

**TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI**  
**3rd QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**April 02, 2007**

**In Attendance:**

Mark O'Dowd, State President  
Archie Daily, State Vice President  
Murrell Arnett - State Retiree

Dave Taylor, State Treasurer  
Karin Cummins, State Secretary

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

Meeting called to order by President Mark O'Dowd at 9:15 a.m. Mark welcomed all attending.

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

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

Our lobbyist, Harry Hill opened by giving us an overview of current legislation and commented that things seems to be moving slow. The senate keeps getting hung up on filibusters. Items of interest being presented to committees for consideration are: HB 1201 sponsored by Mark Bruns or SB 293 sponsored by Senator Vogle, which Proposes to transfer administration of the Deferred Comp Fund to the Board of Trustees for MOSERS.

SB 127, the Prior Service Bill sponsored by Sen. Rob Mayer looks like it will receive strong consideration.

SB 492, the General Retirement Bill sponsored by Sen. Jason Crowell. Harry asked if Sen. Meyer could amend SB 127 to meld with SB 492.

HB 1237 Rep St. Onge is proposing a temporary tax increase to improve I-70and 1-44 and is also sponsoring HB 90, the safety belt law bill.

SB 310 sponsored by Sen. Stover, proposes a 1-cent sales tax for a period of 10 years to add lanes to 1-70 and 1-44.

SB 628 - allows for a one-time election of lump sum retirement funds sponsored by LuAnn Ridge way. It seems a long way from passing but it's curious all the same as to why it has come up.

Harry is keeping an eye on the following:

SB 125 - State Employees contribute toward health insurance.

SB 146- Public Employee Due Process Act

SB 392 - CPI adjusted Annually on salaries.

SB 139 - Eliminates State Transportation Day. (Already passed in senate and referred to House where it may meet resistance.

Harry commented that Pete Rahn is a good PR man for MoDOT among the Senators and Representatives.

Harry indicated that a proposed 3% pay raise for state employees passed last week in the house and is headed for the senate.

Murrell Arnett, State Retiree Delegate, asked if there were any chance that retirement tax might be eliminated. Harry's answer: "Not so far. Former Rep. Gene Copeland really pushed for Deferred Comp but unfortunately, he recently died."

It was then discussed if a 3% COLA could be used as a performance raise for MoDOT employees? According to Harry, it has been discussed but nothing decided.

Harry ended by pointing out that MoDOT is the only state agency that cannot purchase Prior Service at a reduced rate. It will be a third of its current cost if it does pass.

### **Chapter Reports:**

Chapter 1: Currently 224 members and \$7294.62 in Checking. Chapter 1 is working to help with Family Day.

Chapter 2: Currently 242 members and \$6200.00 in Checking and Savings. They are holding a monthly drawing to boost membership and sponsored a Christmas Family.

Chapter 3: Not present.

Chapter 4: Currently 360 members, \$2000.00 in Checking and \$4000.00 in Savings. Hosting a bowling tournament on 4/29 as a fundraiser.

Chapter 5: Currently 520 members and approx. \$18000 in Checking and Savings.

Holding quarterly drawings to generate new members. Did a \$250.00 drawing at Christmas to generate new interest. On April 20<sup>th</sup> will partner with the Credit Union on door prizes. Attending new employee orientation.

Chapter 6: New president, Lee Hillings introduced himself.

Chapter 7: 292 members with \$3034.50 in Checking and \$920.31 in Credit Union Acct.

Chapter 8: 390 members with \$7800.00 in bank account The Deferred Comp is the biggest issue within Chapter. Chapter 8 has been presenting retirees with \$50.00 and sometimes includes a gag gift and it seems to stir interest.

Chapter 9: 245 members with \$3000.00 in savings. Did the Employee Fair in Feb. and gained 20 members.

Chapter 10: Not present

**Old Business:** Transportation Day Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, sponsored a breakfast table in the Rotunda at a cost of \$360.00

Mark has contacted Don Hillis of MoDOT about placing Bumper Stickers on Dept Vehicles. Sent Don a couple ideas for the wording on the stickers.

Mark checked into to the overage on vacation issue - no one wants to talk about it. In his discussion with Micki Knudsen, Human Resources for MoDOT, she claims it has to go through all state agencies to fly.

**New Business:** Mark thanked Duane for setting up the ice cream social for today. He suggested some things to discuss as we greet the legislature today:

Pay Increases

Prior Service

Keep ears open for insurance & retirement issues

As far as the seat belt law, the association has not been proactive other than Mark did sign an agreement that allows our name to be used as a supporter. There is a 50-50 chance that HB 90, the seat belt law will pass. It will bring in 17.4 million dollars in federal money if it passes.

Mark feels that the association needs to decide where we stand on the Lump Sum at Retirement issue.

Eldon Jones, Chapter 2, proposed that we check with the Commission about a 3% COLA to make sure it is treated as such. Mark agreed to contact the Commission Chair.

LeAnn Hagee from Chapter 7 and our web administrator spoke for a few moments about our webpage.

Fit for Duty issue was openly discussed as well Work Simulator: Is it legal or an invasion of privacy?

The new Drug & Alcohol Policy takes affect today.

Mark thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting adjourned. **Next Meeting:**

Saturday, June 13th - Truman Inn - Jefferson City, MO  
9:00 a.m. - 4th Quarterly meeting.