

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



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Jim Wisniski
General Chairman
I.B.E.W. S.C. No. 2

2021 – FOURTH QUARTER REPORT

ALL LOCAL UNIONS SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 2

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On December 7th, the US Senate confirmed Deirdre Hamilton as a member of the National Mediation Board (NMB), succeeding Kyle Fortson, whose first term expired, shifting the three-member agency to a Democratic majority. The term to which Hamilton was confirmed expires in six months. President Biden also nominated Hamilton to a second four-year term expiring in July 2025, which requires a separate Senate confirmation. Also awaiting Senate confirmation are Democrat Linda Puchala, seeking a fourth term, and Republican Gerald W. Fauth III, seeking his second. NMB members are not term limited and may remain in office indefinitely following expiration of a term pending Senate confirmation of a successor. Hamilton has an undergraduate degree as well as a law degree and is a Teamsters Union attorney and former legal counsel to the Association of Flight Attendants. Puchala has an undergraduate degree and is a former President of the Association of Flight Attendants, and was a NMB mediator prior to confirmation to the NMB in 2009. Fauth has an undergraduate degree and was Chief of Staff to former STB member Wane Burkes and has a long career as a transportation consultant.

Following many months of negotiations, UnitedHealthcare (UHC) was unable to renew a Medical Benefit Agreement with CVS to provide vaccinations. Therefore, a different pharmacy will be needed to obtain vaccinations under UHC Group Benefit Plans for:

- *The Railroad Employees National Health and Welfare (H&W) Plan, and*
- *The National Railway Carriers and United Transportation Union*

“Our Business – Representation & Service”



(NRC/UTU) Health and Welfare Plan.

UHC has advised that other pharmacies and/or convenient care clinics are available throughout the country that may be utilized to obtain vaccinations. A few examples include:

- Walgreens
- Sam's Club
- Rite Aid
- Albertsons
- Costco
- Hy-Vee
- Minute Clinic (located inside certain CVS & Target stores)
- RediClinic (located inside certain Rite Aid stores)
- The Little Clinic (located inside Kroger stores)

If you are not sure and need assistance finding a pharmacy or a medical provider near you that can provide vaccinations, you can call UnitedHealthcare's dedicated Customer Service Center at 1-800-842-9905 for H&W Plan or 888-445-4379 for the NRC/UTU Plan.

Fourth Quarter System Council Staff Activity

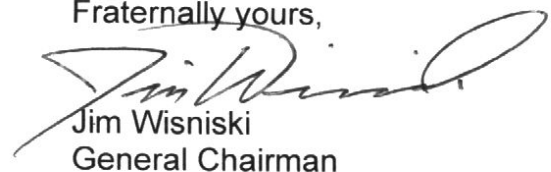
- Attended various meetings and conference calls with UPRR throughout the fourth quarter to discuss and address Federal Covid-19 vaccine mandate questions and concerns.
- Received and distributed (9) Award decisions from Public Law Board 7001 (UPRR).
- Assisted various local unions and members with Covid-19 vaccine mandate questions.
- Attended various meetings with the Union Pacific Mechanical & Telecom Departments.
- Attended and assisted Houston Local 1814 with a disciplinary investigation.
- Received and distributed (10) Award decisions from Public Law Board 7970

(UPRR).

- Assisted local unions with member recalls and return-to-work process.
- Attended arbitration and presented (6) employee protection cases before Special Board of Adjustment 1199 (UPRR).
- Progressed various subcontracting notices served by UPRR.
- Progressed (6) discipline appeals & (2) rules cases (UPRR) & (2) discipline appeals (KCS).
- Progressed Article I protection cases for furloughed Desoto, MO. crane operators.
- Attended Omaha LU 618 monthly meeting.
- Attended a claims conference meeting with UPRR.
- Attended Claims conference with KCS.
- Attended arbitration and presented (2) cases before Public Law Board 7160 (KCS).
- Attended the IBEW Railroad Coordinating Council meeting.
- Attended IBEW Railroad General Chairmen's meeting.
- Attended CP – KCS merger meeting.

In solidarity, I remain

Fraternally yours,



Jim Wisniski
General Chairman