



### **June President/Business Manager's Report**

It's been another busy month! I am unable to be at today's Executive Board Meeting because I'm attending early contract negotiations in NYC. I'll get to that later in my report.

On May 17 I attended the Northeast Unit Meeting in Menands. I also met with their director, John Scuteri on that day to discuss how things are going in the office. We agreed to keep the lines of communication open and meet on regular basis going forward.

On May 22 I attended a Call Sharing Meeting in NYC. On May 31 I held a steward meeting/training with the Binghamton, Elmira and Syracuse stewards.

June 5-8 I attended the IBEW International Women's conference. Treasurer Laura Petricca accompanied me and I've asked her to write a report on it, it will be attached to

these Executive Board Minutes. During the conference I participated in a Panel Discussion on Women's Leadership from the Top. I talked about the challenges women face in the predominately male led union environment.

On June 11 I attended a Regional Bargaining Committee Meeting in Washington DC. I met with CWA districts 1-13 to discuss details of the upcoming contract negotiations. All sides, the unions and Verizon, have agreed to discuss only a limited amount of issues in hopes of getting a contract extension. We are meeting for two weeks and if we can't come to a resolution in that amount of time we will wipe the slate clean and start over next year. During this bargaining only a small group of CWA and IBEW leaders will be at the table with Verizon, and there will be no updates going out during this process. Our entire focus will be on getting a contract our members will accept. While I am away, ABM's Tiziana Daniels and Anita Arezzo-Miga will care for anything that comes up that cannot wait until I return.

On June 13 I attended the Central South Unit Meeting in Binghamton and then on June 14 I met with our internal Audit Committee. They will be preparing a report on their findings, but I'm happy to say everything looks good.

Next week we will be saying goodbye to our Northeast ABM Christine Gironda. I have had the honor of working with her for many years; as a fellow ABM and now as her Business Manager. In addition to her ABM duties, Christine represented us on the Employee Placement and Work and Family committees. Beyond all of that, she has been my go to girl when I need to be somewhere, especially navigating NYC. I could always count on her to get me exactly where I needed to be, on time and with an extra large coffee in hand! Since I took office nearly a year ago, I've met more people than I can keep track of. Christine is the kind of assistant that gently reminds me of every person's name, what area/department they're from, what position they hold (both the union and Verizon folks) and where they fit into the overall scheme of things. She has been an invaluable asset and to say I'll miss her is an incredible understatement. Christine is leaving us to stay at home with her son Robert. I believe family always comes first so although I am sad to see her go, I wish her the very best as she starts this new chapter in her life.

In Solidarity,

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**Barbara Carson**  
President/Business Manager

**IBEW Local 2213**