

## BRS Local 130 meeting minutes from April 21, 2006

The brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Local 130 was called to order on April 21st, 2006 at 7:10 PM at the Courtyard by Marriott of Elmhurst in Elmhurst, Illinois.

9 members were in attendance. 3 guests were in attendance.

Jim Glasser from The Union Pacific General Committee

Dennis Beck and Ron Sandler from the law firm Yaeger, Jungbauer and Barczak, PLC in Minneapolis.

### Opening Prayer

Read by Tom Humenik

### Roll Call of officers

Greg Ray, Ronald Pipkins and Reggie Cole were absent

### Reading of meeting minutes

Tom Humenik read the meeting minutes from January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006. A motion was made by Charlie Kocian to accept minutes as read. Seconded by Paul Niziolek. Motion carried.

### Reading of Bills and Itemized Statements

Motion to accept bills and Itemized statements as read made by Charlie Kocian seconded by Tom Jones. Motion carried.

### Propositions for membership

None

### Obligations

None

### Report of Local Grievance Committees:

Charlie Kocian- No new claims. 4 leave of absence claims with this FMLA deal. Talbert, Hopson, 2 for Wagner. The carrier is forcing people to use their vacation time before FMLA starts. Dan Krieger's claim in conference. Corpus's claim waiting second denial. Parenti's claim settled. Pipkins and Flowers claim for junior man on call in conference.

Paul Niziolek – John Weber's claim going to arbitration.

### Report of Special Committee:

The bylaws committee did not have a report at this time.

### Communications:

There is an RRB meeting Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> in Tinley Park, Illinois. A motion was made by Tom Jones for Charlie Kocian to attend. Seconded by Tom Humenik. Motion Carried.

Jim Glasser of the UP general Committee talked to us about the BRS priority list for national Negotiations. Wages, Cost of Living and Retirement accounts were the top three.

An agreement was reached in November to cover Zone ETs and Zone SIs for zone 1 Hand Throw Switches in dark territory training.

FRA denied the UP's Discontinuing Block Signal requests.

Paul Niziolek talked about the recent bomb scares downtown. We are not getting much information from the railroad. There were meetings held and the railroad promised that we would be informed either by our supervisor or Commuter Control. So far this strategy hasn't worked very well. The word so far is: there are procedures for this, but they're secret.

#### Unfinished Business

Elections for delegates and Alternates for the convention. Ballots were counted.  
100 ballots were printed  
85 ballots were sent out  
31 ballots sent back  
Local Chairman for Delegate:  
Paul Niziolek 19 votes  
Charlie Kocian 11 votes becomes first alternate  
Tom Jones and Manny Acosta were running for 2<sup>nd</sup> and third alternate unopposed.

#### New Business

Jim Glasser talked about the lawsuit brought on by the NCCC saying that contracting should be a National issue instead of a Local issue. There is plenty of precedent saying it is a Local issue. We are still in mediation in National negotiations. He also talked about an idea that the carrier came up with to test maintainers and place them in "grades". They then would be paid and disciplined accordingly.  
Dennis Beck talked to the group about his injury. The railroad said that he broke 51 rules that day he was injured. He stressed the point to fill out the personal injury form ONLY when you are ready both physically and mentally and call you're representative when filling it out!  
Ron Sandler talked to the group about the importance of choosing the correct lawyer for your claim. Brief your spouse or parents and feel free to call someone when filling out the PI form.  
There was a motion made by Paul Niziolek to give the lawyers a mailing list of member addresses. Seconded by Howie Merkin. Motion carried.

#### Report of sickness of members

Kevin Connolly is still waiting for a liver transplant.

George Garner is off due to an aneurysm.

Bob Stipek status was unknown.

R.H.Talbert Jr. is off with Diabetes complications.

Bob Diehl is off work

Rick Hopson is off

Jeanette Spencer is off.

O'ron Manson is off after a shoulder injury.

Mr. Basille is off due to knee surgery

Paul Sclafani is off due to shoulder surgery.

#### Members in distress or unemployed

Rich Wagner is unemployed. Mayberry is in Iraq.

#### Good of the union

There was a motion made by Paul Niziolek to hold the next meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott in Elmhurst and to move the date to the 21<sup>st</sup> of July due to the BRS Convention. Seconded by Charlie Kocian. Motion carried.

There was a motion made by Howie Merkin that there is \$1000.00 front money provided to the delegates to the convention to pay for air fare or they put in actual expenses at the July meeting. Discussion followed. Seconded by Tom Jones. Motion carried.

#### Closing Prayer

Read by Tom Humenik

Adjournment

Tom Humenik motioned for adjournment.  
Howie Merkin seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Humenik  
Recording secretary BRS local 130