

## **TEAM 2016 Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

**January 18, 2016**

Baymont Inn, **Jefferson City**

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### **In attendance:**

**Robert Tripp, State Vice-President**

**Eddie Smith, Shawn Nilges, SW Chapter**

**Roger Wittler, NW Chapter**

**Duane Kliethermes, CD Chapter**

**Wendy Brooks, Larry Brooks, Kelly Didriksen, Dan Deters, SL Chapter**

**Brandon Cracraft, KC Chapter**

**Harry Hill – TEAM Lobbyist**

**NE Chapters absent**

**Guest: Jay Wunderlich, MoDOT Governmental Relations Director**

Meeting called to order by Robert Tripp, TEAM Vice-President at 9:00 am.

Dave Taylor was unable to attend due to illness. Expenses can be requested by email to [dbt19701@gmail.com](mailto:dbt19701@gmail.com)

Robert introduced Jay Wunderlich, MoDOT Governmental Relations Director.

- Jay addressed TEAM by stating Patrick McKenna was unable to attend today, but he truly would like to visit with us in the future. Director McKenna is very employee oriented and plans on visiting with employees throughout the state this year. His primary focus currently is working with Legislatures in order to improve funding for transportation.
- Jay discussed Senator Liblas' bill regarding increase in gas (1/2 cent) and diesel fuel (3 ½ cents) tax (SB 623). Testimony has been heard by committee. Concerned there isn't much support in the House to get any funding increases this year. There are a lot of legislatures that have signed no-tax increase pledges and he feels this may hurt our chances for any increase in the gas tax.
- Other legislative items on the Commissions' agenda are: Primary seat belt law; ban texting and driving for all drivers; Waterways Trust Fund and Platooning of commercial vehicles – would like to pilot this on I-36.
- SL Chapter Vice President Dan Deter addressed Jay and TEAM regarding his recent decision to leave MoDOT, and why. He has been a mechanic with the St. Louis District for the past 11 years and said MoDOT is no longer competitive with wages. This is costing us experienced employees which cuts back on productivity and also increase costs for training new employees. Dan said he was the 11<sup>th</sup> mechanic to leave SL District in the past 18 months. He hopes the Commission will be able to do something about pay for employees very soon, before more leave.

- TEAM asked Jay to work with him in building relationships between TEAM and Executive Leadership. Jay said he would convey our message to the Director and Chief Engineer Ed Hassinger.

### **Harry Hill Update**

- Robert asked Harry to address the assembly.
- Harry echoed Jay's sentiments regarding the legislature this session and increase in gas tax was not likely. This is due to term limits of the legislatures and the no-tax increase pledges that were signed.
- Harry has spoken with Dan Haug, Acting State Budget Director and Robert Ross, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, regarding reinstatement of deferred compensation. TEAM asked Harry to continue the conversation and check with Robert Ross regarding the best way to promote the reinstatement – should we 'lobby' all or target the committee?
- Representative Glen Kolkmeyer is the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight.
- HB 1687 has been introduced regarding allowing certain funds could be used for bonuses to state agency employees. This bill creates the Budget Planning Incentive Fund to incentivize savings in infrastructure and equipment spending by allowing eighty percent return of savings to general revenue and twenty percent of cost savings to be used for state agency employee bonuses.
- HB 1484 – Walton Gray and HB 1422 - Walker (TEAM has pushed this bill in the last 2 years) has been referred to committee. TEAM has asked for Harry to make sure the wording of the bill is perfected to account for the intent of workers who are required to work 4 10-hour shifts should not be required to take 2 hours of annual leave for the holiday. This doesn't mean they opt to be paid for 38 hours, which is how TEAM is interpreting the current language.
- Members asked if we should perform a virtual lobby day this year. Target would be House members in your Chapters Districts. Do we want a form letter with suggested wording?
- Harry is keeping an eye on HB 1591- Koenig which would establish a hybrid retirement plan for state employees and officials. This bill creates a hybrid retirement plan under the Missouri State Employees' Retirement System and the Missouri Department of Transportation and Highway Patrol Employees' Retirement System for each person first becoming an employee, a member of the General Assembly, or a statewide elected official on or after January 1, 2017, including any member who terminated employment and is not entitled to receive a benefit, excluding uniformed members of the highway patrol. Reduces the multiplication factor for calculating retirement benefits under the defined benefit portion of the plan for state employees, from 1.7% to 1.0%; for General Assembly members and statewide elected officials from one twenty-fourth of his or her highest monthly pay in office to one forty-eighth. General Assembly members benefit cannot exceed 50% of pay and statewide elected officials are limited to 25% of pay. Reduces state employee vesting requirements from 10 years to five years the next plan year after the actuarial valuation of the retirement system reaches at least 90%. All new members of the hybrid plan are required to participate in the deferred compensation plan

established under Section 105.927, with the employer contributing 3% and the participant contributing 1% of the participant's salary.

### **Statewide Business**

- Discussed survey results.
  - Not all chapters submitted their results. Wendy and Kelly will tabulate what they received and post on website.
- Update on new logo for TEAM
  - Still need to set up parameters for the competition. TEAM decided to push this till April meeting.
  - Wendy and Kelly will review how we can collect the designs and set up a voting process. They will report at the April 2016 meeting.
- TEAM Constitution and By-Laws
  - Article VI – Ratification – Change to Majority
  - Article III - Officers - remove (c ) from Section 2
  - Article 1 – Meetings – remove 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday and change to August with no specified date.
  - Remove any gender specific wording throughout
  - Motion made and passed to have members update the document in revision mode and send out to TEAM members for comment/review prior to April meeting. Brandon/Wendy and Eddie will work on this.
- Beneficiary Cards and Qualifications
  - Death benefit is only for accidental death which could occur any time, not just ‘in the line of duty’. No changes to beneficiary card are necessary.

### **Chapter Reports/Information**

- KC Chapter – no new updates. 211 members.
- NW Chapter – Partnered with EAC to help out a need family over the holidays. 176 members.
- NE Chapter – no report, not present. 161 members as of last report.
- CD Chapter – construction of their Fallen Worker memorial continues, hope to have a dedication this spring. Trying to get interest in local chapter board. 168 CD members, 139 CO members for 307 total.
- SL District – Scott Boyer retired in December. Dan Deters is leaving in 2 weeks. Will need to recruit additional board members. 253 members districtwide.
- SW District – Hosting a Night at the Ballpark on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited. Will have season tickets again available for members. 554 members Districtwide. Have had some interest in folks for statewide board.
- SE District – No new news. 422 members.
- 2084 Total members statewide.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 11:45 am and was passed.

**Action Items**

<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
All Remaining Chapters	Compile survey results, send totals to Wendy Brooks	February 15, 2016
Brandon Cracraft, Eddie Smith, Wendy Brooks	Review constitution and by-laws; use edit mode for proposed changes, send to TEAM members	April 16, 2016
Robert Tripp	Contact Harry regarding best way to address the Deferred Comp increase and pay raises (meet with appropriations committee or virtual lobby)	February 15, 2016
Wendy Brooks/Kelly Didriksen	Research how to collect and vote on web design contest	April 16, 2016
Robert Tripp	Send email to Harry Hill regarding the correct wording for HB 1484 and/or HB 1422 (4 10 hour days)	ASAP

**Next Meeting – Saturday, April 16, 2016, 9:00 am**  
Baymont Hotel, Jefferson City