



Railroad Workers United

Solidarity • Unity • Democracy

The Rank & File in Action!

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RWU Convention Resolution #5

Resolution in Support of All Craft Unity in Bargaining

Whereas, the history of rail labor bargaining with the employers has been fraught with craft and union divisions, and

Whereas these divisions create the lack of solidarity which is so vitally necessary to win better wages, benefits and working conditions; and

Whereas, the latest round of bargaining resulted in a major schism in rail labor unions; and

Whereas, the finger pointing, accusations, and mudslinging between union leaders now makes it even more difficult to achieve unity and solidarity in the next;

Whereas, only the rail carriers and the individual union bureaucracies benefit from this archaic fragmentation of rail labor;

Whereas, RWU is aware that rail workers are increasingly discouraged by and enraged with the lack of unity in contract bargaining and more are turning to RWU for leadership every day;

Therefore, be it Resolved that Railroad Workers United calls for the creation of A Single Bargaining Coalition, consisting of all labor unions representing railroad workers, to be created in each North American country for conducting all future bargaining - whether it be bargaining at the national level or for on-property agreements; and

Be it further Resolved that RWU will escalate our ongoing campaign to push for such universal Coalitions of all rail labor in the coming months and years; and

Be it further Resolved that RWU encourage our members and all railroad workers to demand that the respective union leadership within their craft unions immediately work to create such universal coalitions; and

Be it further Resolved, that to more easily facilitate the creation of such a universal bargaining entity, RWU encourages the various unions to enter discussions to either: 1) merge, or 2) create a structured umbrella organization which would bind rail craft unions to bargain together, eliminate divisions and create other cooperative efforts to benefit all members; and

Be it finally Resolved that if the rail union officials are incapable of building such unity, then rank & file railroad workers may likely consider promulgating a new organization of all rail labor.

Adopted by the RWU 6th RWU Biennial Convention Assembled in Chicago, April 5 & 6, 2018