



# 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 – January 2024

Brothers and Sisters:

CSX: Continued meetings over Pan Am Implementation Agreement. CSX meetings regarding certain rule changes regarding rule changes as discussed during sick day negotiations. The “flex rules” negotiation has been contentious. I have informally agreed to advance this matter with the IAM jointly as the carrier is continually attempting to play the organizations against each other.

Norfolk Southern: Worked on issues regarding reimbursement for unused sick days and vacation payouts involving payroll. Labor Relations meetings over promotion of students.

Pan Am Negotiations: Finalized language to move IBEW Springfield Terminal Agreement members under the CSX 2003 Electricians' Agreement. Language submitted to the International Office for approval.

New England Central Railroad: meetings regarding training with carrier supplying the training material.

Florida East Coast Railroad: Discussions with local General Chairman and Director Russo regarding the amalgamation of the local into System Council 6.

Norfolk Southern Lambert Point: Negotiated a temporary 4-10 agreement to address operational changes by Transportation regarding loading of coal at the point. Local Chairman Steve Old was instrumental in the completion of this temporary agreement. The Carrier is increasing the IBEW workforce to return to three shift operations. Upper management followed our recommendations and opened communications with our local chairman to receive our local's experience in making the operational change. This communication eliminated mid manager misinformation being incorrectly considered in the decision.

Terminal Railway Alabama State Docks: Negotiations have provided for 18% (20% compounded) in general wage increases (GWI) over its five-year term. Under this agreement the average basic rate of pay for an IBEW member will go from \$30.80 per hour to \$36.75 per hour over the five-year term. Backpay was also achieved. The National Agreement has a 15% cost share with the carriers paying 85%. The National H&W cap is set at \$390 per month. Under the TASD agreement members will pay 12% of the premium maxed at \$235 per month, and the carriers must pay the rest. Put another way, the employees will pay 12% or \$235, whichever is the lowest until the next contract is settled. It is important to note that in the event backpay is achieved in the next round of bargaining, it will be subject to insurance contribution true up payment (one time deduction). Video meeting to be held with Director Russo, TASD management, and myself.

Active Claims: 15 new NS cases were opened this month. 20 new CSXT cases were opened this month. In addition to normal calls and information requests, the Council is now currently handling 57 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.

LU 774 Response: During handling of claim filed by local, several questions arose over the process of handling claims and responsibilities of the local. Sent several responses with information and will be scheduling a video conference to further address the issues. In a separate matter, I continued to assist the local with payroll access.

Travel: Roanoke, VA – shop tour; Hollywood, FL – General Chairmen’s meeting & Orlando 2025 SC 6 Convention meeting.

In Your Service,

Tom Owens  
General Chairman



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### **Vice Chairman Report January 2024**

#### **Travel:**

- 1) Traveled to Roanoke, VA for shop walks at SCX and Roanoke Radio Shop.
- 2) Traveled to Binghamton, NY for formal investigation. (Cleveland)
- 3) Traveled to Orlando, FL for convention planning meeting.

#### **Meetings:**

- 1) Attended START conference for Local 1865 Comm member. (Teams)
- 2) Attended weekly SC #6 meetings. (Teams)
- 3) Attended Teams meeting with JLS Shop Manager Jennifer Bailey. (Bidoli)
- 4) Attended telephone conference with Macon Senior General Supervisor. (Upgrades)
- 5) Attended telephone conference with Chicago Senior General Supervisor. (Riley)
- 6) Attended CSX fourth quarter earning conference call.
- 7) Attended claims conference via Teams with NS Labor Relations. (10 cases)
- 8) Attended START conference for Local 544 member. (Teams)

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

- 1) Progressed cases for next Board.
- 2) Submitted appeal for Local 311. (Smith)
- 3) Drafted letter to Local 513 member on absenteeism. (Riley)

#### **Member Issues:**

Assisted Local 311 members with issues regarding Communication Workers Holiday Pay, Returning To Work, Student Pay, and LCDI truck assignments.

Assisted Local 312 member with per capita questions. (Hess)

Assisted Local 632 Financial Secretary with arrears information. (Jackson)

Assisted the Local Chairman of 656 and 2172 with pay and local bulletin questions.

Assisted Local 813 members with issues related to Tier II Tax on Sick Days, HOS questions, DARS questions, Retirement Pay issue and discipline issues.

Assisted Local 1024 member(s) with payroll issue and retrieving new hire information.

Assisted Local 1047 member with vacation and job bulletin questions.

Assisted Local 2273 members with issues regarding FMLA, RRB, Personal Day Agreement questions, Insurance questions, grief counseling issues, medical benefits, vacation pay for deceased members, and local policies.

**Vacation:** None



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### **Assistant General Chairman Report January 2024**

#### **Meetings:**

- 1) Traveled to CSX Waycross for shop walk.
- 2) Attended meeting with CSX LR to conference claims.(Phone)
- 3) Attended meeting with CSX LR to conference subcontracting notices.(Phone)
- 4) Attended weekly Teams meeting with SC6 staff.
- 5) Attended Local 1984 monthly meeting in Waycross, GA.

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

- 1) Assisted Local 862 with waiver for derailment charge (Hower).  
Appealed Local 865 (Parks) and Local 1142 (Townsend) dishonesty charges awaiting Carrier's response. Appealed Local 862 (Maldonado) verbal altercation dismissal awaiting Carrier's response. Appealed Local 549 claim for backfilling of jobs. Appealed Local 774 claim for seniority point infringement. Still processing appeals for Local 549 claims awaiting information from the local.
- 2) Assisted Local 549 (1), 770 (8) and 862 (4) with initial claims. 549's claim was for manager working. 770's claims were for manager working (1), OTCS violation (3), No Notice Subcontracting (1), and apprentice working as a journeyman (3). Settled one claim for 862 for No Notice Subcontracting at the Manatee River Bridge, FL. Settled one claim for 1984 being shorted 40 hrs. Settled one claim for 1047 No Notice Subcontracting in Stanley Yard. Settled one claim for 770 OTCS violation. Assisted Local(s) 770 with concerns about Subcontracting notices.

#### **Member Issues:**

Assisted members of Local(s) 311, 549, 770, 774, 862, 865, 1047, 1142, 1984 with questions on Contract, LTI, RRB, Sick Days, pay rate, Rule G, Recall Notices, Per Capita, etc.

Discussed Rule disputes and claim opportunities with Local(s) 549, 770, 862, 865, 870 and 1047 members.