

THE LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER

NEWSLETTER • MARCH 2002

BLE, Teamsters discuss merger or affiliation

Advisory Board unanimously approves exploratory talks; Hahs, Hoffa hold first formal meeting on March 6

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Advisory Board unanimously approved a motion on February 26 that allows the BLE's Executive Committee to explore a possible merger or affiliation with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, in accordance with Section 1(e) of the BLE Constitution & Bylaws.

The proposed merger or affiliation would give locomotive engineers membership in the largest union in the AFL-CIO and the largest transportation union in North America.

"There is still a long way to go, but this is a first step in the right direction," said BLE International President Don M. Hahs. "We believe this is the best course for our organization and our membership."

Teamsters officials met with members of the BLE Advisory Board during the last week of February at the AFL-CIO's winter meeting in New Orleans. Previously, BLE International President Don M. Hahs and Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa met regarding a possible merger or affiliation.

The two presidents held their first formal meeting on March 6 to schedule dates for future meetings.

"Our two unions serve a common purpose of transporting goods from manufacturers to consumers," Hoffa said. "By joining together, we will create a seamless transportation union. By joining together, we will ensure that all our members maintain power at the national and international levels and aggressive representation at the local level."

"The strength, size and reputation of the Teamsters would give the BLE an added advantage in lobbying efforts and in negotiating contracts," President Hahs said.

"Our ability to support each other



From Left: BLE President Hahs and Teamster President Hoffa on March 6.

across industry lines, throughout the transportation industry, will give all of our members the support they need when negotiating contracts or organizing," Hoffa added.

Section 1(e) of the BLE Constitution & Bylaws governs the process the International Division must follow when considering mergers or affiliations with other labor unions.

"BLE members will be kept fully informed as this process unfolds," President Hahs said. "We will strictly adhere to Section 1(e) of the Constitution."

Both the BLE and the Teamsters Union are strong, democratic institutions structured to empower the mem-

bership. The Teamsters are known for strong local unions and strong local leaders. While enjoying their independence, Teamster locals benefit from the expertise and assistance of their International.

Founded May 8, 1863, the BLE is the oldest labor union in North America, representing 59,000 professional locomotive engineers, conductors, trainmen, train dispatchers, and other rail workers in the U.S. and Canada.

Founded in 1903, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters represents more than 1.4 million hardworking men and women throughout the United States and Canada. •

Constitution & Bylaws will govern process

Following the February 27 announcement that the BLE Advisory Board had unanimously voted to explore mutually beneficial relations with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Section 1(e) of the BLE Constitution & Bylaws will come into play and govern the proposed merger/affiliation process.

In September, delegates attending the BLE's Seventh Quinquennial International Convention in Miami made significant changes to Section 1(e), based on what they perceived to be a weakness, which allowed for "fast track" mergers.

The revised Section 1(e) establishes specific timelines and balloting procedures to correct the problem.

"BLE members will be kept fully informed as this process unfolds," BLE International President Don M. Hahs said in announcing the merger. "We will strictly adhere to Section 1(e) of the Constitution."

As amended by delegates at the Miami convention, the entirety of Section 1(e) of the BLE Constitution & Bylaws is presented below:

"(e) If the Advisory Board, by a two-thirds majority vote, believes it is in the best interest of the membership to merge or affiliate with another labor organization, or to form a new labor organization, the following procedure shall apply:

"(e)(1) The International President shall expeditiously pre-

See BLE Constitution, Page 3

UTU evicted in Nebraska

Due to its non-affiliate status with the national AFL-CIO, United Transportation Union representatives were evicted from their offices at the Western Nebraska Central Labor Council's headquarters in Alliance, Neb.

The AFL-CIO affiliated unions comprising the Western Nebraska Central Labor Council voted unanimously on February 20 to adopt a motion which gives UTU representatives 30-days notice to vacate the CLC's office building. The motion also forces a UTU officer to resign his elected position as Treasurer of the Western Nebraska CLC.

"This was not a personal vendetta, but legally, the UTU could not belong to the CLC or hold elected office because they must be a member of the

national AFL-CIO," said Mike Thiellen, Local Chairman of BLE Division 622 (Alliance, Neb.). "We felt it was wrong that they were allowed to have an office here when they were not affiliated with the AFL-CIO."



Mike Thiellen

BLE International President Don M. Hahs expressed his appreciation for the work done by the BLE, AFL-CIO affiliates, and the Nebraska State AFL-CIO in bringing the situation to a conclusion.

According to Ken Mass, President of the Nebraska State AFL-CIO, the actions taken by the Western Nebraska CLC were "above the board and legal."

"When the national UTU pulled out of the AFL-CIO, UTU locals in Nebraska were not allowed to belong to the State Fed or Central bodies," said Mass, noting that members of non-

affiliated unions are banned from holding elected office in the AFL-CIO. "Along those same lines, only AFL-CIO affiliates can use AFL-CIO facilities or meeting space."

The UTU was asked to disaffiliate from the Nebraska State AFL-CIO in March of 2000 when the UTU International disaffiliated from the AFL-CIO. At that time, Mass advised UTU's Nebraska state leaders to contact their International officers and ask them to reconsider their decision to disaffiliate.

As a result of its disaffiliation, and the action taken by the Western Nebraska CLC, the UTU will be deprived of many of the benefits of belonging to the AFL-CIO. For example, UTU is banned from participation in the Nebraska State AFL-CIO Railroaders Convention, a regular meeting where representatives of railroad unions discuss work rules and safety issues in their state. In addition, UTU is banned

from the Nebraska State AFL-CIO Constitutional Meetings, where policy is made, and from the Nebraska State AFL-CIO Endorsement Commission Meetings, where unions endorse candidates for national and state office and vote on policy decisions that impact the lives of working men and women.

"UTU members should speak out and encourage their leadership to get back in the House of Labor," Brother Thiellen said. "We should be spending our resources on a good contract or safety issues instead of fighting a rogue union."

Thiellen and Mark Hare, President of BLE Division 622 (Alliance, Neb.), said they will offer a solution to UTU members so they can remain affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

"We plan to extend them an offer to start a BLE train service division so they can be a part of the House of Labor," Thiellen said. •

AFL-CIO Executive Council resolution condemns UTU

At its winter meeting in New Orleans, the AFL-CIO Executive Council passed a resolution which condemns the aggressive actions of the non-affiliated United Transportation Union against the BLE.

"This is a major accomplishment for the BLE," said BLE International President Don M. Hahs of the resolution, passed on February 27. "We have pushed some issues forward and it is a good day for the BLE."

The resolution, which urges the UTU to cease its efforts and rejoin the AFL-CIO, has prompted some AFL-CIO affiliates to promise discourse with the UTU, asking that organization to stop its actions.

The resolution passed by the Executive Council, reads as follow:

"Transportation Labor Solidarity with the BLE"

"The labor movement has always unified around the basic principle that the interests of all working men and women are compatible and not conflicting. AFL-CIO-affiliated unions have focused their energy and resources on the core mission of growing the movement and giving millions of new workers a voice on the job, in their communities and in the political process. During a time when all unions face unprecedented challenges and a politically hostile environment in

Washington, the unity of all working people through their unions is more important today than ever before.

"The challenges are indeed serious. Workers in all sectors of the economy are hurting from massive layoffs as cold-hearted politicians fail to act. The right to organize and collectively bargain is being undermined and faces constant political interference. America's industrial base is collapsing due to perverse trade policies. And a myriad of transportation infrastructure, safety and security issues remain unaddressed. Our response to these challenges must be forceful and unified.

"From time to time some labor organizations have chosen a path of isolation outside the AFL-CIO and have undertaken efforts to raid the membership of the Federation's affiliates. These tactics violate the very principles on which this movement was founded more than a century ago and misdirect energies from the real mission of the AFL-CIO and its affiliates: to organize the unorganized under the banner of solidarity. Transportation labor faces such a challenge today from the actions of the United Transportation Union (UTU).

"In May the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE), an AFL-CIO affiliate, will mark

Sweeney 'appalled' at UTU raiding tactics

Rail Labor Division resolution toughens sanctions for raiding

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney said he was "appalled at the UTU's attempt to raid the BLE" as he addressed the BLE's Advisory Board on February 25 during the AFL-CIO's winter meetings in New Orleans.

"The AFL-CIO joins BLE in demanding that the UTU cease its aggression," Sweeney said. "The urgency created by UTU compels us to find a solution."

Sweeney urged UTU leaders to reconsider their position of isolation from the rest of organized labor.

The AFL-CIO has strongly condemned the UTU's efforts to alter the operating craft structure in the railroad industry in an attempt to raid BLE membership.

On February 27, the

AFL-CIO Executive Council, the Federation's highest governing body, passed a resolution supporting the BLE and condemning the aggressive tactics of the non-affiliate UTU.

"From time to time some labor organizations have chosen a path of isolation outside the AFL-CIO and have undertaken efforts to raid the membership of the Federation's affiliates," the resolution states. "These tactics violate the very principles on which this movement was founded more than a century ago... Transportation labor faces such a challenge today from the actions of the United Transportation Union (UTU)."

Sweeney applauded the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO, for originally adopting the resolution on February 25, two days before it was adopted by the AFL-

CIO Executive Committee.

The AFL-CIO President concluded his remarks by stressing that while a peaceful resolution to the UTU conflict would be best for the House of Labor, the AFL-CIO was prepared to aggressively help in the defense of the BLE.

"I join with other unions in urging UTU to reconsider their position and join us at the table to find solutions," Sweeney said. "If none of this happens we will be as aggressive as necessary in helping you defend the BLE."

Also during the AFL-CIO winter meetings, the Advisory Board voted unanimously on February 27 to allow the BLE Executive Committee to explore a merger or affiliation with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. •

its 139th year of representing the men and women who operate locomotives at North America's freight and passenger railroads. Historically, the BLE and all unions representing railroad workers have worked together for the mutual benefit of their collective membership. Their solidarity has

stood the test of time as rail labor has responded to numerous challenges — from the devastating effects of post-deregulation consolidation in the rail industry to battles over preserving Amtrak and strengthening the Railroad Retirement system.

"The UTU has left the

AFL-CIO in pursuit of a takeover of the BLE either through a merger, a raid or a series of government-sanctioned winner-take-all elections. The UTU's actions have been declared violations of the AFL-CIO Constitution and policies,

Contract negotiations resume

The BLE National Wage Committee met with the National Carriers' Conference Committee on February 27 and 28, resuming the negotiations on a national agreement.

"The meetings were productive and I feel that significant progress was made," said BLE International President Don M. Hahs. "We have scheduled

meetings with the NCCC for April 8 and 9, and again on May 21 and 22."

During the meetings, President Hahs advised NCCC Chairman Robert Allen that these negotiations had been allowed to drag on far too long and that he was committed to reaching an agreement that would be acceptable to BLE members in a timely manner.

He also advised the NCCC that the tentative UTU agreement, reached in 2000, did not adequately address the concerns of locomotive engineers and, therefore, was not acceptable to the BLE. "Engineers are the most important and productive employees in the railroad industry and they deserve to be compensated and treated as such by the carriers."

Constitution & Bylaws to govern Teamster process

BLE Constitution

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pare a unification agreement and a constitution, if necessary, governing the merged or new labor organization.

"(e)(2) Upon completion and printing of the unification agreement and the constitution that will govern, and having secured the approval of the documents by a two-thirds majority of the Advisory Board, the International President shall mail a copy of both documents to all divisions, general chairmen, state and provincial legislative board chairmen and members of the Advisory Board, and he also shall cause same to be posted on the BLE's web site. The date of mailing will be referred to in this section as 'mailing date.'

"(e)(3) Within forty-five (45) days of the mailing date, divisions, general chairmen, state and provincial legislative board chairmen and members of the Advisory Board may submit written questions to the International President for the purpose of seeking agreed upon clarifications and/or interpretations of the proposed governing documents.

"(e)(4) Sixty (60) days after the mailing date, the International President shall mail to all divisions, general chairmen, state and provincial legislative board chairmen and members of the Advisory Board the agreed upon answers to questions submitted pursuant to paragraph (e)(3). This mailing shall

See BLE Constitution, Page 4

BLE, Gateway Western sign contract

New agreement gives engineers on some runs pay increases of more than 49%

The BLE General Committee of Adjustment for the Gateway Western Railway, a subsidiary of Kansas City Southern, announced the signing of an agreement that gives some locomotive engineers pay increases of more than 49 percent.

General Chairman John R. Koonce said the recently ratified agreement combines the best portions of the Kansas City Southern agreement, the National Agreement, and the old Gateway Western contract. The result is a new agreement that is better than each contract individually, Brother Koonce said.

The contract was ratified on January 15 and is retroactive to January 1, with some retroactive payments to Jan. 1, 2000. Eighty-three percent of the ballots were returned with 100 percent of the membership voting in favor of the new deal.

Highlights of the contract include:

- Under the old agreement, Express Freight engineers were paid one rate for 12 hours of work. Under the new agreement, an engineer working 12 hours on an Express Freight will make almost 44 percent more in wages for the trip.

- Under the old agreement, Local Freights were paid one rate for 10 hours of work. Under the new agreement, if a Local Freight works 10 hours on a 100 mile day, then the engineer will make 22 percent more in wages for the trip. In some extreme cases on long mileage locals, the engineer will see pay increases

of more than 49 percent.

- Under the old agreement, Yard Assignments were paid overtime by dividing the rate of pay by 12. Under the new agreement, Yard Assignments get true overtime.

- The new Gateway Western contract adopts the National Wages and COLAs, and engineers will receive all wage increases and/or lump sum payments settled in the National Wage movement retroactive to Jan. 1, 2000.

- The Health & Welfare plan will be cost-free to employees. It allows employees to retire at age 60 after 30 years of service, and the Carrier will provide existing employees with free Health & Welfare, just as if they were active employees, until they and their spouse both reach age 65.

- The new agreement increases the engineers' certification pay to the National Rate of \$5.00. It also retains language that the locomotive engineer will be paid \$5.00 in additional compensation earned by any other train crew member.

Brother Koonce said that by negotiating to combine the best portions of the National Agreement with the KCS and Gateway Western contracts, BLE engineers will retain the following benefits:

- Regular yard assignments working more than five days will be paid overtime rate on the sixth and seventh days.

- Six personal leave days and six holidays — engineers are qualified for these whether working on the road or in the yard. All engineers qualify from the first day they are hired.

- A 401(k) plan, which matches 50 cents on the dollar for the first 6 percent of employees' salary.

- A health incentive plan, which pays 16 hours straight time pay per quarter, if the engineer stays marked-up. Not reduced for laying off for PLD, vacation, bereavement, jury duty or union business.

- Annulment pay on all regular assignments.

- Crew consist of one engineer on every assignment.

- Black box agreement.

- Continuous away from home meal allowance — two the first 12 hours and one every six hours until listed.

Brother Koonce also announced the signing of two other contracts with Kansas City Southern subsidiaries — MidSouth Rail and SouthRail. These contracts, like the Gateway Western deal, adopt the national general wage increases and COLAs, along with the early retirement and health & welfare packages. However, they opted for the single rates of pay instead of mileage pay.

Other benefits of the MidSouth Rail and SouthRail contracts include daily guaranteed pool assignments and overtime on the sixth and seventh day for regular road switchers.

The SouthRail engineers also received an immediate 8.28 percent raise for Road Switcher assignments and a 20.78 percent raise for Freight Assignments, along with a \$6,385 lump sum payment in lieu of back pay. •

AFL-CIO adopts resolution condemning UTU raiding attempts against BLE

Executive Council

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and the UTU is attempting to convince the National Mediation Board (NMB) to rewrite the rail industry's craft and class system in order to frustrate the union representation rights of locomotive engineers and thousands of other railroad employees.

"In December 2001, the BLE's rank-and-file overwhelmingly voted to reject a proposal to merge with the UTU following a vote by UTU members in fa-

vor of the proposal. The UTU should honor the wishes of BLE members, suspend raids against the BLE, withdraw the case before the NMB, and reclaim its seats at the AFL-CIO and the Transportation Trades Department. Only then can this protracted dispute be addressed responsibly and in the interests of railroad workers. And, the NMB should continue to enforce the craft and class system that has been the cornerstone of representation and collective bargaining in the rail industry, and the recruitment of highly skilled and specialized railroad employees, for more than a century.

"Transportation labor is prepared to do what it takes to peacefully resolve these issues. At the same time TTD is prepared to defend the BLE at every turn from any continuing raids on its membership.

"Therefore, Be It Resolved, That TTD Affiliated Unions Will:

"Call on the UTU to withdraw its raiding activities directed at BLE members and its efforts before the NMB to force an unwanted representation election among all railroad operating employees that could result in depriving

these workers of any union representation;

"Urge the NMB to dismiss any UTU petition seeking to eliminate the class and craft system in the railroad industry and force representation elections among all rail operating employees;

"Urge the UTU to rejoin the AFL-CIO and the TTD and work from within the House of Labor to resolve any disputes with the BLE; and

"Aggressively defend the BLE and its members in the event the UTU stays on its present course of raiding the BLE's members on North America's railroads." •

BLE NEWS

BLE establishes Michigan State Legislative Board

BLE members in Michigan now have a voice in their state's political ranks.

On February 28, 2002, the Michigan State Legislative Board was founded with the help of BLE members throughout Michigan and all levels of the BLE.

The board has already begun making phone calls to state legislators and learning its way around politics in the state, according to its newly-elected chairman Greg Powell, a member of BLE Division 920 (Pontiac, Mich.).

First Vice-Chairman David Fernald, Second Vice-Chairman Jerry Tibble and Secretary-Treasurer Frank Harris join Brother Powell on the board.

One of their first official actions was to begin the affiliation process with the Michigan State AFL-CIO.

"The AFL-CIO provides watchdog capabilities," Powell said. "They can help to get us up to speed on rail-related issues in the state, such as Amtrak and non-union intermodal yards being built here."

The board has also set up a meeting with a state senator who is willing to give board members "a crash course

in politics 101," Powell said. "We are starting to educate ourselves about the political process."

Powell thanked many individuals for their efforts in getting the board off the ground, including all division officers in the state of Michigan, BLE International President Don M. Hahs, International Vice-President & U.S. National Legislative Representative Raymond Holmes, Grand Trunk Western General Chairman John Karakian, CSX (Northern Lines) General Chairman Don Menefee, Norfolk Southern (Northern Lines) General Chairman Larry Sykes, Kansas State Legislative Board Chairman Jim Keele, Pennsylvania State Legislative Board Chairman Ken Kertesz and International Division Executive Staff Member Mo Morrow.

"We had a great deal of difficulty getting started," said Powell. "Without the help of all these individuals, we could never have gotten it done."

BLE members in Michigan wishing to contact their new State Legislative Board may do so by calling Brother Powell at (248) 681-4435, or by e-mailing crow052@aol.com. •

BLE Constitution

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also include a notice, advising that proponents and opponents of the proposal have the right to distribute advocacy documents and/or partisan materials to the membership, at their own expense. Both the agreed upon answers and the notice also will be posted on the BLE's web site. Any member or group of members, desiring to exercise the right to distribute such materials shall inform the International President of this desire, in writing, within 10 days of the date of the notice. The International President will provide prompt authorization to the BLE's commercial mailing service for the use of membership mailing data on behalf of those who have submitted written notice of their desire to make such distribution.

"(e)(5) No later than seventy-five (75) days after the mailing date, a written request may be made, by both Canadian Vice Presidents and a majority of the Canadian General Chairmen and Provincial Legislative Board Chairmen, that the Canadian active membership be entitled to a separate vote on the merger or affiliation proposal. A majority of the valid ballots cast by U.S. active members approving the merger or affiliation and a majority of valid ballots cast by Canadian active members disapproving the merger or affiliation shall result in the disaffiliation of the Canadian BLE. If a separate vote is conducted pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, the ballot instructions for Canadian members will plainly state, in both English and French, that disaffiliation will result in the event of a Canadian rejection, even though the U.S. members may accept the merger or affiliation proposal.

"(e)(6) Ninety (90) days after the

mailing date, the International President will oversee the mailing to each active member of the following: the unification agreement; the proposed constitution; a synopsis of the aforementioned documents; the agreed upon answers to questions submitted pursuant to paragraph (e)(3); a voting instruction sheet; and a ballot and prepaid return mailing materials, if necessary.

"(e)(7) A balloting procedure will be used that: maintains the confidentiality of each voting BLE member; provides that ballots used for each voting group are clearly distinct from one another; and prohibits the release of any partial or running vote tabulations concerning the BLE to any party prior to the election deadline.

"(e)(8) In order to be deemed timely, all ballots must be returned to and received by the designated mailing address no later than 135 days after the mailing date. Counting of ballots will be observed by the elected members of the Board of Appeals." •

MARCH 2002 CALENDAR & EVENTS

JUNE 16-20, 2002... 75th Southeastern Meeting Association, Virginia Beach, Va.
Chairman T.C. Emory is hosting the 2002 SMA at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel & Conference Center from June 16-20, 2002. Discount room rates of \$99 per night have been secured and the reservation deadline is May 24, 2002. Reservations can be made by calling (800) 468-2722 (in Virginia please call (800) 422-4747). A dinner cruise is being planned as part of the festivities. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so you must register as soon as possible if you are interested. For preregistration form, please contact Brother T.C. Emory at 4912 Euclid Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462. E-mail requests can be sent to: <ble456@mindspring.com>.

JULY 21-25, 2002... 62nd Annual International Western Convention, Kennewick, Wash.
Hosted by Chairman William Amaya in the Tri-Cities area of Washington State, the 2002 IWC is a convention you will not want to miss. Guests will stay at the Westcoast Tri-Cities Hotel at: 1101 N. Columbia Center Blvd., Kennewick, WA 99336, and reservations can be made by calling (509) 783-0611. Mention the BLE convention to receive discounted room rates of \$85 per night (U.S. and Canadian currency). For more details, contact Chairman Amaya by calling (509) 628-8844. IWC 2002, the "Unlimited Convention," will coincide with the "Unlimited Hydroplane" race series. Guests can extend their stays a few days to enjoy the Columbia Cup hydroplane race, one of the fastest sports on the planet.

AUGUST 18-22, 2002... Eastern Union Meeting Association, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Arrangements Chairman Ken Kertesz and members of BLE Division 263 will host the 2002 EUMA in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., at the Woodlands Inn & Resort. Nestled in the Northeastern Poconos, members will enjoy a discounted room rate of \$95 per night (plus tax) for a single or double. Room rates include a fully cooked breakfast each morning and a shuttle service to and from the Wilkes Barre-Scranton International Airport. Reservations can be made by calling (570) 824-9831 or (800) 762-2222. Be sure to mention the EUMA in order to receive the discounted room rate. Tentative activities include golf tournament, formal banquet and a tour of the Poconos. For details, contact Brother Kertesz by phone at (570) 675-2417 or by e-mail at: <kkertesz@dallas.gotmc.net>.

SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2002... 67th Annual Southwestern Convention Meeting, Ft. Worth, TX
Chairman Mark Banton and members of BLE Division 500 host the 2002 SWCM, to be held at the Radisson Hotel, 815 Main Street Fort Worth, TX 76102. Reservations can be made by calling (817) 870-2100. The tentative agenda is as follows: Monday, September 23: convention registration and golf tournament (8 a.m.); September 24: opening ceremony and barbecue dinner; September 25: workshops and formal banquet; and September 26: closed meeting and SWCM business meeting. For more details, contact Chairman Banton at (817) 641-4606.

Advisory Board February Activity

By action of the delegates at the Fifth Quinquennial Convention, summaries of BLE Advisory Board members' activities are published monthly:

International President Don M. Hahs—International Office: General supervision of BLE activities; ORBA mtgs., re: disability issues; CRLQ mtgs., Florida; Mtg. w/ Teamster President Hoffa; RSAC Exec. Cmte. mtgs.; Mtg. w/ Roland Wilder, special counsel; National Wage & Rule mtgs.; Discussions w/ NCCC; NMB panel discussion/seminar w/ arbitrators; Travel; Mtg. w/ NMB candidate; Fund raiser for Senator Shelby (R-AL); AFL-CIO winter mtgs., New Orleans; Mtg. w/ AFL-CIO Exec. Council; TTD Exec. Council mtgs.; BLE Advisory Board mtg.; Mtg. w/ BLE regional convention chairmen & designated legal counsel; Mtg. w/ presidents of TWU, CWA, IBB, IBT, ATU.

First Vice-President & Alternate President Edward W. Rodziewicz—Assisted President in general operation of ID office; General office duties; CRLQ mtgs.-health & welfare; Advisory Board conference call; General Chairmen & State Legislative Board Chairmen conference call; South Buffalo RR contract negotiations; Holiday; NCCC mtgs.-contract negotiations (two separate occasions); AFL-CIO Exec. Council mtg., guest; TTD mtg., Advisory Board mtg.; VP assignments.

General Secretary-Treasurer William C. Walpert—General supervision of BLE financial and record depts.; ID office; BLE Education & Training Dept.; Internal Organizing, Mobilizing & Strategic Planning Dept.; BLE Safety Task Force; Mtg. w/ Div. 88, N. Platte, Neb.; Mtg. w/ Chairman of Regional mtg. associations, Cleveland; TTD mtg., Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans; Conf. call w/ Special Reps.

Vice-President Paul T. Sorrow—National wage/rules mtgs.; GTW contract negotiations; Worked on I&O contract proposals; Attended Division 920 mtg in Pontiac, Mich.; Advisory Board mtg.; 2nd round of National Wage/Rules negotiations; Assisted Norfolk Southern, CSX and GTW general committees; Worked on issues relating to remote control; General office duties.

Vice-President Joseph A. Cassidy Jr.—Mtg. w/ CSXT General Chairman Roberts; Mtg. w/ Designated Legal Counsel, NYSLB chair; Mtg. w/ GCofA members, shared assets; Prepare for CSXT arbitration; Mtg. w/ members of CSXT-Q's and A's; Prepare for NY Dock cases, research; General office duties; Mtg. w/ Nat'l. Legislative Rep. Mtg. w/ National Mediation Board; Mtg. w/ Chief of Security-AAR; Long Island Rail Road dinner/dance; Advisory Board mtg.; Mtg. w/ counsel on RCOs; Mtgs. w/ various Int'l. Unions; TTD mtg.

Vice-President & U.S. Nat'l Legislative Representative Raymond A. Holmes—Washington D.C. office; CRLQ mtgs.; AFL-CIO political directors mtg.; BLE conference call; Mtg. w/ members of Australian Parliament, re: rail safety; Railroad Retirement Coalition mtg.; TTD/Rail Div. leg. mtg.; FRA hearing-dispatching of U.S. rail operations; Receptions: Cong. Sherman (D-CA), Cong. Turner (D-TX) Senator Shelby (R-AL); FRA RSAC mtg.; FRA hearing, re: Alcohol/drug use, foreign railroads; Amtrak hearing; Mtg. w/ staff of Cong. Oberstar (D-MN); DCCC mtg., review of House races; TTD mtg., AFL-CIO mtgs., New Orleans; Advisory Board mtg.

Vice-President Merle W. Geiger Jr.—Assigned to following properties: Kansas City Southern; Midlands; South Rail; Gateway Western; Delaware Hudson/Springfield Terminal; Assigned to SBA 1062, PLB 5527, PLB 6145; Springfield Terminal contract negotiations; Assisted GC Parker in preparing arbitration cases-PLB6355 (KCS); General office duties.

Vice-President Stephen D. Speagle—Office work; BNSF on-property negotiations, conference calls; BNSF PLB, Ft. Worth; Mtg. w/ President Hahs; WMHA mtg., NS, Decatur, Ill.; TTD mtg. & BLE Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans; Mtgs. on BNSF Availability Policy; Mtgs. re: CARE Hospital Assoc.; Wabash Hospital Assoc. mtg.

Vice-President E.L. "Lee" Pruitt—Assisted general chairmen & members of the following properties: UP-Western Lines; UP-Western Region; UP-Central Region; UP-Southern Region; Tacoma Belt; General office duties; Interdivisional run negotiations, UP-WL, Redlands, Calif.; UPRR remote control mtgs., Kansas City; UP-Tacoma Line conference call, re: remote control; AFL-CIO TTD mtgs., New Orleans; BLE Advisory Board mtgs., New Orleans.

Vice-President Richard K. Radek—ID Office; BLE Decertification Helpline services; Director of Arbitration Dept; National Railroad Adjustment Board (NRAB); Illinois Central; Wisconsin Central; Indiana Harbor Belt; METRA; Belt Rwy. of Chicago; Paducah & Louisville; Chicago Central & Pacific; CN/WC tentative new agreement, special Division mtgs. for BLE Divs. 184 (Schiller Park, Ill.), 173 (Fon du Lac, Wisc.), 174 (Stevens Point, Wisc.), 185 (Escanaba, Mich.), 209 (Green Bay, Wisc.), 175 (Neenah, Wisc.) and 188 (Superior, Wisc.); CN/WC negotiations, side letters mtg., Rosemont, Ill.; Various NRAB administration, Chicago; Metra arbitration assistance, Chicago; BLE Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans; Metra CN/IC insurance coverage mtg. (Union Central-disability), Chicago.

Vice-President Dale McPherson—UP Eastern Lines; CP/U.S. (Soo); I&MRL; M&NA; LP&N; Longview Sw. Co.; TRRA-St. Louis; General office duties; NCCC mtgs., BLE Bargaining Team; UP/BLE remote control mtgs.; Remote control mtg. w/ Gen. Chair B.D. MacArthur; TTD/AFL-CIO mtg. and Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans; PLBs 5681, 5721, 5997, 6040, 6281, 6423, 5604.

Vice-President & Canadian Director Gilles Hallé—Ottawa Office; General Chairmen's mtg., Calgary; Mtg. w/ RCTC, Montreal; Mtg. at Baultar, Sherbrooke; Mtg. w/ CN; Annual vacation; BLE Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans.

Vice-President & National Legislative Representative-Canada T. George Hucker—Ottawa Office; National Legislative Board-Canada; Mtg. w/ CP Rail; Return to work case-Division 243; Preparation & work on brief to FRA w/ Provincial Board Chairmen, re: Random drug & alcohol testing; Presentation of brief to FRA, Washington D.C.; Algoma Central negotiations, Sault Ste. Marie; AFL-CIO TTD mtg. & BLE Advisory Board mtg., New Orleans; BLE LTD mtg., Ottawa.



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