

# SPRING MEETING, 2011

OTTAWA, ON, MAY 2 – 6, 2011

## FIRST SESSION

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 2, 2011. Board members present were Rodney Richmond, Larry Kinnear, Javier Perez, Jr., Richard Murphy, Bob Hykaway, Charles Cook, William McLean, Paul Bowen, Kenneth Kirk, Gary Rauhen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Salazar, Gary Johnson, Sr., Robin West, John Costa, and Charles Watson. International President Lawrence J. Hanley presided.

Also in attendance were International Executive Vice President Robert H. Baker, Sr., International Secretary-Treasurer Oscar Owens, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, and Executive Assistant to the International President Lauri Straughan.

Retired International President Emeritus Jim LaSala attended as a guest. International Vice President Janis Borchardt was excused.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

International President Hanley briefly outlined the matters that would be put before the Board for its consideration and action.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Appointed to the Audit Committee were International Vice Presidents Kirk, Bowen and Borchardt. International Vice President Borchardt was designated as chair.

## INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON ORGANIZING

Efforts to organize workers in the transportation-related industry and other areas, as designated by the General Executive Board pursuant to Section 1 of the International Constitution and General Laws, continued over the course of these six months.

It was reported that for the period ended December 31, 2010, we were involved in campaigns at 15 different properties to organize over 2,000 employees. Since the end of this reporting period 500 of those employees at three of those properties have successfully organized. There were no raids. There have been only two strikes during the reporting period.

Thereafter, the Board engaged in a lengthy discussion involving alternative ATU structures and strategies for organizing transit, school bus and paratransit employers in the U.S. and Canada.

Approximately \$306,357 was spent during this report period on organizing. This figure includes the salaries and expenses for the Organizing Department and lost time and miscellaneous expenses for the member organizers. It also includes full-time international representatives' salaries and expenses for those who assisted in these organizing campaigns.

## INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT ON ATU MS RESEARCH FUNDS

It was reported that the 25<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament, jointly sponsored by the ATU MS Research Funds of the United States and Canada, was held on Monday, October 25, 2010, at Worthington Manor Country Club in Urbana, MD.

The U.S. fund had, as of July 2010, available cash of \$8,267.60. The collections during the six-month period ended December 31, 2010, amounted to \$84,952.02. These receipts were as follows: General Contributions of \$12,920.02, Local Union Contributions of \$17,840.00, Golf Tournament Receipts of \$51,816.00, and Booster Contributions of \$2,376.00.

During the same six-month period, the fund paid golf tournament expenses of \$32,280.65. These transactions created an available cash balance for charitable purposes and for future operations of \$60,938.97. Of this amount, \$56,000 was contributed to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The Canadian fund had available cash as of July 1, 2010, of \$2,732.60. The collections for the six-month period ended December 31, 2010, totaled \$52,345.22. These receipts consisted of General Contributions of \$70.10, Local Union Contributions of \$45,050.00, Interest Income of \$.12, Golf Tournament Receipts of \$6,520.00, and Booster Contributions of \$705.00.

During the period, the fund incurred miscellaneous administrative expenses of \$743.39. As a result, the fund had available for contribution and future operations \$54,334.43. Of this amount, \$44,000.00 was forwarded to Local Union 113 for presentation to Dr. John Roder of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, ON, to further assist his ongoing MS research efforts, and \$6,000.00 was forwarded to the MS Society of Canada Research Fund.

Complete financial statements covering the period of July 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010 for both the U.S. and Canadian MS Research funds were provided to the General Executive Board.

Members of the Board were informed that special recognition must again go to the officers and members of Local Union 113 of Toronto, ON, for their generous donation of \$44,000.00 that will go a long way in the fight against MS. Special mention is also due to the officers and members of the Boston Carmens Local Union 589; the New Jersey Council; Local Union 1181 (New York, NY); and Local Union 1277 (Los Angeles, CA), for their sizeable contributions.

## **INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY- TREASURER'S REPORT ON ATU SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The General Executive Board was advised that the 2011 scholarship program named in memory of Stuart Snowden, former international vice president, was concluded with the issuance of five checks in the amount of \$5,000.00 for our academic awardees. A check in the amount of \$2,000.00 was issued for the vocational scholarship.

The 2012 scholarship program named in memory of Gary Mauer, former international representative, who passed away on June 1, 2010, will commence with the publication of the official application and guidelines in the 2011 September-October issue of the *In Transit*.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS**

### **Local 981 (Alexandria, LA)**

By letter dated August 3, 2010, President/Business Agent Gary Lee of Local 981, requested financial assistance in the form of seeking an exemption from the payment of per capita taxes because the local consists of only 12 members. President/Business Agent Lee further stated the request is made due to the recession and budget cuts at the city.

The General Executive Board, after careful review and consideration of the facts, voted to authorize providing financial assistance to Local 981 in the form of a six-month per capita tax waiver.

### **Local 382 (Salt Lake City, UT)**

A jointly signed letter dated September 10, 2010, was received from President/Business Agent Rod Dunn and Financial Secretary-Treasurer Jim Allgier of Local 382, seeking financial assistance to aid the local in its efforts to take on issues at the state level to protect its members' rights and to offset grievance costs. In addition, the local retained another lawyer to assist the local in these efforts.

The General Executive Board, after careful review and consideration voted to grant authority to the international executive officers to grant whatever assistance they deem appropriate after Local 382 forwards a more complete record of its revenues and disbursements.

### **Local 1637 (Las Vegas, NV)**

Jose Mendoza, president/business agent of Local 1637, requested financial assistance due to the local union's continuing efforts to engage in internal organizing and establish a legal fund in accordance with the local union's bylaws. Further, the local union has incurred additional litigation expenses for a duty of fair representation case.

The General Executive Board, after careful review and consideration of the facts, voted to authorize providing financial assistance to Local 1637 in the form a two-month waiver of per capita tax.

### **Local 1181 (New York, NY)**

Jean Claude Calixte, financial secretary of Local 1181, requests financial assistance to defray the costs of ongoing organizing expenses. The specific request is for lost time for member organizers for the period February 1, 2010, through November 10, 2010.

The General Executive Board, after careful review and consideration of the facts, voted to authorize providing financial assistance to Local 1181 in the form of a grant in the amount of \$25,000.

## **INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT ADOPTED**

International Secretary-Treasurer Owens presented his formal report for the six-month period ending December 31, 2010.

International President Hanley then reported to the Board on the aggressive ongoing department-by-department review to reduce expenses where possible while continuing to meet and service the needs of our members and advance the mission of the Union. He stressed in particular the expanded use of competitive bidding for contracted services, the institution of more stringent accountability systems with respect to the allocation of field program resources, including the preparation and approval of project specific strategic plans and budgets.

International President Hanley agreed to consider recommendations regarding the benefits to be derived from a more rigorous budgeting and planning process.

Thereafter, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Report of the International Secretary-Treasurer for the six-month period ended December 31, 2010, was approved as printed.

## **MOTION TO CLARIFY APPLICATION OF 2010 CONVENTION ACTION INCREASING ARBITRATION ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL UNIONS UNDER SECTION 19.2 OF THE CONSTITUTION AND GENERAL LAWS**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the General Executive Board clarified that the convention action increasing arbitration assistance from the Defense Fund as provided for under Section 19.2. Assistance for Arbitration and Fact-finding, would apply to expenses incurred for awards issued on or after January 1, 2011.

## **INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT HANLEY ELECTED TO AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

International President Hanley reported to the Board that upon ruling that retired international officers are not eligible to represent ATU on the AFL-CIO Executive Council and following the resignation of retired International President Warren George, International President Hanley was unanimously elected to serve as ATU's representative on the AFL-CIO Executive Council.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSIONS**

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussions among the international executive officers and members of the Board on the impact of the current economic crisis on ATU locals, field activities, including legislative and political efforts in response to adverse state collective bargaining laws and a review of various local and state-wide coalition campaigns and ATU expanded training programs.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 3, 2011.

## **SECOND SESSION**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2011. Board members present were Rodney Richmond, Larry Kinnear, Javier Perez, Jr., Richard Murphy, Bob Hykaway, Charles Cook, William McLean, Janis Borchardt, Paul Bowen, Kenneth Kirk, Gary Rauen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Salazar, Gary Johnson, Sr., Robin West, John Costa, and Charles Watson. International President Lawrence J. Hanley presided.

Also in attendance were International Executive Vice President Robert H. Baker, Sr., International Secretary-Treasurer Oscar Owens, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, and Executive Assistant to the International President Lauri Straughan.

Retired International President Emeritus Jim LaSala and Retired International Executive Vice President Emeritus Mike Siano attended as guests. International Vice Presidents Janis Borchardt and Bob Hykaway were excused.

## **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

International President Larry Hanley reported that the members of Local 1005 (Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN) ratified a new collective bargaining agreement. International Vice President Borchardt assisted the local during negotiations. President Hanley then reviewed the agenda for the week.

## **APPEALS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **Appeal No. 1: Jerry Mathews Local Union 308 (Chicago, IL)**

There came before the General Executive Board, an appeal by Jerry Mathews, a member of Local 308 (Chicago, IL), which contested the June 16, 2010, decision of former International President Warren George. Therein, President George denied Brother Mathews' appeal of the decision by Local 308's membership denying his challenges concerning the conduct of the election of Local 308's delegates to the 2010 Convention.

Brother Mathews presented his case by conference call via speakerphone, before the General Executive Board and provided a detailed summary of the issues underlying his appeal.

In his appeal, Brother Mathews raised three issues: that Local 308 did not follow the International Constitution or Local 308's bylaws in the election of delegates; that the balloting procedure resulted in only 106 out of 3,500 members participating in the election; and that pensioners voted in the delegate elections but not on Brother Mathews' challenge.

Upon a thorough deliberation of all the facts and evidence in this case, the General Executive Board decided to withhold until Thursday, May 5, a final vote on the appeal, pending a complete review of the applicable provisions of Local 308's bylaws.

### **Appeal No. 2: Effie McCain Local Union 732 (Atlanta, GA)**

There came before the General Executive Board, an appeal by Effie McCain, a member of Local 732.

Upon a thorough deliberation of all the facts and evidence in this case, the General Executive Board while noting the factual concerns raised by Sister McCain, and her long time service to the Union, voted to uphold the June 24, 2010, decision of former International

President Warren George, denying Sister McCain's appeal for the reasons stated therein.

### **Appeal No. 3: Jarrell Brown Local Union 1324 (Savannah, GA)**

There came before the General Executive Board, an appeal by Jarrell Brown, a member of Local 1324, which contested former International President Heintzman's August 13, 2010, decision denying his appeal of Local 1324's membership not to take his termination case to arbitration.

Brother Brown presented his case by conference call, via speakerphone before the General Executive Board and provided a detailed summary of the grievance underlying his appeal, including his allegations regarding the voting procedures followed by the local in processing his case.

Upon a thorough deliberation of all the facts and evidence in this case, the General Executive Board voted to uphold the decision of the former International President Heintzman who found no evidence of arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory conduct relative to the local union's handling of the termination grievance.

### **Appeal No. 4: Rita Dilenno Local Union 1384 (Bremerton, WA)**

There came before the General Executive Board, an appeal by Rita Dilenno, a member of Local 1384, to a September 3, 2010, decision by International President Hanley denying a request to receive separate arbitration assistance as provided for under Section 19.2 of the Constitution for two of Local 1384's distinct bargaining units involved in the same arbitration.

Based on Sister Dilenno's clarification of the underlying facts, and noting the two separate units and contracts, and the intended purpose of Section 19.2 the General Executive Board upon a thorough deliberation of the issues raised, voted to approve the request for payment of interest arbitration assistance based on two separate bargaining units and award the local the appropriate amount under the formula provided for under Section 19.2.

## **PRESENTATION BY DAVID FEINSTEIN, FSA, FA, AND ACTUARY FOR ATU INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEE'S PENSION PLAN**

Plan actuary David Feinstein reported to the international executive officers and members of the



General Executive Board on the status of the ATU Pension Plan, investment returns, current plan assets, valuation, investment return history, expected target liability and anticipated funding obligations. Thereafter, the Board members discussed the actuarial report, findings, and options presented to address required funding levels for the plan.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSIONS**

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussions among the international executive officers and members of the Board. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2011.

## **THIRD SESSION**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2011. Board members present were Rodney Richmond, Larry Kinnear, Javier Perez, Jr., Richard Murphy, William Hykaway, Charles Cook, William McLean, Janis Borchardt, Paul Bowen, Kenneth Kirk, Gary Rauen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Salazar, Gary Johnson, Sr., Robin West, John Costa, and Charles Watson. International President Lawrence J. Hanley presided.

Also in attendance were Executive Vice President Robert H. Baker, Sr., International Secretary-Treasurer Oscar Owens, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, and Executive Assistant to the International President Lauri Straughan.

Retired International President Emeritus Jim LaSala and retired International Executive Vice President Emeritus Mike Siano attended as guests.

Peter Donohue, Ph.D., PBI Associates, Portland, OR, attended as a special guest.

## **MINUTES OF FALL 2010 GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING APPROVED**

The minutes of the previous General Executive Board meeting were approved.

## **REPORT ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC CLIMATE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE TRANSIT BUDGET PROCESS AND CONTRACT COSTING**

Dr. Peter Donahue, principal with a Seattle-based economic consulting firm, presented and discussed with the Board the impact of the current economic crisis on transit budgeting, contract costing and alternative ways to analyze and address this matter in preparation for and during bargaining.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSIONS**

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussions among the international executive officers and members of the Board. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

## **FOURTH SESSION**

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2011. Board members present were Rodney Richmond, Larry Kinnear, Javier Perez, Jr., Richard Murphy, Bob Hykaway, Charles Cook, William McLean, Janis Borchardt, Paul Bowen, Kenneth Kirk, Gary Rauen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Salazar, Gary Johnson, Robin West, John Costa, and Charles Watson. International President Lawrence J. Hanley presided.

Also in attendance were Executive Vice President Robert Baker, International Secretary-Treasurer Oscar Owens, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, and Executive Assistant to the International President Lauri Straughan.

Also in attendance were International Representatives Anthony Withington, Dennis Antonellis, Karen Miller-Lewis, Stephan MacDougall, and Claudia Hudson, and Canadian Council Director Stan Dera.

Retired International President Emeritus Jim LaSala and Retired International Executive Vice President Emeritus Mike Siano attended as guests.

## **MOTION ON LOCAL 308 (CHICAGO, IL) APPEAL**

Following a thorough review of Local 308's bylaws and related International Union records, and further discussion on the issues raised, the General Executive Board voted to sustain the June 16, 2010, decision of

former International President Warren George and deny the appeal.

### **REPORT AND MOTION TO TERMINATE LOCAL 1754 (LAWRENCE, KS) TRUSTEESHIP**

International Vice President Perez reported on the progress and accomplishments achieved with respect to the administrative affairs of the local, including bylaws and election of officers. Thereafter, the Board, pursuant 12.6 of the Constitution and General Laws, voted to authorize the termination the trusteeship of Local 1754.

### **REPORT AND MOTION TO TERMINATE LOCAL 282 (ROCHESTER, NY) TRUSTEESHIP**

International Vice President Rauen reported on the progress and accomplishments achieved to address the issues underlying the trusteeship, including its financial position, recordkeeping and grievance backlog among other matters. Thereafter, the Board, pursuant 12.6 of the Constitution and General Laws, voted to authorize the termination of the trusteeship of Local 282, effective July 1, 2011.

### **REPORT ON LOCAL 1385 (DAYTON, OH) TRUSTEESHIP**

International Vice Presidents Richmond and Johnson reported on the ongoing progress to address the issues underlying the trusteeship of Local 1385 including improving its financial position, grievance processing and other administrative issues.

### **REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY- TREASURER ON ATU COPE**

The Amalgamated Transit Union Committee on Political Education (ATU-COPE) program collects voluntary contributions from ATU members for the purposes of making contributions to and expenditures for candidates for federal, state and local offices and addressing federal, state and local political issues.

ATU-COPE consists primarily of the Voluntary

Account, which is used to make contributions to candidates for federal elections (i.e., U.S. Senate, U.S. House and U.S. President), and to state and local candidates in jurisdictions that strictly regulate political contributions. In addition to the Voluntary Account, ATU-COPE maintains the Special Holding Account for contributions to state and local candidates and also maintains separate accounts in Florida, Missouri, New York and Wisconsin, as required by those states' laws.

Between July 1, 2010, and December 31, 2010, ATU-COPE took in contributions totaling \$475,361.75. As of December 31, 2010, the funds had a combined available balance of \$399,945.82.

### **STRIKE SANCTIONS APPROVED**

Upon the request of International Vice President Johnson, the General Executive Board granted strike sanction to the members of Local 1743 (Pittsburgh, PA) employed by Beaver County Transit Authority.

Upon the request of International Vice President Rauen, the Board granted strike sanction to the members of Local 1395 (Pensacola, FL) employed by Veolia, under contract to the Escambia County Transit Authority.

### **DISCUSION ON STRIKE STRATEGIES**

International President Hanley led a discussion with the Board on the development of strategic plans before and during negotiations to better evaluate the necessity, timing and effectiveness of strikes.

### **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING, DECEMBER 13-15, 2010, APPROVED**

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the General Executive Board, held December 13-15, 2010 were approved.

### **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT REPORT**

During this period, the Government Affairs Department continued to push for legislation that would have provided for public transit operating assistance. Unfortunately, all of the bills died as Congress adjourned early for the campaign season.

According to a recent APTA survey, since January 1, 2009, 84% of transit systems have raised fares, cut service or are considering either of those actions. Thousands of workers in the transit industry have been laid off in recent months. Nearly half of the transit systems in the APTA survey have laid off employees or are considering layoffs in the future. It is impossible to calculate how many transit-dependent people have also lost their jobs because they cannot get to work.

The *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - A Legacy for Users* (SAFETEA-LU), which provided long-term funding for the surface transportation program, expired in September of 2009. Congress has not passed legislation reauthorizing the program, which continues on flat funding with no policy changes through a series of extensions. The key stumbling block is the lack of a revenue source. Without a revenue source – a gas tax increase is the best option – the only type of bill that could pass would shrink the overall program significantly.

In December 2009, the House passed H.R. 2847, *The Jobs for Main Street Act, 2010*, a second economic stimulus bill that would appropriate another \$8.4 billion for transit (in addition to the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*). The bill renewed the provision made available through the amendment to the ARRA that enables grant recipients to use up to 10% of their formula apportionment (those funds received through the provisions of the *Jobs Act*) for operating costs. Unfortunately, during this period, the bill died.

On May 25, 2010, Senator Christopher Dodd, D-CT, then-chair of the Banking Committee, introduced the *Public Transportation Preservation Act of 2010* (S. 3412). It would have provided \$2 billion for emergency support of public transportation agencies nationwide, allowing them to reverse or avoid deep service cuts, steep fare increases, and life-altering layoffs that are crippling American families.

Unfortunately, the bill was basically dead on arrival in the second half of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, as lawmakers grew increasingly uneasy about so-called “bailout” legislation, especially without an identified source of revenue to fund the initiative.

## **FY 2011 Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Bill**

The Government Affairs Department worked with Representative John Olver, D-MA, then-chair of

the U.S. House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee on language to allow a portion of FY 2011 THUD funds to be used for transit operating assistance. Yet, Chairman Olver amended the bill to make \$250 million of bus and formula grants available for general operating costs.

The amendment did not identify the specific accounts that the funds would come from, or how they would be distributed. In addition, as recommended by then-Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman James Oberstar, D-MN, the Olver amendment only allowed this exception to take effect if legislation authorizing the change is enacted prior to September 30, 2011.

We, therefore, worked on two different tracks to unlock this \$250 million. First, we requested Mr. Oberstar to remove his language from the appropriations bill that requires an authorization bill to be passed. This was seen as the best option, as prospects for immediate relief under Republican leadership in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress are slim to none. Unfortunately Mr. Oberstar was not willing to do so. Yet, even if he had agreed, Senate Democrats informed us that Republican objections to this proposal in the Senate would be insurmountable.

The second option was to unlock the appropriations funds involved President Obama’s \$50 billion transportation infrastructure proposal that was released on Labor Day. This initiative called for creating a permanent infrastructure bank to rebuild 150,000 miles of roads and construct 4,000 miles of rail. The president’s plan would make a major new investment in bus and rail transit, although details were not released during this time period. Unfortunately, Congress rejected this proposal upon arrival.

## **Long-Term Solutions**

The Government Affairs Department continued to pursue cosponsors on Representative Russ Carnahan’s, D-MO, bill (HR 2746) which would provide for increased flexibility in the use of federal transit funds by allowing transit systems of all sizes to use a percentage of their formula funds for operations.

The bill had significant support in the House, with 144 cosponsors. During this reporting period, with the possibility of a Republican takeover of the House looking more like a certainty, we worked diligently to secure the support of GOP Members. By the end of this reporting period, 15 Republicans had signed onto the bill.

On August 24, 2010, the Census Bureau published its proposed criteria for defining urban areas based on the results of the 2010 Decennial Census. According to that document, 99 small, urbanized areas are forecast to become parts of adjoining or new large urbanized areas.

Transit systems in these areas, many of which are “red,” will lose their ability to use their Section 5307 funds for operating assistance because they will be listed in population centers above 200,000 in population. This is a significant development that could likely generate even more Republican support for the Carnahan bill.

Our goal continues to be to incorporate H.R. 2746 into the new surface transportation reauthorization bill. We are working with Rep. Carnahan’s office to rewrite his bill for introduction in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. The new bill will need to be adjusted to conform with the views of new leadership in the House.

## Transit Safety

Following calls by the Obama Administration to allow the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to impose broad safety standards for rail transit systems, the U.S. Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee introduced and marked up legislation in June to address safety issues in the industry and allow for FTA oversight.

The bill introduced in the Senate, the *Public Transportation Safety Act of 2010*, would establish a National Public Transportation Safety Plan to improve the safety of all public transportation systems (bus and rail) that receive federal funding.

The bill stalled in the Senate despite strong objections by Senator Barbara Mikulski, D-MD, who wants to see a bill passed in the wake of the 2009 fatal crash on Washington’s Metro. Representative John Mica, R-FL, the incoming chair of the House Transportation Committee says he does not support federal regulation in this area.

## Public Transportation Ballots

In measures nationwide, voters continued to show their support for transportation investment by approving 77% of ballot measures. On Election Day, 22 out of 30 measures were approved in 13 states. Nearly \$500 million in funding over five years was approved,

ranging from modest property tax increases in small towns that will help preserve transit service to major bonds and other fees that will finance large scale capital projects and operating expenses. ATU locals played a major role in several campaigns.

## California

The most significant measure that passed was California Proposition 22. The vote provides hope that the state’s transit systems may soon gain access to funds that have been shut off in recent years. The measure constitutionally protects more than \$1.8 billion per year in state and local funding for transit, and prevents these funds from being raided, diverted or outright stolen as part of the state budget process.

## Washington

The International provided \$5,000 to Local 587, which joined the Washington State AFL-CIO in a campaign to kill I-1082. This initiative, financed by right wing interests, would have privatized Washington’s workers’ compensation system.

Business and labor interests regularly battle over the system in the state’s legislature. Businesses generally complain about the cost of premiums, the state’s management practices, and relatively sizeable benefits for injured workers. Labor officials argue that the system protects workers better than a private one by forsaking profits. Nearly 60% of voters rejected the measure.

## GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussions among the international executive officers and members of the Board. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 6, 2011.

## FIFTH SESSION

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 6, 2011. Board members present were Rodney Richmond, Larry Kinnear, Javier Perez, Jr., Richard Murphy, Bob Hykaway, Charles Cook, William McLean, Janis Borhardt, Paul Bowen, Kenneth Kirk, Gary Rauen, Marcellus Barnes, Rafael Rivera, Yvette Salazar, Gary Johnson, Robin West, John Costa, and Charles Watson. International President Lawrence J. Hanley presided.



Also in attendance were Executive Vice President Robert H. Baker, Sr., International Secretary-Treasurer Oscar Owens, General Counsel Robert Molofsky, and Executive Assistant to the International President Lauri Straughan.

Also in attendance were International Representatives Anthony Withington, Dennis Antonellis, Karen Miller-Lewis, Stephan MacDougall, Claudia Hudson and Canadian Council Director Stan Dera.

Retired International President Emeritus Jim LaSala, and retired International Executive Vice President Emeritus Mike Siano and Cynthia Watson, Esq. attended as guests.

## **REPORT ON CANADIAN ECONOMIC, LEGISLATIVE, POLITICAL & LABOR RELATION ISSUES AND TRENDS**

Cynthia Watson, retained ATU Canadian counsel and partner from the firm of Watson, Burns LLP, reported to the Board on current economic trends in Canada, recent political developments and their impact on ATU local unions, labor agreements and contract negotiations. Thereafter, the international executive officers and Board members engaged in an open discussion on how best to position our Canadian locals to address these challenges.

## **INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT ADOPTED**

The Report of the International President for the six-month period ending December 31, 2010 was approved as printed.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSIONS**

The remainder of the session was devoted to discussions among the international executive officers and members of the Board.

The meeting adjourned sine die at 4:15 pm.