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August 14, 2019

To: All CWA T&T Local Presidents and Staff

Subject: CWA 77th Convention Summary

Brothers and Sisters:

We want to thank all of you that were able to attend the 77th Convention in Las Vegas NV and make history in the process. President Shelton said in his opening remarks that we need to make tough decisions, respect each other and come out of this Convention more unified than we came in. We did just that; the delegates of this Convention worked tirelessly as the governing body of CWA. This was a lively Convention with a packed agenda to say the least. We had elections for our CWA President, Secretary-Treasurer, District, and Sector Vice Presidents and At Large Diversity Board members.

President Chris Shelton, Secretary-Treasurer Sara Steffens, T&T VP Lisa Bolton, D-1 Dennis Trainor, D-2/13 Ed Mooney, D-3 Richard Honeycutt, D-4 Linda Hinton, D-6 Claude Cummings, D-7 Brenda Roberts were all **reelected**.

AFA/CWA Sara Nelson and Charlie Braico NABET were reelected; Carl Kennebrew IUE/CWA was elected at their Sector Conferences and sworn in at this Convention along with the other Vice Presidents and At Large Board members.

New Vice Presidents elected are Margaret Cook to the Public Healthcare and Education Workers Sector and Frank Arce D-9.

The four At-Large diversity board members elected are; Dante Harris, Vera Mikell, Carolyn Wade, Erika White.

The following is a high-level summary of the 77th CWA Convention:

The Defense Fund Oversight Committee and the Executive Board jointly and unanimously agreed to authorize a change in the payout level to assist striking workers, effective August 1, 2019;

Commencing on the fifteenth (15th) day of a strike, \$300.00 (an increase from \$200.00) per striker per week will be provided (subject to availability of funds) for use by the local strikers' assistance. Commencing on the twenty-ninth (29th) day of a strike, \$400.00 (an increase from \$300.00) per striker per week will be provided (subject to availability of funds) for use by the local strikers' assistance. Payments to locals will end on the seventh day following the conclusion of the strike. In the event the last week of a strike is not a full week, the payments to the Locals shall be prorated.

A resolution was passed to combine the SIF 1/4 –hour and 100% of the MRF investment returns. The \$377 Million MRF floor remains in place and a new “soft floor” of \$400 million was established. If the balance drops below the \$400 million dollar “soft floor”, 50% of the earnings stay in the MRF. The member contributions are still directed into “industry” silos and the DFOC continues to oversee the programs/spending. This will allow more strategic long- term planning, the hiring of full time staff as well as full affiliation with the AFL-CIO paid for by the National office giving relief to the locals of that cost.

There were 4 constitutional amendments brought to the floor:

) Amendments

- o Printing Sector dissolution, passed
- o Charter revocation, passed
- o Closing T&T Sector, failed
- o Closing Public Healthcare and Education Workers Sector, failed

There were 17 appeals brought to the floor;

) Appeals

- o 17 Appeals were sent to the appeals committee
- o 12 ultimately made it to the floor
- o 1 was sustained and will be arbitrate

President Shelton created a new organizing award in the name of President Morton Bahr, the first of these awards were given out at this convention. The same evening after these awards were given out President Emeritus Morton Bahr passed away after battling cancer. While CWA lost a giant that evening, we are fortunate to have the continued benefits of his leadership and memories of this great leader to carry us forward.

In closing I want to take a personal point of privilege and thank all the delegates for their continued support. CWA is a great union and this Convention was truly what democracy looks like. We are looking forward to the future, working together with all of the Sectors and Districts for the betterment of all our members and working families everywhere. It is our Solidarity that makes us CWA STRONG!

In Unity,



Lisa M. Bolton, Vice President

CWA Telecommunications & Technologies