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Electrical Work
for Electrical Workers

**International Brotherhood
Of Electrical Workers**

**Local Union No. 176
Joliet, Illinois**

Brothers and Sisters,

Labor Day is a time to celebrate the contributions of organized labor and to reflect on what we can accomplish together. This Labor Day, however, we grieved the loss of our brother Ron Bebar, who died Friday, September 4 during a work-related accident. Only Ron's dedication to his wife Sue, his son Nate, his daughter Tess, and his many friends and family surpassed his commitment to his union brothers and sisters over his 30-year career in the IBEW. We will honor his memory at his wake on Thursday, September 10 from 2 - 8 p.m. at Fred Dames Funeral Home on Black and Essington.

The health and safety of our brothers and sisters is always at the forefront. As we add Ron's name to the plaque located in the entry of our union hall that honors those who have lost their lives on the job, we recognize Ron's name as the 15th to be added to this memorial. We cannot allow these deaths to be in vain. It is more important than ever to uphold the safety guidelines that we have in place, to demand stronger workplace protections, and to make every effort possible to be there for our brothers' and sisters' families when they need us the most.

The past several months have posed many challenges, driving home the importance of providing more than just good jobs and benefits, and the support needed to survive economic, professional, social, and personal hardships. Statistics bear out that states with labor-friendly legislators and policy makers have stronger workplace safety laws and fewer accidents on job sites. These are among our top priorities when we support elected officials, and this is why we advocate so strongly for a unified show of support for these elected officials and candidates. Legislation and policy are critical components to guaranteeing that our health, safety, and well-being remain a priority.

In addition to health and safety standards, we are working diligently with our area legislators and the Governor's office to find a legislative solution to ensure Exelon does not close Dresden and Byron Nuclear Power Plants, as they recently announced. We are in the process of putting legislation together to move the ComEd territory in Illinois from a federally regulated capacity market administered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to an Illinois-only based market administered by the Illinois Commerce Commission. Keeping these plants open is vital to our local economy, not only for the direct and indirect jobs that they provide, but also for the support they provide for our local tax bases. We plan to have legislation prepared for the veto session in November.

After several years of negotiating a project labor agreement and helping with the permitting process with the State of Illinois through our friends in the legislature, I am pleased to announce Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) secured the final financing needed to begin construction of their CPV Three Rivers Energy Center in Grundy County. This will be a 1,250 MW natural gas fueled, combined cycle, high-efficiency, cogeneration facility. Construction is slated to begin with the initial site work and underground in early October of 2020. This project is similar in size and scope to the Jackson Power Project that is currently under construction.

We are also working with the elected officials in Joliet on drafting a new Responsible Bidder Ordinance (RBO) for any City of Joliet construction projects. Joliet does currently have an RBO, but we are working to add apprenticeship graduation standards and additional language requiring contractors on city projects to provide insurance and pension benefits to their employees. We have also begun talks with local elected leaders in the City of Kankakee in an effort to get Kankakee to adopt similar language to that which we worked out with the City of Joliet. Strongly crafted RBOs ensure local government projects go to qualified union contractors.

Jobsite health and safety standards, keeping our nuclear facilities open, project labor agreements, and responsible bidder ordinances are only a few of the many fronts we fight alongside our local and state elected officials. Our ability to negotiate the highest total wage and benefit package in the 6th District, while consistently maintaining a top ten ranking in the nation's market share is due to strong working relationships with these elected officials. Like most of you, I get tired of the partisan politics and rhetoric. I am not always in agreement with our friends in the political arena, but our local elected officials and our allies in the legislature are essential to achieving our collective goals and to ensuring our local's prosperity.

Here are a few other items of interest that we have been actively working on:

- Our audited Local Pension return for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2020 was 3.514%.
- Maintenance group negotiations with St. Joseph Hospital have progressed and we plan to present something to the hospital workers for ratification in the next few weeks.
- Zenith, our benefits administrator, has reopened at the union hall with normal business hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be answering phones during regular business hours Monday - Friday. Press option 2 when you call the office, if nobody is available in the health and welfare office, your call will be forwarded to a representative who can answer your questions. If you reach voicemail, they may be on the other line. Their lunch hour is between 12 - 1 p.m. Please let me know if you need assistance resolving any health and welfare issues.

Finally, due to increasing COVID-19 positivity rates, Will and Kankakee Counties have had further restrictions imposed on them by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Despite these restrictions, we still plan to hold our union meeting this Thursday, September 9 at 7 p.m. These new restrictions limit us to 25% capacity in our hall for union meetings. I understand that, due to the current pandemic, many of you may not be able to attend the monthly union meetings. As

we have done in previous months, I have asked everyone to prepare union meeting reports, which are contained below.

I just want to thank everyone in this local for all their hard work and understanding during these turbulent times. Please stay safe and look out for your fellow brothers and sisters. Remember, the only way for working men and women to achieve economic justice and dignity is through solidarity, unity, and organizing. Remain unified, brothers and sisters, as we move forward together.

In Solidarity,



Michael J. Clemmons
Business Manager

Business Agent, Apprenticeship, and Safety reports are as follows:

Jim Lockhart

Book count for Thursday, September 10, 2020

94 - Book #1

379 - Book #2

3 - Residential

15 - Sound Tech

5 - Apprentices

2 - IT

Portability count commercial – 79/1

Portability count residential – 0/1

78 - Bk 2 working in local (70 -JW & 8 -VDV)

72 - JW long calls, 5 turned into a short call, 12 went to BK-2.

18 - JW Short calls, 12 went to BK-2.

1 - Sound Long Call.

4 - Sound Short call, all went to BK-2.

24 - Apprentice Calls

There are 71 out of town contractors under Inside Agreement reporting in the jurisdiction as of today.

Andy Rico

Meeting Report 9/10/2020

Joliet - Cresco Labs at 3301 Centerpoint Way, is remodeling their facility, adding a parking dock, reworking locker rooms and will soon be adding a 50'x15' production/grow room addition. Belmont-Avondale Electric has the contract for this project.

At 2114 S. Frontage Rd., Local 130 Plumbers are adding to their training center. Connelly Electric is doing the electrical work for this project and has had electricians onsite doing underground slab work.

At 2950 Centerpoint Way, Home Depot Regional Distribution Center, Hinsdale Electric has picked up some additional work, reworking power distribution and switchgear to accommodate a new conveyor system. Hinsdale's portion of work is scheduled to be completed by late July or early August.

BCU Electric is doing the conveyor work and has 11 electricians onsite. This project is scheduled to be completed by December 2020.

Imperial Lighting and Maintenance is back onsite finishing up an LED lighting upgrade, swapping out roughly 2,000 light fixtures. They currently have 4 electricians working and plan on completing the project by the end of this month.

The Tower Apartments at 247 Caterpillar Dr. is doing a \$2 million remodel project. Rex Electric has this job.

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 has approximately 35-40 electricians working.

City Services Electric is doing the temperature control work and currently has 4 electricians onsite.

Live Wire Electric has 6 electricians working at the Administration building.

The VDV work is scheduled to begin ramping up in the coming weeks and months. Low Voltage Solutions has the bulk of that work.

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 has resumed work for the IDOT Des Plaines river bridge project, reworking the bridge tender house and cabling for 6 bridges. They will be manning it with 4-8 electricians periodically.

Torres Electric is doing the Fire Alarm work on this project.

At Centerpoint Logistics/Business park Connelly Electric has manned up to approximately 20 electricians at Harbor Freight's nearly 2 million sq. ft. warehouse. Connelly is expected to add more manpower in the coming months and have the VDV contract for this project as well.

At 3501 Brandon Rd., walls are up and the 1.2 million sq. ft. Spec warehouse is under roof. Jan Electric currently has 7 electricians working on this project and will likely add a few more before the project is completed late in December.

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

Preferred Electric has been contracted to install a 1.5 megawatt ground mount solar array at Joliet Junior College. This project was delayed for a little over a month but the posts and rack installation has begun over the last couple weeks.

Continental Electric has two ground mount solar projects starting in September at Chicagoland Speedway.

At 1023 E. Laraway Rd. Connelly Electric has begun a tenant buildout for General Motors parts distribution. There are currently 6 electricians working on this project and it is scheduled to be completed by November.

At 2500 Centerpoint Way, Sievert Electric is installing a new crane rail system at the Union Pacific railyard. Currently they have 8 electricians onsite and may add more manpower. John Burns Electric is onsite as well pulling and terminating feeders and fiber to the crane rail.

Plainfield - At 15320 Wallin Dr., Plainfield School District 202, ICI construction has started vertical construction for the new elementary school directly south of Ira Jones Middle School. Indicom Electric has this job.

Elwood - The Jackson Generation project on Noel and Brandon Rd. is in the cable pulling phase and installing raceways above ground on the electrical side of things. Currently there are approximately 70 electricians combined between day and night shift working on that project. Manpower is expected to continue to ramp up through the fall and winter months. Elliott Electric has the contract for the Administration building. New River Electric is onsite for the next several weeks pulling and terminating the 347kv cable.

Bolingbrook - At 6 Territorial Ct., Connelly Electric has 3 electricians working on the Impact Networking expansion project. This project is scheduled to be completed this fall.

Romeoville - At 501 W. Taylor Rd. Crate & Barrel warehouse is under roof and manpower has peaked at approximately 15 electricians. This project is planned to be completed by November.

Preferred Electric has been contracted to install a 1.5 MW solar array at Lewis University. This work has been delayed, but is anticipated to begin in the next month or so.

Shorewood - 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 21540 SW Frontage Rd., Complete Electric has begun a tenant buildout that is scheduled to be completed by November. Complete has 5 electricians working 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.

On the corner of Caton Farm Rd. and Parinar Dr., Narvick Brothers construction has walls up for Low Voltage Solution's new shop. Ideal Electric will be the electrical work on that building.

Naperville - At 2244 W. 95th St., Johnson Construction broke ground for the new Compass Church. Nesko Electric has been awarded the contract for this job and is now onsite.

Scott Smith

Meeting Report 9/10/2020

FRANKFORT - Cedarhurst Senior Living on Wolf Rd and Rt 30 consists of 56 living apartments and 26 memory care apartments. All electric out of Local 702, West Frankfort, IL. They finished the underground approximately a month ago. There have been delays due to COVID-19 and getting a Union Carpenter Contractor on the job.

Excel Electric has the Hickory Creek Church expansion, located at 10660 off of Rt. 30.

LOCKPORT - An 81 unit, 54,000 sq. ft. Holiday Inn is being built at I-355 and 143rd St. in Lockport, scheduled to open by January 1, 2021. J.B Electric was awarded this a few months ago. Peak is the General Contractor. They put in a couple calls last week.

Circle R Electric out of Local 531 is finishing a ground mount solar project at Prologis Park at I-355 and 143rd.

Grand Kahn Electric out of 134 is out at DuPage Medical Group located at 1206 E 9th St. They're adding an MRI unit. This is a small job, they might put in a short call or two depending on the schedule.

Jolen Electric has some work at William Butler Elementary School located at 1900 Farrell Rd.

NEW LENOX - The new Metra Station located on Rt. 30 and Cedar Rd. Volt has a couple guys out on this project. The job is scheduled to be finished by December 2020.

Jan Electric was awarded the Supervalu in Cherry Hill Business Park. This is an existing building adding battery chargers. This is a couple guys for 6-8 weeks.

Silver Cross has a 30,000 sq. ft. expansion. Block Electric was awarded this and they started vertical a few months ago.

At 1991 W Haven Wood, Dale Electric is finishing up the new indoor storage unit facility. This is on the corner of Cherry Hill Business Park.

Hy-Power Electric out of 134 was awarded West End Tool. This is an 80,000 sq. ft. industrial building. Steel just started this week. This is located at 2253 New Lenox Rd.

LEMONT- Lyons Electric has the Electric Fish Barrier located at 790 E. Romeo Rd. This should be good for a couple months, all depending on the Army Corps of Engineers.

HOMER GLEN – Hawk Enterprises has various traffic signal work in the area.

Nucore Electric has the Gas and Wash on the corner of 159th St. and Gougar Rd. They just started underground this week.

Sweeney Electric is still out at Chickasaw Wastewater Treatment Plant at 143rd St. and Parker Rd. Should be completed in a month or so.

Shorewood Home and Auto is Building a new facility at 13639 W. 159th St. This a showroom, sales and service department like they have in Shorewood. Timm Electric will be finishing up soon.

GS Electric out of 134 has some schoolwork at Oak Prairie Junior High at 15161 S. Gougar Rd.

MOKENA – At 191st St. and 88th Ave., Altorfer Power Center is putting in a new Caterpillar sales and service center. Northern is the G.C. and Connelly Electric is the Electrical Contractor.

On the corner of Route 30 and Owens Road, Palos Health Care Center broke a few months ago. It consists of 3 stories and is 50,000 sq. ft. Walsh is the General Contractor. Sharlen was awarded the job a couple months ago. They finished underground last week. It's a slow-paced job as of right now, looking like six or seven guys for about 6 months.

Automatic Service has some lighting upgrades at Mokena Intermediate School located at 11331 W. 195th St.

O'Carroll Electric is finishing up two spec on going warehouses at 8905 W. 187th St. Industrial Dr.

Residential – Plainfield on Walin Dr. has an apartment development called Sixteen-30, a 248 unit luxury lifestyle apartment building. Cary Electric out of Local 117 was awarded this job a few months ago. They got a few undergrounds done last week, it's been slow starting off because of COVID-19 and ongoing pickets.

Barry Aldrich

Channahon – Kaiser Electric now has two JW's onsite at the new Love's Truck Stop on East Bluff Road.

Essex – Tesco has a small project going on at the Exelon STC training facility, the two JW's cleared in replacing some frequency drives. This job will run for about a week.

Coal City – Yesco had one JW working on the sign out front at the BP gas station at the intersection of Rt.113 and Broadway.

Morris – M3 has 1 JW in and out of the Grass Roots Marijuana Dispensary out on west Route 6, adding a new point of sales station for them.

4CMCORP had two JW's working on the wind damaged Shell station sign at Route 47 & Green Acres Dr.

Van Mack had two guys working on the controller in town along Rt.47 and High Street.

Across the street from the Shell station, GCS Midwest has begun moving dirt directly south of the Stock & Field store, this will be a new strip plaza with a Starbucks, Aspen Dental, & Panda Express. We met with the folks from GCS at the Building & Zoning Meeting held at the city hall and they were given a local union contractors book, along with three local electrical contractors with contact information, and a labor harmony agreement that we asked if they would adopt into their tenant lease contracts, which would ensure that union labor would be required for any buildout work in future. As of today, there is still no awarded electrical contractor listed on the building permit.

You may also see dirt being moved very soon out north of Morris across from the airport. Proctor & Gamble is putting in a new \$128,000,000, 1,300,000 sq ft logistical warehouse. I spoke with the City of Morris Building and Zoning Officer today and no contractors have been listed yet on that project.

Minooka – At Minooka Central High School, CES has four onsite working the fire alarm and low voltage work. Indicom is still onsite there as well.

Floyd Jones

SENECA: Sound Inc. from Local 701 was awarded some life safety work at Seneca High School.

OTTAWA/UTICA: Halm Electric was awarded the job at the UAW Center in Ottawa adding a new office building. They are just getting started on the foundation work now. Tri-City Electric has the job at Starved Rock Lock and Dam and Marseilles Lock and Dam. They are still planning on adding manpower through the end of July at the Starved Rock Lock and Dam. The project should be completed by the end of October.

OGLESBY: NuCore Electric is working on completing the outside work at the new Speedway. That project will be completed in the next couple months.

OHIO/GALVA/TISKALWA: Tri-City Electric from Local 145 has the job at the Ohio School for the remodel of some classrooms. Rock River Electric from Local 145 was awarded the work at the Galva School for the remodel of the new science rooms. Renew Electric from Local 426 has the job at the Lonetree Windfarm for the 32 wind towers, it looks like they will still need manpower sometime at the end of July, the job is supposed to be completed by the end of September.

LASALLE-PERU: JB Contracting was awarded some of the site work for the new Peru Police Station, the rest of the site work and the new building package has not been let yet for that project. Climate Pros was awarded the contract for the remodel at the Peru Walmart. William A Randolph is the General on the project, and Thompson Electronics from Local 34 picked up a low voltage job at Pretium Packaging in Peru.

SPRING VALLEY: Associated Electrical from Local 117 was awarded some life safety work at John F. Kennedy Elementary School.

BRADFORD/KEWANEE: Oberlander Electric from Local 34 has some life safety work at Bradford High School. Oberlander Electric was also awarded a project at Central Jr. High School in Kewanee.

EARLVILLE: Advanced Data Technologies is finishing up the retrofit lighting job at the Earlville School District.

TOULON: Brittin Electrical from Local 34 has a project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Toulon.

Deric Wilkins

September Report

University Park - The new Amazon is going up at Steger Rd. and Central Ave. Clayco is the general. The electrical contractor is ABCO and they now have walls up and the deckpan on. Calls should be going out in the near future. It is moving slow because of architect issues. They have 15 guys on site.

Governors State University remodeling project is complete.

Local 9 is putting up a new crane training facility. Linear Electric has that project.

Monee

Midwest Store Fixtures is doing a build-out of an existing warehouse at 25975 S. Cleveland, Monee. Ruder Electric has this project and they now have 6 guys out there for another 4 weeks.

Manteno – Peoples Bank is building a new facility next to McDonald's. PSI is the general, KPI has the electrical.

A new O'Reilly Auto Parts is going up. Schmidt Electric has that project.

The Manteno Veterans Hospital is putting in a new back-up generator and considering a new fire alarm system. Ryan Electric has the generator project. They have two guys on site.

Kankakee - The Kankakee High School addition is complete.

The Kankakee Housing Authority has a remodeling project and Outsen Electric has this job.

The traffic signal project throughout the city is being done by Outsen Electric, as well.

Classic Cinema addition in Kankakee is going. KPI has 4 guys out there.

Splash Valley Water Park on River Road in Kankakee is complete. They won't open until the summer of 2021.

CSL Behring is moving slow. There is talk about taking down the existing steel and just doing storage. There is also talk of starting a waste-water treatment plant.

Riverside Hospital remodel job is starting to come down, Ruder still has a few guys on this site.

New solar project 2 meg going up on South Schuyler. Keast Electric has 8 guys on site.

A new solar array is going up just east of town on 2700Rd. E. Borrego Solar has given the job to MKD.

A new Dollar General is going up on Jeffery St. Schmidt Electric has that project.

Nucor Steel – there is talk about Com Ed putting in a new substation.

Bourbonnais – the new Aldi store in Bourbonnais is starting to come down.

Olivet Nazarene University is remodeling its Science Building. Ruder Electric has this project.

Oak Orthopedics Center on Rt. 45 & 6000RD in Bourbonnais is putting up a new \$15M building. The bids are due on Friday.

Riverside's \$25M New Med Building in Bourbonnais has broken ground, Ruder has that project.

St. George School in Bourbonnais is doing a 10-classroom addition. Ruder Electric has that project, completion date is the end of July of 2021.

Gilman – the Incobrasa job is complete.

Watseka – Walmart is doing a small remodeling job, Schmidt has this job. The city is putting in 3 new generators and Outsen Electric has this job starting next week.

Grant Park - Peoria Packing is doing phase 2 addition. Emmerich Electric has that project.

Love's Travel Stop will be putting up a new building (upcoming).

Beecher - A new fire station is going up. Timm Electric has the job.

Chris Lindstrom

- Like all of us, I am deeply saddened by the death of Brother Ron Bebar. I would ask all of us to keep his family in our thoughts and remind everyone to stay focused on safety while on the job.
- Over the last month we have received work history documentation from 4 unrepresented workers. We are in the process of reviewing those documents and trying to get to know them better. We need to make sure that if we decide to organize these people into 176 that they fit into our local.
- On the picket front: Local 176 has not taken any job action since the last meeting. We continue to monitor the non-union jobs sites throughout the jurisdiction and if pickets are warranted, we will put them up.
- This past week the IBEW held its Membership Development Conference. Over the multi-day seminar, discussions were held on many topics. Recent changes to NLRB were among the highlights. Also, there was a lecture on organizing in a post-COVID-19 landscape. The focus of the week was the recommitment to increasing market share and union density across all sectors of the electrical industry. Politics were, of course, an important topic as well. The need to elect labor-friendly candidates up and down the ballot was stressed by all the speakers.
- With election season in full swing, it is critical that we all get out and vote. If you have any questions about how or where to vote, how to request a mail-in ballot, or how to

register to vote, you can go to <https://www.elections.il.gov/>. This site is the official election website for the State of Illinois. This may be the most important election of our lifetime, so if you or your family are not registered to vote please get signed up.

Matt Kenney – Apprenticeship

We are asking all who enter the building to wash their hands before entering the building, get a temperature check before class and again after lunch, wear masks at all times while in the building, keep social distancing at all times, and frequently wash hands and / or use sanitizer throughout the day.

The JATC began taking applications again on Monday August 24th. We are requiring all applicants to bring their own copy of their birth certificate and a copy of both sides of their driver's license. The second Monday of each month will be open an extra hour until 5:30 pm. We will be asking applicants to phone from the parking lot as to keep only 1 person in the vestibule at a time. At this time, applications will only be taken on Mondays. We have all information posted to the website.

We are currently only offering apprentice classes, but will let you know when we can offer JW classes. There are currently 147 apprentices in the program.

Ken Sanderson - Safety

As Mike mentioned, Local 176 lost a member to a work-related accident - the first work-related member fatality in approximately 20 years. I don't have all the details of what happened, but I would like to mention a few general things. As electricians, we have all the jobsite hazards as all the other trades. On top of that, we deal with electricity on a daily basis. For the most part, we can't see it, hear it, or taste it, and if we feel it, it may very well be too late.

Statistics show that 50% of all electrical-related jobsite fatalities happen to electricians. The other 50% is **all other workers combined**. Do the math on that. It is us who are most likely to suffer an electrical-related fatality.

Of those electrical-related fatalities, 98% are shock incidents. Electrocution is the second leading cause of construction deaths, after falls.

There are two times a construction worker is most likely to be killed or injured on the job. First is within the first two weeks on a new jobsite, due to unfamiliarity. Second is going into a holiday weekend or vacation, due to being distracted. To justify performing live electrical work, one of three criteria must be met:

- Less than 50V
- Unfeasible
- Creates a greater hazard

On top of that, if the condition of maintenance is not known, live work must not be performed. If you've never had OSHA or NFPA 70E training, or if it's been awhile, please consider signing up for a class as they become available.

The Fred Kempes Memorial Blood Drive will be held at the Local 176 union hall on union meeting night, Thursday, September 10 from 3pm to 7pm. Please plan to donate if possible.

Stay safe brothers and sisters.