

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

January 5, 2018

Aloha Sisters and Brothers!

As mentioned on December 29th via our Local Hub App and Hawaiian Telcom Company Communication, our members ratified the Tentative Agreement with Hawaiian Telcom. With an overwhelming 95% voting in favor, you spoke loudly and your voices were definitely heard! I would like to thank all of you who took the time to vote in this important process. I would also like to thank the brothers and sisters of our bargaining team for their hard work and sacrifice. President Sakai, Recording Secretary Kelii, Treasurer Katto, Maui Board Member Craig Pruse, Assistant Business Manager Kahakui, Representative Parran, and Unit 9 member Tavori Monmaney, all did an outstanding job of getting a new and fair agreement delivered to the members for ratification before the expiration of our current one. Great job team!

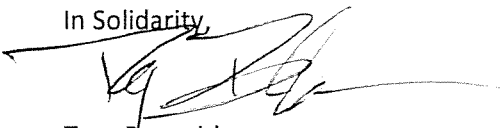
With this new agreement, our brothers and sisters will continue to have a 10% matching on their 401k, pay 5% medical and receive an 8.5% wage increase over the 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ year contract. In a time when the cost of healthcare continues to increase and retirement seems to be out of reach, our members can rest assured that those benefits will continue to be there. In an industry that seems to wane year after year as technology evolves, our members will be able to maintain stability and security for themselves and their families.

Our Local accomplished a lot in 2017 beginning with training from the 9th District Office for stewards, chairman, and our bargaining team. With the effective training alongside our sister locals 1186 and 1260, our members have brought to the forefront a new found pride and dedication to the IBEW and Local 1357. Under President Sakai's leadership, members of the Executive Board redesigned our logo which we rolled out earlier in the year expressing to everyone how proud we are of our Local and our history. We also released the Local Hub App in order to communicate more effectively with our membership. With this new communication tool, we here at the office can instantly broadcast to our members things that are going on around the Local. Since many of our members are spread out throughout the Pacific, using this tool has been helpful in keeping our brothers and sisters connected and informed. In addition to the ability to send out real-time information, the app also has unit meeting schedules, lists of stewards, and our CBA's in PDF form so you will always have access to your bargaining information.

It is with a heavy heart that I report the loss of a member over the holidays. Executive Board Member and Steward, Elizabeth Saralu passed away suddenly on December 29th. Liz was very influential for Unit 10 and a great leader for our sisters and brothers in Saipan and her sudden passing came as a shock to everyone in the IT&E family. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Liz's family and friends, for she will definitely be missed.

I would like to thank each and every one of our members for getting involved and taking part in our Union. Attendance and participation at our unit meetings has been increasing and lots of the unit committee positions are being filled by new members who are excited to get involved. Participation and staying informed are keys to what makes unions successful, and because we have engaged and educated members, I know that 2018 will be another prosperous year.

In Solidarity,



Troy Benevides
Business Manager/Financial Secretary