

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Eastern Illinois Chapter

1308 Houbolt Rd, Joliet, IL 60431
Phone (815) 729-2288 / Fax (815) 729-2280
www.necaeil.com

January-
February
2021

Chapter Officers

Governor: Greg Outsen
President: Dave Ruder
Vice President: Keith Conrad
Treasurer: Paul Rolih
Exec Director: Scott Dworschak

Board of Directors

Larry Clennon
Shane Elliott
Gary St. Cin

January Meeting Dates

January 13th
JATC Meeting
JATC Office – 3:00 pm

January 14th
Board of Directors Meeting
NECA Office – 8:00 am

January 21st
Audit/LMCC/Bond Meeting
Union Hall-8:30am

Upcoming Meeting Dates

February 10th
JATC Meeting
JATC Office – 3:00 pm

February 11th
Board of Directors Meeting
NECA Office – 8:00 am

February 16th
H&W/Local Pension Meeting
IBEW 176 Office – 9:00am



COVID-19 Sick Leave Memorandum of Understanding Expires

Since April, our NECA Chapter has had an Agreement with IBEW Local 176 regarding mandatory sick leave pay requirements included in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. This MOU was primarily intended to determine which benefits would be paid in addition to paid leave wages. Last week, Congress renewed portions of the Families First Act, but failed to renew mandatory sick pay provisions. As our Agreement was directly linked to the Act, this change required our Agreement to expire as of December 31st. Employers may *voluntarily* choose to pay sick leave up to April 1, and still receive payroll tax credits. Should your Company choose to pay this benefit please contact our Office for the proper EPR form. Additional information on the changes The Families First Act paid leave provisions can be found at this link: [Changes to the FFCRA: Congress' Revisions to Employment COVID-19 Leave Benefits Signals the Light is at the End of the Tunnel \(bmdllc.com\)](https://www.bmdllc.com)

New COVID Stimulus Bill Passed

In a last-minute flurry of activity, Congress passed several laws seeking to address the negative economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak. As always, its best to check with your company tax advisor, however, here is a quick synopsis of what has changed.

The PPP program has been renewed, with additional financing available, as demand exceeded the amount set aside to fund this program. For those that were able to participate, there are new and expanded tax deductions now available. There is a possibility for a second loan to those that received one last year, based on need. As always, check with your financial institution to see if your company qualifies.

The Employee Retention Tax Credit has been extended and enhanced for those businesses continuing to pay employees under a full or partial shutdown, or significant loss in business.

Employers that received a PPE loan are no longer prohibited from claiming an employee retention tax credit, but that credit is not available if the PPP loan was forgiven.

These changes are complicated and can be further explained in the attached National Law Review article at: [Employee Retention Tax Credit Extended by COVID-19 Stimulus Package \(natlawreview.com\)](https://www.natlawreview.com)

Three Elected to Chapter Board of Directors

As we were unable to hold a Quarterly Meeting due to the pandemic, elections were held via email for Board of Directors positions. Re-elected to serve a two-year term are Dave Ruder (Ruder Electric), Larry Clennon (Clennon Electric), and Keith Conrad (Halm Electric). Congratulations to them, and thanks for everyone who took the time to vote!

Annual Chapter Dinner Postponed

Due to the pandemic and the restrictions on restaurant capacity, we were unable to hold our Annual Chapter Dinner this month. We hope to reschedule sometime this Spring, if lockdown mandates are rescinded.

JATC to Interview Apprentice Candidates

Members of the JATC Board of Directors will begin in-person interviews for those interested in becoming Apprentices in February. We hope to enroll enough students to cover expected Journeyman retirements, in addition to, providing for the expected manpower needs in our area. Over the past year, almost all available apprentices have been working constantly.

M A N P O W E R R E P O R T

Based on Monthly Benefit Reports for the work month of November 2020

	<u>Inside</u>	<u>Res</u>	<u>VDV</u>	<u>Sign</u>
Local Contractors	37	5	8	3
Traveling Contractors	<u>120</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>0</u>
	157	8	39	3
Workers-Local	584	6	46	4
Workers-Travelers	<u>813</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>0</u>
	1,397	16	167	4
Hours-Local	75,736	760	4,110	1,080
Hours-Travelers	<u>92,236</u>	<u>1,398</u>	<u>7,564</u>	<u>0</u>
	167,972	2,158	11,674	1,080

Number of Workers registered for Work as of: 01/04/2021:

Book I.....85	Book II.....442	Apprentices.....2*
Residential Wiremen.... 2	Residential Trainees....0	
VDV Tech....9	VDV Trainees....0	

*Not all Available for work due to virus