

TCU / ARASA 5101 Lodge Meeting

Date: 8/27/19

President Bo Brown opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and with the Association prayer, and called the meeting to order.

Recording Secretary Jerry Johnson conducted roll call. Present were Local and District Officers, General Chairman, Senior Staff and other members. A motion to waive the reading of the minutes was made by Brother Willie Nelson and seconded by Brother Javier Rosales. Motion passed.

FST Shane Lindsey gave the Financial Report. TCU National Rep. Hirschbein was recognized and asked about membership numbers to which Brother Lindsey responded. Sister Shamaree Buhlig made the motion to accept the report and pay the bills. Brother Adam Gonzales seconded. Motion carried.

VG Locomotive Shamaree Buhlig gave her report on claims and appeals.

VG Car Alan Harris gave his report on claims and appeals.

VP Richard Norton delivered the report for the E/S side. Brother Norton reported that VG E/S Norton wanted to pass along that 2 Track Inspectors are off work due to inaccuracies in their Track Inspection Reports which is an FRA document. He encouraged all Members to be entirely accurate and honest in their reporting. You cannot be fired for doing your job. Brother Thornton made himself available for any questions or concerns via phone or email.

General Chairman Mark Sellers gave his report on charges, investigations, dismissals, and meetings with the Carrier. Brother Sellers discussed furloughs under Rule 14. There is no provision for bumping onto another roster. If a Member cannot hold a position at Point then the Member can bump wherever Seniority will allow in the District. The Agreement has no provision for it to go any further. The other option is to bump back to Shop Craft and be subject to recall as a Supervisor. If that approach is taken and the Member then declines the recall – the Member's ARASA Seniority is forfeited.

Brother Sellers also discussed Overtime and the proper procedure. OT is to be called on a rotating OT Board. If a position goes unfilled then furloughed Members and Probationary Foremen are given the opportunity to work it. If they decline then the Junior ARASA Member on duty at the time will stay on duty until relieved. This contingency is per Rule 4(c) and 4(e).

Brother Sellers also encouraged everyone to have any sick Members call the Member Benefits Specialist (Brother Shane Pitts). There is a 60 day window for reporting such illnesses in order to receive Benefits.

Brother Sellers clarified that Members who are furloughed within 20 days of a Holiday are NOT eligible for Holiday Pay. This is per Rule 7.

Brothers Sellers addressed schedules. The only schedules permitted by our Collective Bargaining Agreement are 5 8-hour days or 4 10-hour days. The Collective Bargaining Agreement cannot be bypassed by a vote of Members at a Point location.

Brother Sellers reported on "Lead men" doing our work. A successful grievance will include documentation of name of the "Lead man", the names of the Craft persons supervised by that "Lead man", tasks and assignments given, what duties that person performed, etc. More is better.

Brother Sellers also reiterated the requirement for us to clock in and out. If you are adding clock-ins, clock-outs, or blocks of time then you need to stop it immediately. If Management requires you to do it then MUST obtain documentation.

Brother Bernard Barrymore was recognized with a question about positions put up for bid and subsequently bid on by Members from a different Roster. Brother Sellers responded.

Brother Bruce Green was recognized with a question about E/S Members and Callouts.

Brother Shawn Jourdan in Roseville asked for, and received, clarification regarding the bumping process.

Brother Mario Sanchez was recognized for a question regarding how long a Member can be held out “Pending Investigation”. Brother Sellers responded that the contract states a “reasonable amount of time”.

New Business: No new business

Brother Bruce Green moved to adjourn and Brother Larry Hayes seconded. Motion passed and Pres. Brown adjourned the meeting.

Total attendance in meeting = 30

The next regular Lodge Meeting will be held on 09/24/19 at 7 P.M. CST.

The number is 1-800-719-7514, the conference number is 514438. You will need to give your name for introduction.

It is important to have the correct mailing address for members on file so that they can receive union correspondence. If your mailing address has changed in the last year, please forward address changes to your Local or District Chairman.

TCU sends weekly updates through email called Flash News. The items of most importance are posted on the Lodge web site. If a member would like to subscribe to Flash News and receive the email contact Kevin Gifford at giffordk@tcunion.org.

Contact your District or Local Chairman for details on any items that you are interested in.