

Teamsters Hall
01-13-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by J Sweeney, seconded by D Schultz, 4-1, passed.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:22 turns on, calls for 24
RE10:27 turns on, calls for 27.75

BLE 699 Report:

16 turns on, calls for 16.7

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$14,864.27 ending balance 1/12/14 and 112 members.
Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded by B Herbert, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Despite complaints by crews, the carrier is going to keep setting out bad orders at Mountain Cement in NP.

Still having problems with CCS not being done at Mo Valley for westbound trains. Let LC Brooner know when this occurs.

LC Brooner had a discussion with DRO Russell about the problems we're having with MOP Garcia, ie. belligerent and berating attitude toward engineers, calling engineers at home, etc.

Concerning RCX vans, you can request a safety audit of your van and turn down for any safety issue.

Discussion about the BIT Zone on Blair Hill.

To clarify the vacation proposal on our BLET183 website – this was to determine if we wanted the GC to explore the different options, this was not one solid proposal. The results of the straw poll indicated that we would like him to look into these options.

No word on inward-facing cameras.

New Business:

Motion by T Brooner to pay for LC Brooner's purchase of a new laptop computer for the local chairman, seconded by J Sichta, unanimous.

We do have the option of scheduling hearing and eye exams through the nurse at CB.

In January, managers will be performing shove audits. Switch and derail audits are planned for February.

MCBKC has been removed from the lineup.

MNPVP is now in the short pool.

In March, TRT will be replacing ties from around MP110 to MP64. This should take about four months, more info coming concerning work trains, boards, etc.

They are also planning to redo both ML1 and 2 between MP143 and MP150 – no set date.

The carrier is in the process of making tie ups quicker and more efficient for engineers.

The Supt. has indicated they will be stepping up testing for RZ, CRZ, red flags, etc. They want to make the whole crew accountable for any violation. Make sure you're covering yourself with job briefings and communications with crew.

Discussion on setting up golf tournament, inviting national officers to tie-in with that month's union meeting.

BLET699 has donated money to Brother McGuinn who is still off and having a lot of medical issues.

BLET699 is in discussion with the carrier about establishing a rocket pool for the CBSX-SXCB. Proposing to have a brakeman and starting out of CB.

Still issues about unloading of coal trains in Sioux City.

There is open enrollment for HSA program on the company website.

Sick:

D McGinn – BLET699

M Gahm - BLET183

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by D Schultz, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1035

Teamsters Hall
02-10-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by J Sweeney, seconded by D Schultz, 9-1, passed.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:28 turns on, calls for 30
RE10:28 turns on, calls for 27.5

BLE 699 Report:

15 turns on, calls for 14.2

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$14,349.88 ending balance 2/09/14 and 112 members.
Motion to accept financial report by D Schultz, seconded by J Sweeney, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

No new word on IFCs. Looking at sometime in March according to carrier.

New Superintendent wants to push meetings with the LC from monthly to quarterly or bi-annually – doesn't appear to want to work with us.

Brother McGinn will still be off approximately 2-4 more months.

LC Brooner will talk to GC Geisler about 15th District engineers running outside their bridge rights from Council Bluffs to Valley. It seems some 15th District engineers are taking their train from Valley to Fremont for trade out.

New Business:

Motion made by E Abboud to change Sioux City Fuelmasters from two downloads to one download, seconded by T Brooner. Discussion and first vote taken.

Motion made by D Heiman – on a Sadie Hawkins move, when bid clerks fail to do the job, committee men can go in and fill the job by bid application, seconded by D Schultz, unanimous.

Discussion about yard engineers working rest days even after laying off during their scheduled week. LC Brooner says this is legal and you do not have to fulfill your scheduled work days in order to work rest days.

The carrier is throwing Doulom trains on the lineup with no notice. LC is checking into this.

Discussion made to pull out of the Fuelmaster program and doing the company a favor until they start looking at some of our concerns such as train lineups, board strength, crew balancing, etc.

BLET 183 would like to extend our condolences to Ron West's family. Donations can be given on the BLET 183 website.

Sick:

D McGuinn – BLET699

M Gahm – BLET183

C Yarborough - BLET183

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by W Keefer, 7-2.

Meeting adjourned at 1045

Teamsters Hall
03-10-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by W Keefer, seconded by D Shultz, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:27 turns on, calls for 28.6

RE10:26 turns on, calls for 27

RE01: 7 roundtrips, RE10: 8 roundtrips per month – falls into the 3,500-3,800 mileage agreement.

Ex. RE01: 13 starts = 3,690 miles, 14 starts = 3,976 miles

There was discussion from LC Brooner on how mileage was calculated.

BLE 699 Report:

No report

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$14,148.60 ending balance 3/09/14 and 111 members.

Motion to accept financial report by B McCoy, seconded by J Sichta, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Second vote was taken for changing the number of downloads needed for Sioux City Fuelmasters from one download to two.

Motion made by T Brooner to repay W Keefer \$199.84 for golf tournament expenses, seconded by J Sichta, unanimous.

LC Brooner discussed with management the problem of 15th District engineers running from Valley to Fremont. This is unacceptable and should be reported to LC Brooner.

New Business:

LC Brooner has had a lot of discipline cases recently and wanted to remind everyone to be sure to slow down and follow the rules concerning shove movements, etc. The new Superintendent's policy is to discipline everyone on the crew.

Tentative dates for TRT – March 16-23 mp332-mp337, Omaha Sub

April 16-May 1 Blair Sub

May 5-Jul 7 mp110-mp64, Columbus Sub

Remember if you're called off of the extra board for a work train, it is one day and done. There will be bids coming down for seven work trains.

There are currently two classes of new hires being trained in Council Bluffs. The first class should be qualified June 1st, the second class on July 1st.

LS Clark has transferred from N Platte to Council Bluffs on a hardship transfer and just to let everyone know, this was done without any knowledge or input from BLET183

There was discussion about dogcatching, being called for zone (rule 22) or non-zone (rule 71).

Sick:

D McGinn – BLET699

M Gahm – BLET183

C Yarborough – BLET183

J Pyka – BLET183

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by D Shultz, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1040

Teamsters Hall
04-14-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by R Smith, seconded by J Sweeney, 5-1.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:30 turns on, calls for 36

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 34

Due to manpower shortage, carrier will not let us add any turns.

BLE 699 Report:

15 turns on, calls for 15.4 – will try to add one

Legislative:

Looking into more regulations for RCX van drivers. Need audits on vans, working to set up inspections.

Brother Sweeney visited Nebraska legislators working with union issues. He also met with Bruce Broyles and Staci Apple from the Iowa legislature.

New Members:

Jason Ward, J Sweeney, seconded by J Sichta, unanimous

Lewis Prescott, D Heiman, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous

Scott Johnson, J Sichta, seconded by D VanDorn, unanimous

Financial Report:

\$14,438.18 ending balance 04/13/14 and 110 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded by R Smith, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

GC Geisler and LC Brooner discussed dogcatch rules with the carrier. The carrier needs to inform you if you are called for a Rule 71 or Rule 22 dogcatch. If you are on automatic release, Rule 71, the carrier is not supposed to make you wait any more than 15 minutes. The carrier wanted an hour wait. Hopefully, they will abide by the 15 minute time that was settled on. There has been a rumor that there are no more zone dogcatches but they are still calling them.

There was a third and final vote on changing the Sioux City Fuelmasters from 2 download to 1 downloads. This was passed with a 16-6 vote over the last three meetings.

GC Geisler has proposed some ideas for a new vacation agreement similar to one that the Southern region has now. Some of the ideas are: no forced vacation in January or February, one floating week per person, schedule PL and LV days six months in advance, changing November 15th cutoff date to what position you worked most of the year. These are just some ideas that were brought up for discussion.

Discussion on the Burn Clause and its effect on absenteeism.

Idea was brought up to the carrier for 4 on and 1 off or 5 on and 1 off with compensation to get rid of

Federal Rest, similar to the BN Smart Rest.

New Business:

If the company nurse is in the crew room, realize you're not obligated to fill out forms/surveys concerning your health, smoking, etc. You are not required to give the company nurse any information. You have the option of taking your hearing/eye exam through the company's private contractor and not the company nurse. It seems that the company nurse has been waiting in the crew rooms listening in on conversations and trying to get information from people.

The carrier would like to run a 90 day pilot program to set turns up to a vacancy and paying set up miles instead of dropping vacant turns. This was discussed and does not appear to be something the Division wants to do at this time.

Discussion about having a 7 day fill agreement (temporary) for yard and local jobs.

Work trains on Blair Sub to start this week – NZ459 WE01

Again having problems with the front desk at the Oak Tree Inn in NP. Besides not having rooms available, there are certain hotel employees being extremely rude. Please report any problems to LC Brooner.

Brought up to LC Brooner about having to hand deliver airslips to the West yard yardmaster. We feel this is isn't our responsibility and should be left on the unit.

Also discussed - trains running out of time, carrier running the crews into the ground and not having relief in a timely manner. LC Brooner will discuss this with the carrier.

Remember the Golf Tournament will be held on June 10th, find details on the BLE website.

Sick:

D McGuinn – BLET699

S Caruso – BLET183

R Schrack – BLET183

K Everson - BLET183

J Pyka – BLET183

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by J Sichta, 5-2.

Meeting adjourned at 1015

Teamsters Hall
05-12-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by D Shultz, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:31 turns on, calls for 31

RE10:29 turns on, calls for 29

BLE 699 Report:

15 turns on, calls for 14.7

Legislative:

Republicans in Congress are still pushing Amtrak cuts. Any cuts will affect our railroad retirement.

New Members:

Financial Report:

\$14,636.65 ending balance 05/12/14 and 106 members.

Motion to accept financial report by D Shultz, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

LC Brooner talked to management in N Platte about some train crews being told to take airslips to the WY. Management agreed that this is not our job and are looking into it.

Still having problems at the Oak Tree Inn in N Platte with some of the front desk clerks. LC Brooner talked to Chris and she is supposed to be working on it.

Make sure to notify dispatcher when short on time. Let them know that you would like to be relieved and tied up at your terminal in less than 12 hours. The company is getting heat for tie ups over 13 hours and it looks like they're trying to blame the train crews.

On occasion, CMS is confusing the conductor's agreement about holding turns and applying it to engineers. If you see a turn not being dropped when it needs to be, notify LC Brooner.

New Business:

Labor Relations is meeting with GC Geisler about trip rates for dogcatching. The company's proposal is \$350 with overtime after 10 hours on duty. The union is pressing for more money. This could start as a 60-day pilot program. This is only in the discussion phase, more info to come.

Still working on the vacation agreement.

There is a team of Union and Company representatives working on fatigue issues.

The Harriman is going through restructuring. As of this time, the N Platte Corridor is gone and it's duties are being handled by the OMC Desk.

Labor Relations is having problems with crews taking meal periods after 12 hours on duty on work trains. GC Geisler is working with the company to come up with an agreement that would allow crews to tie up with 10 ½ hours on duty and be paid an extra set amount, ex. \$40, instead of working 12 hours.

Recent transfer, LS Clark, is now back in N Platte on their seniority roster.

There have been two recent discipline cases concerning attendance. A lot of the problem has been the company counting the burn clause against us. The union is trying to get this taken to court where we feel we can win our case.

Reminder to all: June 9th there will be a special meeting with President Pierce, GC Geisler and others. This coincides with the Golf Tournament on June 10th. We would like to have a big turnout for both.

Motion was made by LC Brooner to purchase pizza, etc. for the meeting on June 9th, seconded by D Shultz, unanimous.

Motion was made by LC Brooner to hold P Reyes' and J McGruder's turns on June 10th, as they will be working the golf tournament, seconded by J Nourse, unanimous.

There will be a \$1 dues increase in July from the National Division, this coincides with the 3.8% wage increase effective July 1, 2014.

Sick:

D McGuinn – BLET699

S Caruso – BLET183

R Schrack – BLET183

K Everson - BLET183

J Pyka – BLET183

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Shultz, seconded by J Nourse, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1025

Teamsters Hall
06-09-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by S Caruso, seconded by R Smith, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:31 turns on, calls for 42.1

RE10:29 turns on, calls for 32.5

BLE 699 Report:

No Report

Legislative:

J Sweeney has been working with state politicians fighting for the funding of Amtrak.

New Members:

Financial Report:

\$14,406.21 ending balance 06/09/14 and 108 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded by D Zahnow, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

At the June meeting, we had a special guest, GC Dave Geisler. He gave us an overview of issues being discussed at the General Chairman level. A summary of some of these issues:

- Still meeting with the carrier concerning IWF cameras. Some locomotives are equipped with cameras on a test level, but were having trouble with infrared viewing at night. The carrier is working this out and we'll probably see full implementation in the fall.
- The BLET has been working on a new user-friendly website – BLET-ED. Hopefully information will be easier to access.
- The new vacation agreement may be presented to the carrier this fall.
- Looking at a form of smart rest for extra boards to replace the current federal rest.
- Absenteeism
- Working on a trip rate for dog catching.
- Looking at the dual track negotiations for the upcoming contract.
- The Committee on Locomotive Seats

GC Geisler answered many questions and there was much discussion about these issues.

LC Brooner had a few points on local issues:

- Touched on procedures in E Departure Yard in N Platte and timeslips for setting out cars in Mtn Cement tracks
- Talked about the carrier issuing discipline in Rule 6.5 cases, concerning distance, direction, derail, etc.
- Discussion about new conductors being forced out to the road without proper training

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

S Caruso R Schrack

K Everson J Pyka

D VanDorn D Heiman

D O'Brien M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by S Caruso, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1030

Special Meeting with National President Dennis Pierce and First Vice President Lee Pruitt

We were honored to have our National President and Vice President in attendance at our meeting. Each took a turn discussing the issues affecting the BLET today. There was in-depth discussion on many topics including inward facing cameras, and the many issues with the carrier and the FRA concerning the cameras. There was also discussion about keeping the current two-man crew policy, especially in light of recent accidents concerning key trains. Their vast subject knowledge was much appreciated and many questions were answered throughout the presentation.

Teamsters Hall
07-14-2014 0900

No Meeting.

Not enough members for a quorum

Teamsters Hall
08-11-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

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

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 39.6

RE10:27 turns on, calls for 30.8

Carrier will not let us add to these boards due to manpower shortage.

BLE 699 Report:

RE56: 18 turns on, calls for 22.7

Legislative:

Brother Caruso attended a regional conference concerning Railroad Retirement. It was brought up how occupational disability is coming under attack. Members need to keep an eye on this because it is something we don't want to lose.

New Members:

Blake Jensen

Tommy Caudillo

Motion to accept, T Brooner, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13,786.39 ending balance 08/11/14 and 102 members.

Motion to accept financial report by , S Caruso seconded by J Sichta, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

The discussion with the carrier on trip rates for dogcatches has been dropped for now. The carrier's counter to our proposed pay was so unrealistic that it's obvious they don't want to negotiate.

Still discussing with carrier about the details concerning zone and non-zone dogcatches, such as, waiting time, etc.

Crew balancing is worse than ever. N Platte and CB, both drastically short on manpower, which further increases the incompetence of the carrier to manage the boards.

Still waiting for the exact proposal to the new vacation agreement. We are working with labor relations on a draft that we'll hopefully be able to vote on by the end of the year.

Claim basic day if you have a unit with an inward-facing camera. We are trying to get exact wording for the claim on the Local's website.

There were questions that came up about being put on duty for jobs with assigned start times if you were not actually rested when the job started. CMS can put you on duty when you are rested and leave the start time of the job unchanged.

There was discussion on the BNSF/SMART consist proposal.

Brother Lyons brought up congestion on the Sioux City sub. They are dogcatching their own trains. There is a hard time getting in and out of the yard. Supposedly going to add siding on main line in Sioux City. Remember dogcatching is one direction only. We are so short of manpower that corridors are trying to get crews to dogcatch both directions.

New Business:

Brother McCoy is trying to set up a system so we don't lose vacations that people bid out of that there isn't time to put up for bid. Will post more information on Local's website as it comes available.

On 8/11/14, Brother Nourse resigned his position as Vice President of BLET Local 183. We will decide by the next meeting on his replacement according to our bylaws.

Reminder: Watch how you speak to CMS callers. If you feel like it's going to get out of hand, hang up and let LC Brooner deal with it.

It has come to LC Brooner's attention that when you are involved with a rules infraction, and fail a probable cause rule G test, it is totally under the discretion of the Superintendent if you will remain employed with the carrier. There is no companion agreement that we've had in the past unless OK'd by the Superintendent.

We've had several investigations on attendance policy, which the union has lost. The burn clause concerning attendance, was enacted on July 4, 2014, on the Northern Region. Warning letters concerning attendance are in effect for three years.

We've had several occurrences of engineers being asked to go off district to get trains. Remember, this is not allowed and isn't fair to the other district's engineers.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

S Caruso R Schrack

K Everson D VanDorn C Colley

D O'Brien M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Nourse, seconded by B Lohr, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1045

Teamsters Hall
09-08-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by , R Smith seconded by D Shultz, 7-1.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 41

RE10:27 turns on, calls for 29

Carrier will not let us add to these boards due to manpower shortage.

BLE 699 Report:

RE56: 17 turns on, calls for 21

Carrier will not let us add to this board due to manpower shortage.

Legislative:

None.

New Members:

Mike Simpson

Motion to accept, D Shultz, seconded by P Reyes, unanimous.

Kurt Fleer

Motion to accept, J Mimick, seconded by R Schwarzlander, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$14,030.32 ending balance 09/08/14 and 108 members.

Motion to accept financial report by , J Mimick seconded by P Reyes, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

NP Oak Tree Inn is still having room issues, such as; public getting rooms while crews wait, dirty rooms, front desk issues, etc. Please let LC Brooner know the details of any problems you're having.

No new information on Smart Rest Program, vacation agreement, locomotive seats.

The carrier is coming down hard on attendance issues and missed calls, even with the manpower shortage.

New Business:

Union dinner will be held Thursday, October 9th at Pizza King in Council Bluffs. 5:00-6:00pm Social hour, Dinner begins at 6:00pm.

New job starting in Council Bluffs, YCB 82 with a 7:00am start time. Bid ends 9/9/14.

Since the carrier is being so hardheaded about rules infractions, attendance policy, etc., our Local is considering pulling out of the Fuelmaster Program.

Remember, the dispatcher can not tell you to put another unit online or run with a unit who's blue card is expired. We can not be insubordinate, but if you're having any problems, contact DRO Russell/MOP. Remember to cover yourself.

You must use the leader program if your unit is equipped with one. If it's not working, you must let the dispatcher know and fill out a report, either handwritten or on the website.

There will be a retirement party for Chuck Yarborough on Saturday, October 11th from 5:00-9:00pm at Ragazzi's Pizza at 15475 Ruggles St. in Omaha (156th and Fort).

Make sure to let the dispatcher know when you have two hours to work so it is recorded.

If you see a turn not being dropped when it should be, let LC Brooner know. Since CMS is continually screwing up the counters on turns when on vacations, make holes, etc., LC Brooner is checking these every day but might miss one. Please let him know if the counter is messed up on your turn.

On the Sioux City sub, as an engineer, they can make you unload coal trains on a dogcatch.

The RCX vans with inward-facing cameras have a button next to the green light that will capture 90 seconds of any incident. If a problem occurs in the van, you can push this button to record the incident.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

D O'Brien K Everson D VanDorn

R Schrack M Elske C Colley

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Shultz, seconded by R Schwarzlander, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1015

Teamsters Hall
10-13-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by, B McCoy seconded by K Lynch, 5-2.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 38

RE10:27 turns on, calls for 31

Carrier will not let us add to these boards due to manpower shortage.

BLE 699 Report:

RE56: 14 turns on, calls for 16

Carrier will not let us add to this board due to manpower shortage.

Legislative:

None.

New Members:

Brian Held

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

Keith Parrish

Motion to accept, J Mimick, seconded by B Herbert, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13,454.53 ending balance 10/13/14 and 105 members.

We would like to thank the Bremsmith and the HL&K law firms for their generous donations toward our annual dinner.

Motion to accept financial report by , R Murray seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Leader System – make sure to report to dispatch/mechanical any Leader System problems and fill out report at tie-up. The company is cracking down – three coaching events, with the third being a level 3 with investigation. There will be a blitz in the next couple of weeks to answer questions on the Leader System.

The carrier is monitoring some locomotive consists remotely and can tell if you're running the units online/offline according to paperwork.

According to FRA, the carrier can have you run your lead unit isolated/good.

A lot of discipline cases are coming down. Do not sign for anything without first talking to LC Brooner. In some cases, the company is offering to work with the union with different levels, conferences, etc.

New Business:

Three engineers have been added out, trying to get more, but it's hard with the manpower shortage.

There has been discussion on giving up the engineer jobs in Grand Island due to people getting forced to cover jobs. As of now, the union's position is that we will not give up any jobs and it is a dead issue.

There could be an engineer class starting at the beginning of the year.

There was an incident on the ZSCG1 with not having a proper airslip. Make sure if you get this SLC train, and it is a run through, that it has proper documentation.

The Harriman can not tell you to disregard rules, superintendent bulletins, etc. concerning putting units online/offline.

We recently had first district conductor derail a car in N Platte but was covered under the C3RS Program. This is one of the few good programs that the carrier has. Be sure to utilize it if you need to.

It was brought up that some of the yard switch engines are not being serviced properly. LC Brooner is looking into it.

There has been borrow outs from AZ and TX brought to our district and a new switchman class has been started. Because of all the new trainmen being qualified, there are a lot of new hire conductors/foremen training other new hires. If they're not getting trained properly, let LC Brooner or a manager know about it.

It was brought up that the donation boxes in Fremont and Council Bluffs were not being used. Since we are accepting donations through the website, we've not used the donation boxes for the purpose of sick/injured engineers. We'll put up information on the boxes directing members to make donations online.

It appears that the UP police are hiding in the CB yard giving tickets for speeding, running stop signs, etc. Watch yourself.

The West Yard in N Platte is still having some trains bring airslips to their office. This shouldn't be our job. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Please let LC Brooner know if you're having any problems at Oak Tree Inn in N Platte. It appears that they're trying to get away with running only one van.

Please let LC Brooner if the RCX vans in Mo Valley are leaving for Council Bluffs without waiting for a second crew as instructed.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

K Everson C Colley

R Schrack M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Mimick, seconded by G Stawniak, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1030

Teamsters Hall
11-10-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by, B McCoy seconded by D Carman Jr, 7-1.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 38.6

RE10:28 turns on, calls for 32.8

BLE 699 Report:

RE58:No Report

Legislative:

New Members:

Ryan Lenihan

Motion to accept, T Brooner, seconded by S Caruso, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13,498.57 ending balance 11/10/14 and 103 members.

Motion to accept financial report by, J Sichta seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

It was brought up about the West Yard in N Platte wanting crews to bring airslips to the yardmaster and also starting up units that are shut down in consist. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Vans at Mo. Valley, when directed to pick up two crews, are leaving before picking up the second crew. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Discussed ratio boards being called off of the engineer's board on long pool and conductor's board on short pool.

Having problems with the Oak Tree Inn at N Platte only running one van and even when running two vans, crews are not getting picked up on time.

There was a report of someone's bag being broken into at the crew room in N Platte. Be sure to keep an eye on your things.

LC Brooner is checking on using crews out of Sioux City to dogcatch trains in the OMC and then taking trains up to Sioux City.

New Business:

Thanks to all those that attended the annual BLET dinner. We had a great turnout and a good time was had by all.

The vacation agreement was voted on. The final count was 29 for, 2 against. The results go to the GC and to the next level.

The carrier is trying to use KC crews north of Offutt to dogcatch/hog relief trains into Council Bluffs. LC Brooner is talking to the carrier, we feel this is our extra board's work.

LC Brooner is checking into pre-85 members not getting paid heldaway until departure when being called to deadhead.

There was discussion about an article 19 censure for Jeff Sichta.

There was an incident of extra board crews out of Council Bluffs or Fremont being used to take trains from ADM in Columbus to Gibbon for a tradeout. This is pool work, not extra board work.

Make sure you're doing proper cab signal tests. Managers boarded a train with no test, no seal and cab signals taped over. The crew was pulled out of service.

There was discussion about putting CCS in partial cutout between Blair and Fremont. LC Brooner is checking into it.

Management has been testing on the Blair sub with the mp 354 scanner having an entrance message with no exit message. Be sure to report to dispatcher if this occurs.

There were questions brought up about the dispatcher directing crews to put second units online. You must follow the superintendent bulletin concerning this, but can not be insubordinate to dispatchers. LC Brooner is working with DRO Russell for clarification.

The East run through in N Platte was caught changing the start time on a Z train so second district would catch it instead of non-rested long pool crews. B McCoy talked to DRO Allberry about the incident.

Discussion about no adjustment for the squelch on radios, with no range to call form B's.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

K Everson C Colley

R Schrack D Shultz

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by R Murray, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1050

Teamsters Hall
12-08-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, motion to suspend reading by, B McCoy seconded by D Carman Jr, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 35.2

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 37

In the process of moving men to the TE01, there is also a bid for a tentative class of six engineers in January 2015.

BLE 699 Report:

RE56:17.24 on, calls for 16

Legislative:

New Members:

Bob Kersigo

Motion to accept, D Carman, Jr, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13,437.10 ending balance 12/08/14 and 102 members.

There will be a \$2 dues increase for all members beginning in January 2015.

Unfinished Business:

The new vacation agreement will partially be in effect for 2015. The preponderance portion of the agreement will not go into effect in 2015 (vacation based on where you worked between April and September).

LC Brooner is checking into the use of Sioux City crews being brought into the OMC to dogcatch trains. The union position is that this is not legal and we're trying to work with labor relations.

Still waiting on management's position concerning the use of KC crews in the OMC to relieve and yard their own trains. We feel this should be dogcatch work.

New Business:

In the month of November, we've seen a lot of discipline cases and investigations. If you are having to lay off for medical reasons, keep your manager updated on your status before it becomes an attendance issue. As a reminder, you need seven starts per month to keep your insurance in effect. We recently had a member that came off of discipline and lose his insurance when he didn't get his starts in for the month.

As a reminder, Hartford Disability Insurance won't pay if you're off for both discipline and medical reasons.

President Mike Call appointed Randy Smith to fill the Vice President vacancy for the remainder of the term (until elections in December 2015).

Be sure to check that your ditch lights are on. We recently had a discipline case.

There will be a Leader System Blitz round the clock in Fremont and Council Bluffs, beginning 12/9. There will be members providing information about the Leader System and its use.

According to management at UP, 200 cameras per month are being installed on units. Installed along with the cameras will be electronic device detectors.

Our local management and the Harriman still can't agree on the use of extra units. Although there is a superintendent bulletin on this, you can't be insubordinate if the dispatcher tells you to put extra units online.

If you are putting in a claim for short crew pay, make sure LC Brooner gets a copy of the claim.

Remember, if you're an extra board crew called to get Doulom trains together, call someone if the dispatcher wants you to take the train to Gibbon to trade out. This is pool crew work.

As a reminder, do not go into the depot at the end of your shift/job and then leave and call your tie up I later. Recently had an incident where this happened and was recorded by cameras in the crew room by management.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

K Everson

C Colley

R Schrack

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by D Shultz, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1030
