

October 29, 2003

Jim Fahey
Executive Director
Association of Commuter Rail Employees
420 Lexington Avenue
Suite 215
New York, NY 10017

Dear Jim:

On September 2nd, I sent Mike McCarthy, President of ACRE Local 9, a dues objection letter. Included in this letter was an objection to the portion of my dues which goes to the ACRE Executive Board (currently \$20.00). In Mike's response to me on September 8th, there was no mention for the portion of my dues which goes towards the ACRE Executive board included in his response.

As a member in good standing of the Association of Commuter Rail Employees, I object to the amount of dues which goes towards the ACRE Executive Board. No dues objection policy is mentioned or included in our ACRE Constitution or Local Division Bylaws. Since this information can not be found in any of the documentation which was provided to me by the ACRE, I will just state my case. I believe ACRE members should only be required to pay for the financial core obligation of the ACRE. ACRE membership contributions should be limited to union activities which are germane to collective bargaining, contract administration and grievance adjustment.

Dues objecting ACRE members should not be required to pay for any costs associated with organizing employees from other crafts or railroads, lobbying for legislation and participating in social, charitable and political events.

Please provide me with a detailed breakdown of all ACRE Executive Board expenditures, listing those which are chargeable to all ACRE members and those which are chargeable only to dues objecting ACRE members. This breakdown should include a certification by an accountant that the amounts listed are actually expended.

My dues objection for the portion of my monthly dues which goes to the ACRE Executive board is to be effective with your receipt of this letter and reflected in my December's dues deduction taken from my paycheck by Metro-North Railroad.

Concerning a dues objection policy for our ACRE members. Does the ACRE have a dues objection policy for their members on both the Local and Executive levels? If a policy exists where can it be found? If no policy exists, then why not? Do ACRE members have the right to object to the amount of dues which we are required to pay to the ACRE? Can we question where and for what expenditures our dues money is spent and see the receipts? Have any other dues objection issue(s) ever been raised before?

Your response to the information requested is expected within ten days from the receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

James W. Ekberg

Sent via certified mail