

Teamsters Hall

1-10-2011 0915

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by D Carman Jr, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, accepted by J Mimick, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:26 turns on, calls for 26

RE10:33 turns on, calls for 32. CMS wouldn't let Terry cut that excess turn but is still being worked upon.

BLE 699 Report:

no officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Einer Thomsen, Randy Richards, Butch Nice, Rick Flom, Jim Janovsky. Jim is still in the hospital but does not want visitors; however, you can send well-wishes to him at www.caringbridge.org, under Jim Janovsky 1.

Financial:

\$6,401.83; 119 members (114 TE&Y plus 5 company officers). Motion to accept financial report by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Legislative:

By S Caruso...Republicans are asking big business what they want to have accomplished in legislature and several states are looking at laws to restrict public service unions (i.e. state, county, and municipal employees), so things are beginning to look grim on the horizon for unions. In 2011, the government changed Railroad Retirement Tier 1 from 6.2% to 4.2%, with the 2% difference being made up with public money, which brings cause for concern of the eventual integration of Railroad Retirement into Social Security. There will be changes to the cab signal test for CCS and ATC by 3-31-2011, but there will be briefings on how the changes will affect us. The cab signal equipment used to require 60-day inspections but now they are due every 92 days, and the carrier doesn't want TE&Y employees in the cab signal equipment on the locomotives, only mechanical employees, so they will let us know what changes and restructuring will need to be done.

Unfinished Business:

Nebraska City coal trains are still unchanged but being worked upon. Right now, the Atchisson extra board covers coal vacancies but we are trying to at least get those for us in the interim until the issue is decided. Labor Relations does see it our way, but it takes more than just local lodge action to make this happen. There are two former MoPac jobs in the Council Bluffs yards that technically belong to the Kansas City guys, if they go all the way and take them from us along with the NE City trains. Our point is, they don't force KC guys to cover those two MP jobs and nor do they force the KC extra board to cover them, so why should they also get the Nebraska City coal jobs? Cheyenne, we know you're reading this...let's get this resolved in our favor and quickly, please? We need all the engineer jobs we can get...

Engineer temps a la the conductor temps were discussed but the carrier is not interested in allowing us to temp as trainmen temps are a pain in the posterior to CMS, but they ARE thinking about it. Do expect pretty strict limitations on temps if they ever allow them, though.

New Business:

In the December meeting minutes, a \$1.00 dues increase was mentioned as going into effect to establish an Education and Training fund for the National Division. This was not something that we voted upon locally, but rather was determined at a higher level. Right now, we have our dues established at \$101.00 for engineers and \$88.00 for trainmen. We will at some point need to raise our dues by \$1.00 to compensate for the new fund, but will discuss that as a local before doing so. At the moment, the dues increase from \$96 to \$101 that we did back in March 2010 gives us a \$5 per member per month overage that was necessary to bring our division apace to insure a reserve fund to cover items such as the annual golf tournament and annual dinner and other occasional expenses, so the reserve fund is capable of covering the added expense of the new E and T fund for a few years, but it will chip away at our reserve fund eventually, so this will need to be addressed.

Simultaneously, there was a rumor running rampant that the compensated division officers (Brooner, Carman Jr, Yarbrough, Mimick, Sichta) gave themselves a raise. That is blatantly false. The only people capable of giving the five comped officers a raise are you guys, debated and then voted upon in lodge action, and reflected in the meeting minutes. All of the officer compensation is stated during the financial report along with the other bills and if you have any questions or concerns about that, please attend the meetings and bring it up and we will go over it with you. It is very important to the division officers that all financial items are transparent and above-board. Though our website is a password-restricted site, out of concerns that unauthorized people might somehow get into it, we redact the numbers in the financial report portion of the minutes, so in order to truly find that information out, you need to attend a meeting. But rest assured, fellas, none of us are doing it for the paycheck...and several other division officers, such as Sam Caruso on the legislative side and Brian McCoy administering the website, do much more without compensation.

CMS has added an Inbound desk that runs interference for our regular crew callers, and the Inbound people can typically (depending upon the degree of cooperation) handle lay-offs and such, but our former U2 caller is now N3, so if you need your crew caller, ask for N3 instead of U2.

The former CNW North Yard jobs have been restructured and the day and night jobs are now remotes. The afternoon job, a transfer job, is still conventional. Additionally, the afternoon job is now seven days a week, and they can fill it with a 5-day guy with Saturday/Sunday rest days and with extra board the other two days, per Mike Young's office. No relief job is required.

For the benefit of scheduling, the remaining meetings for 2011 are on February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12. All are at 9 AM sharp. If you elect to bring doughnuts, that will ALWAYS be appreciated. You cannot go wrong with chocolate raised or chocolate cake doughnuts, my sons.

We are still working on peer support within our division for our members who need it. The service unit is holding off on assisting us with peer support until we join TSC.

Recently, the Winter Weather Plan was in effect and crews will terminate at Grand Island as they need to; whenever there is a State of Nebraska winter weather advisory, the carrier is supposed to implement the Winter Weather Plan.

Division T-shirts...we need to order 40 of them, at \$9.50 each, in order to complete the order at the stated price. 20 of them were ordered by members over the last several months, leaving 20 left to be purchased to complete the order. A motion was made by T Brooner and seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, to have the division absorb the cost of completing the order and purchase the remaining 20 T-shirts and use them for golf tournament and annual dinner prizes, stuff like that. We will try and get in the February minutes a date that we can expect the T-shirts to arrive.

Absenteeism and attendance was addressed, and letters between Joe Santamaria and Mike Young's offices were read. At present, laying-off sick or kin or personal and having those LK/LS/LP converted to paid days by CMS putting them in PL or LV status are NOT considered an attendance violation, but it is not appreciated by management. Per Young's office, conversion of LK/LS/LP to PL or LV is a violation of our agreement, as it is the carrier's responsibility to staff the boards to accommodate "reasonable" layoffs. A new program will show the carrier what the original layoff status was prior to conversion and they are monitoring (for now) the original status. We will be monitoring the

situation, as the carrier is cracking down on layoffs and uncompensated days off. If you receive a letter for absenteeism, take it to a hearing.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by D Van Dorn, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous. Have a great Christmas and New Year...be safe, guys.

Teamsters Hall

2-13-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by D Carman Jr, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend by S Caruso, seconded by J Sweeney, unanimous.

The lodge would like to thank Emily Friend, who graciously brought us brownies.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:25 turns on, calls for 26.5

RE10:34 turns on, calls for 33.2...will leave both pools alone for remainder of February, a short month.

BLE 699 Report:

RE58:12 turns on, calls for 12; had been 14 turns.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Einer Thomsen, Randy Richards, Butch Nice, Rick Flom, Jim Janovsky.

Financial:

\$6,932.08; 119 members (114 TE&Y plus 5 company officers). Motion to accept financial report by S Caruso, seconded by E Friend, unanimous.

Legislative:

By S Caruso...Amtrak is looking at some potentially deep cuts, which will negatively impact our railroad retirement at some point. The extent to which this will affect us is unknown, but we hope it will not be severe. Cab signal test changes are in effect now, and your MOP will be looking for you to give you a booklet on what is being changed.

Unfinished Business:

We have been informed by Mark Chenchar that the Nebraska City Coal Trains issue is a dead issue. We have lost that particular battle. Not the result we were fighting for, but at least it has been answered. The good news is that it does not appear that we will also lose the former MoPac jobs in Council Bluffs.

No further word on engineer temporary assignments, as discussed in January. We'll keep you posted.

Deadheads are now changed from 8 hours in advance to 4 hours.

Back in June, we submitted a proposal to Mike Young's office for Federal Held (FH) status, to avoid having to lay off in order to avoid Federal Rest reductions in guarantee, and we are hopeful that it will be worked on next.

New Business:

Anyone interested in a seniority swap to Denver? There is a Denver guy looking to come here. Contact LC Brouner for details.

There was discussion towards making a change that places an Extra Board engineer on the hook for anything, not just outlying vacancies, if he lays off on call or first-out. As it stands now, you can only be placed on the hook for laying off first-out or on call for outlying vacancies, not RE10 or RE58 pool turns. We may be seeking to change that. We will be discussing that issue for the next two meetings, so come and make your voices heard, if you've been hosed in that capacity.

Regarding outlying vacancies, if you are not able to work a day because you were on-duty too long the previous day and CMS has called an extra board man to cover your unrested status for one day, you are NOT released. Additionally, the missed day does NOT count towards the four days that you must work the outlying vacancy before seeking release. The pertinent example was for an extra board man covering the MGIGI who was on-duty nearly 16 hours during a recent blizzard and therefore not rested for the appropriate on-duty time until 1330 the next day; another extra board engineer was called for the MGIGI for an on-duty time of 0930, the original engineer had an unpaid day off, and was released erroneously. As the weather is getting progressively warmer, this may not be much of an issue, but the lodge did want this situation addressed.

Tom Dein recently retired, and we hope to work well with his replacement, Tony Lazenby. You all know we've had our difficulties in the past in adding/cutting turns as needed by the local, and here's hoping for the future.

Engineer John Kellogg has left his position in Total Safety Culture, as our lodge has elected not to participate in TSC, but his hostler date belongs to the UTU and he's experiencing difficulty in getting them to transfer that date from the Third District to here. He has a placeholder June 2010 date on our district and is at the bottom of our roster at the moment, but his actual date does not begin until he makes qualifier trips.

FRA final electronic device rules will be in effect on March 26 and will be posted in the website. Civil penalties and subpoena power will be given to the Feds, so be judicious in your use.

On March 1, you will have to declare certain medical conditions to the railroad. There should be a general order or something to that effect released which gives full details.

The carrier paid for the new microwaves and mini-fridges at the Oak Tree, so if we screw them up, they will be pulled out of the rooms. Take a few minutes and clean up after yourselves.

The division T-shirts are in and will be for sale at the union meetings. Contact Terry, Dana Jr, Chuck, or the two Jeffs if you wish to purchase one.

Lenny White, Don Kinnersly, and Jerome Pizinger law boards are coming up in March or April.

As we are without Designated Legal Counsel at the moment, we extended an invite to the Hubbell Law Firm of Kansas City, our closest geographically-located DLC. We are waiting to hear back from Gene Napier, a senior partner of the firm, who came highly recommended and hope that Mr. Napier or someone from Hubbell can give a presentation at an upcoming meeting. In the interim, details on the Hubbell Law Firm can be found at www.hubbellfirm.com, or they can be reached at 800-821-5257, if your needs are more pressing.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by D Van Dorn, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous. Have a great Christmas and New Year...be safe, guys.

Teamsters Hall

3-14-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by S Caruso, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to accept reading of minutes by G Sprinkel, seconded by C Lehman, unanimous. February minutes under Unfinished Business, amend Deadheads are now changed from 8 hours in advance to 4 hours to Deadheads are now changed from 8 hours in advance to a MINIMUM of 4 hours.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:26 turns on, will cut to 24 in response to the mid-month derailment in central Iowa; RE10:35 turns on, will leave alone for now.

BLE 699 Report:

no officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Einer Thomsen, Randy Richards, Butch Nice, Rick Flom, Jim Janovsky. Butch got a medical, so we wish him all of the best.

Financial:

\$6,061.97; 113 members (109 TE&Y plus 4 company officers; Mike Lang is back with us from Tucson).

Legislative:

Report, by S Caruso...Effective 3-26, the new electronics devices rules by the Feds will be in effect; take the online test by 3-28 or get pulled out of service. They have scanners or detectors or some kinda shit that can detect a cell phone signal, so to avoid a hefty and unpleasant fine, turn them off. You are permitted to have an electronic camera but only to be used for safety-issue-related photos. Additionally, the recent events in Wisconsin have portended bad times for organized labor, and if things continue this path we can expect to see termination of union employees if they are absent from work without permission (i.e. LS or LK or LP) as well as no law boards to put you back to work. There's no better time than now to notify your congressperson or senator that the middle class from which they derive most of their tax dollars is shrinking exponentially and knock this kind of stuff off. To add insult to injury, FELA is now being argued in the Supreme Court for limitation of damages, utilizing a "proximate cause" clause for a standard of recovery, which will severely inhibit how much (if any) you get out of a FELA case.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Though we have been informed last meeting that the Nebraska City coal trains issue was a dead issue, LC Brooner is seeking an official response from Mike Young's office on this matter. This will be easier to accept if we know exactly and legally WHY this is a dead issue, rather than just rolling over on it.

This was to be the second of three meetings of discussions on the laying-off first-out discussion as described in New Business in the February minutes, but as there were no extra board guys there to discuss it, we felt it should be tabled for next meeting when we hope to have more extra board there. Extra Board engineers, come to the meeting and make your voices heard!

NEW BUSINESS:

For anyone who did not know this, the RE10 gets a 2-hour call but the RE01 gets 90 minutes.

Though we are not involved in TSC per the majority of the members' request, we should nonetheless involve ourselves in a CBSU safety program of some sort. There is a safety program sort of like the old SHEOP that appears to be going on, and we will discuss this for a few meetings in terms of who from the lodge should attend, if we should develop a safety committee, etc. Come and weigh in on this situation. Motion made by S Caruso/seconded by J Sichta (12 for/2 opposed) to have LC Brooner be our safety meeting representative in the interim, so things don't get decided for us without our input. Terry will represent our division's interests.

A representative from the Hubbell Law Firm out of Kansas City, our closest Designated Legal Counsel, will be here at the April 11 meeting to field your questions about FELA and other legally-related topics. Most generally they treat us to lunch afterwards, so bring yourselves, your questions, and your appetites...

If you need to move a vacation week up as an emergency, call LC Brooner or VLC Mimick or VLC Yarbrough to have that arranged, and NOT a CMS shift manager or crew caller, as that newly-available week tends to "disappear"...

Engineer John Kellogg, a transfer last year from Division 88 out of North Platte, will transfer back to 88 effective 4-1. He never actually established an engine service date with us as he never got his refresher trips in, so it will be as if it had never occurred in the first place. There were severe difficulties on the UTUE side in getting his Hostler's date moved over here from the Second District, so since that didn't happen he didn't hostle here.

Sam Caruso, our Legislative Representative, is running for the position of Eastern District delegate to our annual convention against another delegate from North Platte. Ballots will be mailed to the membership on or about 3-30-2011 but are due back in two

weeks, so hurry up and vote for the person you believe will represent your division's best interests. If you have friends in other divisions, tell them all of the hard work Sam has put in...

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by W Keefer, one opposed; meeting adjourned at 1030. See you 4-11, guys.

Teamsters Hall
4-11-2011, 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by J Mimick, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by J Mimick, seconded by T Kinsella, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:27 turns on, calls for 27. RE10:33 turns on, calls for 32.75 (two turns were cut on Thursday, 4-8).

BLE 699 Report:

no officers present, so no report.

Financial:

\$5,971; 113 members (109 TE&Y plus 4 company officers).

Sick:

Max Eckert, Randy Richards, Rick Flom, Jim Janovsky. Butch Nice received a medical disability, and Einer Thomsen received a settlement, so they are over the fence and home free.

Legislative:

by S Caruso...The railroads are trying to curtail PTC (Positive Train Control), which right now is an unfunded Federal mandate (meaning the carriers have to pay for PTC all on their own, with no taxpayer funding), and they're exploring every loophole possible to get out of having to do it. For example, if they don't haul hazardous materials on a rail line, PTC is not required, so if they do install PTC, you may find additional haz-mats on our main lines. Congress is also talking about putting Railroad Retirement into Social Security, which will clearly negatively impact the fluidity and solvency of the RR Fund. Right now, Railroad Retirement Fund is doing well and is projecting solvency up to 35 years at the moment. That might all come to a crashing halt if Congress pairs it up with Social Security. Write your congressperson, folks..

Unfinished Business:

The Nebraska City coal trains issue has received a response from Mike Young's office. Both the carrier and the union (at higher levels) have interpreted the Mikrut Award as giving these trains to the Kansas City guys, and we've received a thick stack of paperwork supporting that mutual interpretation. We are still exploring other options, but it would appear at present that this will be as far as it goes, barring KC actively seeking to give those jobs to us, and we wouldn't hold our breath. The officers of 183 nonetheless thank Mike Young for hearing us out and giving us a detailed explanation of the whys and what-fors of the issue.

Nothing new on the “Federal Held” front, or BNSF-type “Smart Rest”. Mike Young’s office is very actively involved in national negotiations at the moment, and this issue will probably not be addressed until afterwards.

The Extra Board laying-off-on-call discussion continued. A motion was made by J Nourse and seconded by E Abboud to change the way we put engineers on the hook for outlying assignments for laying-off on-call from 12 hours minimum to being on the hook until the engineer who put you on the hook ties-up at the home terminal. Right now as it stands, you can lay-off first-out and not be on the hook, but if you lay-off on-call you can only be on the hook for 12 hours (the minimum amount of lay-off time). This will impact you only for LS, LP, or LK status. If you have LV or PL days, this will not affect you. There will be ongoing discussion for one more meeting, so if you want to make your voice heard before we vote on sending this measure to Cheyenne and hence to Labor Relations, come to the next meeting. The membership voted 10 for (S Caruso, E Friend, D Van Dorn, J Nourse, E Abboud, J Pyka, W Keefer, D Zahnow, J McGruder, and T Kinsella) to 1 opposed (J Mimick).

John Kellogg’s hardship transfer has been negated, and he has returned to the 3rd District.

New Business:

Voted to accept as new members Mark Osbahr and Kevin Kinney; passed unanimously. Welcome aboard, guys.

There was discussion to create a 2-man extra board out of Columbus, to cover the Columbus jobs before the Fremont XE01 was utilized, but thus far it hasn’t gotten past the discussion stage. If you have ideas or suggestions or rants, come to the next meeting.

An incident occurred in Texas recently where two guys fell asleep and went through a red, coupling into the stopped Amtrak train ahead of them at 4 MPH. The Feds went berserk and subpoenaed not only their cell phone records (astonishingly enough, the sleepers phones were clean) but also the train ahead of them, the train behind, and two other trains that passed them within ten miles of the incident. Out of ten guys subpoenaed, six guys were found to have been on their phones at some point during their tour of duty while their train was moving, and one of those guys had been texting so he’s completely done. They’re not bullshitting about fines and pulling you out of “safety-conscious service” (you can’t work for any other railroad or drive a semi) forever. Guys, turn ‘em off and leave ‘em off.

We have also sought guidance from Cheyenne on what to do if the “other side of the cab” doesn’t turn their cell off, and they in turn quizzed the International and Labor Relations on that topic, and the response from Cleveland was that if we were to be our brothers’ keepers then we would need additional compensation, whereas LR’s interpretation was that we could get dinged if the other side had their cells on and were in use through calling and/or texting. Basically, you’re just as likely to get into trouble if you move the train with their cell on if you’re caught. How far you want to take it is up to you, but don’t open yourself up to any Level 5 “argumentative and disagreeable” charges.

Sam Caruso, our Legislative Representative, is running for the position of Eastern District delegate to our annual convention against Bill Elliott, another delegate from North Platte. Ballots have been mailed to the membership and you should have received it by now. They are due no later than 4-20, so if you haven’t voted yet, please do so.

Chuck Yarbrough and Randy Adams are our designated Peer Support specialists now. Contact information will be posted on the website.

In light of the new cell phone rules, it is not always possible to reach LC Brooner or VLCs Mimick and Yarbrough with emergency situations or other things in which you need a union officer to back you up. We have set two other people up to mind the store, so to speak, when the aforementioned three officers are on-duty or in undisturbed. They are Dana Carman, Jr, and Brian McCoy. The chain of command is Terry, Jeff Mimick, Chuck Yarbrough, Dana, then Brian. If it absolutely, positively needs to be done right now and the first three are on-duty, then call Dana or Brian. Sadie moves are ONLY to be done through Terry, Jeff, or Chuck as they keep detailed records. Dana and Brian are only to be used as emergency decision-makers if the other three are unavailable.

Though we are not involved with TSC, there is a safety program called Crossover that we are participating with in the Council Bluffs Service Unit; mostly for the yard, Wayne Keefer is our representative in Crossover. If you have safety issues with the yard or something else that you feel Wayne should bring up in Crossover meetings, please leave him a message on the website's Message Board, or e-mail him at wakeefer@hotmail.com.

Dues are going to go up by \$1.00 effective on the June 10th paycheck, as the International has raised dues to initiate a training and education program for union officers.

We are looking into a four-hour prompt time on Council Bluffs coal trains.

Be on the lookout for fixed derails. Over time, the Service Unit will be installing fixed derails on every track that leads out to a main line.

They are also conducting a switching audit that will also look to see if you're stopping at least 100 feet away from derails, and stopping in the clear of any switches that your staff has to go up and handline. Additionally, they are watching for train securement; do your securement, TEST your securement, and THEN shut the engines down if thirty-five degrees or above. If they knock off the brakes and your train fails securement, it is a Level 4C.

Law boards for Lenny White, Jerome Pizinger, and Don Kinnersley are projected for early June.

Our new MOP, Greg Lange (from the 3rd District) will soon take over simulator duties from Bob Billings.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1111. See you 5-9, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
05-09-2011, 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by D Carman Jr, seconded by W Keefer, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by W Keefer, seconded by J Nourse, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:27 turns on, calls for 27.42. RE10:32 turns on, calls for 31.7.

BLE 699 Report:

no officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Randy Richards, Jim Janovsky. Rick Flom returned effective 5-1, and Randy Richards is in the process of returning. Jim Janovksy is due to retire 5-31.

Financial:

\$7,639; 113 members (109 TE&Y plus 4 company officers).

Legislative:

None

Unfinished Business:

Check your CCS cards when boarding your train in North Platte on the East Run-Thru, as some of them have been less-than-accurate lately. Additionally, check your seals on the Ultra cab box. The Extra Board laying-off-on-call discussion continued. This was the last meeting in which we discussed the issue before sending this measure on to Cheyenne and hence to Labor Relations. Overall, the membership voted 11 for (M Call, S Caruso, E Friend, D Van Dorn, J Nourse, E Abboud, J Pyka, W Keefer, D Zahnow, J McGruder, and T Kinsella) to 1 opposed (J Mimick).

New Business:

The annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for June 16. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Though we are not involved with TSC, there is a safety program called Crossover that we are participating with in the Council Bluffs Service Unit; mostly for the yard, Wayne Keefer is our representative in Crossover. If you have safety issues with the yard or something else that you feel

Wayne should bring up in Crossover meetings, please leave him a message on the website's Message Board, or e-mail him at wakeefer@hotmail.com. In the last Crossover meeting, Wayne reported back to us that they are putting up new lights on the South End as well as paving/repaving some of the yard roads. Additionally, be aware of restricted speed in the yard as they are testing on that.

Dues are going to go up by \$1.00 effective on the June 10th paycheck, as the International has raised dues to initiate a training and education program for union officers.

Additionally, they are watching for train securement; do your securement, TEST your securement, and THEN shut the engines down if thirty-five degrees or above. If they knock off the brakes and your train fails securement, it is a Level 4C. This was mentioned in the April meeting, but since then eight of our guys got dinged for it.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by W Keefer, seconded by M Call, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 0948. See you 6-13, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
6-13-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by J Mimick, seconded by J Nourse, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by G Sprinkel, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:22 turns on, calls for 26. RE10:36 turns on, calls for 33. Turns are being left alone for now, pending flooding issues. There are still engineers cut back working as conductors, but the carrier is not going to recall those guys for engine service until they get enough conductors up and running

BLE 699 Report:

no officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Clovis Colley, Butch Nice.

Financial:

\$6,470.49; 112 members (108 TE&Y plus 4 company officers). Motion to accept financial report by C Yarbrough, seconded by G Sprinkel, unanimous.

Legislative:

None

Unfinished Business:

The extra board issue has been resolved thusly...if you lay off ON CALL ONLY, you are on the hook per LC Brooner, no matter the status (LS, LK, LP, FL), until the extra board engineer behind you that caught the assignment you laid off to dodge marks up back home.

New Business:

The annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for June 16. A motion for Phil Reyes to hold his turn due to his service to the local in arranging the golf tournament was made by C Yarbrough and seconded by G Sprinkel, unanimous, for all of his hard work.

If you get a train that has already been CCS cab signal-tested and the CCS cards are signed, but it doesn't work once on the main line, it is considered a failure enroute.

The MGIGI is looking at a possible 5 AM start time, but both us and the UTU are trying to get the pickers put back on in Council Bluffs. Stay tuned.

With all of the flooding going on, everything's in chaos and crews are being asked to do things that might normally be beyond the scope of their normal work. Do NOT subject yourself to discipline by refusing to do something per agreement; do it (under protest if you need to) if it is indeed safe to do so, and let the union officers know about it. There was some concern that work train crews were being used to handle revenue cars. YARD work train crews can do anything, including handling revenue cars, but ROAD work train crews can't handle revenue cars.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by G Sprinkel, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 0958. See you 7-11, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
7-11-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by B McCoy, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Sweeney, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:21 turns on, calls for 20.

RE10:39 turns on, calls for 44.

Turns are being left alone for now, due to reroutes (main line between Kansas City and St Louis is flooded to some extent and we're receiving 8 trains daily from there and the CNIC), recent derailments, and other flood issues.

BLE 699 Report:

No Officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Max Eckert, Andy Allison.

Financial:

\$11, 539.76; 110 members (106 TE&Y plus 4 company officers). Motion to accept financial report by G Sprinkel, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

Legislative:

The California state legislative rep, Tim Smith (their equivalent to Randy Meek) has asked all divisions to e-mail information on excessive-length trains (anything 8,000 feet or longer) with issues, route, train statistics, to tsmith@sbcglobal.net. Tim is assembling a database of excessive-length trains for future reference in various issues.

We are watching changes in Social Security and Medicare to be sure they don't roll Railroad Retirement into Social Security or do anything else to adversely affect our retirements and benefits. Congress is seeking to privatize Amtrak, which pays into our Railroad Retirement.

Health and Welfare in our contract is still being worked on, but thus far it looks like the premium will still be \$200/month with a higher deductible and out-of-pocket.

We have been informed that UPREHS is no longer handling on-duty health situations, but rather United Healthcare. We hope to have more information available soon.

Unfinished Business:

There is no new information on the claims issue for “old Zone” versus “new Zone”. Terry has had ONE claim since he took office in regards to claiming zone breaks on the old Zone. The carrier has their interpretation, as outlined in various Superintendent bulletins, and the union has ours. It has not been to a board for arbitration, but we don’t know why. If you claim Zone breaks at Milepost 32.4, be sure to follow the instructions per the relevant Superintendent bulletin for the day. Dogcatch crews, zone and non-zone, can take their train to or from anywhere within the OMC limits.

New Business:

The deadline to apply for a scholarship through the Southwest Convention is August 1. There will be information on the website for application instructions.

We are aware that there are parking issues at Fremont. The Union Street parking lot for the out-of-town crews has had some break-ins and vandalism incidents, so they’ve been parking in the home lot until they can get more lighting installed. Several vehicles that haven’t been moved in some time in the home lot are being checked out with Thurman.

The Service Unit is looking at getting lighting set up at Gilmore Avenue for southbound Falls City Subdivision trains like they have set up at Hills Farm Road.

There will be no more emergency LV for deaths or family health emergencies. What you’ll get is emergency FL, which has been provisioned for within the FMLA Act, per CMS upper management. CMS is SUPPOSED to be able to lay you off FL as a one-time deal with no documentation, though you will be asked to provide documentation, etc, after the fact as if you had applied for FL through normal channels.

With all of the flooding going on, everything’s in chaos and crews are being asked to do things that might normally be beyond the scope of their normal work. Do NOT subject yourself to discipline by refusing to do something per agreement; do it (under protest if you need to) if it is indeed safe to do so, and let the union officers know about it. There was some concern that work train crews were being used to handle revenue cars. YARD work train crews can do anything, including handling revenue cars, but ROAD work train crews can’t handle revenue cars.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1026. See you 8-8, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
8-8-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by D Carman Jr, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:25 turns on, calls for 25.

RE10:44 turns on, calls for 42.

Flooding between Kansas City and St Louis has receded enough that those detoured trains aren't on our territory any longer. Additionally, the RE01 pool will get some trains back that had previously been on the RE10 pool.

BLE 699 Report:

RE58:14 crews averaged 23.5 starts, compared to 13 crews averaging 22 starts in June.

Sick:

Max Eckert. Greg Fogle recently passed away.

Financial Report:

\$11,539.76, and 109 members (104 engineers/1 trainman/4 managers). Motion made by S Caruso and seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, to reimburse LC Brooner for flowers from BLET 183 in the amount of \$100.66 for the funeral of Mike Young's mother. Motion to accept financial report by M Call, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

Legislative:

Signals manager T. J Hite would like to be notified of areas where the cab signals routinely drop out; you can e-mail him at tjhite@up.com. The FRA granted the carrier a cab signal waiver for 92 days inspection (up from 60 days) and the carrier can inspect it while not on a service track, such as on the main line. Our national contract status is that the UTU agreement has already been tentatively approved so the carriers aren't wanting to negotiate much more with us (we are still negotiating work rules and raises, however).

Unfinished Business:

We are looking into more precise wording on how to claim this, but if you are on the Extra Board and lose guarantee and/or your Free Day due to Federal Rest, claim "lost wages" rather than a specific monetary amount.

New Business:

This was the first of three meetings in which we will discuss how turns are placed in a pool, as well as Sadie moves. Per Mike Young, when placing/positioning a turn in a pool, the following will apply only when adding a new turn...it does NOT apply to those exercising displacement rights, including Sadie moves. Here is the wording exactly as it appears in the proposed agreement, to be effective 10-5-2011...

Adding New Turns Within The Pools... When a new Engineer turn is to be added to a freight pool, the senior applicant to the new turn may place the turn anywhere within the same freight pool to which the turn is being added. The senior applicant to the new turn must notify CMS at the time of notification where they desire to place their new turn within the pool. Should the Engineer make no election at the time of notification, or should there be no applications for the new turn, it will be assigned and added to the pool in accordance with the current agreement. When adding and placing a new turn, it will be done at the home terminal.

Additionally, when filling an existing vacant turn, person receiving the turn can only move the turn with a Sadie move; can Sadie it forward in the pool with one counter added or backward in the pool with no penalty other than the Sadie move. When bumped and placing your bump in the pool OR using a Sadie movie to bump into a pool, you must bump the junior man and take his spot in the pool. If you have input into the New Turns agreement, come to the meeting and make your thoughts known.

The FRA's interpretation of having your cell phone "stowed" is in your grip, not sitting out on top of your grip or even in your pocket. A switchman in Sioux City is facing a Level 4C because he had a switched-on phone in his pocket, and he fished it out when the FRA inspector asked him for it. If your cell records are subpoenaed they can get you for calls/texts made during previous work shifts earlier in the billing cycle as well. They have handheld devices that can detect a cell signal in the locomotive cabs, as well as differentiate between verbal and data transmission, and whether any cell phones in the cab are on or off.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1024. See you 9-12, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
9-12-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to order by B McCoy, seconded by R Flom, unanimous.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to suspend reading of minutes by J Mimick, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:25 turns on, calls for 23.

RE10:42 turns on, calls for 47.5,

BUT...that 47.5 figure is skewed for detoured trains from the Topeka derailment, which is back to normal now. So 2 RE10 turns were added today to bring it up to 42 turns.

BLE 699 Report:

BLE 699 report...No officers present, so no report.

Sick:

Sick...Max Eckert, Dean Leaders.

Financial Report:

\$8,828.44, and 107 members (102 engineers/1 trainman/4 managers). Motion to accept made by W Keefer, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

Legislative:

Amtrak is once again under fire in Congress. They have 20,000 jobs that contribute to Railroad Retirement, so write your Congressperson and help Amtrak out. The FRA is now using handheld cell signal detectors; supposedly, the Carrier is not using them yet, but clearly they have access to them. Once again, turn 'em off when you go on-duty, turn 'em on again when you've tied-up. You are permitted to use it in "airplane mode" to access rules ONLY if stopped. The Federal Rest situation, in which Extra Board guarantee is deducted for FR status days, is being taken to arbitration. The BLET has sought BN-type "smart rest", but the Carrier has turned it away. We will keep you posted.

New Members:

Marcus Munoz has petitioned to enter BLET 183; motion to accept by S Caruso, seconded by R Flom, unanimous. Welcome to the club, Marc.

Unfinished Business:

Parking at Fremont:MTO Thurman posted a notice, and it is also posted in North Platte and Boone, where far-terminal vehicles can once again park in the East Lot.

Rumors have run rampant on the outcome of the Don Kinnersley law board, but the reality is that the law board has not ruled on his situation as of yet. He has a whistleblower case against the Carrier as well, so all sides are proceeding with caution at present, rumors to the contrary.

This is the final of three meetings where we discussed how we do Sadie Hawkins moves as well as what guys can and can't do when bumping in. Here is the final ruling from Cheyenne for placing new and vacant turns in a pool, verbatim...

“When a new turn is added to a pool, the person receiving new turn will be allowed to place turn anywhere in the pool at the time of notification. When filling existing vacant turn, person receiving turn can only move turn with a Sadie Hawkins move, backwards in the pool with no penalty, forward in pool with one counter added. With a full bump:when bumping into a pool with a full bump, you must bump the junior man and you may place the turn anywhere in the pool. When using a Sadie Hawkins move, you must bump the junior man and take his slot.” Remember, normal business hours for Sadie moves are Monday through Thursday, 9 AM-5 PM.

Financial Report...\$8,828.44, and 107 members (102 engineers/1 trainman/4 managers). Motion to accept made by W Keefer, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

New Business:

The annual dinner will be held at Pizza King on Thursday, October 20. Social hour from 6-7, food from 7 onwards.

There will be bulletined in late September three peer trainer positions for the new “New York Leader”-style computer screens that locomotives will soon be equipped with. This is a prelude to Positive Train Control, that we will see a few years down the line. There is no word yet on pay for the peer trainer positions, but certainly that will be posted in the bulletin. It will be for three weeks of five 12-hour days per week.

The new depot at California Junction should be completed circa August 2012, with the new depot at Fremont by County Road 26 completed by mid-2013.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by W Keefer, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1102. See you 10-10, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
10-10-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to approve reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by D Shultz, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01: 24 turns on, calls for 31; 3 turns will be added today and more may come.
RE10: 40 turns on, calls for 40.

BLE 699 Report:

In September, 15 crews averaged 21 starts of 2,738 miles each. By way of comparison, 14 crews averaged 23.5 starts of 3,051 miles each in August. LC Bernhardt is leaving active service for back surgery but will still remain Local Chairman for 699 until mid-December, at which point Vice LC Chuck Lyons will take over. Bernie will handle vacations for 2012 shortly, however.

Legislative:

no legislative report this month.

New Members:

We have four new members this month; Craig Norman (motion to accept by J Mimick/seconded by D Carman Sr/unanimous), Brad Herbert (motion to accept by D Shultz/seconded by C Yarbrough/9 in favor-1 against, accepted), Mike Wazygis (motion to accept by D Van Dorn/seconded by D Shultz/unanimous), and Justin Nickell, who transferred over from BLE 699. Welcome to the club, guys.

Financial Report:

\$10,648.88, and 107 members (102 engineers/1 trainman/4 managers). Motion to accept made by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Amendments to the September meeting minutes are as follows...Sadie moves can be done between 12 noon on Monday and 12 noon on Thursday, but the member must be at his/her home terminal in order to perform the Sadie move. Additionally, the Social Hour begins at 5 PM, not 6 PM, for the 10-20 annual dinner.

The three peer trainer positions for the "New York Leader"-style computer screens coming out with new locomotives have been bumped up to six positions, and those positions have been moved back to sometime after January 1. The peer trainer program will run for four weeks. More information as it develops.

New Business:

The annual dinner will be held at Pizza King on Thursday, October 20. Social hour from 5-7, food from 7 onwards.

2012 vacation forms will be at the depots soon.

Positive Train Control is in the process of being pushed back from 2013 to 2018, as the carriers are seeking a waiver from the FRA to do so. It is expected that the waiver will be approved.

Motion to approve a floral arrangement up to \$50.00 to be sent to the funeral of an active member or an active member's spouse was made by D Van Dorn/seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous. This will be the first of three meetings that this motion will be discussed.

When doing a tie-up from a job, do so on the CMTS screen on the UP website, not on the green screen. There is a Superintendent Bulletin addressing this tie-up change.

Dean Haglestein of the Harriman assured us that the recent "fleeting" of First District crews from the OMC to North Platte will stop. Two days later, it happened again. The fight continues. In September, the Second District had 139 deadheads to our 44 (by way of comparison, the proper ratio of trains is 56 RE22 to 44 RE10) out of Fremont/North Platte. There is NO CURRENT AGREEMENT on how much either side gets to deadhead/separate-and-apart. We have shouted the injustice and inequity of the situation from the highest hill, but at the end of the day the Harriman and the corridor managers in North Platte get to do what they want with no repercussions. They don't get more than their fair share of actual starts, keeping with the 56:44 ratio...but clearly the deadhead ratio of 4:1 is too far in their favor and is and has been causing substantial quality-of-life issues as it's been increasingly difficult to know when we're going to work. Cheyenne, we know you read our minutes and that you're busy with strike issues and have bigger fish to fry at present, but can you assist us with resolving this issue?

Sick:

Sick...Max Eckert, Dean Leaders.

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1138. Don't forget, annual dinner begins at 5 PM at Pizza King in Council Bluffs on Thursday, October 20. C'mon down; it's a good time and good food. See you then, or at the next union meeting on 11-14, guys; be safe.

Teamsters Hall
11-14-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, motion to approve reading of minutes by S Caruso, seconded by C Yarbrough, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:27 turns on, calls for 27.

RE10:37 turns on, calls for 35.5; one turn being cut today.

BLE 699 Report:

In October, 14 turns averaged 21 starts of 2,800 miles each. LC Bernhardt is retiring 11-30, and Chuck Lyons will be the new Local Chairman. We will work to get 699 members access to 183's web page so they can access agreements, message boards, etc. Stay tuned.

Legislative:

Amtrak ridership is growing, but the Republicans are still trying to kill it and then roll Railroad Retirement into Social Security. Railroad Retirement is solvent for a projected 75 years, with some \$26 billion in the fund.

New Members:

Steve Floro, motion to accept by S Caruso, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous. Welcome to the club, Steve

Financial Report:

\$8,079.19, and 109 members (104 active engineers/1 trainman/4 managers). Motion to accept made by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Sweeney, unanimous

Unfinished Business:

Various negotiations with customers may affect the number of trains soon. The APL (American Presidential Lines) stack trains are being negotiated at present, and Mid-America Energy for the 2-3 Council Bluff coal trains daily as well as the Neal plants in Sioux City will be decided upon by December of 2012.

The 2011 Safety Award jackets should be ready after January 1.

Local Chairman meetings with the Service Unit have dropped from once a month to once every other month. We are still participating in the Crossover safety program in the yard (Wayne Keefer is our representative for that).

The deadhead issue with the Second District has been helped somewhat; the ratio has dropped from 4:1

to 2.5:1. In October, they had 138 RE22 deadheads compared to 56 RE10, and in September it was 188 RE22 to 39 RE10. The deadhead imbalance was discussed with General Chairman Young and First Vice-Chairman Chenchar today, so we shall see what transpires. The current deadhead window is 4 hours, down from 8, as the 8-hour window was creating more heldaway for crews. Deadheads out of North Platte are actually called by the OMC Corridor Manager, and not the guys in North Platte themselves

New Business:

General Chairman Mike Young and First Vice-Chairman Mark Chenchar joined us today prior to their meetings at Headquarters, and they discussed many details of the proposed agreement. Basically, we have about a half-dozen issues to resolve, but we're close to having an agreement. December 7 we are free to strike, but we hope to know more well in advance and not have it go up to the wire like it did in early October. We will keep you posted.

A new attendance policy taking effect on 1-1-2012 from Santamaria's office conflicts with our collective bargaining agreement. Laws override the CBA, but the CBA overrides policies. The union's interpretation is that the attendance policy violates the CBA, and Young and Chenchar were in town to meet with the carrier and discuss. They hope to be able to have a civilized discussion of a Smart Rest-type adjustment, so we shall see.

The HDC has an "Amended Winter Plan", during which they can lay us in at Grand Island like last year, but they want to handle it all themselves without any input from us. On a related note, Chenchar said we could not refuse to violate the Hours of Service agreement during winter weather, and could be forced to continue the trip. This interpretation differs from an earlier one, in which if we felt it was unsafe to continue or we were fatigued, we could refuse on grounds of safety. Unless you hear otherwise, govern yourself accordingly.

If the contracts are approved after all, any checks for back pay raises are to be paid in a separate check as opposed to being incorporated in your regular paycheck like they did last time.

The deductions on engineer extra board guarantee due to mandated Federal Rest is being handled by the National Division and claims are being conferenced, but no word is back on it yet. The court case about it did agree that the issue should go to arbitration.

2012 vacation forms can be printed out via the 183 website and are due to Jeff by December 1

The new Fremont depot will be at Johnson Road, not at County Road 26, and will be completed in 2013. The new depot at California Junction will be ready by September 2012, at the southeast corner of Cal. The RE58 and RE10 pools will remain in Fremont for the time being, but the RE01 pool is projected to move to Cal.

Sick:

Sick...Max Eckert, Dean Leaders (Dean is retiring in January). .

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by W Keefer, unanimous, meeting adjourned at 1105. See you on 12-12, guys; be safe

Teamsters Hall
12-12-2011 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes by M McCullough, motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by R Adams, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:24 turns on, calls for 26; 2 turns added this morning.
RE10:36 turns on, calls for 37.

BLE 699 Report:

14 turns on.

699 members should now have access to 183's web page so they can access agreements, message boards, etc.

Legislative:

No Report.

New Members:

No new members.

Financial Report:

\$9,643.53 and 110 members (106 active engineers/1 trainman/3 managers). Motion to accept made by C Yarbrough, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

We may lose some coal sets on 1-1.

The 4 peer trainer positions in Council Bluffs and 4 in Fremont will be posted for bid shortly, and paid at the Outside Peer Trainer rate of pay. Further details forthcoming.

New Business:

The ballots for the new contract will be sent out around 12-15, but wages and work rules are still being discussed on site. The general consensus from Cleveland is that it's not spectacular, but significantly better than what a rubber-stamped PEB will give us.

Discussed placement after being bumped off of your assignment by yourself, on the computer. If you don't place yourself before your 48 hours is up, you could face being frozen for 30 days on the Extra Board that protects your last assignment instead of using a Sadie Hawkins day to place yourself

AFTER 48 hours. Motion made by C Colley and seconded by W Keefer that letting your bump expire results in a 15-day freeze on the protecting Extra Board from being able to use a Sadie day. This is the first of three meetings in which this will be discussed before this policy is adapted, so come and make your voice heard. All 15 in attendance voted in favor of this proposition with the exception of H Volquartzen.

Motion to pay D Carman Jr to reimburse for union-related mailing expenses by C Yarbrough, seconded by R Adams, unanimous; \$36.20

Male-whole agreements, deadheads (east and west), and layoff policies were discussed. Stay tuned.

Sick:

Sick...Max Eckert, Dean Leaders (Dean is retiring in January). .

Motion to suspend reading of minutes by C Yarbrough, seconded by G Sprinkel, 11 for/2 against, meeting adjourned at 1043. See you on 1-9-2012, guys; have a Happy Holidays.