

**DANIEL V. WELLS** *General Chairman* 

**Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen** 

Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad and Illinois Railway
General Committee of Adjustment
IHB 400/Division 682

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Negotiation update Via Email

Dustin Stadie
BLET Division 682
Local Chairman IR
Motocross698@aol.com

## Brothers and Sisters,

I want to update all our Illinois Railway members on the current round of contract negotiations with Omnitrax. We recently had two very productive meetings on October 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. At the conclusion of the October 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, the next meeting was scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, but was cancelled due to the unavailability of several Carrier officials. This was followed by the holidays and then a change in General Chairman with the undersigned assuming the office. I am currently waiting for Marjorie McCormack to get back to me with dates that the Carrier can meet on. I, along with our National Vice-President Marcus Ruef, will continue to insist on getting these negotiations going so we can have a tentative agreement out for ratification as soon as possible.

I am confident by now that most of you have heard of an employee retention program that the Carrier would like to implement immediately and without ratification by the Membership. Marcus and I have told Omnitrax that they can NOT unilaterally alter wages of any employees we represent outside the parameters of RLA Section 6 and any tentative agreement we reach will have to be ratified by the membership prior to any change(s) to your Agreement. It is very important for all of you that we honor and protect the legal structure that protects the sanctity of your labor agreement.

Additionally, following the next negotiation meeting I will set up a town hall meeting for all of us to get together and discuss the status of the negotiations. Please feel free to reach out with questions or concerns to myself or Brother Dustin Stadie.

Fraternally,

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Daniel V. Wells General Chairman

Cc: GCA 400/Div. 682 S/T file