

TEAM 2014 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2014
Truman Hotel, Jefferson City
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In attendance:

Nicole Kreisel, State President

Robert Tripp, State Vice-President

Duke Wrisinger, Retiree Representative

SW, SE, NE, NW, SL, and CD Chapters represented.

Meeting called to order by Nicole Kreisel, TEAM President at 9:00 am

Legislative Commentary: Harry Hill, TEAM Lobbyist

- Harry shared pictures of flowers placed on Fallen Workers Memorial.
- Legislative session will begin on January 7, 2015.
- Contacted Linda Luebbering – State Budget Director - about restriction to Deferred Compensation Match and the 1% COLA – still no word on when restriction will be lifted.
- Discussion on Governors request to study toll roads on I-70.
- We won't know who is on the transportation committee until mid to late January.
- Discussed legislative items for this year the Association would like to pursue:
 - State employee wages and benefits – pay raises.
 - Taking vacation on a holiday if you are on a required 4 10-hour day schedule.
 - Underfunded Retirement funds – preventing any attempts to reduce benefits.
 - Removing restriction from COLA and Deferred Compensation match
 - How will the passing of Amendment 10 in the November election affect this?
- TEAM asked Harry about any word on primary seat-belt legislation this year – he stated it is always brought up – Nicole stated this is always a Department priority.
- TEAM decided to not have a lobby day, but to sponsor a legislative letter-writing campaign with regards to low wages of State workers.
 - Virtual Lobby Week – February 8, 2015
 - Will need flyers with a tutorial on how to develop the email to your legislature (Kelly Didriksen volunteered to create).
 - Will include bullet points regarding low wages for Missouri state workers.

Review of August Minutes

- Minutes were reviewed. Motion made to accept as written and seconded.

Statewide Business

- Officer Elections

- Need interested parties for President and Vice-President. Nicole's and Robert's terms are expired.
- Send names to teampresnicole@gmail.com
- Future Meetings
 - Suggestion to have local Chapters spotlighted in developing agenda for next year's meetings.
 - Will give local Chapters input on TEAM direction.
 - Suggestion to set meeting dates for 2015. Dates established with local Chapters developing agenda:
 - January 31, 2015 (snow date of February 7, 2015) – SL and KC Chapters
 - May 2, 2015 – SE and NW Chapters
 - August 14, 2015 (or August 15, 2015) – General Assembly – CD and NE Chapters
 - December 5, 2015 (snow date of December 12, 2015) – SW Chapter
- Input from Membership
 - Virtual Lobby Week in lieu of Lobby Day.
 - Chapter spotlights – discussed moving the meeting to the various regions throughout the state, decided it was better to have central location.
- Fallen Worker Memorial Excess Funds
 - Duane Kliethermes volunteered to contact the Department of Agriculture to find out what the process is to sponsor a bench, etc. near the Highway Memorial gardens.
 - Picnic tables with Fallen Workers dedication plaque would be nice.
 - Will hold some money back to maintain the Memorial on the Capital grounds.
 - Nicole was contacted about a possible repair needed to the memorial – she has visited and doesn't agree any repair is needed at this time.
 - Question concerning engraving of Clifton's name. Nicole will verify with Dave Taylor we were not charged.

Chapter Reports

- SL Chapter – 291 Members (includes CCO employees from HQ); \$810 balance checking/savings. Attending fall meetings, increased membership by 74 since August 2014. Had Christmas Party. Purchased stylus pens for members.
- NE Chapter – 176 Members. \$4,100 balance checking/ \$200 Savings. Still giving out watches for retirees, Chapter will revisit this.
- Central Chapter – 330 Members; no financials to report at this time. Held their joint CU/Association meeting at the end of March.
- NW Chapter – 189 Members; \$4,000 in checking/\$1700 savings/\$6,900 Needy Worker fund. Adopting a family for Christmas.
- SW Chapter – 558 Members; \$13-15K balance checking/savings. Loaned \$2,000 to Employee fund to purchase nuts to sell.
- NE Chapter – Jonathan Barnes has agreed to an officer position for the NE Chapter. No other items to report.
- KC Chapter – 244 Members. No financials to report. Had a hard time getting their board together for a meeting last quarter.

- SE Chapter – 414 Members; \$11,932 in Checking/Savings. Gave \$500 award to Bridge Building High School competition. Looking for Chapter officers. Debbie Strobel is retiring.

Open Discussion

- Would like more information on the legislative report regarding wage comparison of Missouri workers to other state workers and being one, if not the, lowest paid state employees in the nation.
- Do we want our lobbyist to use a different approach with legislators? That is, increasing pay increases retention and experience of state workers? Investment in public employees pays off in the long run with regards to keeping experienced employees.
- Do we want to explore other lobbyists for TEAM? What do we want from our lobbyist? Do we want Harry Hill to write up what he does for us?
- Dave Taylor, Treasurer was absent. Chapters can send him email requesting Dues and expenses. Let him know what address to send the checks.
- Motion to adjourn meeting, seconded.

Next Meeting – **January 31, 2015 or snow date of February 7, 2015** – 9:00 am – Location To Be Determined, Jefferson City