

Teamsters Hall
01-12-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, accepted by, D Carman Jr, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:27 turns on, calls for 28

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 28

BLE 699 Report:

RE56:14 turns on, calls for 13.6

If you want to change single vacation days to block or vice versa, it must be done before January 31st.

Legislative:

None

New Members:

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

Alfredo Montez - Motion to accept, B Herbert, seconded by H Volquartsen, unanimous.

Rob Kresl – Motion to accept, B Herbert, seconded by H Volquartsen, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13,408.66 ending balance 01/12/15 and 106 members.

Unfinished Business:

The carrier quit paying engineers productivity pay when the agreement was reached with the UTU concerning their productivity pay. When working with a protected trainman, submit a non-service time claim, which you can mail/email to LC Brooner.

New Business:

The carrier is strictly enforcing the Family Leave policy. They are starting to audit individuals, especially those with FMLA on themselves. This is because of so many weekend/holiday Family Leave occurrences.

Remember when setting out a unit, it needs to be put in the lead position. There has been a recent discipline case about this.

Council Bluffs service unit has a new superintendent – Daniel Torres.

On January 19th, there will be a new engineer class starting with six trainees.

There have been rumors of the carrier moving the GIGI job to start out of Columbus. This would help in not having to force engineers to Grand Island.

Remember to put a time claim in if operating a unit equipped with an inward-facing camera. Trying to get this claim form posted on the BLET website.

Make sure you're logging into the Leader system and if it's not working, report it at tie up on the Energy Management screen.

Remember, if you get bumped, you have 48 hours to place yourself. If you lose your bump, you will be placed on the extra board that protected your turn and have to remain there for 15 days.

It was brought up that the screens on the new EMD units can not be adjusted to a low enough setting when working at night. These are the new 8800/8900s.

Discussed using old units for the leader with new units behind.

Discussed having crew change pads on crossings that are frequently used to recrew trains, ie. Hass Crossing in N Platte.

LC Brooner is still working on trying to get the ratio boards evened out. The corridor managers continue to do a terrible job of balancing the boards with the train lineups. At this point, the company appears to not care and is ignoring the union's effort to remedy the problem.

LC Brooner is looking into the running of an extra GIGI on Saturdays and holding the crews for two days. This should have been bulletined as a seven day a week job.

As a reminder, do not text or access the company website while on duty.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

C Colley

R Schrack

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

Meeting adjourned at 1025

Teamsters Hall
02-09-2014 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Reading of previous minutes, accepted by, B McCoy, seconded by D Carman Jr, 9-2.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:31 turns on, calls for 33

RE10:32 turns on, calls for 34

BLE 699 Report :

RE58:15 turns on, calls for 15.2

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$13,358.56 ending balance 02/09/15 and 107 members.

A motion was made D Heiman to reimburse LC Brooner for office supplies, seconded by R Murray, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

BLET is going to a hearing concerning the issue of productivity pay for pre-1985 engineers. No need to put in a non-service time claim since the decline is showing on your working timeslip.

FMLA continues to be an issue and we've had one member pulled out of service. The company is going to make it difficult for those enrolling in FMLA since there have been so many issues of absences on weekends/holidays.

Big improvement in the implication of Leader Program – logging in, reporting, etc.

If you are called for an extra job in Grand Island, this is a one and done. Any problems, call LC Brooner. The company is trying to make crews get their rest in a motel room if they can't make it home in 12 hours, because of DRO Russell's stance on paying tow-in if you can't make it home in 12 hours. We feel that this is not part of our agreement.

It was brought up about RCX drivers working over 12 hours. LC Brooner is checking into it.

In spite of all the complaints, replacing locomotive seats is pretty much a dead issue with the company.

Remember to put a time claim in when working with inward-facing cameras. Exact wording of the claim will be on the BLET 183 website.

New Business:

As usual, the boards/crew balancing are being mismanaged. LC Brooner has been trying to straighten it out with no help from the company. GC Geisler has met with the Harriman. We feel this has become a safety issue, which the company does not want to take the time to address.

LC Brooner has talked to CMS about callers using correct procedures when filling yard vacancies, dropping turns, etc. We've had some problems, especially on the RE01 pool.

It was brought up about the company van issues in N Platte. Instead of fixing seats, the company just pulled out broken seats. This is being addressed by the BLET in N Platte.

Concerns were heard about the Fremont RE10 pool not getting 2-hour calls. LC Brooner has brought this up with the company, who blames the robo-caller instead of resolving it by working with the actual callers.

LC Brooner is looking into problems of getting some Clinton crews to trade out at Allen Creek/Cal. Junction. The crews are claiming they are not qualified.

It was brought up about bringing a Fuelmaster representative to a union meeting so questions can be answered concerning the mysteries and randomness of this program.

If the dispatcher tells you to put another unit online, do it and report it on the form at tie-up. Also make sure your train is stopped when doing so.

There have been complaints about yellow board placement for the slow orders around Columbus. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Checking into making sure snow is removed from the changing pads at Mo. Valley.

The company can not make you violate hours of service because of weather. You can tell them you are tired and unsafe to operate the train.

It was brought up about AFHT crews not reporting to their on-duty location/yard office. Van drivers are picking them up with their orders at the motel and going straight to their train.

There are five online training courses due before May. It is your responsibility to make sure they are done.

June 11th is the tentative date for the 2015 BLET Golf Tournament. The committee this year is Wayne Keefer, Phil Reyes and Jim McGruder.

There was a motion made by D VanDorn to make a \$300 contribution out of our account toward the upcoming golf tournament, seconded by K Nesmith, unanimous.

Kelly Nesmith has volunteered to replace Chuck Yarborough (retired) in Operation Redblock and Peer Support programs.

Due to the poor/unsafe conditions of some of the RCX vans, it was brought up about having a van audit. LC Brooner is checking into this. Some of the van seats are in such poor shape, that making a five or six hour deadhead is physically unsafe.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

J Pyka

C Colley

R Schrack

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by R Smith, seconded by B Herbert, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1030

Teamsters Hall
03-09-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, W Keefer, seconded by D Heiman, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:32 turns on, calls for 38

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 26

As of March 8th, ratios are caught up for both boards. Dead heads will go back on the ratio board this week.

BLE 699 Report :

No Report

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$13,670.99 ending balance 03/09/15 and 111 members.

Motion to accept financial report by R Murray, seconded by J Sichts, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

The company is coming down hard on FMLA, especially if you have it on yourself. If you are on a medication, expect to be pulled out of service.

As a reminder, Plan B Insurance (\$18), will not be taken out of union dues beginning in April. If you are staying on Plan B, you must work with the provider for paying monthly premiums.

New Business:

Discussed the total disregard by management in getting Pat Halligan off his train when he found out his house was burning down. The dispatcher made him operate his train while distraught and wait for a crew before relieving him. There was a motion made by J Mimick to write BLET President Pierce a letter concerning this incident.

There has been an increased wait time for vans in N Platte due to cutting off the RCX van and only having three company drivers per shift. Enough complaints might get more vans put back on.

As a reminder, the Superintendent Bulletin regarding units online is still in effect. Remember, you can not put units on due to track speed and do not initiate putting units online with the dispatcher, per the bulletin.

It was brought up about using deadheads to dogcatch trains just to use them. It seems there have been a lot of instances of crews having time to work and deadheads relieving them, especially right outside N Platte.

Discussed the excessive hosteling of power at NX284. Maybe the yard should put more hostlers on, as we are doing their work.

When setting out bad orders, cutting off train, etc. make sure to set 20 pounds per securement rules. They are checking this.

There was an incident on the Sioux City sub concerning the limits of a track warrant. The case was mitigated.

The company is coming down hard on miss calls.

Make sure you are logging on and reporting leader/energy management programs. Supt Torres is threatening to pull engineers off of the Fuelmasters program for non-compliance.

Discussed being able to put a claim in due to all the extra computer work that we are being required to do at the end of our shift – EMS, etc.

Remember that when receiving an email from BLET183, these are for members only, not to be forwarded, posted, shared, etc.

The YOS in N Platte has been instructed to keep track of what time crews are showing up for duty and report to management if you are late.

Concerning crews not getting a two hour call out of Fremont, it was discussed with CMS. They are blaming the robocaller and are supposedly trying to remedy this.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGinn

BLET183

J Pyka

C Colley

R Schrack

K Kinnney

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

Meeting adjourned at 1000

Teamsters Hall
04-13-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

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

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:35 turns on, calls for 36

RE10:329 turns on, calls for 28.7

BLE 699 Report :

12 turns on, adding 1

Legislative:

The Presidential elections are coming soon, the Union is reviewing the candidates before making an endorsement.

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$13,538.27 ending balance 04/01315 and 110 members.

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

Unfinished Business:

Concerning the discussion last month regarding the incident with Pat Halligan; some discrepancies were shown on the pulled tapes. The carrier agreed that it took too long to get him to his off duty location. A fund has been set up on the BLET183 website if you would like to make a donation.

Concerning the never-ending van issues at the Oak Tree in N Platte; because of the current management, no changes or improvements are forthcoming. LC Brooner is looking at options on how to handle this situation.

When setting out bad order cars in NP, remember to follow all rules concerning red zones, setting of air, securement, etc. Management is coming down hard on this.

Plan B insurance open enrollment is closed until October 2015.

New Business:

There have been numerous managerial changes on our service unit:

S Thomas – CB

C Duff – Senior MTO – Grand Island/Columbus

J Thurman – Mo Valley

D Erdei – Fremont

We're already having issues at some locations.

The company is watching employees using “quick 60” tie up. Only use this if you are out of time or there are no terminals available to tie up. They are watching for time differences between engineers and

conductors tie up and also the location of tie up.

Remember: making comments concerning a fellow employee's age could be considered an EEO violation.

All turns are currently caught up at both Fremont and Council Bluffs.

At Fremont, MOP J Morgan will be replacing S Wagner, who is retiring.

There are currently firemen taking trips at different locations. Many of them are new employees, so be sure you're diligent in their training.

There have been reports that managers are riding some UPS trains to observe reasons for delays.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

J Pyka

R Schrack

K Kinnney

R Sandel

R Skalberg

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by J Sweeney, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1030

Teamsters Hall
06-08-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

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

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:36 turns on, cutting to 34

RE10:26 turns on, cutting to 25

(Cutting boards due to shutdown on Powder River Basin Sub)

BLE 699 Report :

13 turns on, calls for 12.1, cutting 1

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$13,009.76 ending balance 6/08/15 and 111 members.

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

Discussion with special guest General Chairman Geisler:

There was a lot of discussion on the subject of inward-facing cameras. GC Geisler has been meeting with the carrier about setting up a Camera Memorandum of Understanding. This would restrict the viewing of tape to appropriate personnel at headquarters only. Lower level management would not be allowed to view and a union representative would be mandatory during all viewing. Pushing for no audio, no fishing and both UP and BLET are suggesting only one camera in the cab, instead of the two that the FRA wants. During the duration of the Memorandum, all time claims against IFCs will be frozen. This Memorandum should come up for a vote by members in the near future and the Union would hold the right to cancel at any time.

Concerning the negotiations for the new contract, a Section 6 has been served. Hopefully national level negotiations will begin in November. There is believed to be a big push by the carrier to pay more for health and welfare benefits.

Also discussed:

- * 1-800 emergency call procedures and notification to crews by carrier
- * Poor train lineups
- * All units having IFCs by 2016
- * Being OA for rules and carrier holding turn when coming off rules
- * When coming off heldaway, being DH – on duty time vs. departure time
- * Short crew pay being denied for protected engineers
- * When tying up, company putting their own times in for arrival and departure.

Need to manually put in correct times.

We appreciate GC Geisler attending the meeting and the informative discussion that was held.

Unfinished Business:

The 18th District will retain their seniority to protect the 15th District (since the last remaining 15th District engineer has retired) It was brought up about having 1st District claiming secondary rights.

There is an engineer wishing to swap seniority from 3rd District to 1st District – contact LC Brooner if interested.

In the yard, we had an incident with an engineer being approached by a track inspector while in his private vehicle. He was told he was in violation of a rule. If you have a run in with this particular person, call LC Brooner.

Still having problems at Oak Tree Inn. We are having a high incidence of keycards not working and the facility giving us maid keys to use. Do not take these from the front desk, you're opening yourself up to problems. Of course, still having van and room availability problems.

New Business:

Having problems with CMS calling two trains at the same time without giving the first out engineer choice of assignment. They are not supposed to prompt two trains at the same time. If you're on the extra board and this happens, you have a claim for a run-around. Contact LC Brooner if you're having problems.

BLET 183 local committee should be the ONLY persons calling corridor managers.

Talked about the lack of parking spaces at Fremont. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Crews have been having problems with working at ADM at Columbus. This is supposed to be a straight shove, not making cuts in the plant, etc.

There was an incident of the dispatcher losing a radio tower at Sgt. Bluff and asking crew members to leave their cell phones on for emergency contact. You do not have to do this.

LC Lyons is looking into deadheading to and from Sioux City without a 4-hour prompt. Also looking into deadheading crews to bring trains down to Fremont, unloading coal and dogcatching trains.

The carrier discussed a proposal to fence Grand Island in. The Union didn't see any advantage and will not continue discussion.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

R Gibler K Kinney

J Pisinger R Skalberg

J Pyka R Schrack

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1115

Teamsters Hall
07-13-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, B McCoy, seconded by D Carman Jr, 6-1.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:36 turns on, calls for 37

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 31

BLE 699 Report :

Not available

Legislative:

NTSB is pushing for the implementation of inward-facing cameras.

New Members:

John Lockard

Barry Richard

Financial Report:

\$12,981.34 ending balance 7/13/15 and 109 members.

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

Unfinished Business:

Oak Tree Inn – do not let them send you to the Nebraska Inn. There have been individuals forced out of their room at check out time, with the motel saying that they don't cater to the railroad. People are still having to wait for rooms. We need to start adjusting tie up times with CMS, so wait times are recorded and also Contact LC Brooner when this happens.

The company is still pushing the Leader, Trip-Optimizer and Smart Consist fuel management systems. Remember to run Leader over Smart Consist when both are available. Leader can be suspended on commodity trains. Management is accessing FTXs on engineers who do not comply.

LC Brooner still taking claims for loss of productivity pay.

New Business:

LC Brooner has written GC Geisler a letter concerning increase in miles for the RE10 and RE01 pools. This would have to happen without opening up the ID agreement or trip rates to adjustment.

Paul Ray has been replaced by Brandon Bell as MTA.

MOP Garcia is still causing problems for some engineers. Please let LC Brooner know if this happens.

MTO Thurman has been put back in charge of Fremont due to the inability of previous managers to work with crews.

There was an incident of a crew made to ride in a van that had been in a flood. The van smelled of

mold and the crew refused to ride in it. It was then reported to the safety hotline.

Nebraska City crews were seen spotting and pulling Brandon, which is in the OMC.

Even though the union had gotten the boards straightened out, it has gotten out of whack again due to the carrier not caring or taking the time to balance crews.

The carrier is cracking down on the FMLA and has made it virtually impossible to get it on yourself and still keep your job.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1015

Teamsters Hall
08-10-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, B McCoy, seconded by W Keefer, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:31 turns on, calls for 29.83

RE10:33 turns on, calls for 31-34

BLE 699 Report :

14 turns on, calls for 10.2 – 18.8

Still having crew balancing issues. LC Brooner is working on it.

Legislative:

none

New Members

none

Financial Report:

\$13,993.70 ending balance 8/10/15 and 108 members.

Motion to accept financial report by D Carman, Jr, seconded by D O'Brien, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Discussed dog catching status – zone, non-zone, what called for, etc. LC Brooner talked to management and they have no answers.

Recrews are once again a big problem. Making crews sit on trains without tying down when no crew is on duty – especially at Fremont.

Looking at the company being obligated to furnish bylaws for each employee.

New Business:

Discipline cases – 12 new attendance cases over the last two weeks. They are still wanting to discipline us for attendance but will not put an attendance policy in place. Still coming down hard on missed calls.

Nominations will be at the September 14th meeting. All offices are up for nomination. Notice of nominations will be posted at on-duty work locations. Two months of eligibility are required to vote at this election. Feel free to contact any of the current officers with questions.

Work trains/single track will be winding down this week. Not sure if all engineers added out during this period will be absorbed since business is down.

LC Brooner received a proposal to fence in Grand Island. We feel this has no advantage for us and no more benefit than our current agreement.

LC Lyons is asking for clarification concerning Zone 100 coal train unloading - our crews versus Sioux City extra board crews. We want to get a definitive answer and not turn the Fremont RE58 pool into an extra board.

Discussed the formula used for overtime rate.

Section 6 notice was served concerning the contract. You should be able to view it on our website.

Talked with the Superintendent about putting another van on at Mo. Valley to get crews down to Co. Bluffs.

The company is still trying to get deadheads out of the sequence board. This has no benefit for us, just gives the company a pass for not running boards correctly.

Discussed the company charging employees with malicious rule compliance. LC Brooner is looking into it.

Hartford Insurance is having an open enrollment for new members.

Sick:

BLET699

D McGuinn

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg R Murray

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Carman, Jr, seconded by D VanDorn, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 1055

Teamsters Hall
09-14-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, J Sweeney, seconded by D Carman, Jr, 11-1.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:33 turns on, calls for 33

RE10:33 turns on, calls for 32

BLE 699 Report :

12 turns on, calls for 12.25

Legislative:

Votes are coming up in 14 states for two-person crew bills.

UP and other carriers are trying to extend the deadline for PTC cutover

New Members:

Jeff Fletcher

Motion to accept by, J Mimick, seconded by D O'Brien, unanimous.

Financial Report:

\$13443.08 ending balance 9/14/15 and 113 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Mimick, seconded by D Carman, Jr, 12-1.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

2015 Triennial Division Elections

Nominations 9/14/15

Offices decided by acclamation:

President – Mike Call, motion made by J Sichta, seconded by D O'Brien

Vice President – Randy Smith, motion made by J Sichta, seconded by J Nourse

Secretary/Treasurer – Matt McCollough, motion made by J Sichta, seconded by A Allison

Alternate Secretary/Treasurer – Jeff Nourse, motion made by D Carman, Jr, seconded by A Allison

Local Chairman – Terry Brooner, motion made by A Allison, seconded by D O'Brien

First Vice Local Chairman – Bryan McCoy, motion made by J Nourse, seconded by D Carman, Jr

Guide – Dave O'Brien, motion made by T Brooner, seconded by J Sichta

Chaplain – Chris Dittus, motion made by D Carman, Jr, seconded by J Nourse

Legislative Representative – John Sweeney, motion made by T Brooner, seconded by J Sichta

Alternative Legislative Representative – Jeff Sichta, motion made by J Sweeney, seconded by J Nourse

Delegate to National Division – John Sweeney, motion made by T Brooner, seconded by J Sichta

First Alternate Delegate – Jeff Sichta, motion made by J Sweeney, seconded by D Carman, Jr

Second Alternate Delegate – Dave O'Brien, motion made by T Brooner, seconded by J Sichta

Office up for election:

Second Vice Local Chairman – D Carman, Jr, motion made by J Sichta, seconded by A Allison
Jeff Mimick, motion made by D Katis, seconded by G Stawniak
Ballots will be coming out soon for counting at Dec. meeting

LC Brooner has talked to the superintendent about crews being held on trains at tradeout locations and waiting for vans. Superintendent has discussed these problems with Harriman.

Discussed the lack of locomotive servicing at the East Run Thru in North Platte - not cleaning windows, etc.

Shortage of crew vans in N Platte yard due to cuts. They are so far behind, managers are having to take crews to trains.

Still having issues with vans at the Oak Tree, also be careful if drinking water at the hotel or Applebee's.

Fuelmaster is supposed to be ending at the end of this year. The last payout will be in January 2016. The company will be cracking down on EMS compliance to make up for the loss of this program.

When EMS systems is not working properly, you must report it to the dispatcher, get a ticket number and fill out the feedback page.

Make sure to go off BC when deciding which units can and can not be run. On loaded coal trains, you can use full power on DP to get to 40mph, then must be fenced to notch 1. Make sure the second unit is shut down.

If you get laid off MC, LW, LN, please call LC Brooner BEFORE you mark up. If you have a legitimate reason, you may be able to talk to CMS and get it deselected, but only before you mark up.

Management is doing audits on units to make sure proper set and release was done. Make sure the lead engine is still running so tests can be documented on the tape.

There has been a new general order out with the company's 20/20/20 policy. Report to YOS when coming to work – 20 minutes to get paperwork, 20 minutes to job brief and 20 minutes to get to the train. We are asking clarification on the last 20 minutes, especially due to the lack of transportation and who to report to when they can't get us to the train on their timeline.

More reports of dead birds on the ERT walkways, also not doing a good job cleaning the bullpen.

There has been some talk of having the picker run from CB to GI. Nothing definite yet.

Discussed putting retiring engineers on outlying vacancies, e.g., Grand Island, to keep members from being forced to these jobs and then could be covered by extra board with boarding, etc. paid for.

You can identify locomotives with IFC – if you get on the =LI with your locomotive number. As a reminder, cell phone detectors are a part of the package.

If you have not been properly trained on Trip Optimizer or another EMS system, make sure to note this

on EMS feedback page.

Sick:

BLET699

none

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by D Carman, Jr, 12-1.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10

Teamsters Hall
10-2-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, J Sweeney, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:34 turns on, calls for 37

RE10:33 turns on, calls for 33

The company washed some turns to get both boards evened up. Still having trouble getting corridors to do their job. Supposedly, putting deadheads on the IE01 and IT12 boards and calling the respective crews.

BLE 699 Report :

11 turns on, calls for 12.87 – will probably add one

Legislative:

Discussed concerns about exceeding weight limits in vans.

FRA was contacted by a member about the company not getting crews relieved in the 12-hour period. The FRA seemed interested and requested more information. Waiting to see what develops.

Discussed RCX not dropping crews off at the N Platte Oak Tree Inn when they are out of time.

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$12,170.14 ending balance 10/12/15 and 112 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sweeney, seconded by D Carman, Jr, unanimous.

Discussed the cost of the BLET golf tournament – what was charged by Eagle Hills and what was donated by lawyers.

Unfinished Business:

Discussed the PTC deadline being extended.

The company is hot on the MNPCB making it into the yard without a re-crew. A member had his engine downloaded, even though he made it into the yard, because he was close to running out of time and needing a re-crew.

Due to the continuing van issues at the N Platte Oak Tree Inn, it is recommended that you notify the YOS at 308-535-4317 if you are going to be late for work due to waiting on a van.

Discussed again the bullpen at the East Run Thru being dirty.

New Business:

The proposal concerning the increasing of miles on the RE01 and RE10 boards, was brought up for a vote – 15 for, 0 against. Exact details will be posted on our website.

Fortunately, discipline cases have been pretty light in the last month. A decert concerning a Form B violation, was mitigated to a MAPS conference.

Discussed having to report non-working EMS systems to the dispatcher and locomotive help desk. Have had concerns with the extra radio traffic that ensues, eg. talking over Form Bs, etc.

Remember: we are not involved in Total Safety Culture program and should not attend or participate in any conference, town hall meeting, etc. It was reported that TSC flyers were displayed in the crew room at Council Bluffs.

Discussed crews being sent off district to get trains without a pilot. If you are not familiar with the area, remember to take your time and be safe.

Discussed having retiring engineers place themselves on outlying jobs that are otherwise having engineers forced to, eg., GIGI.

Sick:

BLET699

none

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Mimick, seconded by B McCoy, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25

After the regular meeting, it was a pleasure to have Matt Shumacher from Operation RedBlock come and give an in-depth view of the program.

Teamsters Hall
11-9-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, D Carman Jr, seconded by E Abboud, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:30 turns on, calls for 28.61

RE10:30 turns on, calls for 29.44

Train volume down, possibly cut Thursday. Will have to adjust to new mileage agreement.

BLE 699 Report :

13 turns on, calls for 10.92 – 14.2

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$10,127.74 ending balance 11/09/15 and 112 members.

Motion to accept financial report by D Carman Jr, seconded by D Heiman, unanimous.

Might consider raising dues \$1-\$2 in the next few months to cover various expenses.

Unfinished Business:

After discussion with RCX at N Platte, they will maintain their policy to not drop off out-of-time crews at the Oak Tree Inn.

Still getting hits on EMS. You must try to log in and if it's not working, be sure to report it.

There has been a problem when mixing deadhead crews as to who should be called first and who should be called second. CMS claims that this is a technical problem.

New Business:

It seems that we're back to the same problem with CMS not getting crews to AFHTs. When we were working with them, this was getting better, but now they have let it slide again.

If you catch an outlying vacancy off of the extra board, tie up and can make it back home in 12 hours, you are not entitled to rest at the outlying vacancy, e.g. Grand Island. If you cannot make it back home in 12 hours, you are entitled to take rest, 1 ½ hour call and deadhead to home terminal and be rested on your board.

The CBGI-GICB is back on on a trial basis. We are thinking that if it starts getting re-crewed regularly, it will be pulled off.

Discussion about being disciplined for “malicious rules compliance”.

When tying down a DPU train, make sure both lead and DPU units are isolated and placed in idle.

There is a lot of testing going on in N Platte, e.g. restricted speed , whistle duration, etc. Be sure you're paying attention.

Vacation slips are out or you can fill it out on the BLET website.

Discussion about after stopping train having mechanical/car department employees getting on engine before the ride has shown up and the crew is off.

Discussion about managers being told not to show us our attendance records and how we're supposed to know where we stand concerning absenteeism. Also discussed being docked for taking 12 extra hours of rest.

Contract negotiations are underway. We feel the biggest issue will be Health and Welfare.

There has been a three year extension on PTC, with possibly a two year extension beyond that.

There has been an incident reported of bed bugs in the N Platte Oak Tree Inn. Enjoy your stay!

Will be receiving ballots in the mail for the December BLET 183 election.

There will be a list of restricted prescription drugs coming soon.

Sick:

BLET699

none

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by B McCoy, seconded by W Keefer, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15

Teamsters Hall
12-14-2015 0900

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, J Sweeney, seconded by D Carman Jr, unanimous.

BLE 183 Report:

RE01:26 turns on, calls for 25.25

RE10:29 turns on, calls for 29.6

BLE 699 Report :

11 turns on, calls for 11.36 – might add one depending on grain traffic.

Legislative:

None

New Members:

None

Financial Report:

\$12,091.75 ending balance 12/14/15 and 111 members.

Motion to accept financial report by D Heiman, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

There was a testing incident in the Sioux City yard. Train crew went into track and the manager's lined the derail and switch against the crew as a test. Discussed the incident with the carrier and their stance was that they can line switches but not derails as a test. If they want to play these kind of games, our advice is to **S L O W D O W N**.

Inward facing cameras have been installed in 1,925 engines out of 6,000. They should all be installed by first quarter 2017.

FMLA – make sure you are aware of the expiration date. You must re-certify. If you exceed your limit, it will go against your attendance record.

The final month for the Fuelmaster program will be December 2015. The final pay out will be January 2016.

LC Brouner is discussing bad call times in N Platte and second district crews always being called first for deadheads.

Concerning bereavement leave and jury duty – When you lay off Bereavement, you must supply CMS with an obituary or they will take back the bereavement pay. If you lay off Jury Duty, you will be asked for information about what days the duty will be. For example, if jury duty is on Monday, you can't lay off on Friday to make sure you're home. If you notify the carrier and are sent out of town, they are supposed to get you home in time to serve for jury duty.

Still coming down hard on the attendance policy. A fellow employee was fired this week due to

excessive absences.

We've had some problems with cleanliness of some RCX drivers/vans in Fremont. Discussed with management and it is supposedly taken care of.

Still problems with crews waiting an unnecessary amount of time to get picked up off of trains in N Platte by UP drivers. There will be a form on the website where you can report wait times. You will need train symbols, times, etc.

If you are having any problems with the website, please contact B S McCoy.

New Business:

You will be able to pre-arrange personal leave and single vacation days on the UP employee availability screen. You can request a day up to 120 days out. It will automatically deny or approve at the time that the request is made. Once approved, it can not be taken away unless you cancel it. You must activate it up to 16 hours before and no later than 16 hours after the scheduled date. It will not activate itself. You may take up to six compensated days at a time. This is on a 180 day pilot program and seems quite beneficial to us.

In the first quarter of 2016, the company will be testing Auto Throttle on our subdivision. This is part of the new Leader system.

There was a motion to raise First Vice-Local pay by \$100 per month. Motion made by T Brooner, seconded by A Montes. This will be voted on in December, January and February meetings.

We discussed the heavy grade testing that the company is requiring to be completed before the end of the year. LC Brooner will discuss with GC Geisler, the threats to pull employees out of service if the testing is not completed.

There was discussion about letting cutback Merrysville engineers run trains. We suggest only doing so West of Gibbon since this is part of their territory.

Looking into a better way to call Omaha coal trains. We're sometimes waiting 4-5 hours for the train.

We discussed dispatchers giving slow order milepost in correct order when traveling East.

We discussed members receiving a coaching and not being notified by a manager.

We discussed voiding FCS50 with trip optimizer when not in TO territory.

The results for the triennial election –

Second Vice-Local Chairman and Second Alternate Delegate to the GCA

Dana Carman, Jr. - 44 votes

Jeff Mimick – 18 votes

Sick:

BLET699

none

BLET183

K Kinney R Schrack

R Skalberg C Colley

J Pyka

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Carman, Jr, seconded by J Mimick, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15
