

## BRS Local 130 meeting minutes from January 14th, 2005

The brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Local 130 was called to order on January 14th, 2005 at 7:13 PM at the Holiday Inn Rolling Meadows in Rolling Meadows, Illinois.

12 members were in attendance and the guest was Dan Petro of the Petro and Petro Law firm.

### Opening Prayer

Read by Charlie Kocian

### Roll Call of officers

Joe Scott, Tim Valentine, Dan Krieger and Greg Ray were absent.

### Reading of meeting minutes

Tom Humenik read the meeting minutes from October 8, 2004. A motion was made by Paul Niziolek to accept minutes as read. Seconded by Howie Merkin. Motion carried.

### Reading of Bills and Itemized Statements

Paul Sclafani read bills and itemized Statements.

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

### Report of Local Grievance Committees:

OSHA and the UPRR have come to terms for the settlement of 7 citations issued. The agreement ends up that items 6 and 7 (protective clothing and training) were withdrawn and the UP was fined \$1320.00 for the other 5. The citation still stands. It was not dismissed.

The employees that are working with the Petro law firm were all given an extension to the time limits for a FELA claim.

Paul did get a settlement for a man that didn't get enough qualifying workdays in 2004 for vacation in 2005. The man got his 3 weeks and 1 personal day.

Howie filed 4 claims. 1 was for junior man called on the territory, another was for the man on the adjacent territory called and 2 were for the crew doing maintenance work on OT.

There was a discussion about the "foreman's test" and the waiting period between tests if you fail the first one.

### Report of Special Committee:

There were 33 union members, 3 retirees and 2 people from outside the union for a total of 60 people at the dinner dance. 26 door prizes were given out. \$150.00 received as donations. Total expenses were \$5,277.36

### Communications:

2005 mileage rates are 40.5 cents per mile. Railroad Retirement board changed tier 1 and 2 taxes. Howie read the prioritized section 6 wish list. Everything is staying on the list and the items were separated between Grand Lodge and General Committee. Grand Lodge is generally taking care of Health and Welfare and general wage increases. The general committee is taking care of local work rule changes, etc. This should make it more beneficial for us.

Dan Petro discussed the section six notice and about the OSHA/UPRR asbestos agreement. He also discussed the accident investigation form in detail. **DO NOT SIGN** the medical information release!! At some point, you will need to release some information regarding a claim. You can limit the medical information given to the accident in question. Any releases you sign or have signed, you can also revoke. There is a form that can be sent revoking any medical information release. There is also a "HIIPA" form that you will be asked to sign. It's about the same thing as the medical release section of the form. Don't sign this, either.

If anyone has any problems with United Healthcare, let Howie know.

#### Unfinished Business

None that wasn't already discussed.

#### New Business

There was a discussion about the 2005 union sponsored function. It was decided that there would be a notice sent to the members asking for their choice of event. The choices are Picnic, gambling boat, Baseball game, Race track outing, dinner dance or other. Notice will be sent out A.S.A.P. and will also be posted on the web site.

#### Report of sickness of members

Kevin Connolly is still waiting for a liver transplant.

Dan Louise is off due to a back injury.

Lou Stein is off with a heart problem.

George Garner is off due to an aneurysm.

Bob Stypek is back in the hospital after a relapse of his illness.

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

#### Members in distress or unemployed

None reported

#### Good of the union

The next meeting will be at the Courtyard by Marriott in Elmhurst, Illinois.

On the personal injury report, there is a box in the middle of the page that if you sign it, it releases your medical information to the company. **DO NOT EVER SIGN THIS BOX!!** If in doubt, call your union rep. Any of the local chairmen can help you. This also goes for the DOT physical forms.

If you had a physical from the doctor for the asbestos exposure and received a form letter, fax it to the Petro and Petro law firm so that they can put it in the case file.

#### Closing Prayer

Read by Charlie Kocian

#### Adjournment

Tom Humenik motioned for adjournment.

Howie Merkin seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Humenik  
Recording secretary BRS local 130