

**Teamsters Hall**  
**01-09-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, D Carman Jr, W Keefer, 10-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 26 turns on, calls for 27.3-29.3 ???

RE10: 22 turns on, calls for 21.22-22.94

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE58: 9 turns on, calls for 8.78

Sioux City pool moving to CB on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$9,769.68 ending balance 01/09/17 and 101 members.

Motion to accept financial report by B McCoy, W Keefer, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:**

LC Brooner has talked to GC Geisler about problems at the Oak Tree Inn, ex.; not being given a choice of rooms, a member reported blood on the sheets, are the mattress covers only covering up the problem of bed bugs, etc. ANY problems, we suggest you call Lodging at 402-591-3007 and leave a detailed complaint.

**New Business:**

There has been talk that the Superintendent wants to move the CB pool to Mo Valley in an effort to cut down on RCX vans. Some of our concerns are: yard office and parking lot not being acceptable, possible two hour call times, etc.

We discussed deadheading by train even in good weather because the company claims there are no vans available.

LC Brooner is looking into Clinton crews saying they're not qualified to relieve trains at Allen Creek. This is within their territory covered in the OMC.

LC Brooner recently had a meeting with Lance Fritz. Mostly lip service, nothing resolved.

The company agreed to honor Circular 22, concerning road crews unloading coal trains at N and S Neal. These are road crew jobs and will be unloaded by road crews.

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A member called the East Run Through in NP to manipulate a call time in his favor over another first district engineer. It's bad enough getting screwed over by the company and second district engineers, let alone one of our own. If you wouldn't like this to happen to you, DON'T do it to someone else.

Still tweaking pre-arranged layoff procedures. Trying to adjust the time frame to delete and how far out you can pre-arrange layoffs.

It seems that putting in time claims through the BLET website is working well. Check it out. All the information needed is on the website.

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**Sick:**

**BLET699**

C Norman

**BLET183**

R Schrack      J Austin

R Skalberg     R Kinsella

M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by B Herbert, 12-1.

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:15**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**02-13-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, D Carman Jr, seconded E Abboud, 4-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 29 turns on, calls for 28.45-30.56

RE10: 26 turns on, calls for 25.79-27.87

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE56: 9 turns on, calls for 7.59-10.84

Still trying to get Labor Relations to clarify which board the coal-unloading jobs belong to.

**Legislative:**

Brother Sweeney is looking into payload capacity of small vans. Also concerned with mechanical issues; such as warning lights, shocks and personal hygiene of some drivers.

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$9,715.44 ending balance 02/13/17 and 101 members.

Motion to accept financial report by B McCoy, seconded W Keefer, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:**

Concerning the Oak Tree Inn in N Platte – meeting with the head of lodging regarding all of the problems at the motel. We feel if we can not get these issues resolved, we should look for alternate lodging.

As a reminder, when shoving, the only radio communications made must pertain to the shoving movement. You must stop train/power if you need to communicate concerning anything else.

Remember – cell phones must be stowed out of sight. If a manager can see you phone, i.e. in the pocket of your grip, you may be disciplined.

Concerning deadheading by train – management has stated that they prefer deadheading by vans, but will deadhead by train when vans are not feasible. This is regardless of weather conditions. If made to deadhead by train, don't go if the cab/toilet isn't acceptable.

We had a member recently fail a switch tag test in N Platte. The power transfer switch is a favorite place for managers to test.

**New Business:**

Tami Johnson is the new CBSU Superintendent. We will have a local chairman meeting with her on 2/20/17.

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PTC is coming to our service unit in May. Not sure what this will entail, as far as training, etc.

Brother Keefer is working on the Annual Golf Tournament with a tentative date of the first week in June 2017.

We'll be holding the TV giveaway again in December. To qualify, you must attend six meetings throughout the year.

With Sioux City crews now starting out of Council Bluffs, we'll probably change two-hour call to one and a half-hour call – same as conductors. We would like to receive input from 699 and 183 engineers that are affected.

We are looking into which way fertilizer trains will be running out of Sioux City.

For some reason, pickup trucks are being used to transport crews in both Council Bluffs and N Platte. We've had issues with having to put bags, etc. in the bed of the pickup when raining. LC Brooner is looking into this.

No news on the contract.

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**Sick:**

**BLET699**

C Norman

**BLET183**

R Schrack      R Kinsella

R Skalberg     L Prescott

M Elske        MR Helms

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by E Abboud, seconded by J Sichta, 6-1.

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:15**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**03-13-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, W Keefer, seconded E Abboud, 6-3.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 27 turns on, calls for 27.1-29.1 – added 2

RE10: 23 turns on, calls for 21.4-23.13 – cut 1

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE56: 9 turns on, calls for 7.86-10.55

**Legislative:**

We are mobilizing to get members to contact their representatives concerning national right to work legislation.

We are looking into van issues concerning loose items, ie. trash cans, cooler, personal items, etc. We feel these items need to be stowed. We also discussed gross vehicle weight limits, warning lights and driver hygiene.

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$9,627.55 ending balance 03/13/17 and 99 members.

Motion was made to purchase a new printer for the LC for \$94.99. This will remain property of BLET183. J Sichta, seconded J Sweeney, Unanimous.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, R Murray, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business**

Still having issues with cell phones in the yard office. Coming down hard on this. If caught you will receive a MAPS conference. If you are on MAPS 2, it is a permanent dismissal. This is coming from Cameron Scott.

The Oak Tree Inn in N Platte -

- 
- there will be a conference call every two weeks between the union, corporate lodging and the Oak Tree to make sure things are being taken care of
  - Some of the concerns that are being addressed:
- 
- room 209 is now a storage room
  - room 217 is removed from the UP room inventory at the request of the organization
  - will start leaving a light on in the room again to indicate that the room isn't occupied
  - walkie-talkies were ordered to help staff communicate with one another
  - you should be able to request the floor you'd like a room on if available
  -
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- The hotel is asking that you:
  - let the front desk know when you check out
  - lock and latch the door when in your room
  - do not prop open exit doors
- 

If you have a problem, concerning the room, etc., contact the front desk staff, follow up with an email to LC, including specific details, such as; date, EID, room number, others aware of the situation and a description of feedback.

CLC cards will be shut off for use in N Platte. The Oak Tree Inn is the primary hotel designated and no secondary hotel is established yet.

There seems to be a disproportionate amount of testing of first district crews in N Platte. It seems like they are reaching for failures, such as; a member was coached for using his ditch lights in the yard and a conductor was coached for walking with his head on 'too much of a swivel'. LC Brooner has been in contact with UP Russell about this.

Remember, there is a time claim for swapping trains en route. These have been agreed to be paid in conference.

#### **New Business:**

Brother McCoy attended the General Committee meeting in Cleveland and brought back some information:

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- the union has filed a section 6 notice on the contract
  - asking for a 3.3% wage increase for 3 years / the company is offering a 1%
  - the company is asking to increase members' health insurance monthly premium to \$1,000 / the union is asking for no change
  - the company is asking to implement Robinson Rules – among other detrimental changes, this would effectively eliminate extra boards as turns would not be filled or dropped
  - the company is once again pushing for one-man crews
- 

We'll probably be out of mediation by the end of August, without agreement, and will go to the PEB.

It looks like PTC training will start in May.

Turning someone in for an EEO violation can have serious consequences. We recently had a member turned in for an apparent difference of opinion during a conversation. Just because you disagree with someone's opinion, doesn't make it an EEO violation.

There was a question about the shoving speed on the ADM Siding. LC Brooner is checking into it.

Remember you can not use your cell phone on a moving train. We had a conductor call a N Platte manager to discuss a move that he wasn't sure of while the train was moving.

If you have a Critical Rule Violation and fail a breathalyzer or urinalysis, you will be DONE working at the Railroad – you will not be offered the companion agreement.

Fremont extra board, as of now, is capped at 10 – Council Bluffs at 16.

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We had a discussion concerning Division 699 being absorbed by Division 183.

If you have an engineer vacation, you will get engineer personal leave days. If you have a conductor vacation, you will get conductor personal leave days. We've had members using more personal leave days than they were allowed.

We discussed the BN train call time being so far off and coming up with a better way to prompt it. LC Brooner is talking with management.

If you were required to take a field color- blind test, there will be no union representation, as this could affect your right to appeal if you would happen to fail it.

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**Sick:**

BLET699

C Norman

BLET183

R Schrack     J Pyka

R Skalberg    MR Helms

M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded by E Abboud, 8-2.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 11:15**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**04-10-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, J Sweeney, seconded J Sichta, 6-1.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 29 turns on, calls for 28.45-30.56

RE10: 20 turns on, calls for 19.34-20.9

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE56: 10 turns on, calls for 8.68-10.55

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

Jon Gubbels – Motion to accept by J Sichta, seconded R Murray, Unanimous

**Financial Report:**

\$11,175.81 ending balance 04/10/17 and 99 members.

Motion was made to raise dues by \$4/month, J Sichta, seconded R Murray, Unanimous.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sweeney, J Mimick, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:**

Still having issues with the Oak Tree Inn in N Platte. Another possible bed bug incident. No set date for locker room improvements. They have reprogrammed locks so that if the deadbolt is engaged, no one can enter the room. We still seem to have problems with rooms being occupied. Please call the front desk when checking out.

When dog catching on the extra board, save your call sheet. This is the only way to know how you were called – zone, non-zone, etc. You can not go by what the crew caller says you were called for.

All crew rooms have signs posted for no cell phone use. Management will be enforcing this rule.

**New Business:**

Brother McCoy has brought back some information from GCA:

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- Retirement benefits: tier one – highest average over 35 years, tier two – highest average over 5 years, spouse benefits – 50% tier one, 45% tier two. If you don't retire at your earliest opportunity, your spouse doesn't get any benefits until age 67.
  - There has been a class action lawsuit against UPRR concerning medical discrimination. Some of the people affected have failed color blind test, sleep apnea, etc. Contact Brother McCoy for more details.
  - For those with MET Life insurance: you can obtain a will, power-of-attorney or medical power-of-attorney at no charge.
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**Sick:**

BLET699

C Norman

BLET183

R Schrack      J Pyka

R Skalberg     MR Helms

M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sichta B Lohr seconded by , 6-1.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:10**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**05-08-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspend reading of previous minutes by, D Carman Jr, seconded D O'Brien, 5-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 31 turns on, calls for 29.17-31.33

RE10: 18 turns on, calls for 18.09-19.55

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE56: 11 turns on, calls for 11.17-12.05

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$12,884.02 ending balance 05/08/17 and 98 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, S Johnson, Unanimous.

**We are pleased to have GC Geisler attend our meeting today and discuss:**

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- **Concerning the contract – two more meetings scheduled with mediation board. It looks like it will go to a PEB board. Some of the highlights: the company is offering a 2% wage increase, the implementation of Robinson Rules (no more filling of turn vacancies, pool protects itself, will probably reduce extra boards by 50%), health and welfare increase with no set amount, the carrier wants crews to run through home terminal up to 25 miles.**
  - **Discussed crews DHing on trains. Had two crew members riding on the second unit that suffered from carbon monoxide poisoning and had to receive medical attention. We feel that this is unsafe and should only be implemented in inclement weather.**
  - **GC talked to the carrier about problems with MOP Cotton and the unrealistic discipline being carried out in N Platte.**
  - **The union is in court over MAPS three decertifications resulting in permanent dismissal.**
  - **On 5/10/17, GC, along with LC will be meeting with the carrier concerning the pool ratio boards.**
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**Unfinished Business**

Bill Brown is the new manager of the N Platte Oak Tree Inn. Hopefully, he can take care of some of the ongoing concerns. One of our members is being treated for scabies that he believes he contracted at the Oak Tree Inn a couple of weeks ago.

We're trying to get unloading symbols on the Sioux City pool and not have the carrier use a DH58 symbol and then use the crew for whatever they wish.

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### **New Business:**

We discussed the recent signal suspension in CB. It seems like it was not run properly, i.e., red flags placed out of the authority of the Form C.

Remember, with IFC, the engineer can not be out of the seat if the train is moving.

There were questions about when the landing pad at CPB366 will be replaced. In wet weather, it is so muddy, you can hardly get to your train.

We discussed the moving of trains between pools temporarily and permanently. The union isn't getting any helpful information from the carrier about when and why this is happening.

Remember, the carrier's nurse is not under HIPAA laws. Anything discussed with her can be released to management without your consent.

We discussed the future of DIV 699. This is in National's hands and we have no input or control over it.

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### **Sick:**

BLET699

C Norman

BLET183

R Schrack

R Skalberg

M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by W Keefer, seconded D Carman Jr, 7-2.

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:05**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**07-10-2017 0900**

Open meeting without due form.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 32 turns on, calls for 32.4-34.8

RE10: 20 turns on, calls for 19.4-21

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE58: 10 turns on, calls for 8.72-10.93

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$13,553.22 ending balance 07/10/17 and 98 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded D Carman Jr, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:**

Having hot water issues at The Oak Tree Inn in N Platte. It seems to be mostly in the new rooms. They are aware of the problem and working on it. Still having van issues also.

The golf tournament was a great success. Special thanks to Brother Keefer for all his hard work.

When dealing with PTC, remember a soft cutout is only for switching moves or when instructed by a dispatcher. Any other time, you could be charged with violating Rule 1.6 - tampering with safety devices.

There is still discussion of having one pool out of Co Bluffs.

Ratio boards are still screwed up. As of 7/10/17: RE22 is 14 behind in Fremont, RE10 is 5 behind in N Platte, RE01 is 8 behind in N Platte, RE02 is 7 behind in Co Bluffs. Still trying to work with the carrier to straighten this out.

Northern region is now tracking attendance of members, not the service unit.

**New Business:**

As of July 15, 2017, the CBSU is being absorbed by the NPSU.

It has been posted that no one is to call the corridor managers. Even the union officers are bypassing them and dealing directly with the directors.

Questions concerning unloading of coal trains in Sioux City. On paper, they are our jobs, not Sioux City extra board, but CMS is still choosing who to call based on their needs. Trying to straighten this

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out. Also trying to get unloading symbols instead of DH symbols on both boards.

If you need to adjust your rest at AFHT, do so at the beginning of your rest. We had a second district engineer adjust his rest after 9 hours of his 10 hour rest period. The callers should not allow this.

The annual dinner is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2017. More details to come.

We discussed backtracking after a train reaches the OMC. Example: delivered train to Cal Junction, told to get power from Mo Valley and bring back to train.

When bidding vacations, everything a person does online is recorded. If a mistake is made, Brother McCoy can look back at the log in order to correct it. He can also look back and see if a person actually did bid a vacation when they claim they did.

We had a member fail his second color-blind test and are waiting to see how the carrier is going to handle this. Remember to make sure to have a union rep present if you are required to take a color-blind test.

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**Sick:**

BLET699

C Norman

BLET183

R Schrack

R Skalberg

M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Carman Jr, seconded E Abboud, 7-2.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:25**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**08-14-2017 9:00**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspended reading of previous minutes by D Carman Jr., seconded J Sweeney, 4-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 32 turns on, calls for 31.5-33.6

RE10: 20 turns on, calls for 19-22

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE58: 11 turns on

**Legislative:**

The FRA has been contacted about TTD giving absolute blocks to departing trains having problems with PTC while still in N Platte yard. Should be CCS tested if PTC is inoperable while still in yard.

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$14,269.50 ending balance 08/14/17 and 98 members.

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

**Unfinished Business**

Oak Tree Inn – still having meetings with lodging and Oak Tree management. Please send complaints to LC Brooner or Brother McCoy so that they can pass them on.

We are running dead heads out of sequence to try to get the ratio boards under control.

**New Business:**

There have been problems with RE02 crews sharing a van from Mo Valley and wanting to be dropped off at the motel first. They are required to tie up at the yard office, not Quick 60. Let LC Brooner know if you're having any problems.

When dead heading mixed crews from either pool, the home crew should be called first, regardless of the ratio board.

We recently had a member receive a third offense attendance discipline. Attendance policy is now being handled only by headquarters.

If you are miss called, contact LC Brooner before being marked up. Once you're marked up, it goes on your record and may not be able to remove it.

Kelly Nesmith is the new Local Chairman for Div 699. He's working on getting a DH58 designation on dead heads and making sure we're getting every job south of Sioux City. If you're having any problems, be sure to let him know.

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Be sure to sign off on daily inspections, even the DPU, when tying down trains. Management is checking.

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**Sick:**

BLET699

C Norman

BLET183

R Schrack     D O'Brien

R Skalberg

M Elske

Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded B Herbert, 6-2.

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:00**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**09-11-2017 9:00**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspended reading of previous minutes by J Sweeney, seconded J Sichta, 6-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 33 turns on, calls for 33.28-34.78

RE10: 22 turns on, calls for 20.69-22.35

**BLE 699 Report :**

No Report

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$15,045.81 ending balance 09/11/17 and 98 members.

Motion to accept financial report by R Murray, seconded J Sichta, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business**

Dead heads have been put back in sequence on the ratio boards. So far, boards have still been running even.

Concerning attendance: we recently had four individuals receive letters. Three of the four had five layoffs in 90 days, which, according to management, will trigger an attendance letter. They are still holding the burn clause against us.

We recently had one member terminated for attendance. If you are experiencing numerous doctor visits, lawyer appointments, etc., remember to document all layoffs and keep your manager informed as to what's going on.

**Oak Tree Inn in N Platte:**

Normal size towels have replaced the small towels that some rooms had.

Sometimes we are our own worst enemy: there is an individual who, when leaving, is taking all linens off of the bed, throwing it in the tub and turning on the water. Another individual has been staining towels by using them to clean green tea spills every stay.

The Annual Dinner will be held Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Contact D Carman Jr with any questions.

**New Business**

Concerning PTC and Trip Optimizer – Log in to Trip Optimizer, but do not use if PTC is operable. Remember, if PTC or TO is not working they must reported to OSS and the EMS report must be filled out. Any ticket number generated on your train must be put in the EMS report.

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**Sick:**

**BLET699**

C Norman

**BLET183**

R Schrack     D O'Brien

R Skalberg

M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by J Sweeney, seconded R Murray, 9-1.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 09:50**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**10-09-2017 9:00**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspended reading of previous minutes by J Sichta, seconded B McCoy, 5-3.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 32 turns on, calls for 31.55-33.89

RE10: 22 turns on, calls for 21.13-22.84

**BLE 699 Report :**

No Report

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$15,892.33 ending balance 10/09/17 and 96 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded D Carman Jr, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:**

Still having problems at Oak Tree Inn in N Platte. We have had several incidences with bed bugs, stained sheets and mattress pads and overall general cleanliness.

**New Business:**

We have a tentative contract agreement to be voted on my members. Some of the highlights:

Healthcare payments stay the same although, co-pays will increase.

No work rule changes

No off-set on back pay

Pay increases: July 2016-July 2017 – 2% back pay

July 2017-signing of contract – 4% back pay

Immediate 4 % raise

July 2018 – 2% raise

July 2019 – 3% raise

You can view the contract on the BLET183 website.

Out of N Platte, we've had problems with First District crews being called to hog relief trains even when they are not first out. LC Brooner looking into this.

If you work the MCBNP, PTC must be cut in before you leave the train tracks and move into PTC track (MT 1 & 2).

Concerning electronic devices and IFCs: We had a train derail in LA. The carrier viewed the tapes back to the originating terminal and found an engineer talking on his cell phone while running in WY. This resulted in a permanent dismissal of engineer and conductor. The carrier is randomly downloading and

viewing IFC footage.

There was also an incident where two GE employees were riding on the second unit. The engineer walked back to see if they were hungry while the conductor was running the train. The engineer then called and ordered pizza. The pizza delivery man met the train and came onto the train to deliver the pizza. GE personnel mentioned this to a manager at a later time, resulting in the engineer and conductor being pulled out of service.

Another incident occurred when a conductor was reading a newspaper while the train was moving. The carrier viewed the IFC footage and the engineer and conductor were both pulled out of service per rule 1.6.

We discussed long wait times getting crews off of trains due to the cutback of UP van drivers in N Platte.

There will be no vacation sheets put out for the bidding of 2018 vacations. All vacation bidding will be online through the BLET183 website. If you have any problems, contact Brother McCoy, who will happily walk you through the procedure.

There was a question about attaching crew members, i.e. utility men to your crew. We need to clarify the exact rule on this. LC Brooner is checking into it.

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**Recently passed away:**

Jack Larsen

**Sick and Injured:**

**BLET699**

C Norman

**BLET183**

R Schrack      D O'Brien

R Skalberg     R Helms

M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by D Carman Jr, seconded J Sichta, 6-2.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:25**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**11-13-2017 9:00am**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspended reading of previous minutes by D Carman Jr, seconded J Sweeney,8-2.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 28 turns on, calls for 27.72-29.78

RE10: 22 turns on, calls for 21.22-22.94

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE58: 10 turns on, calls for 8.12-8.81

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$15,582.22 ending balance 11/13/17 and 96 members.

Motion to accept financial report by W Keefer, seconded D Carman Jr, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business**

Concerning the Oak Tree Inn: any complaints that can not be resolved by talking with hotel staff/management, need to be relayed to LC Brooner or Brother McCoy who will bring them up to the lodging committee and then onto UP Lodging. You will need dates, room numbers, on-duty staff, etc.

Having Engineers not operating PTC correctly. Example; cutting out PTC without permission, not putting correct speed in, not reporting stop enforcements, etc. Headquarters is monitoring everything you do on PTC.

Questions were raised asking why 2<sup>nd</sup> District crews are not required to leave their motel until they are on duty.

We discussed the West Yard crossing – why it's not being opened for traffic.

At the last meeting, a question was brought up concerning the attachment of utility men to crews. LC Brooner asked management, who said it was covered under Rule 5.1.3.

**New Business**

LC Brooner is having an initial meeting with management concerning the consolidation of the RE10 and RE01 pools based out of Council Bluffs.

Finally getting more deadheads for 1<sup>st</sup> District. Last month, RE10 pool had 105, compared to 57 for 2<sup>nd</sup> District crews (who are not happy).

Concerning the contract: Ballots should be arriving through the mail in mid-November. Please vote

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and if you have any questions concerning the contract, which can be found on the BLET183 website, contact a Union officer.

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**Recently passed away:**

Greg Sprinkle

**Sick and Injured:**

**BLET699**

C Norman

**BLET183**

R Schrack      D O'Brien

R Skalberg     R Helms

M Elske

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

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:15am**

**Teamsters Hall**  
**12-11-2017 9:00am**

Open meeting without due form.

Motion to suspended reading of previous minutes by J Sweeney, seconded J Sichta, Unanimous.

**BLE 183 Report:**

RE01: 29 turns on, calls for 28.66-30.78

RE10: 21 turns on, calls for 20.13-18.63

**BLE 699 Report :**

RE58: 11 turns on, calls for 7.7-8.4

**Legislative:**

None

**New Members:**

None

**Financial Report:**

\$16,100.09 ending balance 12/11/17 and 96 members.

Motion to accept financial report by J Sichta, seconded R Murray, Unanimous.

**Unfinished Business**

Oak Tree Inn – there was an incident of bed bugs in Room #337. Oak Tree management pulled rooms 335, 337 and 339 out of service while they treated the problem. It seems like the new management is cooperating and trying to address problems as they arise. If you have a problem that can't be resolved with Oak Tree management, go through LC Brooner or Brother McCoy, and they will contact UP Lodging.

There have been many rumors about combining pools. Union has had one meeting with management, who are doing a cost analysis. Despite these rumors, there is no set date or pilot project in the works.

National agreement was ratified by BLET members. The new contract went into effect December 1, 2017. It seems that only about 1/3 BLET members voted, with a 78% YES vote. There will be a 4% pay raise beginning January 1, 2018. No set date on back pay, possibly the third week in January 2018.

There seems to be a lot of gray area concerning CCS/ACT tests when PTC is working. If you get on a train and it has not been tested, the safest course would be to test it, cut out and use PTC.

Even though FCS has been eliminated, you still have to use notch 5 for empties and notch 1 for loads on the coal train DPUs.

**New Business**

There were questions about the high amount of westward trains coming into Fremont that are low on fuel.

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It was brought up that the helper on the SE job in the CB yard stays on the remote unit the whole shift, providing point protection. There were thoughts that if he is providing point protection over a certain percentage of the time, that the job should then be an Engineer job. LC Brooner is going to check with GC Geisler concerning the exact ruling.

Vacations – After all vacation weeks were assigned for 2018, the carrier added a number of slots, which will be up for bid beginning January 1, 2018. Please check the BLET183 website. January 31, 2018 is the deadline for changing solid weeks to single-day weeks. It's a good idea to check the vacation inquiry in CMTS to make sure all solid weeks and single-day weeks are correct. There have been some mistakes made by the carrier in the past.

Remember, by BLET by-laws, you can not discuss BLET business with someone not in the BLET.

Brother McCoy has set up an app named BAND that will allow members to discuss issues, problems, etc. in a more private forum than other social media sites. We ask that you use your first and last name when signing up and also refrain from personal attacks against other members.

On the Sioux City Sub - continuing to have a lot of handbrakes left on cars on the Rocket coming out of the yard. Since they are wanting to blame the road crews, LC Nesmith suggests checking every car for a handbrake. Also, DO NOT call the corridor manager to try to deadhead home. Better to call LC Nesmith and let him deal with the corridor manager.

If you are in a CRZ and the dispatcher wants to give you a mandatory directive, you must inform him that you are in a CRZ before taking it. Let the dispatcher decide if he wants to give it to you at that time, or wait until you stop.

If you have a Critical Rule Violation and you fail the resulting drug test, you will be permanently dismissed, no Rule G, no second chance.

We had our annual prize drawing for the TV provided by Hunegs, LeNeave & Kvas Law Firm and our Local. To be eligible to win, you had to have attended at least five meetings out of the year. D Heiman, J Mimick, J Sichta, J Sweeney and W Keefer were the members in the drawing, with J Sweeney winning the TV. We appreciate all the members that showed up at meetings in 2017.

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### **Recently passed away:**

### **Sick and Injured:**

BLET699  
C Norman

BLET183  
R Schrack     D O'Brien  
R Skalberg     R Helms  
M Elske

**Motion to suspend reading the minutes by W Keefer, seconded J Sichta, Unanimous.**

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**Meeting adjourned at 10:50am**