

**TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING  
AUGUST 10, 2007**

**In Attendance:**

Mark O'Dowd, State President                      Dave Taylor, State Treasurer  
Archie Daily, State Vice President      Karin Cummins, State Secretary  
Murrell Arnett – State Retiree

Chapter 1	1 Members	Chapter 2	2 Members
Chapter 3	0 Members	Chapter 4	2 Members
Chapter 5	1 Members	Chapter 6	1 Members
Chapter 7	2 Members	Chapter 8	1 Members
Chapter 9	0 Members	Chapter 10	4 members

Meeting called to order by President Mark O'Dowd at 9:00 a.m. Mark welcomed all attending.

**Treasurer's Report:** Copies of the treasurer's report were submitted for approval. Moved, seconded, and carried.

**Secretary's Report:** Copies of minutes were submitted for approval. A motion was made to accept the minutes. Seconded and carried.

Guest Lisa LeMasters of the Governmental Relations office was invited to speak but was unable to attend. However, they want our help and propose that we fight together for tougher work zones penalties, use of automated devices such as cameras, etc.

President Mark O'Dowd read a letter from our lobbyist Harry Hill who is attending a National Conference of State Legislators in Boston and unable to attend our meeting. Harry feels that we should move forward on our Deferred Comp campaign. Harry spoke with Jim Lempke of House Appropriations Committee and suggests we consider a contribution to Lempke for his support in our efforts.

**Chapter Reports:**

Chapter 1: Currently 224 members and \$7800.00 in Checking. Sent out flyers for Family Day asking employees for suggestions.

Chapter 2: Currently 230 members and \$6500.00 in Checking and Savings. Lost several members to retirement. Hosting a \$25.00/month drawing for members.

Chapter 3: Not present.

Chapter 4: Currently 365 members, \$2455.00 in Checking and \$4200.00 in Savings and \$15000.00 in a CD. Held Annual picnic on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 60 attended.

Chapter 5: Currently 504 members and approx. \$16000.00 in Checking and Savings. Losing some members to retirement. Spent \$2000.00 on Annual meeting. Hold quarterly drawings and participating in the Employee Orientation.

Chapter 6: Currently 142 members with \$6800 in Checking and Savings.

Chapter 7: 259 members with \$1970.32 in Checking and \$950.00 in Credit Union Acct. DeeDee Powell is working on postcards for campaign.

Chapter 8: 365 members with \$8200.00 in bank account. Lost several members as well to retirement.

Chapter 9: Not present

Chapter 10: 168 members and \$6500.00 in checking and savings. Annual meeting will be Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. Will start doing Employee Orientation.

**Website Report:** 40 Hits a day. LeAnn will post whatever we submit to her but it is at each chapter's discretion as to what gets submitted. It was proposed that we hire a professional to manage our website but the majority attending feels LeAnn is doing a great job. We need to find ways to keep website in front of members such as with flyers, etc.

Mark stated that morale is down statewide. The Cost of Living raise given to all state employees was not given to people on disciplinary action. Mark does not feel it is necessarily a TEAM issue, but rather an issue for the EAC. However, we can make it an issue as a group because it was designated as a COLA but MoDOT did not treat it as such. It was agreed that we should look into how other state agencies treated the raise and if they did the same, we probably don't have a beef. It was suggested that we check the personnel manual to see if restrictions for a COLA is addressed.

### **BREAK 10:00am**

President Mark read a letter to attendees from TEAM retiree Larry Thompson. Larry extends well-wishes to all association members and to let us know that he working for Putnam Chevrolet in California, MO, so stop by and say hello.

**Old Business:** Decal Status: Secretary Karin is still working on an order. Will try to have them for distribution at the next meeting. In regard to our legislative campaign, Deferred Comp, Harry is laying the groundwork with key legislators. As far as strategy, our postcard campaign should begin in November prior to session and then followed with hand-written letters. Campaign posters were distributed to all 10 Chapters for immediate distribution. Duke Risinger, Chapter 04, suggested hitting up your neighboring state government offices as well, since they are affected by the increase as well. It was agreed that the state chapter would provide the postcards to the chapters. Distribution maps and legislative lists were passed out to help with the postcard campaign.

**New Business:** Debbie Strobel, Chapter 10, opened a discussion on health insurance increases. She proposed that the \$350.00 "wellness benefit" to come to us in conjunction with our raises to be used at our discretion. Could we change the lingo or reverse decision regarding our \$350.00 so that we can designate how it is used, such as for health club memberships, massage therapy etc. as opposed to putting it back into our paycheck. Mark said that the EAC has looked it to that issue.

Trouble filling vacancies left by retirees, etc was discussed. Funding for retirement system will shrink as employee base shrinks.

The historical archiving of TEAM records and the need for it was discussed but nothing was decided.

The current state officers were all asked to leave the room by Kevin Clayton, Chapter 08. An honorarium of \$800.00 was proposed, voted and passed on behalf of the officers for performing their duties for the year.

State retiree delegate, Murrell Arnett graciously declined his honorarium and expressed how much he supported and valued the association.

Mark thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:**

Saturday, October 13, 2007 - Truman Inn - Jefferson City, MO  
9:00 a.m. – General Assembly.