

Delegates Caucus Report

April 24-28, 2017

Brothers and sisters I am unable to attend this stop work meeting as I am on vacation following the caucus.

I will keep it to the point on the issues I am discussing as I know the other delegates are going to bring additional information as well.

On the first day the Coast Committee Report was read into the record. Within that report is Contract Administration, Registration numbers, Health and Welfare, Pension, 401 K, Legislative Action, State Legislative Report, Safety, Clerk Technology, Communications, Education, Solidarity, and last but not least what I believe you all want to hear about Contract Extension Talks.

1. Registration- Overall from 2012 the number of registrants is up by 551 but in Seattle we are down over that time frame -92. The foremen numbers are down overall also by-71, I don't know if that includes Finne.
2. Health and Welfare- From the report "Beginning in the year 2020, a 40% excise tax is scheduled to be assessed to the ILWU-PMA Welfare plan annually for each dollar in benefits spent for families enrolled in the CIP exceeding \$30,950. It is currently unknown how any of these Affordable Care Act- related mandates will change the ILWU-PMA Welfare Plan if it is repealed."
3. Pension- Our pension plan has an estimated valuation of \$5.2 billion in assets and a funding percentage of 87%. This puts us the "certified green zone". I can't stress enough brothers and sisters that we keep on top of the funding. There are many unions out there whose pensions have been mismanaged and the members of those unions who retire are only getting a very small fraction of what they once got and in many cases it is their leaderships fault. Let's make sure we keep this solvent and there for all future generations long after we all leave.

4. TWIC- the Coast Guard issued its final rule that only applies to risk group A which states effective August 23, 2018 "Risk group A covers bulk terminals and larger passenger terminals and vessels (i.e. those designated to handle 1000 or more passengers)". The mandatory locations for readers do not have to be bargained. The coast committee will be in communication with the locals prior to its implementation. It was not communicated to us if they will continue to be used by the employers for us to access the terminals
5. Safety-the safety committee reported that the fall arrest harness's when "deployed" go from a rescue situation to a recovery situation if we wait for fire and rescue to arrive. There was some testing done and even the employers agreed that using the current harness and waiting for fire and rescue to arrive most likely will end up in your death. This is due to the restriction of blood flow that is created when "dangling" there on the side of a container for certain amounts of time. It was not stated how much time was involved but as a crane operator I am not waiting for fire and rescue to get there to get you up and out of that situation alive. Another issue was brought up about the structure failure of a California crane only five days after the crane was inspected by a "crane inspection" company. Since then the company that did the inspection was fired and has lost their license. After speaking with a crane consultant company I was informed that when they inspect cranes per the "guidelines" set by the manufacturer of the crane that require a NON DESTRUCTIVE TEST, it is usually about every 4-5 years. However the ZPMC cranes spec sheets on this are not written very well as we need them in the English vernacular. This test is a specialized process that requires additional testing of the metallurgy of the metal and is very complex. They not only look for visible cracks in specific areas but utilize other more complex equipment that test in ways you cannot see with the eye for the actual strength of the metal. Over time things wear out and metal gets thinner, this all has to be taken into account. Who is responsible for this and our safety is the owners of the cranes. They are supposed to make sure this happens.

6. Coast Budget Report- I am not going to post the comprehensive budget report here as it will be smeared all over the internet for the world to see, however, if you would like to see it I have it for you to look at. Nothing to hide, I answer to you and it is your right to see it.

We have a resolutions summary list and a supplemental list, the difference is the summary list is resolutions that were put in and passed by memberships and submitted to the coast by the deadline set and supplemental lists are ones that were not submitted to the coast in time but submitted by per caucus rules before 5:30pm of the second day of the caucus.

Local 19's two resolutions dealing with Naturopathic medicine and the early out were referred to contract caucus. That means no action was taken at this time. As well as two other resolutions dealing with the "golden age 85" (i.e. age plus years=85), and stopping the 5% reduction per year penalty for retiring before 62.

Contract Extension- this was the hot topic. Thru much heated debate and in my opinion way too much "Political jockeying". Due to fact that President McEllrath will be "termed out" after next year they were all testing the waters to see where they may be able to position themselves. In the Coast Committee Report the coast committee recommends that the PMA's economic package be distributed to the rank and file for a vote.

We were informed that there is huge cost incurred by the employers in the benefits portion alone that is in the billions of dollars over the three years. If we accept the offer by the PMA and its employers their respective employers WILL present the Hawaiian longshoremen, ILWU security personnel and the foremen the same wage percentage increases, and pension increases, as the one presented to us.

My opinion is that the rank and file have the right to see what is proposed by the employers in depth and can then decide if they agree or disagree with the proposal and then vote on that at a membership meeting and then we as delegates we can take THAT vote back to a Contract Caucus and truly reflect what we are directed by our memberships to do. An educated membership will always make the right decision.

So in order for the membership to be able to have a say in the extension pursuant to our division bylaws it must pass a caucus vote. I voted yes to send it to the membership, a no vote would not have allowed you to have a say and would not have been a good reflection of me representing you the membership.

It is always my pleasure to serve this membership.

Respectfully submitted by,

Matt Ventoza