

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT  
AUGUST 4, 2017

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Aloha Sisters and Brothers,

Last month's news about the Hawaiian Telcom and Cincinnati Bell merger comes at a critical time for Local 1357. Understandably, there are more questions than there are answers surrounding the details of the merger at this time. I have been asked by Vice President Chamberlain to attend meetings with his group to address the merger to help provide insight from the IBEW's perspective. One of the biggest concerns pertains to our negotiations and what the merger does to our talks. CEO Scott Barber spoke to members of our Executive Board a few days after the announcement and was asked how it affects us in bargaining. He reassured us that all the current operations of Hawaiian Telcom, including negotiations, will continue to be business as usual and that Cincinnati Bell will not be a part of the negotiations.

With regards to our negotiations, we continue to meet with Hawaiian Telcom and its lead negotiator, Director of Labor Relations Emmit Kane, to come to an agreement for a successful contract. Your Negotiations Committee is always prepared each and every week to come to the table to negotiate a new and fair contract for everyone. Over the past few weeks, we have reached tentative agreements on certain articles and we continue to forge ahead and make progress. Even in the midst of the merger agreement, both sides remain committed to meet and exchange ideas. As always, in a show of our solidarity, please continue to wear blue or IBEW logo apparel on Friday's, and stay informed by attending your unit meetings.

Our 9<sup>th</sup> District Progress meeting was held in Seattle July 25 through 28<sup>th</sup>. This year was unprecedented since it was the first time the Progress Meeting was combined with the 8<sup>th</sup> District, and it was a great success! President Stephenson and International Secretary Treasurer Cooper addressed the assembly and talked about the importance of organizing and growing our membership, along with continuing to build a relationship that is collaborative with the employer, not one that is purely confrontational. When our members come to work and are successful, the company is also successful. In addition to the industry specific workshops, there was also a Young Worker workshop run by International Representative Harold Dias, Jr that was a big hit! One of the panel discussions was on the IBEW's Code of Excellence and how it has been successful with multiple Locals including 396 in Nevada, 465 in San Diego and 659 in Oregon, representing members from the power company. The Code of Excellence reinforces the IBEW's renewed commitment to the employer that our members will be the best in the industry, and that we are steadfast in doing the right thing daily.

The 2017 Labor Unity Picnic will be held on Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Waikiki Shell from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM with the gates opening at 3:30 PM. This is a FREE event for all members and their families, so come on down and enjoy the complimentary food, entertainment and fellowship! We are also looking for volunteers to man the IBEW booth, so please contact the office if you are able to help out with this exciting event. We look forward to seeing you there!

I am excited to announce that our mobile application is currently in the testing phase with Executive Board members and staff. Once the initial group has completed its testing, we will be rolling out the deployment to other groups such as stewards, then onto units. We will also be holding a contest for which unit has the most participation in downloading the app. The early feedback has been positive and we are currently working with our vendor 3D Internet to tweak the operation of the app to our locals needs. Stay tuned for the latest info!

In Solidarity,



Troy Benevides,  
Business Manager-Financial Secretary

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