



# CONVENTION CALL

## 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION MAY 9-13, 2022 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**  
900 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

**LONNIE R. STEPHENSON**  
International President

**KENNETH W. COOPER**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

January 14, 2022

The 40<sup>th</sup> regular Convention of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers will convene at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago, Illinois, on May 9, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Our 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW International Convention (IC) is the single most important gathering of IBEW delegates from our two great nations. The deliberations and decisions made by you, as delegates, will set the path and direction into the future for all of our members and their families. Each local union is urged to send its fully accredited delegation to this important convention so that our deliberations and decisions will benefit from the broadest possible base of representative democracy.

As you know, the IC was postponed from its original 2021 date. On February 16, 2021, the International Executive Council (IEC) passed a resolution calling for a vote of the Local Unions on whether to amend the *IBEW Constitution* to add a new provision – Article XXVII, Section 1(d) – allowing the IEC, in consultation with the International President and International Secretary-Treasurer, to make temporary amendments to the *IBEW Constitution* if circumstances beyond the control of the IBEW make it impracticable, impossible, inadvisable, or unsafe to conduct the business of the IBEW. That resolution passed.

On April 20, 2021, the IEC acting pursuant to its authority under new Article XXVII, Section 1(d), made necessary temporary amendments to the *IBEW Constitution* to enable the Convention to be postponed to May 9, 2022. Where applicable, the references below are to the *IBEW Constitution* as temporarily amended by the IEC.

## REPRESENTATION

Article II, Section 7, of the *IBEW Constitution* states, “No LU shall be entitled to representation at an IC if it has an indebtedness to the International Union for per capita tax payments and unless its per capita tax to the International Union has been paid on its membership through the month of July prior to the first of the month in which the IC is held, ***except that, to be entitled to representation at the 40th IBEW Convention, a L.U. may not have an indebtedness to the International Union for per capita tax payments and must be paid on its membership through the month of January 2022.***”

Article II, Section 8, provides, “The basis of representation at the IC shall be as follows: Each LU shall be entitled to a per capita tax vote on ‘A’ and ‘BA’ members based upon the average monthly number of members in good standing on which per capita tax is paid to the International Union during the twelve (12) month period ending on March 31 in the year in which the I.C. is held, ***except for the 40th IBEW Convention for which the average monthly number of members in good standing shall be based upon per capita tax that is paid to the International Union during the twelve (12) month period ending on November 30, 2021.*** Where the L.U. has been affiliated with the International Union for less than twelve (12) months, the average shall be computed from the month of affiliation. Each LU shall be entitled to the following:

- (a) One (1) delegate for the first 250 members, one (1) delegate for each additional 250 members or majority fraction thereof:

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Number of Delegates</u>
Up to 375	1
376 to 625	2
626 to 875	3
876 to 1,125	4
1,126 to 1,375	5
1,376 to 1,625	6

- (b) One more delegate for each additional 500 members:

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Number of Delegates</u>
1,626 to 2,125	7
2,126 to 2,625	8
2,626 to 3,100	9

- (c) One more delegate for each additional 3,000 members – maximum 15 delegates:

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Number of Delegates</u>
3,101 to 6,000	10
6,001 to 9,000	11
9,001 to 12,000	12
12,001 to 15,000	13
15,001 to 18,000	14
18,001 and over	15

Delegates representing only 'BA' membership shall not be entitled to discuss, or vote on, matters affecting Article XI."

When local unions do not send their full delegate quota, the delegate or delegates who are present at the IC are entitled to cast the entire vote of their local union on any roll call. **To be included in the average monthly membership count ending November 30, 2021, Local Unions must have provided all per capita reports for the twelve-month period ending November 30, 2021.**

## QUALIFICATION OF DELEGATES

Article II, Section 10, of the *IBEW Constitution* reads in part, "No member shall be nominated as a delegate or alternate unless he is present or signifies his willingness in writing, nor shall he be eligible to be a delegate or an alternate unless in continuous good standing in his LU at least twenty-four (24) months immediately prior to nomination, provided his LU has been in existence that long. However, no such member shall be disqualified because his LU has been merged or amalgamated with another LU or LU's. When it is impracticable or impossible for a LU to elect a delegate or alternate with the requested standing, the IP may grant special dispensation.

The two (2) years membership requirement shall not be applicable to members of LU's affiliated with System Councils, who are employed by a single employer and who transfer between LU's within a System Council, provided, however, that any such member must have been a member in continuous good standing for two (2) years in at least one of the LU's affiliated with the System Council involved.

Where the LU bylaws specify, prior to election to a particular elective office, that one of the functions of said elective office shall include service as a delegate to the IC or other body, a special election of the officer holding such office to be a delegate is not necessary. In the event a vacancy should occur in the said elective office and it is filled pursuant to Article XVI, Section 16, prior to May in the convention year, **but specifically for the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention, prior to January 2022**, the LU shall elect a replacement delegate. The person appointed to fill the particular elective office shall be a candidate for election as a delegate. If, however, the vacancy is filled between May in the convention year and the holding of the I.C., **but specifically for the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention, between January 2022 and the holding of the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention**, the person appointed to the vacancy in the elective office shall serve as a delegate, except that, as provided by law, such delegate may not vote in any election for International Officers.

Delegates and alternates shall be elected by secret ballot. Members in good standing in the LU shall be given at least fifteen (15) days notice of the time, place and manner of making nominations and of the election, and may participate therein, except for those who may be expressly prohibited by approved provision of the LU bylaws. The election of delegates and alternates shall be decided for those receiving the most votes and ballots, and records of the election shall be retained for one (1) year."

With respect to alternate delegates, Article II, Section 10 of the *IBEW Constitution* states that, "if between the election and the I.C., an elected delegate should resign or otherwise be unable to attend the I.C., then the alternate delegate with the highest number of votes in the

election shall take his place as a delegate. Should a second elected delegate resign or otherwise be unable to attend the I.C., then the alternate delegate with the next highest number of votes in the election shall take his place as a delegate, and so forth. In the event there are no other elected alternates, the Executive Board shall appoint such delegates, provided, however, that appointed delegates may not, as provided by law, vote in any election for International Officers.”

To qualify as a delegate of a local union which has at least 6 months standing in the IBEW but less than 24 months, a member must have continuous good standing in the local union since its charter date. This means the delegate must have joined the local union on or before the date the charter was closed. Article XII, Section 1, of the *IBEW Constitution* defines this time period as the first 60 days after the local union is initially chartered.

## **CREDENTIALS**

Credentials for delegates and alternates will be provided through the online preregistration system which will become available on February 1, 2022. Local unions will access the delegate and alternate preregistration website by using their assigned *Local Connections* username and password. Local unions unsure of their *Local Connections* logon information should email [timpweb@ibew.org](mailto:timpweb@ibew.org) for assistance.

All delegates and alternates must be preregistered using the online system. As part of the preregistration process, the online system will implement the rules provided in Article II of the *IBEW Constitution*, as temporarily amended for the 40<sup>th</sup> Convention, in order to validate the membership records of delegates and alternates. An individual whose membership records meet the qualifications set forth in Article II will be prompted to print their credential, have it endorsed by the appropriate local union officers as well as the election judge, have the local union seal impressed upon it, and finally, forward the credential to the IBEW International Office (IO) located in Washington, DC. A copy of the credential must be retained by the delegate or alternate for presentation at registration in Chicago. Those delegates and alternates whose membership records fail the validation process should contact their local union or the office of their international vice president for assistance.

Please note that the printed delegate and alternate credentials must be in the hands of the International Secretary-Treasurer (or in the mail) by March 10, 2022, which is 60 days prior to the commencement of the IC. Should a delegate fail to comply with this policy, he/she will not be eligible to receive any delegate payments. The Credentials Committee will decide whether such a delegate or alternate will be seated (see Article II, Section 11, of the *IBEW Constitution*).

## **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

As part of the online pre-registration process, delegates and alternates will select their hotels from the room blocks secured by the IO when the pre-registration opens on February 1, 2022. Please contact your servicing international representative should you require assistance.

## **DELEGATE PAYMENT**

Article II, Section 9, of the *IBEW Constitution* states, “For transportation, sleeping and living expenses en route to and while attending the IC, the IST will pay each delegate a sum equal to ninety cents (90¢) a mile, one way, by the shortest practical route. Each delegate remaining until the close of the Convention shall be reimbursed for expenses in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). LU’s may pay their delegates additional sums.”

## **DUES PAYMENTS**

Delegates are urged to pay their dues in advance through May 2022, the month of the IC, and to ensure that the dues have been properly recorded by the local union financial secretary on a current per capita report to the International Secretary-Treasurer. A member is only authorized to serve as a delegate to the IC if his/her membership is current when the proceedings commence. Delegates whose dues are paid through a check-off system should contact their local union and request that their dues payments through May 2022 be recorded on a miscellaneous receipt. All delegates must provide a copy of their dues receipt at registration in Chicago.

## **SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

Proposed amendments to the *IBEW Constitution* must be approved by the members at a regular or special meeting of the local union. Only amendments which have been approved by local unions and those recommended by the International Officers will be considered, and to be considered, all amendments must be submitted to the International Secretary-Treasurer by March 25, 2022, which is forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the IC. For further information, please refer to Article XXVII, Section 2, which provides:

“The IP shall appoint a Law Committee consisting of eleven (11) delegates elected to the IC, at least one from each IVP District. These shall meet in the IO fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the IC. This committee shall consider all proposed amendments to be submitted to the IC, and the committee shall have a printed report ready for the first day’s session of the IC.

Only proposed amendments and resolutions approved by LU’s and recommendations of International Officers shall be considered. All these must be submitted to the IST forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the IC.”

## **SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTIONS**

To be considered, resolutions, other than amendments to the *IBEW Constitution*, must be in the office of the International Secretary-Treasurer by March 25, 2022, which is 45 days prior to the opening of the IC. The resolutions must have been approved by the members at a regular or special meeting of the local union.

## **VACCINATIONS**

The City of Chicago has implemented a public health order requiring persons over the age of five to provide proof of vaccination when attending events where food and beverages are being served. To comply with this order and to promote the health and safety of all attendees at

the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention, the IEC has adopted the attached resolution requiring all delegates, guests, vendors, and all other attendees to the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to attend all Convention events, including but not limited to, pre-Convention and post-Convention events and meetings, all Convention proceedings, and all receptions, dinners, and entertainment events held in conjunction with the 40<sup>th</sup> IBEW Convention.

### **FINAL INSTRUCTIONS**

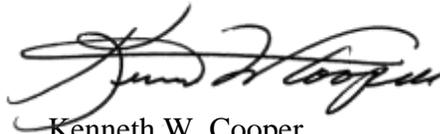
All local unions are urged to carefully follow the regulations described in Article II, Section 10, of the *IBEW Constitution* when electing their delegates and alternates, and local unions should be sure the membership standing of their elected delegates and alternates conforms to these regulations. Doing so will avoid misunderstanding and will save members the embarrassment of traveling to Chicago only to be denied seating at the IC because they lack the necessary membership qualifications.

These are exciting times for organized labor. Our members, and unorganized workers throughout the nation, are energized and ready to fight for fair wages and better working conditions. We should engage in spirited discussion on the convention floor, but we must leave Chicago in solidarity, standing ready to fight for our members and all working people to light the path to the middle class.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance. I look forward to a successful convention in Chicago.

With best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth W. Cooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "W".

Kenneth W. Cooper  
International Secretary-Treasurer

KWC:jl  
Enclosure