

# *International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*



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

## **2022 – FIRST QUARTER REPORT**

### **ALL LOCAL UNIONS SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 2**

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The U.S. Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) recently selected Letitia Carthans as the agency's new Director of Retirement and Survivor Benefits, effective January 3, 2022. She will replace Valerie Allen, retiring after more than 31 years with the RRB. Ms. Carthans will be responsible for administering the payment of more than \$13.6 billion in benefits to approximately 500,000 railroad retirees, spouses and survivors, and will oversee about 65 claims examiners who handle initial applications for retirement and survivor benefits.

The Coordinated Bargaining Coalition (CBC) released a statement on January 24, 2022, advising that after more than two years of bargaining with the major U.S. Class 1 railroads, discussions completely stalled. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Railway Labor Act, top leaders of the 10 rail unions (including the IBEW) applied to the National Mediation Board (NMB) for the assignment of a federal mediator to assist in negotiations. The CBC further notes that the Carriers represented by the National Carriers' Conference Committee (NCCC) simply are not bargaining in good faith, and throughout that time, despite the unions' best efforts, the carriers have not made a comprehensive settlement proposal that our members would even remotely entertain. All the latest news releases pertaining to the on-going national freight rail negotiations can be found here on the System Council No. 2 website.

### **First Quarter System Council Staff Activity**

- Assisted various local unions with furloughed employee recalls throughout the first

*“Our Business – Representation & Service”*



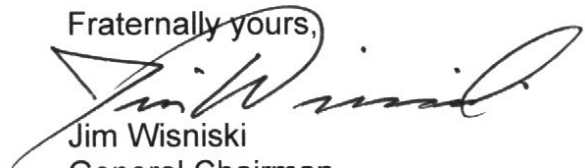
quarter.

- Received and distributed (6) Award decisions from Special Board of Adjustment 1199 (UPRR).
- Attended Claims conference meeting with the KCS.
- Attended the monthly meeting of Omaha Local 618.
- Participated with various conference calls with UPRR to discuss the on-going impact of Covid-19.
- Received and distributed (2) Award decisions from Public Law Board 7160 (KCS).
- Visited the UPRR West Colton locomotive facility and met with Local 889 members and carrier management to address IBEW service track work.
- Assisted Hermiston, Oregon Local 799 with a disciplinary investigation hearing.
- Attended the IBEW System Council 2 staff meeting
- Attended a claims conference meeting with UPRR.
- Attended a subcontracting claims conference with UPRR.
- Attended an Electrician Apprentice meeting with UPRR.
- Attended the IBEW General Chairman's meeting.
- Attended the Union Pacific General Chairman's Association meeting.
- Listed (2) discipline cases before PLB 7160 (KCS), (5) discipline cases before PLB 7001 (UPRR) & (2) Rules cases before PLB 7970 (UPRR).
- Visited the UPRR Dolores locomotive facility and met with Local 889 members and carrier management.
- Assisted El Paso Local 726 with a disciplinary (Medical) investigation.
- Participated with various UPRR Mechanical department meetings throughout the quarter.
- Progressed (3) additional discipline appeals, (3) additional rules cases, & (25) additional subcontracting cases with UPRR throughout the first quarter.

- Progressed (2) additional discipline cases with KCS throughout the first quarter.
- Assisted members and local unions with various routine concerns and issues throughout the quarter.

In solidarity, I remain

Fraternally yours,



Jim Wisniski  
General Chairman