SECTION 85 – DUTIES OF GENERAL COMMITTEES OF ADJUSTMENT

SEC. 85. General Committees of Adjustment shall have authority to make and interpret agreements with representatives of

transportation companies covering rates of pay, rules, or working conditions — subject to membership ratification in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

General Committees shall investigate all matters properly submitted to them and shall have the authority to alter, amend, add to, or strike out any part, or all, of any matter submitted to them.

In the event a matter cannot be satisfactorily adjusted, the General Chairperson may request the assistance of the President Transportation Division. Upon receipt of such request, the President Transportation Division or their representative shall meet with the General Chairperson, renew efforts to obtain a satisfactory adjustment of the matter and shall be vested with the same authority held by the General Committee to progress the matter to a conclusion. Any system or local adjustments agreed to by the President Transportation Division or their representatives, shall be subject to a majority vote of Local Chairpersons affected.

In the event the President Transportation Division or their representative and the Committee are unable to reach a satisfactory adjustment of the matter, the President Transportation Division may recommend to the General President who may order a strike on all or any portion of the company involved. Such strike action under this Section must be authorized by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the General Committee. Such vote may be taken by wire, mail, or personal contact with written confirmation as the General Chairperson may direct.

Between sessions of the General Committee of Adjustment, the Chairperson of such Committee shall exercise all rights, privileges, and authority vested in the General Committee, except as otherwise directed by the General Committee while in session, subject to the membership ratification provisions of this Section.

The General Chairperson must poll the entire membership holding seniority and working in the craft involved on the property by mail

referendum ballot prior to signing any system agreements and be governed by the majority of the votes cast.

Upon completion of the balloting for a system agreement, the General Chairperson will prepare a report designating the result of the vote. A copy of the report shall be submitted to each affected Local within thirty (30) days after the close of balloting.

The General Chairperson must poll the affected Local Chairpersons prior to signing any local agreement and be governed by the majority of the votes cast.

Upon completion of the balloting for a local agreement, the General Chairperson will prepare a report designating the result of the vote of each Local Committee. A copy of the report shall be submitted to each affected Local within thirty (30) days after the close of the balloting.

A General Committee may elect from its members a sub-committee and vest such committee with authority of the General Committee of Adjustment to adjust such matters as may be assigned to it by the General Committee. The Chairperson of the General Committee shall be Chairperson of all such subcommittees.

General Committees or subcommittees of General Committees of Adjustment making settlement of matters referred to them shall, within thirty (30) days of such settlement, notify the interested Local Chairpersons and Secretary of the Locals in which the matters originated of the action taken.

Actions or decisions of a General Committee shall be binding upon the members and Locals under the jurisdiction of such General Committee unless reversed or modified upon appeal as provided in Section 75 of Article Twenty-One B (21B).

(NOTE: Delegates moved that this Section 85 would be interpreted that a SMART Engineer working under another union's agreement would vote as a fireman on any agreement involving firemen.)