



# Railroad Workers United

**Unity – Solidarity – Democracy: The Rank & File in Action!**

[Railroadworkersunited.org](http://Railroadworkersunited.org)    [info@railroadworkersunited.org](mailto:info@railroadworkersunited.org)    (206) 984-3051

P.O. Box 1053, Salem, IL 62881

September 16th, 2012

## Co-Chairs

*Hugh Sawyer, BLET #316*  
NS, Atlanta, GA

*Mark Burrows, UTU #1433*  
CP, Chicago, IL

*Shaun Kelley, BLET #642*  
BNSF, Creston, IA

## General Secretary

*Ron Kaminkow, BLET #51*  
AMTK, Reno, NV

## Recording Secretary

*James Wallace, UTU #305*  
BNSF, Lincoln, NE

## Treasurer

*Chet Whyers, UTU #979*  
UP, Salem, IL

## Organizer

*J.P. Wright, BLET #78*  
CSX, Louisville, KY

## International

### Steering Committee

*Mark Burrows, UTU #1433*  
CP, Chicago, IL

*Jon Flanders, IAM #1145*  
CSX, Selkirk, NY

*Robert Hill, BLET #758*  
BNSF, Vancouver, WA

*Robert Hull, UTU #199*  
BNSF, Creston, IA

*Ron Kaminkow, BLET #51*  
Amtrak, Reno, NV

*Shaun Kelley, BLET #642*  
BNSF, Creston, IA

*Ed Michael, BLET #724 UTU #979*  
UP, Salem, IL

*Hugh Sawyer, BLET #316*  
NS, Atlanta, GA

*James Wallace, UTU #305*  
BNSF, Lincoln, NE

*Chet Whyers, UTU #979*  
UP, Salem, IL

*John Wright, BLET #78*  
CSX, Louisville, KY

## Resolution in Support of Chicago Teachers' Strike

**Whereas** all students deserve the right to a quality public education in their neighborhood school, and

**Whereas** all students deserve smaller class sizes to receive adequate attention from teachers, and

**Whereas** all students deserve access to a broad and diverse curriculum that includes art, world languages, computer literacy, and physical education, and

**Whereas** all students deserve support including fully-staffed libraries in all schools, access to social workers, school nurses, therapists and psychologists, and

**Whereas** teachers deserve to be adequately compensated for their work, and

**Whereas** the revenue necessary to fund a quality public education can be substantially realized by reallocating resources that go to mostly non-union charter schools and other allocations which currently siphon revenue from public schools, and

**Whereas** teachers deserve protection against arbitrary dismissal and a fair recall procedure so that the talents and expertise of experienced teachers can be put to the best use serving the students of Chicago, and

**Whereas** the Chicago Board of Education, among other concessions, is demanding "merit pay" for teachers based on student test scores, despite a consensus among researchers that such scores do not reliably measure a teacher's ability, and

**Whereas** the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) is standing up for the children of Chicago and for all public employees and unions in this time of budget cutting and union busting,

**Be it resolved** that Railroad Workers United supports the Chicago Teachers Union in its fight to negotiate a contract that addresses all of these issues with the Chicago Board of Education.

**Be it further resolved** that Railroad Workers United (RWU) contribute a sum of \$100.00 towards assisting CTU and their members during a strike.

**Be further resolved** that RWU urge its central labor councils to adopt a similar resolution.

**Be it further resolved** that RWU endorses local solidarity events in support of the CTU.

**Be it further resolved** that RWU communicate such support to its members, including asking them to sign petitions and communicate their support for CTU and its demands to the Chicago Board of Education and Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

**Adopted by the RWU Steering Committee 9-16-12**