



# 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 – June 2023

Brothers and Sisters:

Fatigue Risk Meetings – Both CSX and NS have been developing fatigue risk management programs as a result of the intense scrutiny created by national negotiations and safety issues. One of the significant points developed is that fatigue is a part of the human condition. It is impossible to eliminate times of fatigue in the course of life. However, the program is trying to identify when fatigue becomes a safety risk for the member along with a mechanism to allow the member to reduce their exposure to potential injuries and accidents.

NS Safety Consultant – The carrier has employed Atkins Consulting to evaluate their safety culture and procedures. I met with the consultant and the carrier in a closed meeting to discuss IBEW concerns. The consultant will be traveling the system to meet at various locations with the local representatives as well.

The Alabama State Docks – Negotiations are ongoing. No agreement has been reached.

System Council 6 E-board - The contractual dues increase and process was discussed, along with deferment process. Deferment of previous years led to drastic increase in 2021 dues because of PSR impact on membership numbers; LU training was discussed with planned reach out to all locals for input; 2016 vehicle trade-in plan was discussed for GC vehicle use per bylaws – Council presently has two vehicles with secondary vehicle used by VGC. Multiple vehicles were a result of amalgamation of SC9. Issue to be addressed at 2025 Convention; 2025 Convention bylaw changes discussed due to need caused by amalgamation (E-board size, assets, how to fill E-board seats when LU does not send delegate); 2025 convention location suggestions (Gaylord Opryland; Disney)

NS Communication FCC License Issue – A recent bulletin assignment raised questions regarding the agreement language “FCC license or equivalent.” Are college degrees considered an equivalent? No, the language pertains to the United States government's requirement.

NS Communication Payroll Error – In 2018, the communications agreements were consolidated. At the time, the Southern maintainers were making approximately \$70 more per month. In the negotiation, the existing N&W maintainers' pay was raised \$70 to balance the force. All new hires after the implementation date were to be hired at the previous lower rate as described in Rule 5. Payroll discovered that they had not been applying the correct rate to new hires. The pay rates will be adjusted with the next pay increase to reflect the correct amount. The carrier will not be retroactively recouping the overpayments.

Active Claims: Fifteen new NS cases were opened this month. Fifteen new CSXT cases were opened this month. In addition to normal calls and information requests, the Council is now currently handling 49 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.

Travel: Cincinnati, OH – investigation, Queensgate shop walk; Atlanta, GA – CSX and NS student electrician classes; Pawley’s Island, SC – NS GCA meeting

In Your Service,

Tom Owens  
General Chairman



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**P. O. Box 787 • Floyd, VA 24091 • Office 540-494-7366 • Fax 540-301-2798 • [ibewsc6.org](http://ibewsc6.org)**

### **Vice Chairman Report June 2023**

#### **Travel:**

- 1) Attended Townhall Meeting in Bellevue, OH.
- 2) Visited Bellevue Locomotive Shop.
- 3) Traveled to NS/CSX General Chairman Association meeting in Pawley's Island, SC.

#### **Meetings:**

- 1) Attended contract negotiation meetings with the Alabama State Docks. (Teams)
- 2) Attended weekly SC #6 meetings. (Teams)
- 3) Attend meeting with Labor Relations over subcontracting issues. (Teams)
- 4) Met with Labor Relations to discuss members issues and Service Bonuses. (Phone)

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

- 1) Submitted disciplinary appeal for Local 813 member.
- 2) Submitted claim appeal for Local 2273 member.
- 3) Assisted with claim explanation letter for Local(s) 513 and 2273. (2 cases)
- 4) Drafted letter to Local 1142 for early upgrade.

#### **Member Issues:**

Assisted Local(s) 312 and 1024 members with Service Bonus questions.

Assisted Local 813 member with Agreement questions. (Rule 2)

Assisted Local(s) 813, 1047 and 2269 members with EAP questions.

Assisted Local 632 member with arrears issue.

Assisted Local 2149 member with contract, and new member questions.

Assisted Local 2273 member with medical paperwork questions.

Assisted Local(s) 813 and 2273 members with local election questions.

Assisted Local 513 member with a transfer request.

Assisted Local 2172 Local Chairman with forced overtime questions, vacation relief, and safety class holdover questions.

Assisted Local 1024 member with a seniority issue. (Incorrect Roster)

**Vacation:** June 16



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### **Assistant General Chairman Report June 2023**

#### **Meetings:**

- 1) Traveled to NS Bellevue shop walk.
- 2) Attended NS Townhall meeting with Local 2172 members on Safety culture.
- 3) Attended Teams meeting for Alabama State Docks contract.
- 4) Phone conference with Local 770 members over loco shop issues.

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

- 1) Worked on achieving Waiver of Investigation for Local 1987 member for conduct unbecoming. (Hearing Postponed by Carrier)
- 2) Assisted Local 770 with claims (3 claims). Three claims' craft line.
- 3) Assisted Local(s) 1047, 1108 and 1984 with concerns about Subcontracting notices.

#### **Member Issues:**

Assisted members of Local(s) 311, 784 and 1984 with LTI, Sick Days, and RRB questions.

Assisted Local 870 with paycheck questions dealing with members who receive paper checks in the mail.

Assisted Local 549 members with Monthly pay rate questions.

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

Discussed several Rule disputes with Local(s) 770, 862, and 1142 members.