

# *International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers*

System Council No. 2



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

## 2023 – SECOND QUARTER REPORT

### ALL LOCAL UNIONS SYSTEM COUNCIL NO. 2

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) recently announced that to qualify for **normal** railroad unemployment or sickness benefits, an employee must have had railroad earnings of at least \$4,387.50 in calendar year 2022, counting no more than \$1,755 for any one month. Those who were first employed in the rail industry in 2022 must also have at least five months of creditable railroad service in 2022. Under certain conditions, employees who do not qualify based on their 2022 earnings may still be able to receive benefits in the new benefit year. Employees with at least 120 months of service who received normal benefits in the benefit year ending June 30, 2023, may be eligible for **extended** benefits. Employees with at least 120 months of service might qualify for **accelerated** benefits if they have railroad earnings of at least \$4,737.50 in 2023, not counting earnings of more than \$1,895 in any one month. To qualify for **extended** unemployment benefits, a claimant must not have voluntarily quit work without good cause and not have voluntarily retired. To qualify for extended sickness benefits, a claimant must not have voluntarily retired and must be under the age of 65.

### Second Quarter System Council Staff Activity

- Attended a METRA Town Hall Meeting in Chicago with the UPRR California Ave & M19-A employees to address potential employee transfers.
- Attended & assisted Houston, TX LU 1814 with a disciplinary investigation hearing, and was successful in obtaining a return-to-work leniency agreement.
- Attended & assisted North Platte, NE LU 1920 with a disciplinary investigation

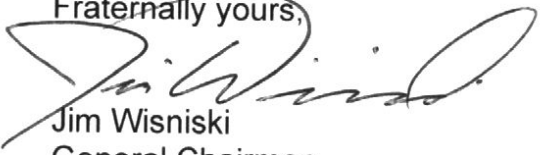
*“Our Business – Representation & Service”*

hearing, and was successful in obtaining a return-to-work leniency agreement.

- Met with Chicago LU 214 Officers.
- Processed 3 UPRR Subcontracting notices.
- Attended various claims conference meetings with UPRR to discuss discipline, time claims, and subcontracting cases.
- Attended the monthly meeting of Omaha LU 618.
- Met with the Officers of North Platte LU 1920.
- Attended arbitration before Public Law Board 7001 with UPRR.
- Attended arbitration before Public Law Board 7160 with KCS.
- Attended meeting with the CP regarding the merger with the KCS.
- Attended a meeting with UPRR Telecom management personnel to discuss proposed agreement changes.
- Attended SC2 staff meeting.
- Met with Officers of Fort Worth LU 942.
- Assisted various local unions in progressing first level claims.
- Finalized agreements with UPRR establishing provisions for a four-day, 10-hour work week at San Antonio, TX & Portland, OR.
- Continued negotiations with Chicago METRA to obtain an implementing agreement for UPRR employee transfers.
- Held several meetings with UPRR Mechanical Department personnel to discuss potentially increasing the Lead Man pay differential.
- Attended monthly meetings with UPRR Mechanical Department personnel to discuss various issues and concerns.
- Throughout the Second Quarter, the System Council staff continued to file and progress various discipline, time claim and subcontracting cases, as well assisted members and LU's with everyday issues & concerns.

In solidarity,

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Wisniski". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jim Wisniski  
General Chairman