

1100 N. E. FRONTAGE ROAD
JOLIET, ILLINOIS 60431
Phone 815.729.1240
Fax 815.729.2176



Electrical Work
for Electrical Workers



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local Union No. 176 Joliet, Illinois

May 14, 2020

Brothers and Sisters,

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has created a great deal of uncertainty with many things in our lives. It has forced us as a union to temporarily change most everything we do on the jobsite, at the JATC, and at the union hall. Unfortunately, as part of this situation we have had to cancel our May monthly union meeting. I had all the Business Agents put together reports that they would have shared at the May meeting and have included those reports in this letter. We are also working on contacting each member of the local once again through both phone calls and jobsite visits to check on everyone's well-being and to address any concerns and questions that are out there.

Speaking of well-being, I would like to inform everyone that we have negotiated a deal with Future Diagnostics to provide FDA approved COVID-19 antibody serology testing to anyone who is an eligible participant in our health and welfare plan. There is not any out of pocket expense for this test. It typically takes three (3) to five (5) days to get results from this test. If you are interested in having this test done, simply call 815-730-3344 to schedule an appointment. Make sure to let them know you are a member of Local 176 when you call. Future Diagnostics has locations in Joliet and in New Lenox where this testing can be performed. This information has also been posted to our website under the "Latest COVID-19 Updates from Local 176" section.


I have received several calls asking various questions about our pension plans. As far as pension returns, I keep in contact with our fund managers and professionals on at least a weekly basis to ensure the health of our plans. While we won't have official pension returns until the end of the fiscal year on May 31st, we do that as of the close of business on Tuesday, May 12th, our pension return for the trustee directed pension was approximately positive two percent (2%) for the fiscal year to date.

Another pension question I have been getting is what are we doing about the self-direct pension meetings that traditionally take place in May? We have been working with Merrill Lynch and have been able to develop the ability to conduct these classes on-line. Everyone should be receiving a letter from health and welfare in the next week or so explaining how to participate in the classes. The mailing will also contain a self-direct pension allocation form. We have also posted the information needed to participate in the self-direct meeting on our website. If you are participating in the self-direct plan and wish to change your current allocations, or if you are not currently participating in the plan and would like to start, you will need to fill out the form and return to the health and welfare office by Friday, June 26th. If you are currently participating in the self-direct fund and do not complete and return the allocation form, your current allocations will continue. The classes have been scheduled for two dates, Wednesday, May 27th and Thursday, May 28th. The classes will start at 5:30pm. The letter you will be receiving will contain information to participate in either of these meetings by web conference or telephone. You may participate in either meeting, no sign up is required ahead of time.

As things continue to change, we will continue to keep everyone informed and we will get through this situation even stronger than when we went into it. Unfortunately, there is no playbook on the shelves to reach for to get answers to everything we are dealing with regarding this pandemic. There are not always right or wrong or obvious answers to many of the situations that we find ourselves dealing with nowadays. That being said, I just want to ensure everyone that there is a great deal of

thought and consideration that goes into every decision we make and that the betterment and advancement of this union and its members is what is foremost in any decision that we make. Please stay unified, stay safe, and stay strong and look out for each and every brother and sister.

In Solidarity,



Michael J. Clemmons
Business Manager

Business Agent reports are as follows:

Jim Lockhart

Book count for Thursday, May 14th

146 on Book #1

683 on Book #2

3 Residential

11 Sound

23 Apprentices

1 IT

Portability count commercial – 56/1

Portability count residential – 0/1

54 - Bk 2 working in local 3 are Sound Tech's

110 - JW long calls (80 went to BK-2 & 37 changed to short calls)

48 - JW Short calls (40 went to BK-2)

0 - RW long calls

0 - RW short calls

7 - Sound Long Calls (2 went to BK-2)

0 - Sound Short calls

28 - Apprentice Calls (6 BK-2)

There are 61 out of town contractors reporting in the jurisdiction as of tonight.

Andy Rico

Joliet - At 2685 Plainfield rd. (the old Lone Star Steakhouse) Prairie Construction has started demo work for the construction of the new *Chick-fil-A* restaurant that is scheduled to open late this summer. Prairie Construction has listed *American Electric* on the building permit.

At 2950 Centerpoint way *Hinsdale* is adding switchgear and reworking power distribution at the *Home Depot Regional Distribution Center* to accommodate a new Honeywell Intelligrated conveyor system. *Hinsdale's* portion of work is scheduled to be completed by mid-summer. Honeywell has contracted *BCU Electric* to perform the conveyor electrical work. They are scheduled to be on-site mid-summer through late fall.

Amita St. Joseph Medical Center is remodeling a portion of a 4th floor wing to add new CT scan rooms. *Jamerson Bauwens* is doing that work and will man it with 4-5 electricians.

At 2848 McDonough St, the *IDOC In-patient facility*, *Block Electric* and *Live Wire Electric* have recently finished up underground work with approximately 24 electricians combined. This project was postponed for several weeks due to Covid-19 related concerns but resumed construction the last week of April.

At 250 Water Stone circle, the *Joliet Area Community Hospice*, construction has begun on a \$3.5 million addition/renovation.

Meade Electric is the electrical contractor for this project.

Meade Electric will also be resuming work for the *IDOT Des Plaines river bridge project* in Joliet this month. They will be manning it with 4-8 electricians periodically

At Centerpoint Logistics/Business park *Connelly Electric* is doing site utility and underground work on *Harbor Freight's* nearly 2 million sq. ft. warehouse. Currently they have 3-4 electricians onsite. Manpower is expected to ramp up late this summer.

On McKinley Ave *Elliot Electric* is working at the *Joliet Waste Water Treatment Plant*. That work is expected to be completed early in 2021 with manpower fluctuating periodically.

Plainfield - At 15320 Wallin dr *Plainfield School District 202* / ICI construction has started moving dirt and begun site utility work for the new elementary school directly south of Ira Jones Middle School. *Indicom* Electric has hooked up temp power for the construction trailer and will be onsite soon to start the underground phase of the project.

At the northeast corner of the I-55 and Rt. 30 intersection, *Novak* construction has the new *Costco* under roof and that project is in full swing. *Volt Electric* currently has 14 electricians working on the interior buildout and the parking lot. Volt plans on hiring a couple more electricians in the middle of May. *Climate Pros* is doing the Temperature control and Refrigeration work. *Nucore Electric* will be onsite soon to do the electrical work for the Gas Station.

Elwood - The *Jackson Generation* project on Noel and Brandon rd is wrapping up the underground phase. *Kiewit* electricians are starting to pull cable and construction is starting to go verticle. Currently there are 42 electricians working on that project and *Kiewit* anticipates adding manpower mid-late summer.

Elliot Electric has been awarded to contract for the Administration building. That building has begun construction and Elliot will have electricians onsite soon.

Bolingbrook - On Remington Blvd a new *WeatherTech* building is coming out of the ground. *WeatherTech* also has a Multi-tenant office/warehouse development being constructed on Weber Rd and 111th St. *Meany Electric* has a total of 8 electricians working these two projects combined. *Meany's* work at these projects is expected to carry through the end of the year. There are also additional *WeatherTech* projects in the planning stages.

Romeoville - At 1300 Naperville Rd, *Magid Glove* has *Continental Electric* working on a switchgear modification. *Continental* has 4 electricians onsite and this work is scheduled to be completed in June.

At the beginning of March *Citgo Oil Refinery* turnaround was postponed until the end of May. This project delay prompted *Indicom Electric* to reduce manpower significantly. *Indicom* has since began hiring and will add more manpower over the next couple weeks.

Shorewood - At 306 Gregory ct. PBS construction and *Rhino Youth Baseball/Sports Academy* have decided to hire many out of state contractors that are not signatory with our local unions. *Boender Electric* out of Indiana was awarded the electrical contract and they are not signatory with Local 176. If you or anyone you know have kids involved in youth baseball in the area, please let them know that Rhino Baseball does not support the local community and local contractors. We are currently picketing this project. If you are able and willing to help man this picket please contact myself, Chris Lindstrom or the picket committee.

At Black Rd and Rt. 59 next to Home Depot, G.A. Johnson and sons is moving dirt for the new *Aldi store*. *M3 Electric* has been awarded the contract for that job.

At 1101 Brookforest dr. next to Target store, *Red Wing Shoe store* occupied a vacant tenant space. *American Electric*, a local contractor out of Crest Hill did the electrical work there.

Crest Hill - At 20600 Kubinski Dr, just north of Menards and directly east of the Crest Hill Public Library, construction has begun for the new *Crest Hill City Center/Police Department*. The city of Crest Hill is direct hiring sub-contractors and has contracted *Timm Electric* to do the electrical work for that project.

Scott Smith

New Lenox - The new Metra Station just started last week. The Electrical Contractor for the station is Volt Electric. John Burns has the parking lot portion. they just started on demo a couple weeks ago. The Job is scheduled to be finished by Dec. On Rt 30 down from the Walmart Austin Electric is finishing up the O'Reilly Auto Parts. Silver Cross has 30,000 expansion Block Electric was awarded this they started on the steel this week. At 1991 W Haven Wood Dale Electric has the new indoor storage unit facility they will be putting in a few short calls soon. This is on the corner of Cherry Hill Business Park. Imperial Lighting and Maintenance has a lighting retro at Lowes on Route 30. They will be hiring a couple guys by end of the week. This will be a 3rd shift call.

Frankfort - On Wolf Rd and Rt 30 Cedarhurst Senior Living consists of 56 living apartments and 26 memory care apartments. They started on the underground a couple weeks ago. Scheduled to be done at the end of the year. All Electric out of West Frankfort Local 701.

Lockport - Holiday Inn started this week in Lockport, it consists of 81 units at 54,000 square ft. Its located at 355 and 143rd J.B Electric was awarded this last week. They started underground this week. Peak is the General Contractor. At 15901 W 147th off 355 Heritage Crossing Industrial Park has a 750,000 square foot spec warehouse. Complete Electric out of 461 is out there. Beery Electric out of Local 461 has a spec warehouse across the street at 16535 Prologis Business Park. They will be putting in a couple calls in the next few weeks, they started on the underground last week. On 9th St Dav - Com Electric is finishing up the O'Reilly Auto Parts.

Homer Glen - At the corner of Bell and 143rd Anderson Pump has the Circle K remodel. Shorewood Home and Auto is Building a new facility at 13639 159th. This a showroom, sales and service department like they have in Shorewood. Timm Electric has this project.

Mokena - On the corner of Route 30 and Owens Road Palos Health Care Center broke ground a few weeks ago. It consists of 3 story 50,000 square ft. Walsh is the General Contractor, the Electrical contractor has not been awarded yet. They assured it would good.

Residential – Plainfield on walin Dr has an apartment Development. It's called Sixteen-30 its Luxury Lifestyle Apartments with 248 units. Cary Electric out of Local 117 was awarded this job last month. They started site utility work last week. They plan on foundation work in the next couple weeks weather pending.

Barry Aldrich

Channahon - At the new Amazon Building Titan has subbed out some work to Halm, JB, & Austin as they continue that project. Titan has also started in another portion of the building being awarded the pick module lighting project. The conveyor work was awarded to Kelso-Burnett which they have begun putting in calls this week and will continue to do so until they reach a total of 15-20 for that work. Kelso has subbed out some of the power distribution and control work to Indicom out there as well.

Over at the Amazon Spec warehouse near bluff road, Preferred has been on site and also has subbed out work to Halm they picked up the office build outs, dock bay doors and levelers, plus the restrooms. Communication Zone is on site as well.

The new Love's Truck Stop has broken ground also located on west bluff road, and NuCore signed the contract today for that project.

Wilmington - Abco is at the Amazon over in the Elion Logistics Park off Lorenzo road. They had put in a few calls but due to changes in the design plan those long calls were turned into short calls. This should just be temporary and once the changes are made I'm told Abco will resume putting in calls for that project.

Braidwood - The Braidwood Outage was successful during these challenging times we are currently in. The motor move was done with 100% IBEW craft and the 7300 mod was finished ahead of schedule! On the I&C side of the outage, GD Berri was able to come in after BHI had been removed from site and salvage that work with the help of ibew instrument techs. I'd like to thank these members for taking on steward positions during the outage: Drew Pfaff (day stew), Matt Wright (night stew), Jake Fjelde (bull stew) and Rusty Miller with his help on the I&C issues that occurred.

Dresden - There was a new award for the ISFSI Expansion Project, Brieser is the General Contractor on site and that was awarded to MJ Electric, but due to the pandemic this project has been pushed back. I'm hearing possibly up to a year.

Morris - Correct Electric is at the Morris High School installing a new scoreboard for the football field.

The Armory move in the Grundy County Sheriff's Office has begun Narvick Brothers is the GC, with Ayers Electric getting that project.

Coal City - Outsen has started work on the Coal City Elementary School on Broadway.

Minooka - Mechanical is out at the Minooka High School, they currently have a 364 member cleared in for the HVAC work they have going on there.

Floyd Jones

Seneca Area- Meade Electric has the job at REG in Seneca and has manned up to approximately 25 guys now, the job should be good for a couple more months

Utica Area- Tri-City Electric has the job at Starved Rock Dam replacing the old MCC, they have 5 guys out there now and will be hiring more guys in the next couple weeks. They also have a small amount of work at the Marseilles and Dresden Lock and Dam but the majority of the work is at Starved Rock Lock and Dam

Ottawa Area - Halm Electric was awarded the life safety work at Ottawa High School, LTI Systems from Local 701 has a small remodel job at the North side Shell doing some low voltage work

Lasalle/Peru Area - I mistakenly reported last month that Block Electric had the job for the East Gymnasium remodel at the LaSalle-Peru High School, JB Contracting was actually the low bidder and awarded the job, Brandenburg Electronics is doing the Fire Alarm, CES and CIES have some low voltage work there also for the project. Gatza Electric is starting the demo from the fire at the Double D Warehouse in Peru. Gatza Electric also has a lighting retro fit at the Old Dominion Warehouse in Peru. JB Contracting was awarded the job for the generator replacement on Water Street for the City of Peru. Laser Electric from Local 34 has a job at the LaSalle Veterans Home, CEIS has the low voltage for the project. Newkirk Electric still has around a crew of guys at the solar project at the Walmart Distribution Center by Spring Valley, that project should be wrapped up around the end of May.

Oglesby Area - Rock River Electric from Local 145 still has 16 guys at the GTI cultivation center, Nucore Electric has 2 guys at the new Speedway, that job is still going slow due to all the rain

Princeton Area - Halm Electric has 4 guys at the Bureau County Jail Law Enforcement Center, Engel Electric from Local 364 has picked up the HVAC hookup on the project. Tri-City Electric from Local 145 was awarded the remodel job at the Ohio School, that is around a 2-3 month project.

Tiskalwa Area - Michels Construction was awarded the temporary power for Lonetree Windfarm, as I mentioned last month Renew Electrical from Local 426 in Sioux Falls South Dakota has the tower wiring for the 32 windtowers for this project and it still looks like they will be needing manpower at the end of June or first part of July.

Annawan/Toulon Area - Heart Electric from Local 146 has a job upgrading the Ameren metering station outside of Annawan, Britton Automation has picked up a job at the Toulon Wastewater Treatment Plant

I also wanted to mention that there is a new Mr. Sparkle car wash being built at the corner of Shooting Park Road and Route 251 behind CVS. The job is not good, the company plans on using the non-union electrical contractor Norman Electric for the job. When Norman Electric is on the job I plan on setting up a picket on that project.

Deric Wilkins

Beecher- A new Fire Station is going up. Timm Electric has the job. They are moving dirt.

Manteno – The old Sears warehouse was bought by Lowes. We may have some issues out there. The Manteno Veterans Hospital is doing a covid-19 isolation room, Ryan electric has that job.

Kankakee - KCC Student Success Center Remodel job is going well Keast Electric has four guys out there. Completion date is late July early August. Kankakee High School addition is going. Excel Electric has that

project. Classic Cinema addition in Kankakee is going. KPI has 4 guys out there. Shapiro State Hospital is doing phase 2 for Covid-19 isolation building. Livewire has that job. Splash Valley water park on River road in Kankakee is doing \$4.6 mil. Remodel job. Ruder Electric has two guys on that project. CSL Behring is moving slow. We still have three or four contractors out there. Nucor Steel is slowing down, we have 49 electricians out there. Riverside Hospital remodel job is going even with covid-19 virus. Ruder has that job. 7 or 8 guys on that job.

Bourbonnais - New Aldi's store in Bourbonnais has started. 4 Star electric has that project. Oak Orthopedics Center on RT 45 & 6000RD in Bourbonnais is putting up a new \$15 mil building. it has not been let yet. Riverside \$ 25 mil New Med Building in Bourbonnais was set to start in July but may be on hold due to Covid-19. Riverside did lay off 500 of their staff. ST. George School in Bourbonnais is doing a 10 classroom addition. Ruder Electric has that project, completion date is July of 2021. Liberty School Addition in Bourbonnais is in full swing. Ruder has 2 guys on that project.

Gilman - Incobrasa in Gilman is doing some updates. Ruder has 4 guys out there.

Watseka - O'Reilly's Auto parts is going up in Watseka, Ruder has one guy out there.

University Park- A New Amazon is going up at Steger rd. and Central, Clayco is the general. The electrical has not been let yet, but they are moving dirt. Governors State is doing remodeling their cafeteria. Excel has that project.

Chris Lindstrom

We have been reaching out to the membership of 176 again to touch base and try and knock down any questions that are out there. It has been great to be able to talk to some of you, with any luck we will be able to get together soon.

I reported last month on the possibilities of upcoming pickets. We have 2 going presently. The first one is at Rhino baseball in Shorewood against Boender Electric. The other is in Lockport against Midwest Wind and Solar. If anyone is interested in getting in on some social distant brotherhood let me or Scott Smith know. I would like to thank Tom Daufenbaugh for his help in rounding up volunteers. On that same note, if there are any apprentices in need of community service hours, picket duty is a way to get those hours.

I participated in a zoom meeting with the other organizers from around the state and some of the IO Membership Development team. The thought from that meeting is that when this crisis is past us there will be a further resurgence in the union movement. The need for safer workplaces and better wages and benefits is going to be on the minds of everyone who has lived through this ordeal.

Also, from the organizers meeting, it has become obvious to me that 176 is in much better shape than most locals around the state and in the 6th District. Not only do we have most of our work still on-going and more on the horizon, we were able to negotiate a quality contract. That is something that almost all the other locals around us wish they could do. So, if you have not done so already, please fill out your ballot and return it to the hall.

Stay safe, healthy, and united!