



# 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 – July, 2020

Brothers and Sisters:

NS Management Change: After a year of leading NS's "clean sheeting" initiative in a consulting role, Michael A. Farrell was named senior vice president transportation in Nov. 2018, then appointed senior vice president of operations and mechanical in Aug. 2019. NS president, chairman and chief executive officer Jim Squires announced that Farrell was no longer with the railroad, and a reason or explanation was not offered.

Investigation(s): Travel to Bellevue to represent LU 2172 member for failure to follow instructions and falsification of form. Member was dismissed. SC 6 is appealing the dismissal.

VC Spotswood traveled to St. Louis to represent LU 513 member for falsification of form.

Covid-19: Bi-weekly meetings have resumed with Mechanical Department upper management and Shopcraft General Chairmen. Specific point issues have been brought up and we are challenging management's assumption that cleaning and safeguards are being properly implemented at points where our membership has verbalized concerns.

Communication Start Handling: Handled START for Local 513 member. Supervision accused member of improper performance of duty. START was dismissed.

Croxton : Furloughed electricians have complained that unbid machinists jobs are not being filled by furloughed electricians. I have contacted the Machinists and Carmen General Chairmen, supervision, and Labor Relations. All the agreements seem to reflect similar language that furloughed members would be given consideration in filling other craft vacancies, but no language seems to exist giving one craft precedent over another in the transfer process.

National Negotiations: Negotiations have resumed via secured Zoom conferencing. The first meeting was centered on changes the Carriers wish to make to Health & Welfare. The Collective Bargaining Coalition will give our response in the August meeting.

Communication Southern Microwave: I have had more discussions with the Carrier regarding bringing the six million plus subcontracting of this work in house. No formal resolution has been reached but both sides appear to be headed in the right direction.

In Your Service,

Tom Owens  
General Chairman