk.
- 2) Traveled to CSX Toledo Docks for pier walk.
- 3) Traveled to NS Bellevue for Townhall meeting and shop walk.
- 4) Met with members from each location and discussed local issues.
- 5) Attended NS Townhall meeting with Local 2172 members on Safety culture.
- 6) Traveled to CSX Waycross for shop walk.
- 7) Attended Teams meeting for Alabama State Docks contract.

## **Claims, Appeals and Submissions:**

- 1) Achieved Waiver of Investigation for Local 784 member for FMLA misuse.
- 2) Assisted Local 770 with claims (2 claims). One claim Management performing craft work and one for OT violation.
- 3) Submitted Request to Conference for 1984 (1 RTC) member for Attendance Dismissal.

# **Member Issues:**

Assisted members of Local(s) 311, 770, 813, 862, 870, and 1984 with LTI, Sick Days, and RRB questions.

Assisted Local(s) 870 and 1984 members with Insurance payment issue.

Assisted Local 1923 member with pay rate issues.

Assisted Local 770 member with Red Circle rate on back paycheck.

Discussed claim opportunities with Local(s) 770, 862, and 1984 Local Chairman.

Discussed several Rule disputes with Local(s) 770, 774, 865, and 1923 members.